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V online at smdp.com
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009
Volume 7 Issue 375



Santa Monica Daily Press

SECURITY HIGH AT SUPER BOWL
SEE PAGE 11

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE WELCOME BACK FARMAR ISSUE

Obama backs state's efforts to reduce air pollution

BY SAMANTHA YOUNG AND ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writers

SACRAMENTO President Barack Obama handed California a big environmental victory Monday by endorsing a key part of the state's greenhouse gas reduction plans.

He also gave a public shout-out to the Golden State, offering a clear sign that liberal-leaning California can expect a friendly relationship with his administration after eight years of clashes with former President George Bush.

"California has shown bold and bipartisan leadership through its effort to forge 21st century standards, and over a dozen states have followed its lead," Obama said at a news conference where he announced that his administration would revisit the Bush administration's controversial decision to deny California permission to control tailpipe emissions from cars and trucks.

SEE ENDORSEMENT PAGE 8

Pier storm drain gets some love

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Long-awaited improvements to the aging and deficient Santa Monica Pier storm drain will soon begin.

The City Council on Tuesday is expect-

SEE CONSENT PAGE 9



Byron Kennerly *news@smdp.com*

POPULAR SPOT: **The new artificial turf at John Adams Middle School is heavily used by residents as part of a joint-use agreement between City Hall and the school district. City Hall gives schools more than $7.2 million a year in exchange for using school facilities.**

Put it in writing

City Hall, school district renegotiating joint-use contract

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS For years City Hall has remained one of the steadiest financial backers of the school district, providing stability and a reliable revenue stream to an educational institution whose security can be influenced by the state's fiscal volatility.

Whether the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will receive more than the $7.2 million stipulated under the Master Facility Use Agreement with City Hall will be the subject of a round of discussions set to take place between the two entities this week.

The contract, which was signed in June of 2005, gives the SMMUSD a share of city revenues every year in exchange for public access to its facilities, including classrooms, athletic fields and playgrounds.

What the agreement essentially did for City Hall was codify and affirm its ability to use school facilities for its pre-existing programs, including CREST, which provides after-school activities in the classroom, and the Playground Partnership, which allows unsupervised recreational use during non-school hours.

"I think people in Santa Monica view school facilities as critical to the whole network of open spaces and community spaces," Barbara Stinchfield, the director of Community and Cultural Services for City Hall, said. "Even before these agreements were in place, the school district was very generous in allowing community use."

Though the Playground Partnership and CREST predated the joint-use agreement, it has allowed City Hall to expand the programs into other classrooms and facilities, Stinchfield said.

The joint-use agreement has been a hot topic since 2007 when the district renegotiated a roughly half-million-dollar increase, which was subsequently withheld by the City Council after school parents began reporting concerns about the special education program. The council finally released the money earlier this month after it was assured by district administrators and educational advocates that changes have been

SEE JOINT USE PAGE 10

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Get connected
Santa Monica YMCA
1332 Sixth St., 12 p.m. — 1 p.m.
Come to the YMCA and learn about the wide variety of resources available to help seniors and their families. Some topics include how to assess your situation, where to obtain services, and other community resources. Free parking is available. A reservation and picture ID is required. Call (310) 393-2721 ext. 129 or e-mail lidiam@ymcasm or visit www.ymcasm.org for more information.

Story time for toddlers
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m. — 11 a.m.
Bring two-year-old children to Mr. Jesse's Toddler Story Time for Two's for stories, songs, rhymes and puppets. Registration is required. Call (310) 458-4638 for more information.

You can lose it
Santa Monica Main Library, Community Room
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Join a free workshop designed to help you reclaim your skinny body in the new year. Tiffany Wright, Ph.D. will show you how to lose weight with a balanced approach to nutrition while helping you eliminate your compulsion to eat and diet obsessively. Call (310) 633-1333 or visit www.elementalyou.com for more information.

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009

'Dangerous Ideas'
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Watch local filmmaker George Van Noy's excursion into the world of improv philosophy exploring the question of what it means to be human. Admission is free. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information

Kickin' it with Kiwanis
Santa Monica YMCA
1332 6th St., 12 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Join the Santa Monica Kiwanis Club for its weekly luncheon with guest speakers. Call (310) 613-1249 for more information.

Walk the labyrinth
First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica
1008 11th St., 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.
Come to the Simkins Hall at First United Methodist Church in Santa Monica to walk the labyrinth, an ancient form of meditation where one follows an inlaid path in quiet contemplation. Call (310) 393-8258 or e-mail Mary Garbesi at mary.garbesi@santamonicaumc.org for more information.

12 steps for everybody
16730 Bollinger Dr., Pacific Palisades, 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Come to a writing meeting open to all 12-Step programs or anyone with a habitual problem or illness. Call (310) 428-0904 or e-mail Frank Loweree at f.loweree@verizon.net.

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.





ZOOM, ZOOM

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Scouts from Santa Monica Pack 67 Webelos attend the Pinewood Derby at First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica on Saturday. Last month each scout received identical kits; which included a small pine block, four plastic wheels and 4 nails. The idea is to design and sculpt the block into a car that travels down a 20-foot track as fast as possible. The rules call out maximum heights, wheelbase measurements and weight.

Waxman pushing for digital delay

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Despite months of preparation, local lawmakers are trying to push back the date of the transition to fully digital television channels, saying that millions of Americans are unprepared for the switch.

Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA), the newly elected head of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, authored a bill to push the date of the transition off until June 12, 2009 because too many people, particularly vulnerable populations like the elderly, will be cut off.

"This is an urgent problem, and delaying the DTV [digital television] transition is a choice of last resort. We have no other option if we are to prevent TVs from going dark for millions of Americans next month," Waxman said in a statement.

The Senate on Monday voted unanimously to postpone the upcoming transition by four months — setting the stage for Congress to pass the proposal as early as today.

The trouble centers around public confusion about the transition and an underfunded coupon program that was created by Congress to subsidize television converter boxes that allow analog televisions to broadcast digital channels.

The transition to digital channels means that television stations will no longer provide analog broadcasts. Televisions made before 1998, and some made between 1998 and 2004, are capable of receiving analog broadcasts only and require a television converter box to function.

Newer digital televisions use both digital and analog feeds and don't need a converter box to continue operating after the switch. Cable television is also unaffected, so nobody who has cable needs a converter box.

To facilitate the switch, Congress authorized the TV Converter Box Coupon

SEE **DELAY** PAGE 10

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

Taking into account

Tonight some 200 community volunteers will conduct the most important data-collection effort of the year — a citywide count of the number of homeless people on the streets of Santa Monica.

This year, for the first time, the City Hall is expanding its involvement in the biennial Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Count project and partnering with LAHSA to conduct a citywide direct street count in all of Santa Monica's census tracts.

The last time LAHSA conducted the homeless count, in 2007, volunteers were sent to only 12 of the city's 19 census tracts. This year, volunteer teams will travel every street and alley in the city and tally people sleeping outside, in makeshift shelters and in vehicles. At the same time a census will be conducted in shelters, hospitals, jails and some motels.

A citywide direct street count will remove projections and result in as accurate a count as possible. The data from the count will have many uses including helping define Santa Monica's fair share, directing resources, and shaping programs that engage homeless people in services, assist them to become stable and move them off the streets and into appropriate housing.

At approximately 10 p.m., volunteers will gather at the Ken Edwards Center and Virginia Avenue Park and fan out across the city to count the individuals they see on the streets. Police personnel will provide security for the street count. Raw data will be shared approximately one month after the street count.

This is a project of the city of Santa Monica's Human Services Division, which provides and supports social service, recreation, education and community programs addressing the needs of infants, children, teens, families, people with disabilities, seniors, victims of domestic violence and low-income individuals, including those who are homeless.

DAILY PRESS

Barker pledges $1.5M to move L.A. elephant

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Longtime "Price is Right" host Bob Barker has pledged $1.5 million to move a lonely elephant to a sanctuary in Northern California. In a letter Monday, Barker says he would donate the money to move Billy, the only elephant remaining at the Los Angeles Zoo, to the facility run by the Performing Animal Welfare Society.

There, Billy would be reunited with Ruby, a former Los Angeles zoo resident.

Billy is caught in a long-running dispute between city officials and animal rights advocates about whether the elephant exhibit at the zoo should be closed and replaced with a $42 million enclosure. Construction has stopped on the project, and the City Council is expected to vote Wednesday on whether to scrap it altogether.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Where are the funny papers?

Editor:

A week ago I noticed there were no comics in the paper. I thought that because that Monday was a holiday perhaps you had a shorter deadline and had not received them in time for the printing, but all last week there were no comics and I was disappointed that they were gone. So, here is my vote. Please bring back the comics

Carla Barett
Santa Monica

Earning your vote

Editor:

Dear Mr. Loughran,

Thank you for taking the time to share your views. As a matter of public record, I want your vote and will work harder than any other elected official to earn it. This reply to your commentary regarding my letter to the editor is the first step towards earning your support.

As one of your elected officials, I freely and proudly pledged on Dec. 9, 2008, to defend the laws of the United States, the state of California and the city of Santa Monica, including the rent control laws to which I abide.

Open debate between elected officials is paramount in our system of government. Our democracy is based on the platform that all voices must be heard. With the help of the voters I have taken on that role. During my campaign, I pledged to defend tenant rights, a pledge I stand behind and always will.

My criticism and comments toward Councilmember [Kevin] McKeown's letter to the editor does not now, nor ever, deter my commitment to the rights of all our residents. My relationship with my constituents is based on generating funds to support our city services and maintaining the safety and protection all the residents of Santa Monica expect.

Mr. Loughran, our current economic picture favors the demand side of our housing equation. Sir, I would like to inform you of the following news. I have spoken to various property management firms and listing agencies, and through thorough research I can report that rents across our city have decreased 10-20 percent. Additionally, sales of condos and single-family homes are down, and prices have been reduced substantially.

Due to the natural forces of supply and demand, now is an excellent time for current tenants to move up to larger units, and for folks who want to live in Santa Monica this is a excellent time to apply for a renal unit, or make an offer on a home. Due to such a large volume of vacant units and homes for sale, the market conditions favor tenants and buyers wishing to live in our city.

Mr. Loughran, you can count on me to protect your rights, build our city's tax base, support our city fire and police departments, schools, city services and be accessible to your thoughts and comments. I am honored to serve our residents and delighted that our children and many other families with children have success and prosperity attending our excellent school system.

I look forward earning your vote and support.

Robert Kronovet
Santa Monica Rent Board Commissioner
Santa Monica

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My Write

Bill Bauer

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Part 2: On patrol with the SMPD's HLP Team

Editor's Note: "My Write" columnist Bill Bauer is a longtime volunteer with the Santa Monica Police Department assigned to the Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) team – a special SMPD unit that works closely with Santa Monica's transient population. This is the second installment of a three-part series by Bill describing his experience assisting HLP Officer Jacob Holloway in the field on Friday, Jan. 16.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16, 9 A.M. — A SANTA Monica Police Department Neighborhood Resource Operation (NRO) is just beginning. It is focusing on stepped-up enforcement in response to increases in vehicle break-ins, thefts, burglaries and shoplifting complaints Downtown.

This operation followed a periodic, early morning (4 a.m.) community livability operation, responding to citizen and business complaints about public camping activity, public intoxication and trespassing. As a citizen volunteer with the SMPD's Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) team, I'm partnered to assist HLP Officer Jacob Holloway in the NRO detail which includes officers on day-watch, HLP team and the Third Street detail.

9:45 a.m. Holloway and I head up Wilshire Boulevard to Seventh Street. Holloway spots two familiar faces on a bus bench. He stops and asks, "How ya' doin'?" They respond. Holloway parks and enters their names and birth dates into the computer. The male has a $5,000 warrant.

Andy (pseudonym) is handcuffed, arrested and will be taken to jail. The woman moves on. Holloway asks Andy, who has a history of alcoholism and seems to be mentally impaired, "Did you get rid of those bugs?" Holloway has treated him for lice in the past. Putting on heavy, blue rubber gloves, he checks Andy's hair and collar for signs of vermin and sees nothing moving. Andy and his property are placed into our car.

10:20 a.m. Back on Seventh Street, I point out a "body" rolled up in blankets on the sidewalk. Holloway pulls over. He shouts, "Hey! You OK?" Thankfully, the sleeping man wakes and sits up. "Yeah, I'm waiting for somebody." It appears that nobody is really coming for him.

His bare legs are thin and almost white while his face is deeply sunburned with scabs. Holloway obtains his name and birth date and runs him for preliminary wants and warrants. Nothing's on the computer. Holloway asks, "Any other names? When were you born?" He offers a different birth date. Nothing, again. "What name were you arrested with before?" The man gives a different name: "Cooney (pseudonym)."

We have a hit. He has one minor unpaid citation out of Los Angeles. "You look terrible," Holloway says. "You hungry?" The man nods. "What do you do for a living?"

Cooney replies, "I'm educated. I was a chef." He admits to bouts with alcoholism but says he's sober at the moment and although he's been in and out of Santa Monica for months, maybe years, he's not in services.

Holloway asks, "What do you want to do with your life?" His mental conditions becomes apparent.

"I want to be a doctor and help people."

Holloway responds, "How can you help people if you can't help yourself?" Holloway offers to get him cleaned up, a meal, into services — and hopefully off the streets. Cooney shrugs. Holloway tells me that although there are many options, the best thing to do in Cooney's case is take him to OPCC (formerly the Ocean Park Community Center) on Olympic Boulevard and get him cleaned up and started in services.

11:00 a.m. We escort Cooney into OPCC's drop-in center and Holloway tells the intake person, "This is Cooney. He's not in services, has a history of alcoholism, is hungry, needs some clothes and a caseworker." As we leave, Cooney is given a cup of juice and signed in to meet with a counselor.

There were easily 100 people in OPCC's courtyard. A number of individuals called out to Holloway and thanked him for helping them. One lady in a wheelchair approaches Holloway. She had a large volume about the "History of the United States Marines" and wants Holloway to have it. Holloway has a long association with her and her late husband.

She identifies Holloway with her deceased husband because they are/were both ex-Marines and proud of their service. He told her he couldn't take it because police officers aren't supposed to accept gifts.. She insists. He relents and tells her he'll only keep it until she wants it back. She nodded "OK." We head back to the Public Safety Facility.

11:30 a.m. By this time, Andy is booked into jail and is heading to the shower. Holloway assists him with the de-licing shampoo. It's Andy's first shower in a week.

With reports finished, the department's outreach contractor Ron Hooks from West Coast Care is notified about Andy although it appears to us that with Andy's continually repeating himself and inability to stay on subject for more than a few seconds, he might need some extra special attention.

12:15 p.m. Finished, we finally take our first break — eight hours after we started — and go to lunch.

1 p.m. We're back on duty. Holloway is on the phone. A local 18-year-old high school girl is facing a crisis.

Thursday: Part 3: Dealing with two crisis.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Communicating can be harder than you think

"WHAT WE'VE GOT HERE IS A FAILURE TO communicate." It's one of the all time great quotes from the movie "Cool Hand Luke." It is also a beautiful summation of the human condition.

Good communication is the hardest thing for us to do as human beings. Our ability to express to each other the exact meaning of our thoughts and feelings is so frequently limited — sometimes by our vocabulary, and sometimes by our fears.

One quick trip down the Third Street Promenade and we can find many people who think they are expressing themselves clearly. The content of the conversations, when the "ums," "likes," and "you knows" are deleted, becomes much more compact, and frequently there is little or no actual information that is being conveyed. From this, people form relationships, sometimes lifelong obligations arise as a result of one party trying to understand the other party, but simply filling in the blanks with what they want to hear.

This is how many men end up in my office, after finding themselves in need of a divorce or a child support award modification. They thought they heard one thing from the woman, and she was saying an entirely different thing. But these men heard what they wanted to hear.

Now I listen intently to what people say, how they say it, what their body language is as they are speaking, and what their emotional state appears to be at the time. I interpret all those data points and make a determination about the truth, the weight, the underlying motivations, and the reality of the substance of what is being verbally conveyed.

And still I screw it up.

This past weekend I had two experiences where my perceptions were just incorrect. The first was listening to a young man who I had determined was angry and resentful. It was my perception that he did not like me and viewed me as a threat to him somehow. I had no idea what I had done to offend him, but was also not so concerned as to actually speak to him about it.

Then I heard him sharing his life story. He spoke of the deprivations of his life, his fight to get through college while being homeless, his decision that books were more important to him than a roof over his head. He shared how he fathered a child as a young man, and continued to provide to the best of his abilities for his son. I found my entire perception of him to be rewritten, in the space of a few short minutes.

The other experience this weekend was with a man that I have been socializing with. I thought that I had communicated to him that I wanted to date him. We had been to several events together, attended a couple of movies and I was growing increasingly frustrated because I felt that I was getting mixed messages.

Finally I had to discuss the situation. I broached the subject of where we stood.

For me, it was an exercise in having to face two of my fears — the first, that I was wrong in my estimation of the situation, and two, the very human fear of asking what the other person is thinking.

I was wrong on the first count. Evidently, he had not even thought about dating as a possibility. He thought we were just hanging out. It turns out that I am actually too subtle, which for those of you who know me, is shocking. But when it comes to communication, particularly when our emotions are involved, it is extremely difficult to be direct.

Telling someone you find them attractive and want to date them is not an easy thing to do. It means making yourself vulnerable to rejection. Letting someone see into your heart is scary, but what I'm learning is that broken hearts heal, and it's better to be in the direct light of honesty, than to live in the shadow world of guessing.

When I asked what he was thinking, I learned that I had completely misinterpreted many of his statements. I had fallen into the easy trap of convincing myself I knew what someone else was thinking. I found that the fear of asking was much more anxiety producing than the actual answers.

So, twice in one day, I had the lesson taught to me that honest, direct, communication can be freeing, can relieve me of the anxiety that not knowing causes, and most importantly, that I so very often "have a failure to communicate."

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

The Q Line

Council searches

The passing of City Councilman Herb Katz recently has forced his colleagues on the dais to search for a replacement. It will be difficult to replace the esteemed Katz who dedicated much of his life to civil service.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Who would you like to see as the new City Council member?

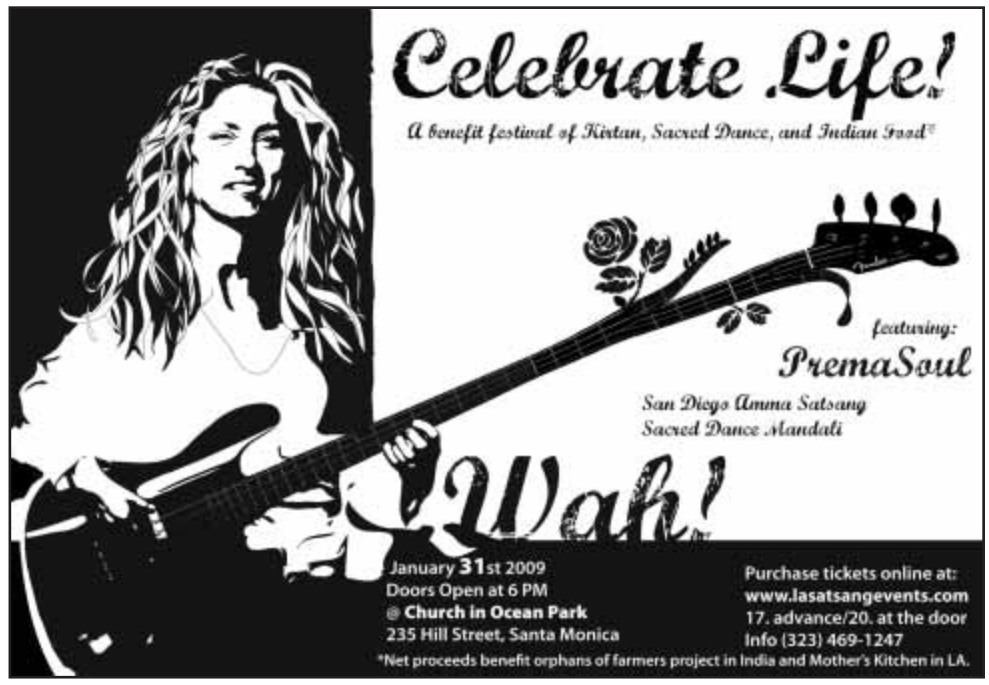
Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.


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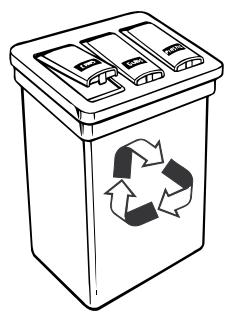
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Proud moment: My son has 'bagel manners!'

BY BETH J. HARPAZ
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK A friend recently gave me the ultimate compliment about my kid. She said he has good bagel manners.

I was as thrilled about this as I am about a good report card.

What are bagel manners, exactly?

Well, a variety of bagels were being served — sesame, poppy, cinnamon raisin and the like. But instead of just grabbing the one he wanted, my son asked my friend which was her favorite, to make sure he didn't take the last of the type she liked.

My friend expressed surprise that a teenage boy would have such good manners, and to tell you the truth, it surprised me too, because like a lot of parents, I don't always see good manners at home.

I could only respond that I've basically spent the last 16 years walking around my house mumbling about the selfish, ungrateful, inconsiderate nature of the average child, and maybe some of that actually sunk into my children's immature brains to the point where they can sometimes pretend to be civilized — at least in other people's houses if not always their own.

"Our children learn a great deal from what they see us say and do," said Paula Levy, a family therapist in Norwalk, Conn., and mother of four ages 16-23. "They internalize these lessons even if they don't acknowledge what we are teaching them. When they are in the comfort of their own home they relax and act as they wish. When they are with others, they want to be accepted and impress, so they use all the skills they have learned."

I wonder if the selfish behavior parents sometimes witness in their children has an evolutionary component. Maybe the only way children ever survived to adulthood among cavemen and wandering tribes was by whining so much that somebody finally threw them some food or gave them a warm place to sleep by the fire.

And maybe that hardwired instinct is what surfaces when they start bugging us for something. It's our job, of course, to mitigate the animal instinct by teaching manners, but it's just so hard to know why our lessons sometimes stick and sometimes don't.

Levy said one way to increase the likelihood of getting kids to do what we want is to "be a consistent role model. They are taking everything in. Use good manners when dealing with your children."

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SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Steps to securing financial aid early

BY DAVE CARPENTER
Associated Press Writer

Here are some basics that parents of college-bound students who may not be doing all their financial aid homework should know as a 2009 aid season fraught with economic concerns begins:

1. APPLY ASAP: Parents with high school seniors or returning college students should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid now to have the best chance of receiving aid. This 102-question document is used to determine eligibility for federal aid, state aid and scholarships, and this year there are likely to be more applicants vying for less grant money. "It's always a good idea to apply for aid early, but especially this year," said Lynn O'Shaughnessy, a personal finance journalist and author of "The College Solution: A Guide for Everyone Looking for the Right School at the Right Price." "The feed trough's going to be a lot more crowded, and schools may run out of money sooner." Don't wait until your 2008 tax return to file; you can submit an online FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov using estimated tax information to speed the process.

2. DON'T RULE OUT PRICEY SCHOOLS: A high sticker price doesn't necessarily mean a higher out-of-pocket cost, especially at schools where significant merit aid might be available.

"Don't just apply to the local community college because you think it's all you can afford," said Lauren Asher of the Institute for College Access and Success.

3. DON'T FORGET THE PROFILE: Remember to also fill out the CSS/Financial Aid Profile, used by many private colleges and universities to determine aid eligibility. The form and more information are at the Web site of the College Board, www.collegeboard.com.

4. LOOK AT LESS SELECTIVE SCHOOLS: While you're shooting high, make sure you are applying to less selective schools than you might have otherwise to add to your margin of financial safety. Your student might qualify for a merit scholarship or get a good need-based package. Or it may just make more financial sense.

5. THE LOSS OF HOME EQUITY VALUE WON'T HELP: Newcomers to the aid process may assume or hope that a big decrease in their home value will put them in line for more financial aid. That's not likely. Household income counts by far the most in the aid equation that also considers non-retirement assets, number of family members in the household, number of kids in college, and taxes.

6. LOOK FOR SCHOLARSHIPS ONLINE: Private scholarships offered regionally and locally may help you fill the financing gap even if your student isn't brilliant. Some of the best-known scholarship search sites include Fast Web, Scholarships.com and the College Board's Scholarship Search. Also check with your high school guidance office.

7. CALL AID OFFICES: Don't hesitate to call the financial aid offices of schools your student is considering, for information on available aid or for assistance. A better financial aid offer from a similar school could also be valuable fodder to take back to the first-choice school this spring.

8. BE WARY OF TAKING ON TOO MUCH DEBT. Federal loan limits have been increased, and parents may be able to find money to finance their child's dream college even in the midst of the worst economic crisis in decades.



Tornante

Steve Parker

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What Obama should say about the auto industry

ALLOW ME TO IMAGINE MYSELF AS ONE of President Obama's speechwriters for just a few minutes. Given that, in the next few days, President Obama must announce the following five points concerning America's remaining domestic auto industry in Detroit:

• "During World War II, the United States created the Manhattan Project, a cost-be-damned effort to develop the atomic bomb, and we were successful. In May, 1961, President John F. Kennedy declared, 'I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth.' We did it in July, 1969, and two men landed on the moon, not just one. Based on these successes, this country must now commit itself to, before 2020, creating the world's first national infrastructure for hydrogen and natural gas fuels, and we determine to build the cars and trucks which will run on those fuels by using fuel cells — made efficient by JFK's space program — to turn hydrogen and natural gas into electricity. This will be a huge positive answer for global warming.

• "To help pay the enormous expense for this first of its kind transformation, from an economy which for over 100 years has depended on oil, we will immediately, by Executive Order, increase and greatly expand the tax rebates and other incentives for Americans to buy the highest mileage, cleanest cars and trucks now available. This will save all of us money, but will also pour money into Detroit as the kinds of cars we need now are developed and sold. And as the economy improves, we will then phase-in a $4-per-gallon federal gas tax, with those monies used only for this massive, critical and earth-saving energy and transportation revolution.

• "As is done in every other industrialized nation, our federal government will help and support American carmakers in any and every way possible. That's not protectionism; that's just smart and makes common sense. And Detroit automakers will also be closely involved in the development of the most modern types of high-speed rail lines to criss-cross the nation, and of efficient light rail systems for our towns and cities.

• "This week, I will sign an Executive Order which will hasten the most-recent government fuel mileage requirements. The latest rules require the Corporate Average Fuel Economy of the nation's new car and light truck fleet to begin increasing from present levels with the 2011 model year and to reach 35 mpg by the 2020 model year. I believe we can accomplish this in half that time, by model year 2015. Encouraging American carmakers to develop these high-mileage cars and trucks will get them and this country well on our way towards the coming hydrogen/natural gas economy.

• "In this 21st century, three separate carmakers in Detroit striving to reach the same important goals is a massive waste of money, time and effort. The struggling financial markets have seen many mergers in recent

SEE TORNANTE PAGE 8



Ask George

George Valverde

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's not a complete loss

Q: I LOST THE TITLE FOR MY CAR. I HAVE no idea where it went. What do I need to do to get a new one?

A: You can find the application for a duplicate title on the DMV Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov. You can replace lost, stolen or mutilated titles by filling out the form, attaching the damaged title, if mutilated, and paying the duplicate title fee. You may submit the application either in person or by mail. You can send the completed forms with payment to:

Department of Motor Vehicles
Registration Operations
P.O. Box 942869 MS E254
Sacramento, Calif.

Q: I was in a car crash recently and my insurance company called my vehicle a total loss. Working on cars is a hobby of mine, so I plan to retain ownership of the vehicle and make repairs. What do I need to do for everything to be legal?

A: First your insurance company will need to notify the DMV that you will retain the car. Next you will have to obtain a Salvage Certificate or Non-repairable Vehicle Certificate within 10 days from the date the insurance company called it a total loss.

The form can be found on the DMV site at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Should you ever want to sell the vehicle you must disclose to the purchaser at, or prior to the time of sale, that it has been declared a total loss salvage vehicle. If you don't you could be subject to a civil suit or penalty.

Q: Is there a freeway portion to the behind the wheel driver test?

A: At this time, freeway driving is not tested in the behind-the-wheel portion of the standard driver test. However, if you are taking the commercial driver test, you will be asked to enter a freeway, maintain proper lane position and speed, change lanes correctly and exit safely.

Section 12 of the Commercial Driver License Handbook can assist drivers taking the commercial driving test and can be found online at www.dmv.ca.gov.

GEORGE VALVERDE is the director of the California Department of Vehicles.

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PASSING THE TORCH

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Employees of DHL, the world's leading express and logistics company, carry the Flame of Hope for the Special Olympics past the Santa Monica Pier sign on Saturday as part of the Global Law Enforcement Torch Run. The Flame of Hope began its journey on Nov. 12, 2008 with a lighting ceremony in Athens, Greece. In accordance with Olympic tradition dating back to the ancient Greeks, the Special Olympics' torch was lit by the sun's rays near Olympia, and will remain lit until the end of the World Winter Games on Feb. 13. After the lighting ceremony, the flame embarked on a three-month journey, traveling more than 37,000 miles via DHL by air and ground to 13 cities across five continents.

Obama blasts Bush's treatment of California

FROM **ENDORSEMENT** PAGE 1

"Instead of serving as a partner, Washington stood in their way," Obama said. "The federal government must work with, not against, states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Obama's announcement on his seventh day in office delighted California officials who have criticized his predecessor for ignoring the state's long tradition of setting its own air standards.

"It is clear that California and the environment now have a strong ally in the White House," said Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who in a letter last week asked Obama to revisit the matter. "Allowing California and other states to aggressively reduce their own harmful vehicle tailpipe emissions would be a historic win for clean air."

Because California began regulating vehicle pollution before the federal government did, the state has special status under the Clean Air Act to implement tougher emission standards than those promulgated by the federal government. But the state must first get a waiver from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. California was granted about 50 such waivers — and never denied — before seeking a waiver in 2005 to implement a landmark state law that would force automakers to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent in new cars and light trucks by 2016.

The auto regulations were to have been a major part of California's first-in-the-nation global warming law that aims to reduce greenhouse gases economy-wide by 25 percent — to 1990 levels — by 2020. Air regulators are counting on the auto emission reductions to meet about 18 percent of the state's proposed reductions.

If California is granted an emissions waiver, other states can then choose to adopt California's standards or go with the federal ones. Thirteen states and the District of Columbia were ready to implement the California standards when, after months of delay and controversy, then-EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson announced in December 2007 that he was denying the waiver.

That sparked outrage, investigations and lawsuits from California officials. Congressional investigations led by Boxer and Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Los Angeles, found that Johnson had overruled the unanimous recommendations of career scientists at the agency.

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Big 3 must be Big 1

FROM **TORNANTE** PAGE 7

months, for those requiring help from the government and other companies in order to remain viable. Therefore, our government will be asking General Motors, Ford and Chrysler to merge into one great American-based carmaker and technology group.

This will be the best way to guarantee a future for General Motors and Chrysler, especially, and Ford, as the world will beat a path to Detroit to license Detroit's newly-developed transportation technologies. This is the best use of taxpayer money to achieve the efficiencies of scale necessary to create the hydrogen and natural gas economy and its vehicles. We ask that only the U.S. divisions of these companies merge; their overseas divisions can remain separate; after a pre-determined time, Detroit might again be ready to be home to three major carmaking companies."

Did I miss anything? Disagreements? Praise? If so, visit my web site, www.SteveParker.com, and let me know.

STEVE PARKER has covered the world's auto industry for over 35 years. He's a two-time Emmy Award-winner who reported on cars for almost a decade at both KTLA/TV5 and KCBS/TV2. He is a consultant to the NBC-TV show Whipnotic and the show's companion website, www.Whipnotic.com. He created, writes and moderates the only all-automotive blog on The Huffington Post at www.huffingtonpost.com/steve-parker.

Police expected to get new CNG vehicles

FROM **CONSENT** PAGE 1

ed to approve a series of contracts to upgrade the existing storm drain infrastructure adjacent to the pier, moving forward a project that will go a long way toward cleaning one of the dirtiest beaches in the state.

Those three contracts, which together total more than $1.4 million, are part of a larger $3.1 million spending package that the council is expected to pass, covering everything from new vehicles for the Santa Monica Police Department to maintenance services for the pier carousel.

The Pier Storm Drain Improvement Project was identified by City Hall as the highest priority among possible undertakings to be funded by Measure V, the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, which voters passed two years ago to pay for better water quality.

Estimated for completion in June, the project includes replacing deficient storm drain pipes and construction of a diversion box that would pump captured urban runoff and divert it to a nearby sewer.

Officials said the goal is to eliminate dry weather urban runoff from being discharged onto the beach, which would reduce bacterial contamination.

Following a bidding period earlier this month, city staff is recommending that the council award a construction contract for roughly $1 million to KEC Engineering. Tetra Tech is slated to receive a $143,572 contract for construction management and Psomas, which is providing project management, is expected to see a contract extension of roughly $190,000.

"The project is intended to improve water quality and maintain the beneficial uses of the Santa Monica Bay, as well as improve beach aesthetics by eliminating ponding caused by dry weather urban runoff discharges onto the beach" a staff report stated.

The Bicknell Avenue "Green Street" Project, which would also reduce storm water runoff, is also expected to get the nod from council, which is scheduled to approve both a $538,477 construction contract with Sully-Miller Contracting Co. and a $52,000 contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates for design services.

The project will be funded in part by Measure V and through a grant from the State Water Resources Control Board, the latter of which has been frozen due to budget issues in Sacramento. City staff said they believe the funds will be reinstated after the budget issue is resolved.

If the grant is not reinstated, city staff will suggest that more Measure V money be used to pay off the balance of the project.

The project, which will be located on a one-block part of Bicknell from Ocean Avenue to Neilson Way, will include new landscape biofilter swales and infiltration areas that will reduce impervious street surface.

PROVIDING UPKEEP FOR THE CAROUSEL

The historic 87-year-old carousel, a familiar fixture on the pier, will continue to be maintained by the same company that has operated the ride since 2001.

City Hall recently went shopping for a company to both operate and maintain the carousel, which is located in the Looff Hippodrome, receiving interest from only one party — Roth Management.

The company has been responsible for overseeing the carousel since September 2001.

The new two-year contract is estimated to be more than $411,000 and includes three, one-year renewal options.

EXTRA HELP FOR PLAN CHECK

A consulting firm that has provided additional staff for the Planning and Community Development Department for more than seven years is expected to get a $150,000 boost to its contract.

The increase to the contract with JAS Pacific — which has provided contracted personnel to work in the plan check, code enforcement and building inspection divisions — will pay for four additional staff positions. If approved, the extension would bring the contract total to $591,000 this year.

The new staff members will work in the Building and Safety Division.

The extension will be funded by additional revenue that has come in through a 17 percent increase in application fees for building and planning services. The council adopted the fee increase in November 2008 to hire four additional staff members in order to maintain higher customer service standards. City staff is recommending that the positions be filled by JAS Pacific until the current economic situation stabilizes.

PAYING WHAT IS OWED

The council will be asked to pay an outstanding fee that it owes for construction oversight of a city office on Fourth Street.

City Hall entered a lease with Metropolitan Pacific Capital LLC in 2006 to house the Civil Engineering and Architecture Division at 1433 Fourth St. As part of the agreement, City Hall was required to pay a 2 percent construction oversight fee, estimated at $9,123, for tenant improvements at the office.

The company recently discovered that payment of the fee has not been fulfilled.

NEW RIDES FOR CITY HALL

The Santa Monica Police Department is expected to receive two new vehicles for its Forensics Section.

The CNG — Compressed Natural Gas — vehicles, estimated to cost a total of $136,279, will replace several older cars that are scheduled to be phased out by the SMPD.

The council will also be asked to purchase four new CNG conventional cab trucks for City Hall's Water Division, also replacing a set of outdated vehicles. The vehicles will cost approximately $193, 563.

The Big Blue Bus is also expected to request new engine parts for its LNG — Liquefied Natural Gas — fleet. The contract to Cummins Cal Pacific LLC, which will supply the parts, is estimated at $191,000.

melodyh@smdp.com

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



City Hall could have more oversight of school district through contract

FROM **JOINT USE** PAGE 1

made, though a group of parents have testified to the contrary.

The funds were released at a time when the school district is gearing up for a tough budget season, expecting a loss of revenues that could reach $10 million over the next 18 months because of discussions going on in Sacramento over state appropriations to local schools.

It was state budget cuts to education in 2003, resulting in more than 200 layoffs in the SMMUSD alone, that eventually led to the creation of the joint-use agreement.

The district had always received one-time funds from City Hall, but educational advocates wanted something more consistent, eventually launching a campaign to push a controversial charter amendment that would have specifically identified ongoing revenue for the schools. The plan was largely backed by the Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS), which gathered more than 15,000 signatures to put the amendment on the ballot. Among those who opposed the charter amendment were City Hall workers.

Just as organizers were about to submit petitions, the City Council narrowly agreed in May 2004 to back a compromise — the joint-use agreement — between City Hall and the school district. Educational advocates, including the Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs, remained divided on whether to continue the charter amendment or back the contract.

"WHAT'S CHANGED IS EVERYONE NOW UNDERSTANDS THE CITY HAS A REALLY IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN OUR ABILITY TO CONTINUE TO HAVE EXCELLENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS."

Louise Jaffe
Former co-chair, CEPS

"Our mission with the charter amendment was to have the city share the prosperity that it enjoyed with our schools, which of course are subject to the budget crisis that exists at the state level, and the contract accomplished that," Shari Davis, the chair of CEPS, said. "It was dollars the district could depend on that would go to students and programs and it was vital funding."

Both the charter amendment and the joint-use contract would have started with a base funding of roughly $6 million, increasing over time. But the district today would be receiving more from the charter amendment than it does with the contract, Davis said, though she isn't sure by how much.

Louise Jaffe, an educational advocate who served as the co-chair of CEPS at the time of the campaign, said the community now sees the necessity of having the financial support from City Hall.

"What's changed is everyone now understands the city has a really important role to play in our ability to continue to have excellent public schools," Jaffe said. "It simply can't be done without the city's financial support."

WHAT'S ALLOWED IN THE AGREEMENT

The contract is basically an umbrella agreement for joint-use between City Hall and the district, covering programs that allow public access to campuses outside of school hours.

The CREST — Childcare, Recreation, Enrichment, Sports, Together — program, which is open to students in grades K-8, is operated at each elementary school in Santa Monica, utilizing the classrooms, multipurpose spaces, playgrounds, fields, gyms and restrooms. The program serves several thousand students at an estimated net cost to City Hall of $1.6 million this fiscal year. City Halls also provides financial assistance for students from low-income families.

The Playground Partnership allows community access to outdoor spaces at six elementary schools, covering the courts, fields and play structures. City Hall is paying about $209,000 this year for custodial and landscape services.

The joint-use agreement also allows access for youth athletic programs — operated by both City Hall and local nonprofit sports organizations — to the three middle schools, including John Adams, Lincoln and Santa Monica Alternative School House. The fields at the schools are used for city programs like youth sports camp, altogether costing City Hall about $393,000, serving approximately 345 students.

Stinchfield said the contract has allowed the programs to expand.

"The playgrounds were not readily available to this degree," she said.

MORE ACCOUNTABILITY?

When school and city officials commence negotiations, one of the topics for discussion will be whether the contract should allow City Hall to have more oversight on the district in light of the special education controversy.

"I think if you're going to give $8 million in taxpayer money to a different group, you should have a way to account to our voters for our money," Councilmember Bobby Shriver said. "I think it's good for the district, it's good for the council and the taxpayers."

It's a condition that educational advocates said they are open to exploring, depending on what "oversight" means.

"From the beginning accountability has been an important priority for CEPS and depending on how it's written, absolutely it's something we support," Davis said.

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Digital transition may be delayed

FROM **DELAY** PAGE 3

Program. The program provides up to two coupons per household, worth $40 each, to put toward the purchase of television converter boxes. The devices cost between $40 and $80.

The program is backed by $1.34 billion in federal funds, which provides 33.5 million coupons. Problematically, many people applied for coupons who have digital televisions and cable, not knowing that they would be unaffected by the switch, so people who need the coupons can't get them.

There is a 2 million person waiting list for coupons. Because of the Anti-Deficiency Act of 2005, new coupons can't be issued without immediate funds to back them up, so new coupons will only become available once old coupons expire. The coupons have a shelf life of three months before they deactivate.

"There are plenty of coupons, and plenty of funds," said Bart Forbes, the public affairs specialist for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, the government agency that is in charge of the coupon program. "We're just waiting for them to deactivate."

If the transition date remains Feb. 17, it is unlikely that sufficient coupons will be freed up to satisfy demand.

"The program is more than a little backed up," said Karen Lightfoot, Waxman's spokesperson.

According to Lightfoot, Waxman's proposed bill would put more money behind the program so new coupons can be issued, send coupons by first class mail instead of third class and change the expiration date to Sept. 15, 2009.

For people with coupons, they can be redeemed for government-approved models at stores like RadioShack and Best Buy.

The RadioShack in Santa Monica has seen a major upswing in converter box sales in the past month as Santa Monicans hurry in to prepare for the transition.

"In the past month, demand has gone up 110-120 percent," said Andre Polacco, the RadioShack store manager. RadioShack sells its model for $59.99.

Santa Monicans seem to be coping with the transition well. According to Kate Vernez, assistant to the city manager, no complaints have been called in. Petula Storey, the director of volunteer services at Wise and Healthy Aging in Santa Monica, also had no problems to report.

"Our seniors are pretty savvy when it comes to technology," Storey said.

More information about the transition and the current coupon program can be found at www.dtv2009.gov.

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NFL

Super Bowl security to be tight in Tampa

BY MITCH STACY
Associated Press Writer

TAMPA, Fla. At least 20 federal agencies will help local police secure Raymond James Stadium for Sunday's Super Bowl, with duties ranging from protecting airspace and the port to arresting peddlers of counterfeit souvenirs, officials said Monday.

Because of the massive security effort, the stadium "is one of the safest locations you can possibly be on Super Bowl Sunday in the United States of America," said Milton E. Ahlerich, the NFL's vice president for security.

The heavy security will be typical of every Super Bowl since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Ahlerich said at a news conference. There is no evidence of any nefarious plans by terrorists, he said, but the high profile of the game between the Pittsburgh Steelers and Arizona Cardinals makes it "an attractive target."

Officials declined to say how many personnel will be involved in protecting the stadium and fans.

The security plan has been nearly two years in the making.

Virginia O'Brien, special agent-in-charge of the Tampa office of Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said some of the people working the game were also involved in last week's presidential inauguration in Washington and last year's World Series.

"Like every team that makes it to the Super Bowl, we've all been working together and we've been planning and training for almost two years to work together," O'Brien said.

Ahlerich cautioned fans to watch out for counterfeit tickets, which is a problem at every Super Bowl. They need to get to the game early and bring very little with them. Security will be similar to airports — long lines, metal detectors, a bag check and a pat-down.

Tampa police Maj. John Bennett noted that the city hosted the last Super Bowl before the 2001 terrorist attacks. The security plan and presence has had to change right along with the increased threat.

"The event has become so large and so glamorous, it just has a unique footprint that we didn't see in 2001," he said.

Coach pleads not guilty in player's death

BY BRETT BARROUQUERE AND WILL GRAVES
Associated Press Writers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. A Kentucky high school football coach on Monday pleaded not guilty to reckless homicide in the heat-related death of a 15-year-old player who collapsed while running sprints at a sweltering August practice.

David Jason Stinson was released without having to post bond following his arraignment.

A grand jury last week indicted Stinson, who was in his first year as head coach, in the death of Pleasure Ridge High School offensive lineman Max Gilpin.

"This is not about football, this is not about coaches," Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney David Stengel said after the hearing. "This is about an adult person who was responsible for the health and welfare of a child."

Gilpin was one of six people to die because of the heat in high school and college athletics in 2008. Stengel said he doesn't know if this is the first case in which a coach has been criminally charged in such a death that happens occasionally in all levels of athletics.

One of Stinson's attorneys, Brian Butler, said the case won't be settled without a trial because his client "is not responsible for this child's death."

"Coach Stinson absolutely believes that he is innocent of these charges. This is a tragedy beyond belief for (Gilpin's) family," Butler said. "His heart goes out to them."

The sophomore died Aug. 23 of complications from heat stroke, three days after collapsing at practice. His family attended the hearing but did not speak to reporters. Jeff Gilpin and Michele Crockett, the player's divorced parents, have jointly filed a lawsuit against the school's coaching staff, accusing them of negligence and "reckless disregard."

Despite the felony charge that carries a maximum of five years in prison, some in the south Louisville community have rallied around the coach.

"They're dragging a very good man through the mud and I don't understand why," football booster Rodney Daugherty said Sunday.

"He's liable to be ruined over this. Even if he comes out exonerated, he'll probably be ruined and also mentally he'll be damaged for life," said 53-year-old Mike Embry, the co-owner of Don Embry Body Shop, a financial booster of the football program.

Parents, students, athletes and others in the community during a 90-minute rally Sunday spoke openly about Stinson, who graduated from a nearby Louisville high school, before going on to play offensive lineman for the University of Louisville, then briefly for the NFL New York Giants.

He spent three years as an offensive line coach before taking over as Pleasure Ridge's head coach in January 2008 and also is a deacon at his church.

The reckless homicide charge means grand jurors didn't find that Stinson's actions were intentional or malicious, Stengel said last week, but that "a reasonable man should have realized something like this could have occurred."

A Facebook group page in support of Stinson had over 1,400 members as of Monday morning, with most message board posters using the wall as a chance to offer prayers for Stinson and his family.

Daugherty worries about Stinson's financial and mental health.

"He's a guy with a heart of gold," Daugherty said. "There were only two people that hurt worse than him. That's the boy's parents."



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 59°

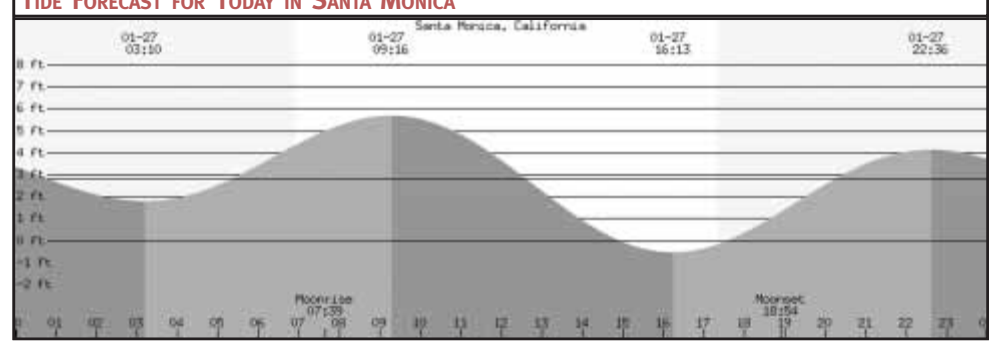
Swell Forecast (5-8 FT)

WNW swell is due, angled from 290 or so with 14-second periods. Size for most west facing breaks able to work this angle should be around chest to head high.

Long Range Synopsis

Wednesday the 28th it looks like the WNW swell will back down. Waist to chest is all west facing breaks are looking at -- smaller at south facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **January 20, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 21

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa 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	A+	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	F
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	B
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth	A+	D
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	D	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	D	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	D	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	D	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	A+

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

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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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.

Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce

Business & Consumer Expo

Presented by LA Car Guy

Wednesday February 18th
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sheraton Delfina 530 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica
Free to the public • Complimentary parking

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BUILDING A THRIVING COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

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Learn how to:
• Work with city departments to open a new business
• Get a permit from the city
• Green your business
• Save money on energy costs
• Plan for a disaster
• Market your business without breaking the bank
• Cut costs on insurance
• Use the internet effectively

Enjoy a VIP Networking Reception
$10.00 presale (members)
$15.00 at the door (members)
$20 for nonmembers
• Sample phenomenal food provided by the Sheraton Delfina Chef
• Enjoy Entourage Wine Company's wines from New Zealand and France
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• Overlook the beautiful Santa Monica skyline, atop the Penthouse Ballroom

Discover Business and Community Resources in One Location!

For more information contact the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce
info@smchamber.com
310.393.9825
www.smchamber.com

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

The Unborn (PG-13) 1hr 28min
2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40

Yes Man (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00

Milk (R) 2hrs 08min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Notorious (R)
1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2hrs 48min
1:15, 4:45, 8:15

My Bloody Valentine 3D (R) 1hr 41min
2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Bride Wars (PG) 1hr 30min
2:10, 4:55, 7:30, 9:40

Inkheart (PG) 1hr 46min
1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Defiance (R) 2hrs 17min
1:35, 4:35, 8:00

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
1:25, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (R) 1hr 32min
2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:00

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Revolutionary Road (R) 1hr 59min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Last Chance Harvey (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Slumdog Millionaire (R) 2hr 1min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

The Wrestler (R) 1hr 45min
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1hr 27min
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

Gran Torino (R)
1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30

Valkyrie (PG-13) 2hrs
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1hr 40min
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Marley & Me (PG) 2hrs
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

The Reader (R) 2hrs 02min
1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Take a nap and then decide, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Think in terms of friendship and new possibilities. If that suggestion doesn't work for you, focus on your goals. You carry an unusual planetary punch, even if you feel a little out of sync. You will work through that feeling by being accepting. Tonight: The action finds you. Do nothing!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Staying on top of your responsibilities could be slightly more demanding than you would like. Tap into a sense of strength and energy. You could be delighted by what comes down your path. Tonight: A must show. Smile anyway.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Reach out for experts or those at a distance. You could be overwhelmed by everything you need to learn, evaluate and rethink. Others demonstrate a stubborn, recalcitrant attitude. Tonight: Read between the lines.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You could be more understanding and direct with those in your life. The question remains, Why haven't you been? Be direct with those you trust and value, and the compliment will be returned. Tonight: Start the ball rolling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Others have a lot to share with you. On the receiving end, you could feel under siege. Listen to news with a touch of cynicism. This information might be quite a nugget. Say little about it; just verify. Tonight: Follow someone else's lead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ An easy but steady pace can make all the difference. Surprise of surprises, you actually might get more done than you originally anticipated. Curb a tendency to be sarcastic and not open. Tonight: Schedule a massage or take a hot bubble bath.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Your sense of direction comes out if you toss self-discipline, for the most part, and go with spontaneity. You are in an unusually creative and dynamic period. Make the most of the moment. Tonight: What would put a big smile on your face?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Family, home and investments often demand more attention than you are willing to give. Still, you might not have a choice, and this fact becomes clearer and clearer in the next few days. Tonight: At home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Conversations are animated and lively. How you see a situation could be a lot different from reality. Investigate possibilities with your eyes open. Don't push; a boss could be difficult at best. Tonight: Chat up a storm.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Take in others' opinions concerning a personal situation or a change. You still need someone to play devil's advocate. Absorbing an opinion from someone who is rigid could be hard. Tonight: Do something just for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ If you want to approach a situation differently, find a fellow Aquarian to brainstorm with. Creativity runs high with you and your sign. Have a solid, anchored friend around to ground you. Tonight: Smile away and do what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Step back and let others run the show. You realize your time is coming, sooner rather than later. Your imagination helps guide you. Test an idea on a grounded and trusted friend. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

Happy birthday

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★ Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

Don't push yourself too hard in what could be an extraordinary year. Your strength comes from reflection and evaluation at first, and then from a willingness to walk a different path or head in another direction. Demonstrate the freedom of being an Aquarian. Sometimes — in fact, more often than not — others don't agree with you. If you are single, you make waves and will have to work in order to keep your present status. Many find your off-beat personality enticing. If you are attached, the two of you need to share more in general. Consider that you need to back off and let your sweetie take charge more often. A fellow AQUARIUS challenges you effectively.

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 ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

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 YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured gets a pat on the back from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Brewing need
7 Practical joke
11 Writer Leonard
12 Periods
13 Yummy items
15 Towel material
16 Not barefoot
18 Tina's TV co-star
21 Earth orbiter
22 Temple support
24 Ring legend
25 Floor cover
26 Sis' sibling
27 Prepare for a big day
29 Thug
30 Leave speechless
31 Droopy cheek
32 Winter quaff
34 Funny jokes
40 Numerical prefix
41 Glimpse
42 Noggin
43 Nodding, perhaps

DOWN

1 Bus. card abbr.
2 Quarterback Manning
3 Guitar booster
4 Celtics' home
5 Ready for battle
6 Clock part
7 Hyde's counterpart
8 "You — Here"
9 Golf goal
10 Curvy letter
14 Daniel of "Quantum of Solace"
16 Foot parts
17 Raise
19 Macaroni shape
20 Seasonal song
21 Disfigure
22 Young seal
23 Director Howard
25 Ungrammatical sentence
28 Arizona city
29 Wee beard
31 Superman's father
33 Perp pursuers
34 Hold up
35 Drink cubes
36 Sch. org.
37 — out a living
38 Ludacris' music
39 Pig's place

P	A	C	T	S	■	G	A	M	E	S
A	G	A	I	N	■	E	L	A	T	E
T	O	R	M	E	■	Y	E	N	T	L
■	■	■	E	E	L	S	■	Y	U	L
O	N	S	C	R	E	E	N	■	■	■
D	A	T	A	■	E	R	O	D	E	S
O	P	A	R	T	■	S	T	E	A	L
R	E	N	D	E	R	■	E	C	R	U
■	■	■	S	E	A	S	C	A	P	E
F	O	P	■	S	H	E	A	■	■	■
I	R	I	S	H	■	P	R	E	G	O
R	A	T	I	O	■	I	D	E	A	L
S	L	A	N	T	■	A	S	K	M	E

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11						■	12			
13						14				
■	■	■	15					■	■	■
■	16	17			■	18		19	20	■
21				■	22					23
24			■	25			■	26		
27			28			■	29			
■	30				■	31				■
■	■	■	32		33			■	■	■
34	35	36						37	38	39
40				■	41					
42				■	43					

1-27

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 2 17 20 27 28
Meganumber: 7
Jackpot: $30M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 5 22 25 29 35
Meganumber: 7
Jackpot: $62M

Fantasy 5: 15 22 33 34 38

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 4 2 3
EVENING: 5 0 3

DAILY DERBY
1st: 07 EUREKA
2nd: 10 SOLID GOLD
3rd: 01 GOLD RUSH
RACE TIME: 1.41.47

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Undignified Deaths: A 77-year-old man was crushed to death in October while visiting his parents' gravesite at the St. Gregoire Cemetery in Buckingham, Quebec, when a tombstone fell on him. And in November, a 67-year-old woman was killed in southern Brazil on her way to the cemetery following her husband's funeral. She was a front-seat passenger in the hearse when another vehicle collided with it, slamming her husband's coffin forward and crushing the woman's skull.

■ A News of the Weird Classic (July 1999): Walt and Kathy Viggiano of Wichita, Kan., convinced Judge James Burgess to return their four children from foster care in 1999, following their removal the year before because of the unsanitariness of the family's mobile home. Unlike in many such cases, Judge Burgess realized that the Viggianos had not abused the kids, nor did they have alcohol or drug problems. Also, according to police who made the initial investigation, Walt and the kids seemed to speak warmly and lovingly with each other, even though their intra-family banter in the presence of the investigators appeared to be entirely in Klingon (from "Star Trek").

TODAY IN HISTORY

1756 composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria.

1880 Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp.

1901 opera composer Giuseppe Verdi died in Milan, Italy, at age 87.

1967 astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White and Roger B. Chaffee died in a flash fire during a test aboard their Apollo spacecraft at Cape Kennedy, Fla.

1973 the Vietnam peace accords were signed in Paris.

1981 President Ronald Reagan greeted the 52 former American hostages just released by Iran at the White House.

WORD UP!

vacuous \VAK-yoo-uhs\, *adjective*:
1. showing no intelligence or thought
2. having no meaning or direction; empty

Santa Monica Daily Press

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EUROPEAN WOMAN, educated, legal, looking for employment inSanta Monica- Malibu. Caring for elderly. Will cook, and take for walks, companionship. Ester (818)754-1186

Employment

Advertising Sales

The Santa Monica Daily Press, Santa Monica's Daily newspaper is seeking an Advertising Account Executive. Previous advertising sales experience isn't needed but it's certainly a plus. The job is meeting and networking with local and national businesses to help them get their message to our readers here in Santa Monica. We're looking for smart, friendly people who are motivated by money to join our growing sales team. Great work environment, must bring a positive attitude and outlook to our team. If you play well with others, are aggressive without being pushy, and have a drive to succeed, we want to work with you. Resumes are accepted via email to Rob Schwenker – Schwenker@smdp.com

Assistant Manager Position Available-Self Storage company in Santa Monica seeking a candidate with a great personality and great phone skills. Position is full time, must have sales experience, a valid driver's license, be available on weekends, must pass background check. Please e-mail your resume to info@sawtelleselfstorage.com

CASHIER POSITION for gas station. Immediate positions available. Customer service. Call for more information. (310)451-2355, (310)498-7910

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GIVE OF YOURSELF American Cancer Society Discovery Shop needs volunteer sales help. You can contribute by spending 4 hours per week Thurs., Fri., or Sat.assisting in our up-scale resale shop in Santa Monica. Conact Terry or Shaunnah at (310) 458-4490.

Line Cook with valid drivers license for catering delivery Must speak English. Please call (310) 985-0080

PART-TIME SALES POSITION-Retail hardware/lumber store in Santa Monica. Contact Erik (310)395-0956.

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For Sale

2004 HONDA Civic Hybrid; 4 door sedan; silver blue opal; original owner; 60k miles; manual shift; excellent value. Priced to sell $13,900 (310)459-4315

SPA/HOT TUB 2009 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth $5950, sell for $1950 (310) 479-3054

For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 16 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1300, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$500 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA, LARGE 3+2. OCEAN VIEW, top of hill, on prv drvwy, 3 patios/backyard, gated. Redeco, end unit. $2395/mo Cat ok 310-390-4610.

1248 11TH st. unit I, 3bdrm/1 1/2bath, stove, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets.on site manager $2500/mo $500 off move in (310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

615 1/2 MIDVALE lower Bachelor, no kitchen, sink, fridge,hot plate,, ceiling fan, carpet, street parking, no pets $925/mo utilities included (310)578-7512 wwwjkwproperties.com

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING IN SANTA MONICA
4 blocks to beach
2-BD + 2-BA
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SENIORS
Affordable Housing
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WLA $1750/MO. Large bright 2 bdrm upper, on Barrington near National. Very spacious. Large closets, crown moldings, new carpet appliances Closed garage Well maintained, charming, older building in popular WLA area.near Whole Foods. FREE MONTH WITH ONE YEAR LEASE (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6pm.

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For Rent

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310) 869-7901

835 Pacific #1 Single $1195
All Utilities Included
1334 Euclid St, #6 1bdrm/1bath $1345
1281 Monument 3bdrm/2bath 1450 sq /ft. House $4800
We are offering aggressive move-in specials

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

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 206 & 208 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1125/mo $400 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

SANTA MONICA $1250.00 1 bdrm, 1 bath, MO pets, stove, refrigerator, parking 2535 Kansas Ave, #103 Open daily for viewing 9am-7pm. Additional info in unit manager in unit # 101

Santa Monica $1895.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath , NO pets, stove, refrigerator, parking 1935 Cloverfield Blvd., #15 Open daily for viewing 9am-7pm. Additional info in unit manager in unit #19

Santa Monica $1895.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath , NO pets, stove, refrigerator, parking 2535 Kansas Ave., #205 Open daily for viewing 9am-7pm. Additional info in unit manager in unit #101

SANTA MONICA $1950 very large 2brdm/1bath . Near college, hardwood floors, applicances, laundry private (310)450-8748

SANTA MONICA / Palms Adj. $1250.00 to $1995.00 1 Bdrm, 2 Bdrms, 1 Bath, NO pets For a list of our vacancies, see manager at : 1935 Cloverfield Blvd #19

SINGLE 12746 Pacific Ave. unit 2 Lower stove, fridge, dishwasher, wall ac, carpet, blinds, laundry,intercom entry, restricted parking, no pets. $995.move-in special $200 off (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA 1457 Westgate #E 1+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile & carpet, garage parking no pets $1275/mo $250 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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North of Montana	=	$3,695,000	$1,175,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$750,000	$1,995,000
South of Wilshire	=	$799,000	$719,000
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