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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2007

Volume 6 Issue 68

Santa Monica Daily Press

STANDING UP FOR MARLEY
PAGE 17

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE FLOWERS ON THE WALL ISSUE

Courtesy of Chris Hero *news@smdp.com*

PAINT DRY: **'The Growing Tree' mural at John Muir Elementary School was removed over winter break after testing positive for lead. The artist says the testing was incorrect and the district was mistaken in the decision to spend money to have it removed.**

Barking up the wrong 'Tree'?

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

JOHN MUIR ELEMENTARY The laughter of children, the brightness of an afternoon sun and the gaze of environmentalist John Muir are all gone.

They were all elements of a mural that livened up a wall of John Muir Elementary School for the past five years, only to be removed over the winter break after testing positive for lead. Now, the work's artist contends that the lead testing was incorrect and the district may have gotten duped out of $22,000.

Late last year, a testing agency reportedly identified lead in the paint used on a mural entitled "The Growing Tree" that depicts children climbing a tree and playing under the sun as Muir looks on. Roughly 15 feet tall and 20 feet wide, the mural was painted onto a wall directly across from the administration building at the elementary school in 2001.

SEE MUIR MURAL PAGE 7

Vandals crown a Viking

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI It seems Vikings liked to light up a doobie during their downtime between their raids.

School officials at Santa Monica High School received an unpleasant surprise Tuesday morning when they discovered that a large mural depicting the school's mascot on a building adjacent to the track and football fields was vandalized.

Among the suspects are students, specifically, members of the Class of 2007.

The vandalism consisted of a marijuana joint superimposed onto the mouth of the Viking head, and the numerals "07" painted over the "Vi" in the slogan "Home of the Vikings," rendering it "Home of the 07 Kings."

A school resource officer with the Santa Monica Police Department was on the field Tuesday morning

SEE VIKING VANDALIZED PAGE 7

Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

ANOTHER BRICK: **Class of '07 suspected for vandalism.**

Two new faces fill empty spaces on the Board

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Two fresh faces will be charged with filling a pair of glaring voids in the school district on Thursday.

The Board of Education is expected to name Dr. Stephen Hodgson, the highly regarded former CFO of the Glendale Unified School District, as the interim Chief Financial Officer, and Dr. Chiung "Sally" Chou, an associate special trustee for the Compton Community College, as the new Chief Academic Officer.

The appointment of the new head of finances comes more than two months after former CFO Winston Braham resigned amid suspicions of a rift between himself and Superintendent Dianne Talarico over a proposed 5-percent teacher salary raise. Hodgson will serve in the interim to guide the district through a critical fiscal time as Talarico searches for a permanent replacement to begin July 1.

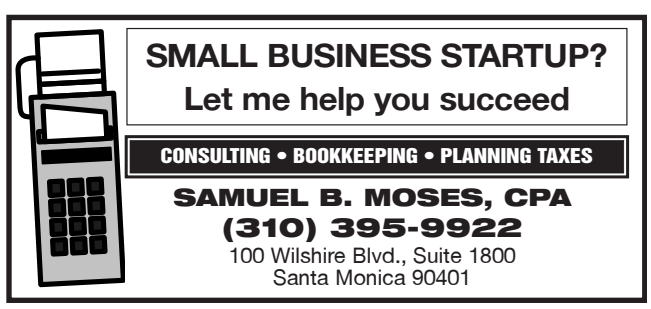
Talarico did not return multiple calls requesting comment.

Braham abruptly resigned form his post as the assistant superintendent of business services and chief financial officer on Nov. 28. A few weeks later, at its Dec. 14 meeting, the school board finalized a settlement agreement with Braham in closed session, handing him most of the $189,000 that remained on his three-year contract set to expire in 2008, according to Deputy Superintendent Tim Walker.

The settlement agreement is a standard procedure for high-level positions, said School Board Vice President Oscar de la Torre, who could not comment on why Walker left the district.

"It's a closed matter and we're moving

SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION PAGE 6



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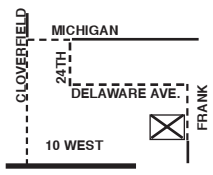

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Lisa Haisha is an author, speaker, and trained therapist. She is also the creator of Soul Blazing™. She comes originally from a film background (writer/director/producer) and holds a Masters Degree in Psychology. She has a private practice in Santa Monica.

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Rapid Dating in Santa Monica
2424 Main St., 7 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
15 five-minute dates in one night at Malia Restaurant. For more information, call (310) 656-7099. To register, go to www.rapiddating.com.

'The Edge of Form'
2903 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.
The debut works of Joe Pinkelman, Susie McKay Krieser and Darlyn Susan Yee will be on display. For more information on the exhibit and/or the artists, visit www.TagTheArtistsGallery.com or call (310) 829-9556.

Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting
1332 Sixth St., noon — 1:30 p.m.
The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club holds its weekly luncheon with guest speakers at the YMCA. For more information, call (310) 828-1766.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre
1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
For more information, call the Playhouse box office at (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

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

Thursday, February 1, 2007

Nordic LAttitudes
601 Santa Monica Blvd., Main Library hours
The Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Library, and Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners are presenting a six-week design and discussion called Nordic LAttitudes, an educational exhibit showcasing the best in Nordic furniture and lighting design. For more information, visit www.smpl.org/nordiclattitudes.

An Evening with John Landis
1323-A Third Street Promenade, check for times
The Westside Eclectic, in collaboration with JibJab, will be hosting director John Landis. Seats are very limited. Please e-mail vanessa@westsideeclectic.com for more information or call (310) 451-0850. The Westside Eclectic is located in the alley between Third and Fourth streets, just south of Arizona Avenue.

Art Classes
Santa Monica, 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Classes at Campbell Art Studio begin today. Visit www.campbellart.com or call (310) 804-0335 for schedules and pricing.

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 leads and referrals to your line of work. Only one person per profession may join. Call to reserve a spot, (310) 356-7519.

Church Mice
1220 Second St., 3:15 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
Music, art projects, Bible stories, games and snacks are offered every Thursday in the Christian Education Building of First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica. Children three years of age through second grade are welcome! For more information, call Rebecca Hall at (310) 451-1303, ext. 26.

Kundalini Yoga
2309 Main St., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
This class combines the science of movement, posture, breath, sound and meditation. Donations accepted. For more information, please visit www.shiatsumassageschool.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.

CORRECTION

In a story profiling former City Council candidates ("Fallen hopefuls brace for 2008 Council run," Jan. 30, page 6), the name of Jenna Linnekens was misspelled beneath her picture.

County fails to supply residents' demands

BY IRENE MANAHAN
Special to the Daily Press

SANTA CLARITA While housing prices will inevitably fluctuate with time, the steep skyrocketing that has squeezed Los Angeles and Ventura county homebuyers in recent years occurred as a result of a failure to accommodate for an ever-increasing population, a new study finds.

This massive shortfall of home development over the greater Los Angeles County area, including the Westside, continues today, according to a joint study by the Building Industry Association/Greater Los Angeles and Ventura Chapter (BIA/GLAV) and the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC).

"Meeting the Housing Challenge in L.A. and Ventura" explores the local, weakening housing market, the region's growing population and their effects on infrastructure.

In particular, researchers make note of just where the county stands in terms of housing supply and demand.

"We've been aware of the problem and watched the trends regularly," said Holly Schroeder, chief executive officer of BIA/GLAV. "There was so much discussion ... about the housing market slowing and changing."

According to the study, between 1990 and 2006, the population of LA County alone has increased 15.6 percent (from 8.86 million to 10.25 million people). If the ratio of residents-to-housing units had remained constant over the last 16 years, more than 493,000 new homes would have been built. Instead, only about 201,000 homes were constructed during that time span.

"The fundamental issue is that we have a shortage of almost 300,000 homes (in the two combined counties," Schroeder said. "As the population continues to grow, this continuing shortage will jeopardize our economic future and quality of life."

The study projects an increase in Southern California of more than six million people over the next 20 years. In L.A. and Ventura counties,

SEE HOME DEVELOPMENT PAGE 8

Andre Mayis *news@smdp.com*

MUSIC TO THEIR EARS: **The Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences received the 'elbow room' they wanted and will remain in Santa Monica.**

Academy decides to park in SM

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BOULEVARD While the music industry is buzzing about the reunion of British pop-rock trio The Police for the Grammys telecast in February, those in charge of putting on the prestigious awards show and their neighbors seem equally excited about winning the approval of the Planning Commission to expand their national headquarters here in Santa Monica.

Representatives with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, located at 3402 Pico Boulevard, went before the Planning Commission earlier this month to ask for a variance that would allow them to convert just under 7,500 square feet of below-grade parking into office space.

The only hurdle is current zoning laws do not allow for office space on the ground floor of a building along Pico Boulevard and other major thoroughfares where foot traffic is encouraged. The conversion would also leave the academy nine parking spaces short of what is required for the amount of square-footage added, hence the request for a variance.

After learning from city staff that the variance and text amendment to the zoning code would only affect one or two buildings in the city, not including the academy, and that the building is situated so that it does not face Pico Boulevard in any meaningful way, the commissioners unanimously approved the academy's request.

That means the academy, known for putting on the Grammy's and for its philanthropic work with children, will remain in Santa Monica and not have to look elsewhere for more "elbow room," said Wayne J. Zahner, chief financial officer for the academy.

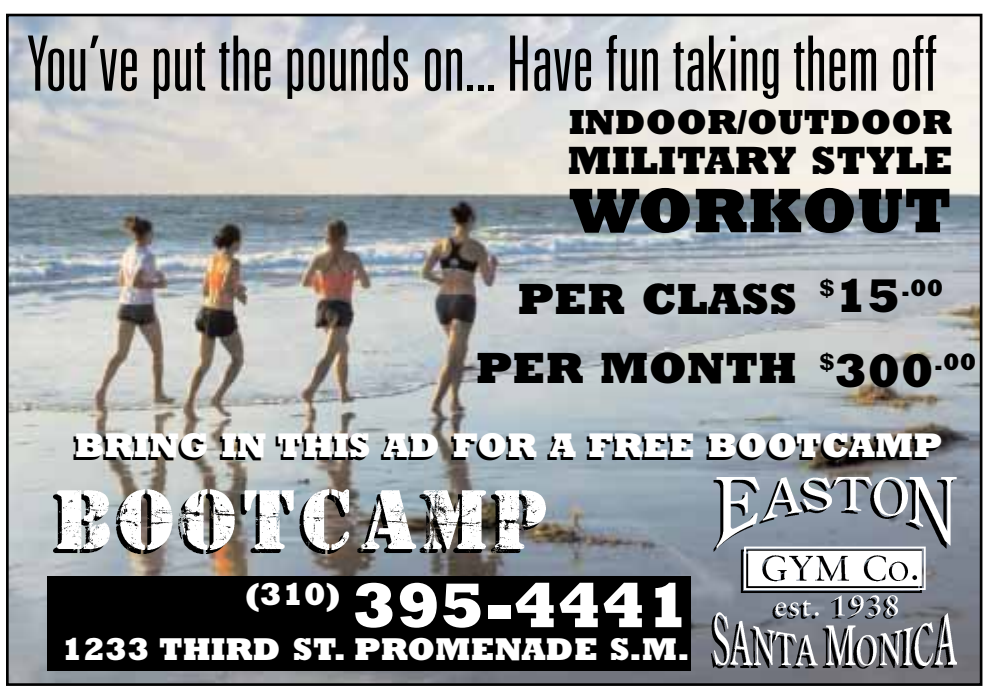
"This has been our home for the last 13 years and we could not be more pleased with the residents of Santa Monica, our neighbors and the Planning Commission for approving this request," Zahner said. "We simply need this build-out.

"This is where we want to stay," Zahner added. "We love our building and our neighbors."

"I WOULD HATE TO THINK OF SANTA MONICA AND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITHOUT THE ACADEMY."

John Heinritz
President of the Westowne Homeowners Association.

SEE ACADEMY PAGE 9



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Way to keep things positive

Editor:

I am a member of the Board of Directors of OPCC and just wanted to thank (The Daily Press) for its positive article on OPCC's new Cloverfield Center ("A bright future awaits OPCC's new residents," Jan. 26, page 3). In 1987, I helped open and run Daybreak, so you can imagine how thrilled I am with this wonderful new, larger place. I am glad the paper took such a good look and wrote such a positive piece. It encourages us all.

Darlene Lasher
Santa Monica

City Hall doesn't deserve people's trust

Editor:

(Re: "A bright future awaits OPCC's new residents," Jan. 26, page 3)

When the city council approved the "loan" for OPCC to buy the Cloverfield site, it was conditioned, per statements by Richard Bloom, that it would only be used as an overnight shelter facility. This is why the "Access Center" remained at the bus yard.

And yet, with fanfare, they're opening a jewelry store, offering yoga classes and "50 to 70 individuals" will be accessing the facility throughout the day. Inevitably, OPCC will open up a host of "programs" at the center, and there will be the same lineup of bums and miscreants strewn throughout the neighborhood, as there is on Fifth Street, Olympic (Boulevard) and downtown today. This is why people don't trust Santa Monica city government. The public was quite clear that the center did not belong in Pico, nor should OPCC own it.

Rob Martin
Santa Monica

One toxic turn deserves another

Editor:

(Re: "City Hall looking for Solutions to convince people to butt out," Jan. 26, page 1)

Since our city is so bent on keeping us healthier and will be adding signs all over town advising us just how toxic tobacco is and fining us if caught smoking outside, I wonder if they will add similar signs advising the public when toxic fluoride is added to the public waters and that everyone will be ingesting additional toxins in the tap water.

Personally, on the smoking ban, I believe the city has gone too far on penalizing people for smoking in the "free" air. I would never condone smoking, and the fact that our federal government funds tobacco farmers for continuing to grow this "poison" weed gets me pretty hot under the collar. As far as I'm concerned, tobacco and fluoride are toxic and everyone should be advised on both.

Joyce Martino
Santa Monica

Don't drink the water

Editor:

Your article ("Not all smiles for fluoride treatment," Jan. 19, page 3) brings to mind the need to caution fluoridators and would-be fluoridators. In 2007, only the brave or the foolish would choose to begin (or continue) adding fluoride to public water supplies because:

a) Fluoride's harmfulness at extremely low levels is now scientifically substantiated (NRC 2006);

b) Waters & Kraus (attorneys-at-law) intend litigating on behalf of victims of illnesses caused by fluoride toxicity.

When class actions begin, fluoridators will have nowhere to hide.

Ailsa Boyden
Spokesperson, Australian Fluoridation Information Network

News on the Edge

Ron Scott Smith — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bush stands at cliff's edge in pursuit of elusive prey

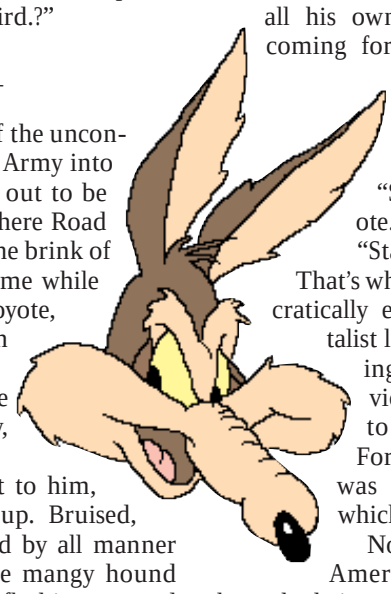
STAY DOWN, WILE E. JUST THIS ONCE, stay down.

Please.

Remember as a kid watching Road Runner leave a Merry Melodies mess of a stubborn coyote out there in the middle of some desert somewhere, time after punishing time? Did you find yourself silently pleading to the television screen, "Stay down, dog, while you're still in one piece. You can't catch that crazy bird.?"

"Beep! Beep!"

On these pages I wrote of the uncontested mad rush of the U.S. Army into Baghdad in 2003: "It turns out to be kind of like that cartoon where Road Runner darts full speed to the brink of a cliff, only to stop on a dime while the unsuspecting Wile E. Coyote, in full chase, flies right on over the edge."



Some four years later, the analogy, like the insurgency, doesn't go away.

But you have to hand it to him, Wile E. always got back up. Bruised, bloodied, maimed, flattened by all manner of train, truck, boulder, the mangy hound always got back up. Stars flashing around throbbing head, hair singed, eyeballs bulging out ... Come hell or high water — mostly hell — he always got back up.

Against all logic and consensus, he's up again, still hell-bent on getting that bird, holding the mightiest arsenal imaginable. That's him hiding in a Humvee behind a sand dune thinking he can't be seen while Road Runner strolls right on up, with some concoction or another of a homemade improvised explosive device in hand, and blows the whole animated scene to smithereens.

Portable holes appear not to be working in Baghdad. Even the finest brand names — Acme, Halliburton, Tomahawk, Hummer — carry no weight in this conflict, yet a desperate president reaches for nothing so much as cartoon magic to pull himself out of the very real hole he's dug himself into.

(Word to the Commander in Chief: If you must keep the 150,000 troops there and, in fact, add to them, can we do something about the uniforms? They walk down hostile foreign streets with bull's eyes painted on their starched camouflage backs, while the enemy — not obligated to uniform — is any person, anywhere. Isn't the whole point of camouflage to make it harder for the enemy to see you?)

Taking off the self-defeating camouflage wasn't one of the Iraq Study Group's official recommendations to help turn around "The Decider," but then again, they did have, oh, a couple things they thought maybe he could do differently ... like 79.

Listen, you'd be hard-pressed to come up with 79 official recommendations to turn around even big-time losers like Kim Jong Il or the Oakland Raiders, for that matter. Yet here was his own commission loaded with all his own daddy's cronies, sternly coming forth with a resounding 79 clear cut ways for him to change course for the better, all of which added up to nothing so much as a: "Stay down this time, coyote."

"Stay down, American dog." That's what the U.S.-enabled, democratically elected, radical fundamentalist leaders of New Iraq are saying too. Their duly elected vice president said last week to the World Economic Forum in Switzerland: "Iraq was put under occupation, which was an idiot decision."

Not too far off from what the American people are saying through their newly elected representatives who will soon present George W. Bush a resolution condemning his latest strategic blunder — "the surge."

The surge? Surge home.

New Iraq is certifiably weapons of mass destruction-free. Though it took more than 3,000 American and 600,000 Iraqi lives, and counting, to find out there were no such things in the first place, it is now 100 percent certified to be a non-WMD zone. Fact.

New Iraq is certifiably Saddam Hussein-free. Though it took all those lives and counting to get the evil tyrant hung by the neck in a primordial execution, the place is now 100 percent certified to be a non-Saddam Hussein zone. Fact.

And New Iraq is certifiably a democracy now where freedom is on the march. In fact, freedom is stomping — stomping law, order, civility, all those lives and counting, into the liberated ground beneath its boots. Free, free at last.

Mission accomplished, remember? Who said that?

Stay down, Wile E., just this once. That "Beep! Beep!" you keep hearing in your head — don't let it drive you over the edge. And that "new and improved" Acme Surge you're buying to silence it? Looney Tunes.

RON SCOTT SMITH can be reached at Edgeofthewest@aol.com.

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Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
Santa Monica Daily Press — Visit us online at smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR
Michael Tittinger
miket@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Kevin Herrera
kevinh@smdp.com

Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR
Lori Bartlett
lorib@smdp.com

PARENTING
Nina Furukawa
nina@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz
fabianl@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Christine Chang
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Robbie P. Piubeni
rob@smdp.com

Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

Andrew Swadling
andrews@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ASSISTANT
Cynthia Vazquez
advertising@smdp.com

TRAFFIC MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Tessa Vergara
tessav@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER
Annie Kotok
anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Glenn Bolan
glennb@smdp.com

NEWS INTERNS
Irene Manahan
Kristin Mayer

SPECIAL PROJECTS
Dave Danforth
dave@smdp.com

EDITOR-AT-LARGE
Carolyn Sackariason
csackariason@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
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1427 Third Street Promenade, #202
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
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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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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Earth Talk

By the editors of E Magazine

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trees offer more than a breath of fresh air

Dear EarthTalk:

Which trees are best to plant to help combat global warming?

Tim C.
Perrineville, NJ

TREES ARE IMPORTANT TOOLS IN THE fight to stave off global warming because they absorb and store the key greenhouse gas emitted by our cars and power plants — carbon dioxide (CO_2) — before it has a chance to reach the upper atmosphere, where it can help trap heat around the Earth's surface.

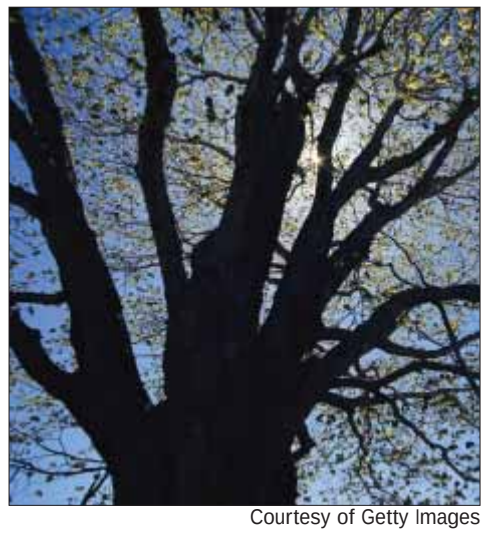
While all living plant matter absorbs CO_2 as part of photosynthesis, trees process significantly more than smaller plants due to their large size and extensive root structures. In essence, trees, as kings of the plant world, have much more "woody biomass" to store CO_2 than smaller plants, and as a result, are considered nature's most efficient "carbon sinks."

According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), tree species that grow quickly and live long are ideal carbon sinks. Unfortunately, these two attributes are usually mutually exclusive. Given the choice, foresters interested in maximizing the absorption and storage of CO_2 (known as "carbon sequestration") usually favor younger trees that grow more quickly than their older cohorts. However, slower growing trees can store much more carbon over their significantly longer lives.

TREE SPECIES THAT GROW QUICKLY AND LIVE LONG ARE ARE IDEAL CARBON SINKS."

Scientists are busy studying the carbon sequestration potential of different types of trees in various parts of the U.S., including Eucalyptus in Hawaii, loblolly pine in the Southeast, bottomland hardwoods in Mississippi and poplars in the Great Lakes.

"There are literally dozens of tree species that could be planted depending upon location, climate and soils," said Stan Wullschleger, a researcher at Tennessee's Oak Ridge National Laboratory who specializes in the physiological response of plants to global climate change.



Courtesy of Getty Images

TAKE IT OR LEAF IT: **Trees process significantly more carbon dioxide than smaller plants due to size and extensive roots. Their stature essentially makes them kings of the plant world.**

Dave Nowak, a researcher at the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station in Syracuse, New York, has studied the use of trees for carbon sequestration in urban settings across the United States. A 2002 study he co-authored lists the Common Horsechestnut, Black Walnut, American Sweetgum, Ponderosa Pine, Red Pine, White Pine, London Plane, Hispaniolan Pine, Douglas Fir, Scarlet Oak, Red Oak, Virginia Live Oak and Bald Cypress as examples of trees especially good at absorbing and storing CO_2. Nowak advises urban land managers to avoid trees that require a lot of maintenance, as the burning of fossil fuels to power equipment like trucks and chainsaws will only erase the carbon absorption gains otherwise made.

Ultimately, trees of any shape, size or genetic origin help absorb CO_2. Most scientists agree that the least expensive and perhaps easiest way for individuals to help offset the CO_2 that they generate in their everyday lives is to plant a tree — any tree — as long as it is appropriate for the given region and climate. Those who wish to help larger tree planting efforts can donate money or time to the National Arbor Day Foundation or American Forests in the U.S., or to the Tree Canada Foundation in Canada.

Get down to earth and submit a question already to earthtalk@emagazine.com.

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Happy endings or just ending?

Within the city's 8.3 square miles, there are currently 57 massage establishments and 575 therapists. City officials estimate that about 15 percent of those working as therapists in the city are prostitutes, and that's not counting those who haven't bothered filing for permits from City Hall and the Santa Monica Police Department. City officials are currently mulling over tougher regulations to govern massage parlors and spas.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Should prostitution be made legal, if it is regulated and workers submit to regular health inspections? Why or why not?

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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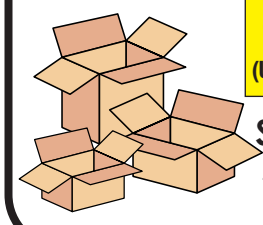
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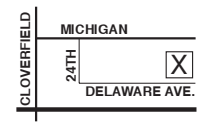

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Hodgson, Chou offer aid in the academic arena

FROM **BOARD OF EDUCATION** PAGE 1

forward at this point," de la Torre said on Monday. "We're moving on with an interim CFO and we're hoping that's going to raise the stability that's been missing in this transition."

After serving with the Glendale Unified School District for 15 years, Hodgson, a 1982 graduate of USC, retired last summer. His step out of retirement will earn him up to $125,000 for roughly five months of work with SMMUSD.

"Dr. Hodgson has extensive experience as a CFO and an impeccable reputation," Talarico said in an official statement released on Tuesday. "A person of his caliber will be a great compliment to the district's dedicated financial team."

Hodgson is credited with spearheading the Measure K movement in Glendale in 1997, bringing in about $360 million for school site improvements to the district. He also kept the district in solid form in light of declining enrollment in the past few years, according to Glendale Superintendent Dr. Michael Escalante, who worked with Hodgson during his final three years in the district.

"He is truly a man of high integrity," Escalante said on Monday. "He is very well trained and really knows his business.

"Those two combinations really hit a home run."

His term with the district is effective through June 30, though he won't officially be appointed until Thursday's school board meeting.

BRIDGING THE GAP

The school district has felt a void in the academic arena since former Chief Academic Officer Donna Muncey left along with former Superintendent John Deasy last year. Deasy is currently the superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools in Maryland, and Muncey, whose husband lived in Maryland while she worked in Santa Monica-Malibu, is the operations and management officer for the same district.

"When John went back to Maryland, it was natural for her to follow," said School Board President Kathy Wisnicki on Tuesday. "She still technically lived in Maryland."

In her absence, Maureen Bradford, the head of educational services in the district, and a group of other staff members have fulfilled the multiple roles of the CAO.

During her time at Compton Community College as the associate special trustee, Chou has worked in various areas, including student services and academic affairs. One of the most notable characteristics that seem to have caught the eyes of SMMUSD school officials was her efforts in recruiting high school students through a transfer program at the college. Her other efforts in creating a bridge between high schools and college education include acting as a liaison to the Compton Unified School District, where she served as the deputy superintendent for instructional services and the University of California and California State University.

"That bridge between high school and college is important," Wisnicki said.

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Investigation launched to find Viking vandals

FROM VIKING VANDALIZED PAGE 1

to conduct an investigation. As of Tuesday evening, there was no additional information regarding the responsible party.

Whether or not police will file felony or misdemeanor charges depends on the extent of the damage. Based on the amount of vandalism to the mural, which was painted in the summer of 2005, authorities would pursue misdemeanor charges, said Lt. Alex Padilla of SMPD.

It took artist David Legaspi, who has painted murals at all of the schools within the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, almost two months to complete the project. The Viking head took about three weeks to complete, and the lettering demanded another month of Legaspi's time. More than 40 gallons of paint, donated by Naylor Paint owner Larry Naylor, were used in the project.

"It was probably the biggest wall I've ever tackled," Legaspi said.

Legaspi seemed unfazed at news that someone had tampered with his mural.

"It's upsetting in a way because somebody worked on the mural," he said on Tuesday. "The one thing that is consoling for me is the fact that it was not serious."

In fact, Legaspi had heard from the district's maintenance crew that the paint would come off without too much of a struggle.

"Even if it was serious tagging, I would've just gone back and fixed it," he said.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

School board paid $22,000 for lead abatement service

FROM MUIR MURAL PAGE 1

However, there is almost no commercial lead paint still sold in stores, and there was no lead in the paint used for the mural, according to Chris Hero, the well-known Venice-based artist who created it.

Leslie Inman, a saleswoman with Culver City-based Nova Color, which produced the paint used for "The Growing Tree," confirmed that none of their products contain lead.

While Hero is upset that school district officials did not notify him about the removal of his work beforehand, he is more concerned that the district might have unnecessarily paid for a lead abatement project when there was no lead to be abated.

On Tuesday, district officials did not provide any additional information on the circumstances of the lead testing or the subsequent removal of the mural.

State and federal law both require that building owners notify the creators of building art before removing the art in question, according to Hero. Had he been notified about the testing agency's findings, Hero said he would have been able to save the artwork.

On Tuesday, Hero said he was not going to pursue legal action against the district about the removal of the mural, but rather, he was more concerned that the district wasted money that could've been used for educational purposes.

"My kids still go to Santa Monica schools and I have no interest in using the school district's resources," said Hero. "Those are resources that should've gone to the kids."

The school board awarded a $22,000 bid to Karcher Environmental in November for lead abatement services at John Muir. Karcher Environmental was not the agency that conducted the initial test.

> **"THOSE ARE RESOURCES THAT SHOULD'VE GONE TO THE KIDS."**
>
> **Chris Hero**
> Artist

Hero was commissioned by the school to paint the mural when his daughter was a student at John Muir Elementary School. It took the SMC art professor a few days to complete the project in the summer of 2001 with the help of a few students.

The eradicated mural was the first and only one Hero painted in Los Angeles.

"I did it because my daughter was at the school and the principal at the time asked me," Hero said. "There was a solid gray wall [before] that was very prison-like.

"It made it more homely."

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All fun and games

Fabian Lewkowicz *fabianl@smdp.com*

Second grader from Roosevelt Elementary School, Johnny Butchko, 8, dribbles on Saturday during the 51st Annual Elks Biddy Basketball League at the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica.

L.A., Ventura counties face a serious housing shortage

SEE **HOME DEVELOPMENT** PAGE 3

these numbers translate into a combined unmet demand of 76 percent (59 percent in Los Angeles County). The ever-growing population has posed other serious problems for Southern California residents, including a strained transportation structure, overcrowded schools and worsened air pollution.

As the underlying trend of rising demand continues to outstrip the supply, prices will continue to escalate, making housing even less and less affordable, especially for first-time buyers.

The study predicts that the long-term housing trend will continue to skyrocket in price.

"Construction rates have actually been higher in recent years," Schroeder said. "But still not high enough to reach the population demand. We've fallen behind and will continue to do so" until something changes.

There is difficulty in building homes and finding appropriate locations to do so. It may take up to 10 years just to get a permit, said Schroeder. Mortgage rates and pricing are dependently driven by the excess of demands in relation to supply.

"We need to build more homes at a range of housing types and prices to accommodate the ever-increasing diversity of our population," Schroeder said.

While immigration is an important source for population growth, the natural increase of births each year most greatly affects the demand for homes. Immigration poses the need for immediate housing, while the number of births will add to the increased size of existing homes and the high household demands over the coming decades.

"The most significant contributor is our birth rate, which is higher than our death rate. Our children are growing up and will need homes of their own," Schroeder said. "We're not building at the same levels of the population's growth and, therefore, not planning for the future.

"We need to look at a variety of solutions, like infill development and use of property we already have," Schroeder continued. "We have to consider creative solutions to address this problem."

"THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR IS OUR BIRTH RATE, WHICH IS HIGHER THAN OUR DEATH RATE."

Holly Schroeder
Chief executive officer of BIA/GLAV

The study calls for an overall boost to housing supplies in LA and Ventura counties, streamlining the planning and permitting processes, addressing infrastructure needs and supporting bold leadership from committed elected officials.

"With such restricted supply," Schroeder said, "we are clearly not meeting the demand for future."

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Free workshop reveals 7 ways to slash college costs

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

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

The workshop dates are Thursday, February 8th at the Montana Avenue 7:15PM-8:45PM, Saturday, February 10th at the Santa Monica Main Library 10:15 AM. to 12 PM, and Tuesday, February 13th at the Santa Monica Main Library. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation's leading expert on paying for college.

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

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Academy known in the area for more than just Grammy's

FROM ACADEMY PAGE 3

Zahner said the academy does not plan to add any additional staff.

Before the build-out can go forward, the academy still needs the consent of the City Council, which will most likely approve the commission's recommendation, given the strong showing of support the academy has received from residents for its work with local schools as part of The Grammy Foundation's Sound Checks program, which links students with professional musicians so that they can learn about various careers in the music industry.

The academy also sponsors a Little League team in town and opens its doors to the community, inviting neighbors to its annual Christmas party while also hosting events for the school district, such as the farewell party for former school Superintendent John Deasy.

"There was tremendous support for the Grammy organization," said Gwynne Pugh, chair of the Planning Commission. "We felt like it was a worthwhile business in the city, the kind of business we would like to have in the city. They were very good neighbors and people who live on the street were very supportive of it and the community in general were supportive."

One of those residents is John Heinritz, president of the Westowne Homeowners Association, with represents residents living in condominiums directly next to the academy.

"They are excellent neighbors, always supportive and willing to share their facility with us," Heinritz said. "I would hate to think of Santa Monica and our neighborhood without the academy."

The academy's request is expected to go before the council on March 13. Since the building was constructed in 1969, there have been at least two permits granted for the conversion of the parking area to office space, the most recent being in 2003, when 2,422 square feet of parking was converted, according to a city staff report.

To ensure that the lack of required parking does not affect residents, the academy has agreed to institute a parking reduction plan. The plan seeks to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips by 8 percent and to achieve a 10-percent employee participation rate. As part of the plan, the academy will offer preferential parking on site for those who carpool and offer public transit subsidies, among other incentives, according to a city staff report.

Also, because of a reconfiguration and redesign of the parking lot, the academy will be increasing its parking spaces from 135 to 143.

"With the newly designed lot and our ride-share programs, our parking needs will be more than adequately met, so there should be no concern about us parking on the street," said Jorge Flores, a spokesman for the academy. "The bigger picture is that we will be remaining in Santa Monica."

kevinh@smdp.com

A Doctor's Confession....

LOS ANGELES — Perhaps a confession can help clear the air, so there's no misunderstanding. But, let me say a few other things first.

When I was 12, something happened that changed my life forever. I was a regular kid, but I developed a pinch in my neck and shoulder that made it painful to take a deep breath. I couldn't run, bike, or do anything that involved physical activity because it hurt too much to take a deep breath. Worst of all, I couldn't play baseball, which I loved as a kid. After four months of therapy that didn't help, we were told I needed surgery to correct the problem (that was the only option, according to the surgeon). A friend of my parents convinced them to take me to a chiropractor. He did an exam, took some films, and adjusted my spine. The adjustments didn't hurt; They actually felt good. I got better very quickly, and I could play baseball again. Chiropractic worked so well for me, that I went to chiropractic school myself.

Now, people come to me with their neck problems. They also come to me with their headaches, backaches, migraines, chronic pain, carpal tunnel, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, numbness in limbs, and athletic injuries, just to name a few.

Several times a day, patients thank me for helping them, but I can't really take credit. My confession is that I've never healed anyone of anything. What is do is perform an adjustment to remove nerve pressure, and the body responds by healing itself. We get tremendous results. It's as simple as that!

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Towers cross the line

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE Rogue tow companies are finding Santa Monica a tougher place to do business in the wake of tougher laws that went into effect with the new year.

The Santa Monica City Attorney's Office on Tuesday secured a plea agreement from a local towing company after an undercover investigation found it to be operating illegally, city officials said.

Classic Towing, also known as Hook It Up Tow, and its owners Jesse and Blanca Lopez were being charged with attempted extortion, towing a vehicle without written authorization and operating without a business license.

The City Attorney's Office also filed criminal charges against Competition Tow Service. The company and its owner, Peter Boktor, have been charged with a series of violations, including refusing to accept payment by credit card and charging an excessive rate, as well as one misdemeanor for taking a vehicle without the consent of the owner.

Boktor maintains that a former driver for Competition "pocketed some money," but that the company did nothing wrong.

The case is in the pre-trial phase, according to Gary Rhoades, the attorney handling the cases for City Hall.

The criminal filing and plea agreement are the result of heightened collaboration between several law enforcement agencies throughout the county, along with various departments in City Hall and the Better Business Bureau.

Competition Tow Service is the third towing business prosecuted by the City Attorney's Office in recent months. The prosecutions, along with new collaboration amongst law enforcement agencies, are part of the City Attorney's Office Consumer Protection Unit's continuing efforts to curb illegal towing.

As part of the plea agreement with Classic, the owners agreed to permanently shut down their business and pay $5,000 in fines — $2,500 for restitution of victims, and another $2,500 to the city's Consumer Protection Fund.

City Hall had been pursuing Classic and its owners for several years through multiple prosecutions and administrative actions, said Rhoades.

> **"SEEKING THE CLOSURE OF A TOWING OUTFIT IS OUR VERY LAST RESORT, BUT IF AN OWNER SEES THE HOOK ON THE BACK OF HIS TRUCK AS A LICENSE TO STEAL, THEN HE WILL HAVE TO BE SHUT DOWN."**
>
> Gary Rhoades
> An attorney with the Consumer Protection Unit

In another case, settled in December of last year, Williams Tow & Impound and its owner, William Amaya, pleaded no contest to charges of towing vehicles without the written authorization of the property owner and refusing to accept credit card payments.

The terms of the agreement with Amaya included not performing towing in Santa Monica, a fine of $1,000, payment of $1,000 to the Consumer Protection Fund, with reimbursement of the victims, probation for one year and training employees of current towing laws.

Under tougher laws that went into effect Jan. 1, most of the towing crimes that used to be infractions are now misdemeanors, including towing a vehicle after the owner returns to the vehicle; towing a vehicle before a one-hour grace period expires; and charging rates in excess of those approved by the California Highway Patrol.

"Probation terms that tightly control towing practices and include training of drivers and dispatchers should go a long way in improving Williams Tow's compliance," Rhoades said.

In comparing the results in the Classic Towing case, Rhoades added, "Seeking the closure of a towing outfit is our very last resort, but if an owner sees the hook on the back of his truck as a license to steal, then he will have to be shut down."

Rhoades said that Santa Monica Police Officer Mike Rosenberg first detected the patterns of unlawful towing practices after seeing there were an unusually high number of complaints and allegations against the three companies — Competition, Classic and Williams Tow.

Once the city prosecutors started filing charges, various law enforcement agencies including the SMPD, Los Angeles Police Department and California Highway Patrol made investigating these companies a priority, Rhoades said.

In the Classic case, City Hall got an early court order barring the company from doing any towing in Santa Monica pending trial. But in what Rhoades described as a first, the Consumer Protection Unit's specialist, Paula Rockenstein, conducted an undercover test and found that Classic was violating the court order and operating without a business license. New criminal counts based on the violations were filed.

Rhoades urged anyone who believes they are victims of illegal tows to contact the City Attorney's Office at (310) 458-8336.

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Stonehenge builders' village found

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON A village of small houses that may have sheltered the builders of the mysterious Stonehenge — or people attending festivals there — has been found by archaeologists studying the stone circle in England.

Eight of the houses, with central hearths, have been excavated, and there may be as many as 25 of them, Mike Parker Pearson said Tuesday at a briefing organized by the National Geographic Society.

The ancient houses are at a site known as Durrington Walls, about two miles from Stonehenge. It is also the location of a wooden version of the stone circle. (Watch why find helps clear up Stonehenge mystery Video)

The village was carbon dated to about 2600 B.C., about the same time Stonehenge was built. The Great Pyramid in Egypt was built at about the same time, said Parker Pearson of Sheffield University.

Julian Thomas of Manchester University noted that both Stonehenge and Durrington Walls have avenues connecting them to the Avon River, indicating a pattern of movement between the sites.

"Clearly, this is a place that was of enormous importance," he said of the new find.

The researchers speculated that Durrington Walls was a place for the living and Stonehenge — where cremated remains have been found — was a cemetery and memorial.

The wooden houses at the new site were square and about 14 feet along each side. They were almost identical to stone houses built at about the same time in the Orkney Islands off the coast of Scotland, Parker Pearson said.

He said there were indications of bed frames along the side walls and of a dresser or storage unit of some sort on the wall opposite the door.

Stone tools, animal bones, arrowheads and other artifacts were uncovered in the village. Remains of pigs indicated they were about nine months old when killed, which would mark a midwinter festival. (Watch scientist describe big parties for Stonehenge builders Video)

Stonehenge was oriented to face the midsummer sunrise and midwinter sunset, while the wooden circle at Durrington Walls faced the midwinter sunrise and midsummer sunset.

Two of the houses, found by Thomas, were separate from the others and may have been the dwellings of community leaders or perhaps were cult houses used for religious rituals.

Pelosi reaching out to bloggers to push the Democratic agenda

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Shortly after her swearing-in as the first female House speaker, Rep. Nancy Pelosi took time to field questions from a few dozen Internet bloggers on a conference call that was off limits to mainstream media.

Last week, Pelosi's aides arranged for bloggers to question two Democratic House leaders on another conference call shortly before President Bush's State of the Union speech.

Pelosi also hired a full-time staff member this month dedicated to blogger outreach, and is making plans to launch a blog of her own. The day she was sworn in, bloggers were given special accommodations at the Capitol to cover the event, and fed lunch.

It's all evidence of the newfound attention bloggers from left-leaning Web sites are commanding on Democratic-run Capitol Hill, especially from the new speaker, a San Franciscan with an appreciation for the power of the Internet and grass-roots activism.

Schooled by evidence of what Internet-driven politics can accomplish — from fueling Howard Dean's presidential campaign in 2004 to propelling Ned Lamont to victory over Joseph Lieberman in Connecticut's Democratic Senate primary last year — Pelosi and other politicians have realized bloggers are too important to ignore.

"They've gone from an initial writing blogs off, then moving to skepticism, then moving to, 'OK, maybe we can find a way of working with these guys,"' said John Aravosis, who runs Americablog.com.

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Focus on real estate prices circa 2016

Days on the Market

Jodi Summers
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No one's arguing that the heady years of double-digit property appreciation have come to an end, but just how far prices may drop seems to be somewhat less certain.

Nationally, residential real estate sales dropped by about 9 percent in 2006 to 6.5 million units sold down from around 7.1 million units in 2005, according to National Association of Realtor statistics. During 2006, inventories rose about 36 percent — 3.8 million units were available for sale versus 2.8 million units at the end of 2005. National price increases were an estimated 1.9 percent for all of 2006.

NAR predicts that existing single family sales will drop to 6.4 million units in 2007. Price growth will stay relatively flat — total price increase is predicted to be 1.7 percent in 2007.

"The boom is definitely over, there's no debate about that," said Mark Zandi, chief economist of research firm Moody's Economy.com. "It has been correcting for about a year, and it's got another year to go."

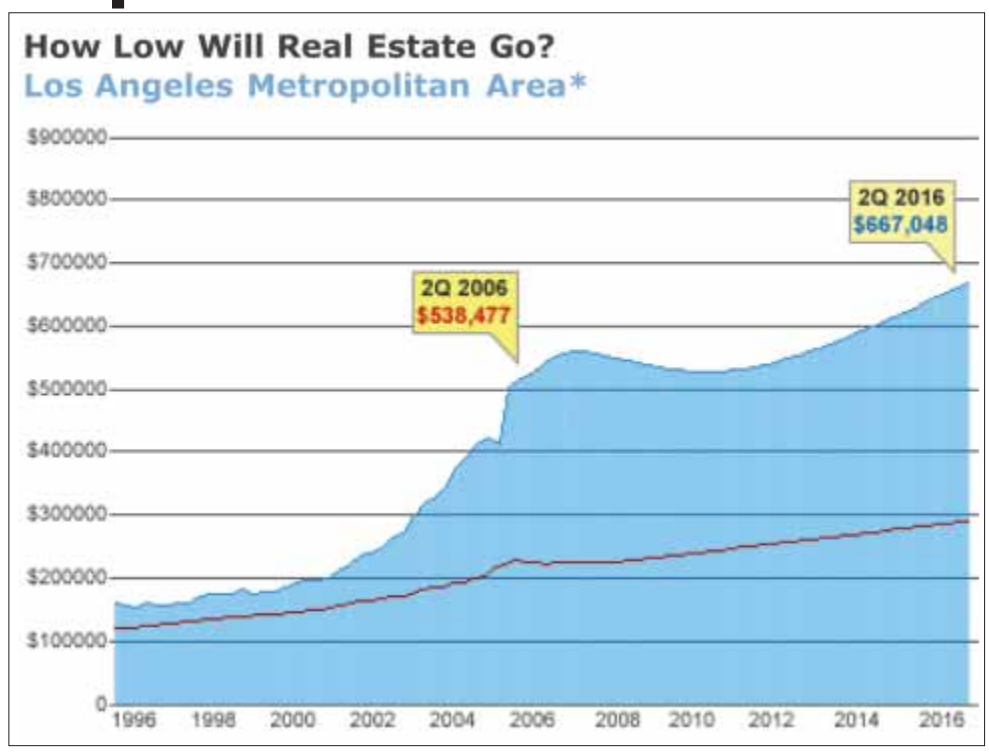
"It is a question of whether it is deep and quick or not so deep and much longer," observes Edward Leamer, director of the UCLA Anderson Forecast. His thoughts is that the current lull in the market will be, "Not so deep and rather long."

Leslie Appleton-Young, vice president and chief economist of the California Association of Realtors notes that in 2006, sales of the state's homes dropped 23 percent from 2005. "We think home sales in California will drop another 7 percent this year. We think we'll see about a 2 percent decline in the state median price, particularly in the inland part of the state."

In Los Angeles County, reports DataQuick, median home prices rose 2.6 percent to $510,000 as sales fell 18.9 percent. Nice growth in San Bernardino County which saw a median price rise of 8.6 percent to a record $380,000, while sales declined 26.7 percent. Riverside County saw the median price rise 5.2 percent to a record high of $426,000, with sales down 35.7 percent from a year ago. San Diego County saw a median price drop of 6.9 percent to $482,000, as sales fell 24 percent. Ventura County lost big as housing prices falling 8.2 percent to $562,000 with sales sliding 30.8 percent. Orange County property saw no appreciation — the median residential property price of $616,000 is the same as 2005. Sales dipped 29.3 percent.

If real estate varies this much county to county, can you imagine how much it must vary from region to region. What happens in Miami, Fla., may be completely different from what is taking place in Pittsburgh or Albuquerque. Not everyone benefited equally from the boom, and not everyone will suffer the same in a bust.

Areas that were once centers of the boom — Phoenix, San Diego and Las Vegas — will be among the hardest hit observes Leamer. "Regions where a lot of the economic growth came directly from the real estate sector and where that was a huge plus, that's going to turn into a huge negative," he explained. "Wherever the party was the loudest, that's where the hangover is going to be the greatest."



To get a sense of how home prices will perform in various parts of the U.S., Forbes asked Moody's Economy.com to forecast historic and predicted median home prices in 15 major metropolitan areas. The company bases its forecasts on an econometric model that looks at the relationship between prices and various factors that have historically driven supply and demand in these markets.

They looked back 10 years and forward another 10. The results indicate that several cities — such as Boston, New York and Washington, D.C., — should experience downs and ups in coming years. Places, such as Houston and Minneapolis-St. Paul, will just keep marching along.

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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn

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Tenant shuffle is a win-win situation

SO YOU FINALLY DID IT, YOU PURCHASED a rental property! If you purchased one in Los Angeles County, you know that you can not simply evict tenants because you want to increase the rents. However, other strategies exist to increase income while properly safeguarding tenants' rights.

All strategies are from experienced investors, but you should check with the appropriate city department for any laws and regulations before moving forward with any of these strategies. (Please note, the following is purely informational.)

The strategies are tenant buyout, unit upgrades and unit rehab.

As an apartment owner in Los Angeles, except for certain incorporated cities, such as Inglewood and Long Beach, you can offer tenants a buyout agreement. Simply put, an owner, in accordance with city laws, pays the tenant a minimum amount of money somewhere in the neighborhood of $8,000 to $12,000, depending on the tenants' age and dependents" in exchange for the tenant moving. The tenant must come to an agreement with the owner and the amount offered must meet the city's minimum. Most owners will offer a flat rate, which exceeds the minimum and request that the tenant sign a voluntary lease termination agreement. However, this is subject to the tenant's approval and not all cities allow this type of buyout.

The benefits to buying out a tenant include the availability of the unit, if need be, rehab work, which in turn increases cash flow, thus increasing your potential return on investment through increased rents. This allows the owner to recapture the buyout amount within a shorter time period. If the tenant is paying $500 a month and it costs the owner $15,000 for the buyout, but the unit can rent for $1,200 at market levels, the owner would recapture that difference within 22 months. In less than two years, the owner would regain the $15,000 for the buyout and begin making an increased profit on the unit.

One of the most successful real estate investors I know uses creative methods to rent units for higher dollars. He offers unit upgrades to new tenants. After the investor acquires a property, he goes through the vacant units and sees what types of upgrading needs to be done. After he analyzes the unit and figures out what has to be upgraded versus what can be upgraded, he begins the 'what has to be done' process.

Right before the unit is complete he begins showing the unit to prospective tenants and offers them simple 'added' upgrades like ceiling fans, granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances and hardwood floors for a small increase in rent. For example, if a tenant decided they wanted a hardwood floor for an additional $50 a month along with a ceiling fan in the dining area for $30 a month, plus a granite counter for $10 and stainless steel appliances for $40 a month, the unit's rent would go from the market rent of $1,500 to $1,630 with upgrades. Over the course of two years, those upgrades would bring in an additional $3,120 in rental income. After three and half years, the upgrades will have paid for themselves and increased the value of the property. The beauty of this system is that it is a win/win situation. The tenant gets a nice, up-to-date living space, while the owner gets a unit which will rent for higher than market rent levels.

Can the two strategies be combined? Another successful investor believes they can be. This investor buys large properties with many units. The investor first legally evicts tenants not paying rent. Then she goes to other tenants and offers them a fully upgraded apartment for a few hundred dollars more than they are currently paying. The investor rehabs the units where the evicted tenants used to live and moves the other tenants from the same building into those units and repeats the process with other tenants in the building. Most tenants are willing to pay a little more for a much nicer place, where all they may have to do is move from one floor to the next, while the investor has a great pool of tenants without having to go through all of the trouble of the application process.

Perception is reality. The tenants believe they are getting a good deal, which they are, while the investor is improving the cash flow on the property.

The benefits to these strategies are that the investor increases rental income, thus increasing cash flow, which increases the return on investment, but also increases the value of the property through a combination of capital improvement and increased income.

MIKE HEAYN is a Washington Mutual multi-family loan consultant. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342 or michael.heayn@wamu.net.

Builders win battle for plastic piping

BY SAMANTHA YOUNG
Associated Press Writer

California homebuilders on Monday won the right to use less-expensive plastic water piping instead of copper, ending a two-decade-long battle against groups that warned of plastic's potential health hazards.

Developers called the decision by the California Building Standards Commission a victory for consumers because it will reduce plumbing costs in new homes and when doing retrofits.

"Forty nine other states use the product. We now have a 25-year history of this product in use," said Dennis Beddard, general counsel of the California Department of Housing and Community Development, which drafted the regulation. "It clearly demonstrates this product can be used safely."

Chlorinated PolyVinyl Chloride, otherwise known as CPVC piping, is a sturdy material that — unlike most plastics — holds up even when filled with hot water. That makes it an ideal substitute for the metal pipes traditionally used in homes. It also costs several thousands dollars less in a typical home than copper piping.

But environmental concerns and fire hazards prompted state regulators to ban its use

SEE **WATER PIPES** PAGE 14

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In your Space

Christina S. Porter — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What asset class works for you?

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE COMES IN all shapes and sizes. These "shapes and sizes" can be broken down to basic asset classes; each with a unique set of characteristics that address a wide range of investor needs.

The different types of asset classes can be classified by the type of use, such as Residential Rental Housing, Office, Industrial, Hospitality, Land and Retail.

This week, we are going to look at Rental Housing (also known as "Apartments" or "Multi Family").

The basic appeal of Multi Family is that we all need to live some place, no matter what the economy is doing. Performance of Multi Family investments is driven, as all markets ultimately are, by supply and demand.

Demand for Multi Family is sensitive to expansion or contractions of local population, affordability and desirability of other forms of housing, be it condominium or single family residences. As demographics change (the socio-economic climate of a location), both supply and demand for Multi Family is affected.

For example, over the last several years, interest rates have been historically low, making ownership in single family homes and condominiums attainable to many renters. This has put upward pressure on the supply of single family homes and condominiums, while putting downward pressure on rents. As interest rates rise, we are seeing the opposite occur, making Multi Family an attractive investment because of potential future rent increase.

Some points for consideration in evaluation of a Multi Family investment are:

■ Location

The type of neighborhood is a major factor; is it established or new?

If the demographic includes children, then proximity of schools is significant. Overall, access to churches, synagogues and convenience of amenities such as shopping and entertainment are major considerations.

■ Demographics

Who lives in a particular area and how likely are they to rent? The "who" in the equation is governed by the type and location (commute time) of jobs in the area. The level of income governs their propensity to rent. Generally, the more affluent, the less likely renting will be the choice. However, in the more upscale areas such as New York and San Francisco, residents don't have an option. Renting may be the only realistic choice.

■ Economic Cycles

Most Americans prefer to own, but economic cycles clearly influence our ability to do so. Recent history illustrates this concept, as low interest rates allow would-be renters to become homeowners. Increased demand for ownership sparked a boom in converting apartments to condos (condo conversions), effectively decreasing the supply of Multi Family properties for investment. As interest rates increase, demand for ownership decreased, forcing the converted apartments back into the rental market.

■ Market Supply

Vacancy rates, competing projects, current projects under construction, zoning and possible future zone changes, in addition to land available for future competing projects, are major factors affecting market supply.

■ Characteristics of the actual Site and Building

Proximity to transportation, safety, noise, the age of the building and unit mix (demand factor) are also a significant part of an investor's evaluation.

Younger investors are attracted to Multi and Single Family investments for the simple reasons that they are most familiar with residential properties (we have all lived in some form of residential property), and the low financial barriers to entry (10 percent to 20 percent down payments, with generally lower interest rates on debt).

When considering Residential Rental investments it is important to take into account the potential impact on the quality of life of the investor. Historically, successful investors have built their wealth with residential investments, adding value by managing the property themselves. While many younger investors welcome the opportunity to build their net worth by managing rental properties, older investors frequently find the management aspect of Residential Rental investments an unacceptable burden.

It is common for investors to accumulate significant wealth by investing in Multi Family properties in the first half of their lives, then switch to other, less management-intensive, asset classes as they grow older.

Examples of non-management types of investments are triple net lease single-tenant properties (Walgreen's Drug Stores, for example) or Tenant in Common properties. The advantage of the Tenant in Common form of ownership is that the investor can easily lower their investment risk by diversifying their portfolio, while still investing in asset classes with which they are familiar.

CONTACT CHRISTINA PORTER at (877) 4TM-1031 or Christina@tm1031exchange.com. TM 1031 Exchange assists investors and planning and executing real estate investment strategies.

Builders lobbied for plastic over metal since 1982

FROM **WATER PIPES** PAGE 13

in drinking-water lines throughout the state.

The building industry has lobbied the commission since 1982 to change that. Homebuilders won a partial victory in 2000 when California regulators allowed limited use of plastic piping. They gave builders the right to install it in areas where soil or water conditions might prematurely corrode copper.

Environmental and consumer groups have argued that chemicals in the type of plastic piping preferred by the industry are dangerous, leaching into the soil and contaminating water that eventually runs out the faucet.

Labor groups had sought to protect workers from the fumes given off by the glue used to fit the pipes together, while fire officials warned of the toxic fumes CPVC emits when it burns.

"From leaching toxic chemicals to rupturing prematurely to fire hazards, CPVC is associated with impacts that are hazardous," said Richard Holober, executive director of the Consumer Federation of California.

Arkansas restricts the use of CPVC pipes, while the cities of New York, Chicago and Nacogdoches, Texas, ban it, according to the Safe Building Materials Coalition, a California group that represents environmental, consumer, labor and firefighting groups that oppose the material's widespread use.

Judge blocks construction of new UC sports center

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

BERKELEY Score one for the trees. Citing environmental and seismic concerns, a judge blocked construction of a $125 million sports center at the University of California that would mean felling an old oak grove.

The plan to renovate Memorial Stadium and build a new training center and parking garage has been challenged by neighbors and city officials on several fronts. They say the project is environmentally flawed and it's too dangerous to build so close to the Hayward fault, which runs through the stadium.

Plans to cut down about three dozen oaks to make way for the center stirred the most visible protest, with activists taking to the trees last month and remaining at their perch through December rains and even some minor earthquakes.

In issuing a preliminary injunction, made public Monday, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Barbara Miller said opponents' environmental and seismic-related arguments were strong enough to justify a preliminary injunction until a trial can be held.

Campus officials, who maintain their project is seismically safe and is a big improvement over the current situation, said they are considering appealing the injunction. If a trial is held, which attorneys on both sides said could be this summer, they expect to win.

"We consider this only a temporary setback," said Nathan Brostrom, campus vice chancellor, adding that the planning process will continue. "Our goal and our top priority must be the safety of our staff and student athletes."

But at a news conference held beneath the sun-dappled branches of the oak grove, tree-sitters smiled and waved from above, while their supporters on the ground said the ruling was good for trees and humans.

"This is an extremely dangerous site," said attorney Stephan Volker of the California Oaks Foundation. "Furthermore, this is a grand old stand of ancient oak trees. It symbolizes much of what we cherish about California's ecological legacy and I think it ill befits this university to chop down its cathedrals in order to promote a student gym."

Spectators at the grove Monday included three Berkeley political stalwarts who briefly took to the trees last week to demonstrate their opposition — former Berkeley Mayor Shirley Dean, 71; City Councilwoman Betty Olds, 86; and conservationist Sylvia McLaughlin, 91.

Dean, a Berkeley graduate (Class of '56) who met her husband on campus, said she hopes administrators will take a serious look at alternative sites. Campus officials say they've looked and there's no adequate substitute.

"I'm a big football fan," said Dean. "We want this to be safe for our residents as well as for football fans."

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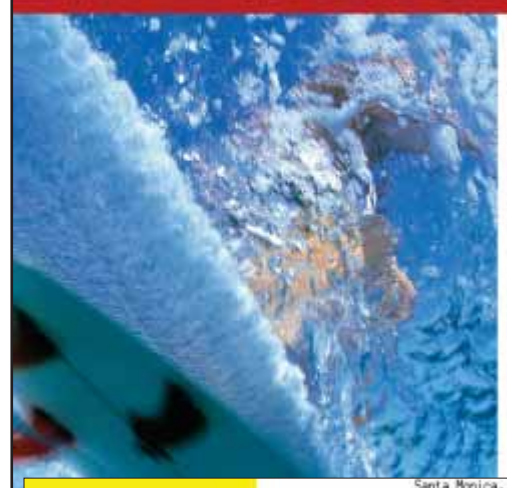
SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 58°**

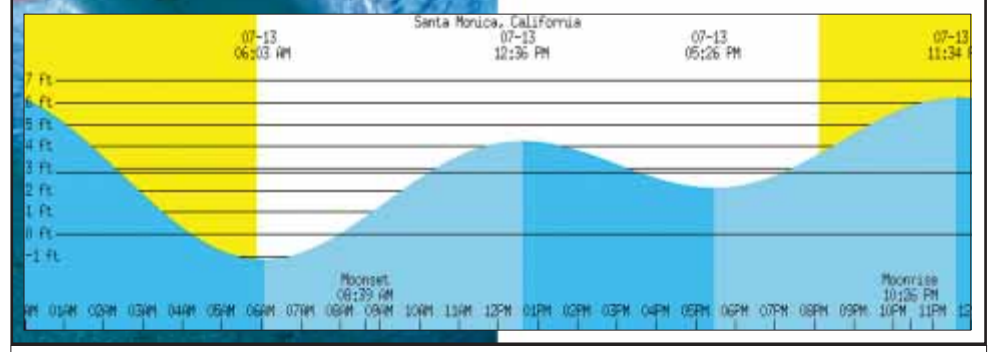
SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)

Today is looking smaller than today, at least for the AM. We have a hefty swell due tomorrow, which could start to filter in during the afternoon today. For the morning though, west-facing breaks (where the best size will be) are looking at merely knee to waist high surf. The tide will be an issue in the morning, and winds could be problematic in some areas as well

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

NW SWELL HITS THE COAST THURSDAY...

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 23, 2007**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 12
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 5
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 5

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

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

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.

Out and about, Gemini

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)
★★★ Much that happens might force you to re-evaluate basic concerns. You could be surprised by what comes up. Discomfort comes with the turf. Don't make a big deal out of a little soul-searching. Just do it! Consider your options. Tonight: Happy at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You feel uncomfortable in nearly any situation, though you do try your best to communicate. Consider your options more carefully. What had not been obvious now becomes clear. Use and work with this knowledge. Tonight: Hang out with a pal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might want to revitalize your income or change your budget. Start brainstorming and analyzing your strengths. You could be uncomfortable with someone's suggestions. Handle a matter accordingly. Ask questions once you determine a course of action. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Though the Moon radiates in your sign, you could experience a good deal of discomfort when dealing with others and odd situations. Knowing when to say "enough" could be very important. Exercise your free will without stomping on someone else's. Tonight: A long-overdue chat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ Tread carefully, as you could run into your share of minefields and be mighty uncomfortable. Know when to pull back and say "enough." Communicate too much rather than not enough. You feel better the later it gets. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision that involves a commitment. The time for change might not be right now, but you certainly can ponder the issue in question. Ultimately, you will make strong decisions. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Others will follow your lead. You might not be as sure of yourself as others think. You do a great job of acting, but you still could feel uncomfortable in your shoes. Think positively, and you'll break new ground. Tonight: Emphasize what is good in your life. Let go of negativity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You will break precedent if allowed. Free thinking and a sense of direction point to a new path. You can do what you want and achieve the goals you desire. You have a way of declaring yourself that adds to your immediate presence. Tonight: Be noticed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Someone has many ideas and suggestions. "To do or not to do?" you might ask. You could feel uncomfortable no matter which direction you go. Think positively, and you'll jump over hurdles. Break precedent. Tonight: Be adventurous.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Others have a lot to say and add to your discomfort. You might want to cocoon, but what might be best is to deal with a situation head-on. Your instincts run high when dealing with finances. Follow-through counts. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Visualize rather than do. Situations could become unruly and uncomfortable. Use your sixth sense with a friend. You'll come out A-OK if you simply float with a situation. Discussions prove to be enlightening, to say the least. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You don't feel good about information that floats in your direction. Realize what needs to happen to make a situation workable. A boss responds to your intuitive reactions far better than anticipated. Tonight: A must appearance.

Born Today

Actress Carol Channing (1921)
Novelist Norman Mailer (1923)
Pitcher Nolan Ryan (1947)

Happy Birthday!

You might be surprised by what occurs if you release a need for control. Just let the inevitable happen. Give up controlling behavior, and you will be far happier. Discomfort might be the natural result if you are into soul-searching. Don't shy away, as there is tremendous potential for growth. Through this process, new opportunities will fly through your door. If you are single, you head in a new direction. You will meet someone through a friendship or simply by networking. If you are attached, emphasize a key goal and work on it as a team. The two of you might need to make adjustments.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com
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Stirring it up

Concert held to remember reggae superstar's birth

FOUR SONS OF BOB MARLEY will hold a concert promoting peace to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the musician's birth, a family spokesman said Tuesday.

The Feb. 10 concert, called "Smile Jamaica," will be held in the reggae superstar's birthplace of Nine Miles in St. Ann parish, spokesman Jerome Hamilton said.

The concert shares the name of a 1976 show staged by the government of former socialist Prime Minister Michael Manley to promote harmony between politically aligned gangs, and it will feature Stephen Marley and his brothers Ky-Mani, Damian and Julian, Hamilton said.

"They are trying to push a message of peace although it won't be as hard-core as when Bob did it," he said.

Hamilton said Ziggy Marley, the most famous of the legendary musician's children, was not able to attend and rarely visits Jamaica.

Los Angeles-based Ziggy Marley won four Grammys with the Melody Makers, a band that included brother Stephen and sisters Sharon and Cedella until they disbanded in 1999.

Marley's children and Rita Marley, the singer's widow, perform across the globe. Rita, who often accompanied her husband's band with her soul trio, the I-Threes, is expected to attend the St. Ann parish concert.

The February date coincides with Bob Marley Week, a celebration of the singer's birth on Feb. 6, 1945, and falls within the height of Jamaica's tourism season.

Marley rose from the gritty shantytowns of Kingston to global stardom in the 1970s with hits "No Woman, No Cry" and "I Shot the Sheriff." His lyrics promoting "one love" and social revolution made him an icon in developing countries worldwide.

Marley, a devout Rastafarian, died of cancer in Miami in 1981 at age 36.

Since his death, the music world and Rastafarian community have celebrated the birthday anniversary of the musician, whom some even consider a prophet.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUND THE SIREN

THE POLICE will reunite to perform at this year's Grammys ceremony, the Recording Academy announced Tuesday.

The award-winning group, which won five Grammys and turned out hits such as "Roxanne" and "Every Breath You Take," will open the event – 23 years after breaking up.

The band – singer STING, guitarist Stewart Copeland and drummer Andy Summers – fused reggae with pop and rock, and last performed together in 2003 when they were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

CBS will air the 49th annual Grammy Awards live from Los Angeles on Feb. 11.

AP

ON THE NET
www.grammy.com
www.sting.com

Colbert collects his winnings in Canada

After losing a hockey bet with STEPHEN COLBERT, the mayor of Oshawa, John Gray, now must pay up – by declaring his own birthday, March 20, to be "Stephen Colbert Day" in his city, just east of Toronto.

"Mr. Mayor, let me ask you something: How are you planning to spend your `Stephen Colbert Day?"' the host of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" asked Gray over the telephone on Monday's show as a graphic of a moose wearing a "mayor" sash appeared in lieu of a headshot.

"Oh that's right, it's your birthday. How old are you going to be? Old enough to know better than to take on Stephen Colbert?"

Gray responded: "Hopefully in the future, yes."

In recent months, Colbert has been rooting for the Ontario Hockey League's Saginaw Spirit after finding out the Michigan team had named its mascot Steagle Colbeagle the Eagle as a tribute to him.

On Friday night, the Spirit beat the Oshawa Generals 5-4. Gray was among the 5,527 fans who attended the game.

Before his brief interview with Gray, Colbert reminded his viewers about the terms of the wager.

"If Oshawa wins, I will wear an Oshawa jersey on my show. But when the Spirit kicks Oshawa's moose haunches, I don't want to declare `Stephen Colbert Day' on my birthday, I want to declare it on your birthday," Colbert said to cheers and applause.

AP

Hilton sues Web site for displaying diary

PARIS HILTON filed a federal lawsuit Monday, seeking to shut down a Web site that displays personal photos, videos, diaries, and other belongings once kept at a storage facility.

The Web site was launched last week claiming the items were auctioned off after Hilton neglected to pay the Los Angeles-area storage facility. It also promises visitors who pay a fee of $39.97 access to Hilton's passport, medical records and other legal documents.

In her lawsuit, Hilton said she put her possessions in storage two years ago when she and her sister, Nicky, moved out of a house that had been burglarized.

The 25-year-old heiress said a moving company was supposed to pay the storage fees and was "shocked and surprised" to learn her belongings were sold at a public auction.

"I was appalled to learn that people are exploiting my and my sisters' private personal belongings for commercial gain," Hilton said in a declaration supporting the lawsuit, adding she was concerned the information could be used for identity theft or harassment.

The lawsuit alleges defendants Nabil and Nabila Haniss paid $2,775 for the contents of the storage unit and later sold the items for $10 million to entrepreneur Bardia Persa, who created the site ParisExposed.com.

Phone numbers for Nabil and Nabila Haniss of Culver City could not be located. Persa did not immediately respond to an e-mail Monday seeking comment.

AP

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Wednesday
Dreams
7:30
Thursday
On Her Majesty's Secret Service
7:30

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

Alpha Dog (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Babel (R)
1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:45
Blood Diamond (R)
1:30, 4:35, 7:45, 10:45
The Hitcher (R)
12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:25, 9:45

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

Catch and Release (PG-13)
2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30
Children of Men (R)
2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:00
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:25
Epic Movie (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
Night at the Museum (PG)
1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40
Pan's Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)
1hr 56min 1:50, 4:40, 7:50, 10:35

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

The Departed (R)
1:00, 4:30, 8:00
Notes on a Scandal (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

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

Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
1:20, 4:45, 8:00
The Queen (PG-13)
1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 9:55
Venus (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Volver (R)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

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

Arthur and the Invisibles (PG)
11:00am, 1:20
Blood and Chocolate (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
Casino Royale (PG-13)
3:30, 7:00, 10:10
Freedom Writers (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
The Last King of Scotland (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
Smokin' Aces (R)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
Stomp the Yard (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30

More information email news@smdp.com

Janric Classic Soduku

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
GOLD

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

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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

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

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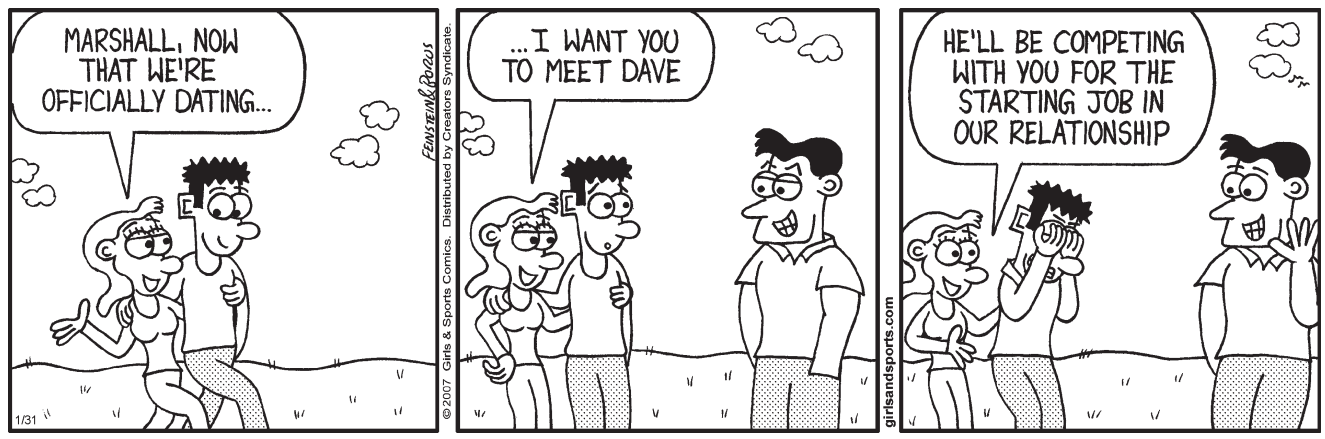
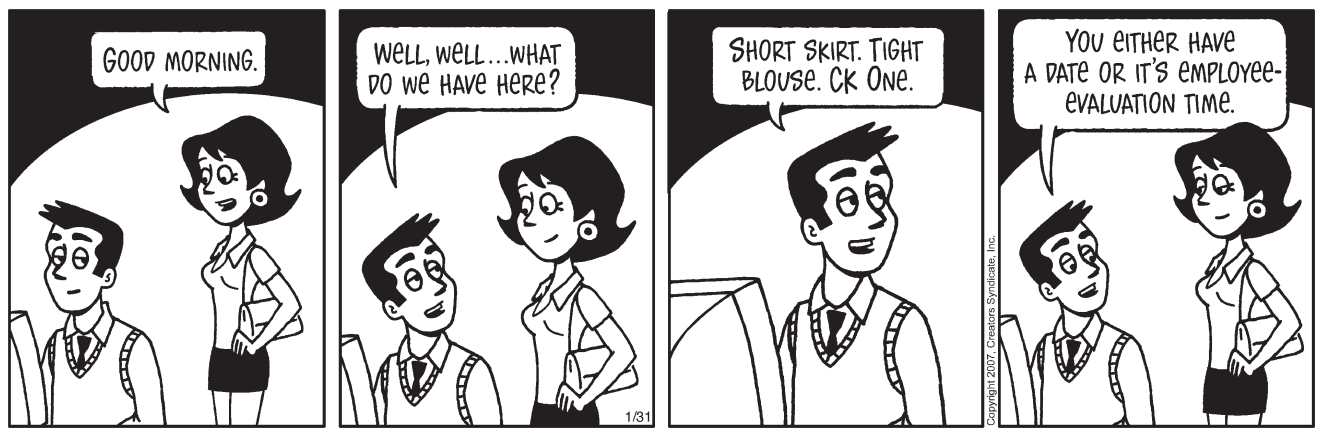
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

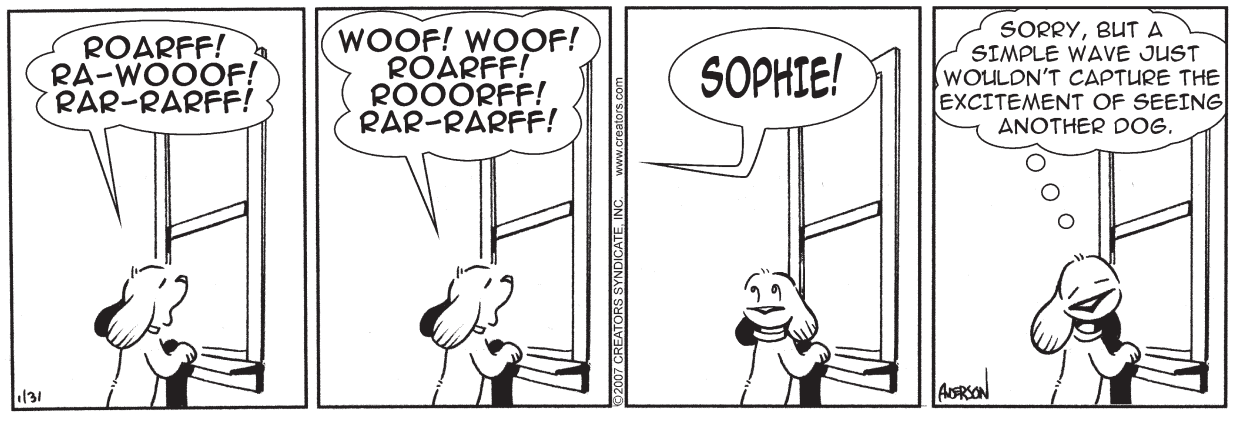
By Adrian Raeside

Garfield

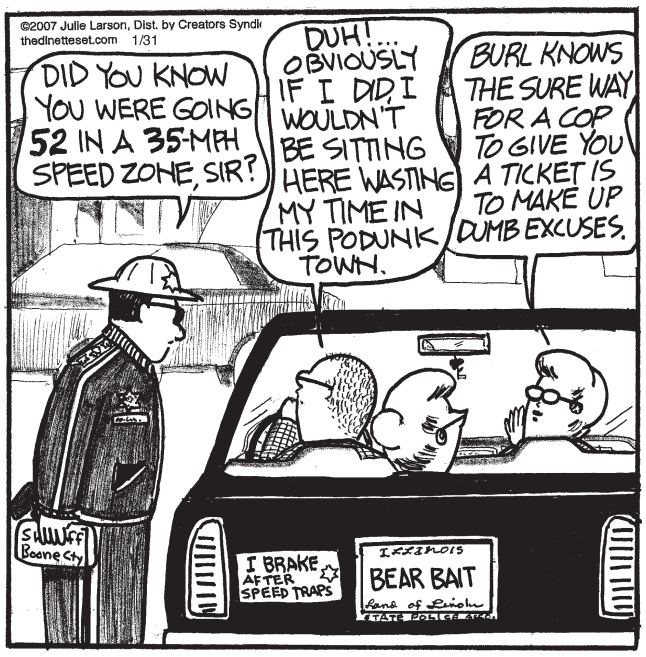
By Jim Davis

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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Fabian Lewkowicz *fabianl@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Ready for picking
5 Helen's mother
9 Singer Piaf
11 Mah-jongg pieces
12 Back-street
13 Wanders
14 Horse-shoe shape
15 Marsh-mallow-filled treat
17 Skipping school
19 Fast flier
20 Jack of rhyme
21 Football kicker's aid
22 Have a secret wedding
24 Langley org.
26 Lacking flavor
29 Dapper fellow
30 Thick fog
32 Brenda Lee song
34 River of Scotland
35 Fashion-ably dated
36 Of service
38 Forest makeup
39 Track horse
40 Puppy sounds
41 Sleep sites

DOWN

1 Gasp, perhaps
2 Lazy ones
3 Accumu-late
4 Bastille Day season
5 Safari sight
6 Go by
7 Extinction
8 Good quality
10 Church book

L	A	P	T	O	P	■	M	O	O	R
A	P	I	E	C	E	■	C	L	U	E
B	E	N	N	E	T	T	C	E	R	F
■	■	■	S	A	S	H	A	■	■	■
■	L	I	E	N	■	R	I	O	T	■
C	O	N	S	■	J	E	N	N	E	R
O	R	B	■	J	A	W	■	T	A	U
T	R	O	J	A	N	■	B	A	R	E
■	E	X	E	C	■	R	I	P	S	■
■	■	■	K	O	R	E	A	■	■	■
T	O	N	Y	B	E	N	N	E	T	T
I	D	O	L	■	D	E	C	R	E	E
M	E	W	L	■	S	E	A	R	E	D

Yesterday's answer

11 Brad Pitt movie
16 Harvest month
18 Scope
21 Afternoon socials
23 Emphasize
24 Tourist's need
25 Shoe part
27 "Forget it!"
28 Had a sword fight
29 Under-handed
30 Paid players
31 Jury makeup
33 Valuable rocks
37 Folder feature

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, 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			

1-31

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 14 18 44 52 56 Meganumber: 25 Jackpot: $54M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 11 13 18 21 36 Meganumber: 16 Jackpot: $19M

Fantasy 5: 6 15 23 24 29

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 6 8 EVENING: 8 3 6

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 02 Lucky Star 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 01 Gold Rush RACE TIME: 1.46.08

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

■ News That Sounds Like a Joke: (1) Because of recent government campaigns to protect wildlife, snake charmers in India's Rajasthan state are increasingly unable to work with live snakes but nonetheless hope to continue earning tourists' money by performing the same rituals, except without snakes. (2) On New Year's Day at the South African tourist attraction of Cango Caves, an overweight visitor in the "Tunnel of Love" got stuck exiting, and she and the 23 people behind her were trapped for 12 hours until rescuers used a pulley and liquid paraffin (to grease the rocks) to extricate her.

■ (1) About one-fifth of professional rodeo bull riders have given up their cowboy hats and now wear modified hockey helmets with face masks because of the prevalence of serious injuries. Said one diehard, though, "I don't wear a cowboy hat because I'm a bull rider. I wear a cowboy hat because I'm a cowboy." (2) London's Observer reported in November that several UNICEF offices worldwide have complained to U.N. headquarters that celebrities endorsing the charity's work have demoralized the staff because traveling celebrities are so high-maintenance when they arrive to "help" and also because some companies making donations (for example, Gucci) are owned by parent companies whose factories exploit Third World children more than the donations help.

■ Marshall Byers, 28, was arrested in Everett, Wash., in December, and charged with the attempted murder of his estranged wife's boyfriend (who was treated for five knife wounds). According to prosecutors, Byers was surprised at the "attempted" charge. Allegedly, he told a detective, "What? I thought I stuck him like a pig. What do you mean, he's alive?"

TODAY IN HISTORY

1606 Guy Fawkes, convicted of treason for his part in the ``Gunpowder Plot'' against the English Parliament and King James I, was executed.

1917 during World War I, Germany served notice it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare.

1958 the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite into orbit, Explorer I.

WORD UP!

cohort \KOH-hort\, *noun:*
1. A group or band of people.
2. A companion; an associate.
3. A group of people sharing a common statistical factor (as age or membership in a class) in a demographic study. 4. (Roman Antiquity) A body of about 300 to 600 soldiers; the tenth part of a legion. 5. Any group or body of warriors.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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DENTAL ASSISTANT SM DENTAL OFFICE experienced F/T X-Ray license Please call Nicole (310)828-7429

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EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS in Santa Monica now hiring:
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RADIO INTERVIEW campaign sales person p/t flexible SM (310)998-8305 * 84

RECEPTIONIST GENERAL office bilingual English/Spanish a plus. 45wpm MS Word, filing, phones in Marina del Rey. Fax resume with salary history to (310) 306-4498

SALES MANAGER West LA. Credit card processor. Base plus commission. 2 years experience. Email ross.levine@verizon.net.

SALES POSITION-F/T
(Saturdays a must) Fine Jewelry Store in Santa Monica 1-2 yrs Sales exper. Required Positive Attit./GoodCust. Serv.Skills a must.Health cvg/pd. Vac. Fax Resume: (310)451-0095

Employment

SALES
SALES of cruise and tour packages. 40 Year Old National Tour Company. Paid training, flex 30/hrs week. Some weekends required. Base+comm. No cold calls. Near LAX (310) 649-7171

SALES: SEVERAL Positions Available Outside/Inside/Telemarketing, WLA. Top dollar. Leads provided. Experience required. Bob (310)337-1500

SANTA MONICA P/T postion for bookkeeper and office work. If interested, please call (310)450-4625 for details.

SOCIAL ESCORTS needed. Accompany celebs, V.I.P.'S to dinner, theatre, events, etc. assignments strictly platonic. P/T evenings and weekends. $150/hr (323) 852-1377

THE FIRM WANTS INVESTMENT CLOSERS
Oil and Gas is a hot market. We are looking for Master Closers with or without books/clients. Be aggressive, professional and punctual. Series 22 and 63 reps are welcome. Drilling, Oil production and Equipment Leasing Programs (oil drilling and completion rigs) are all paying high returns to investors. Potential earning are $3500 to $5500 per week.
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For Sale

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SATELLITE TV CHEAP!! FREE installation. No equipment to buy! Free digital recorder upgrade! Up to 250 digital channels. FREE portable DVD player. 1-800-536-0375

Run your personals here!
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For Sale

FURNITURE FOR SALE
48 in glass top kitchen table with wood base. Excellent condition. Perfect for a cozy kitchen eating area. $300 obo

Crate and Barrel Walker Bookcase - less than 8 months out of the store; excellent condition. $200 can view it on Crateandbarrel.com

Pottery Barn Bookcase - 68 in X 34 in X 14 in. Good condition. Wood. Painted a light pastel lime. Great for holding children's books or toys.

Call Chayah at 310-488-5288. Moving and must sell.

Pets

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

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

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Daily meals, laundry, housekeeping, utilities, and cable. 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath + Full Kitchen. Seniors and all ages welcome.
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(310) 869-7901

2bdrm/1bath $2095/mo
2103 Oak Unit C
Refurbished.
928 6th St. #12 $2550 2+2
1011 Pico #18 $2450 2+ loft

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

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 218, 219 1bdrm/1bath, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, tiling, flooring, granite counter tops, with utilities, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. $1195/mo (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA/Culver City Adj. $1595 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths. "Twnhs-Apt." No Pets. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, 2-Car garage. 12048 Culver Blvd #202. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

PALMS/BEVERLYWD ADJ. $1375.00 2 Bdrms, 1 1/2 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Parking, No Pets. 2009 Preuss Rd. #11. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr: 101

SANTA MONICA $1400/mo 1bdrm/1bath, Hardwood Floors, 1-car Parking, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $1600/mo 2bdrms/1 Bath, Cat ok, 1-car Parking, laundry-on-site, refinished hardwood floors (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $2395/mo 3 bdms/1.75bath, 1-car Subterranean parking, laundry-on-site, stove, dishwasher, balcony, fireplace (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $1050/mo 1bdrm/1bath, No pets, hardwood floors, quiet neighborhood, street parking, stove (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

For Rent

SANTA MONICA $1200/mo 1bdrm/1bath, consider pet, wheelchair accessible, pool, dishwasher, yard, central heat (310)395-RENT www.westsidernentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $1200/mo 1bdrm/1bath, Hardwood Floors, Parking, refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer, middle unit of three.(310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $1250.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No Pets, 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

SANTA MONICA $1550.00 2 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No pets. 2535 Kansas Ave., #209, Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr: #101

SANTA MONICA $1600/mo 2bdrm/1bath, New Carpets, Parking included, stove, freshly painted, no pets (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $2650/mo 3bdrms/2baths, Will consider pet, New kitchen w/ GRANITE countertops, dishwasher (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $700/mo Bachelor/1bath, No pets, Carpet Floors, Street parking, stove laundry-on-site, non-smoking (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA $875/mo Studio/1bath, hardwood floors, new appliances, granite countertops, deck, french doors, (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com a home finding service

SANTA MONICA 833 5th st. unit 101 2bdrm/1.75 bath, $3000/mo, stove, dishwasher, balcony, granite counter tops, carpet and tiling flooring, wood flooring laundry, intercom entry, pool no pets (310)393-2547 jkwproperties.com

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

WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th place unit d 2bdrm/1bath, stove, dishwasher, microwave, blinds, carpet, laundry, gated parking, no pets, $1425/mo (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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WLA/CULVER CITY adj $1475/mo 2bdrm/1bath upper. Remodeled, stove, refrigerator. No pets, no smoking. single garage. Near shopping. (310)451-2993

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UNFURNISHED HOUSE, Culver City/Mar Vista area. 2+1, hardwood floors, fenced backyard. $2395/mo. (310)770-3155
drpolsky.com/greenlawn.html

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Santa Monica Daily Press GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it. Classifieds

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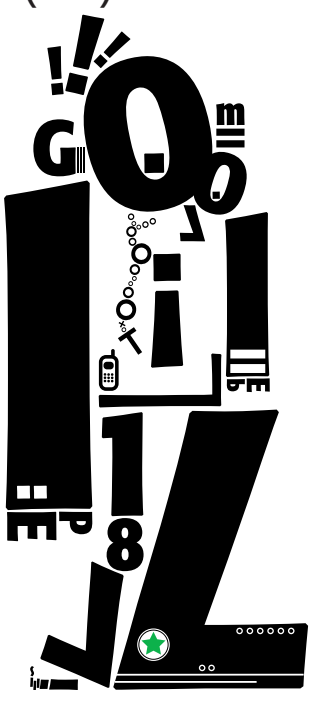

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RATES
TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

30 YEAR FIXED	5.76%
APR 5.866%	
10 YEAR/1 ARM	6%
APR 6.6%	
7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%
APR 6.655%	
5 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%**
APR 7.0%	
3 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%**
APR 7.0258%	
1 YEAR/1 ARM	5.25%
APR 7.1%	
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	5%
APR 7.24%	
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1%*
APR 8%	

*Rates subject to change
* As of January 31, 2007
** Denotes an interest only loan

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SANTA MONICA

Beautiful House
New Construction
3+3.5 2600 SF
$1,399,000

3rd Street 2+2 Condo
Between Wilshire & Montana
$725,000

Ocean View
Penthouse Condo
$2,200,000

Ready to Show Now

Sean Ahaus
310-418-3025
Bankers Realty

Autos Wanted

WANTED JAPANESE MOTORCYCLES: Kawasaki Z1-900, KZ900, KZ1000, H2-750, H1-500, S1-250, S2-350, S3-400. Cash Paid. 1-800-772-1142. 1-310-721-0726.

Business Opps

ABSOLUTELY ALL Cash! Do you earn $800/day? Vending route. 30 machines + candy. $9995. 1-800-807-6485. (Not valid SD/CT)

EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS! $125-$750+/day. No exp. required. All looks needed! 1-800-556-6103, Ext. 504

FREE CASH GRANTS! $700 - $800,000++ **2007** NEVER REPAY! Personal/Medical Bills, Business, School/House. Almost Everyone qualifies! Live Operators! AVOID DEADLINES! Listings, 1-800-270-1213, Ext. 279

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MEDICAL BENEFITS - $155.00 for the entire family. Prescription, dental, hospitalization. Pre-existing conditions OK! 888-528-8433.

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$50,000 GUARANTEED! NEVER REPAY. GOV/PRIVATE GRANTS/ School / Business/ Buy /Fix Home or Pay Bills. AS SEEN ON TV 800-679-8994

FREE CASH GRANTS! $700 - $800,000++ **2007** NEVER REPAY! Personal/Medical Bills, Business, School/House. Almost Everyone qualifies! Live Operators! AVOID DEADLINES! Listings, 1-800-270-1213, Ext. 280

NEED A LOAN? No credit - BAD credit - Bankruptcy - Repossession - Personal Loans - Auto Loans - Consolidation Loans AVAILABLE! "We have been helping people with credit problems since 1991". Call 1-800-654-1816.

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NEED CASH? Lawsuit Pending? We can help! No-risk cash advances. CJB Funding. 1-800-594-3029. www.cjbfunding.com

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VISA/MASTERCARD NEW unsecured credit card! $7500 guaranteed approval! Bad credit, bankruptcy OK! 1-800-584-1891.

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BLISSFUL RELAXATION
Experience hands-on healing power. Reiki Tummo: Heart Chakra opening with Kundalini & Earth energy. Intro & Bodywork special $68. Lynda, LMT: 310-749-0621.

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

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Personals

Talk to a Model
24HRS.
877-EZ MARIA
877-396-2742
$10-17 for 15 min.
ATM/CC/Checks by phone
www.USLove.com

Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Date of Filing Application: JANUARY 9, 2007
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: LONGS DRUG STORES CALIFORNIA INC.
The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 255 MAIN ST, VENICE, CA 90291.
Type of License(s) Applied for: 21-OFF-SALE GENERAL.
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.
LA125725 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 1/17, 24, 31/2007

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF BERNEICE COMPTON
Case No. SP007047

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BERNEICE COMPTON

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Michelle Berneice Brown in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PRO-BATE requests that Michelle Berneice Brown be appointed as personal representative to admin-ister 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 Administra-tion of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representa-tive to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important ac-tions, however, the personal re-pre-sentative 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 March 9, 2007 at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should ap-pear 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 CREDI-TOR 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 per-son 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 ap-praisal 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:
HARVEY A GLASER ESQ
PO BOX 643024
LOS ANGELES CA 90064-7181
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN769353 COMPTON Jan 31, Feb 1,7, 2007

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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: THOMAS TROY BURKE CASE NO. SP007051

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JUDITH J. SCHUMACHER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JUDITH J. SCHUMACHER 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 04/06/07 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

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

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

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

Attorney for Petitioner
LINDA C. SCHUMACHER
SANDRA M. CHAZEN
LAW OFFICE OF LINDA C. SCHUMACHER
3111 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH #400
SAN DIEGO CA 92108
1/31, 2/1, 2/7/07
CNS-1079448#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(UCC Sec. 6101-6107 U.C.C.)
Escrow No. 121235

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made on assets hereinafter described.

The name(s) and business address of the Seller(s) are: GERALD ARONSON AND ELIZABETH ARONSON, TRUSTEES OF THE ARONSON FAMILY TRUST, 2521 17TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

The location in California of the Chief Executive Office or principal business office of the Seller is: SAME AS ABOVE

All other business names and addresses used by the Seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the Seller(s) are: NOVA LAUNDRY SERVICE, 9604 MONTE MAR DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035; NOVA LAUNDRY SERVICE, 8673 VENICE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90034, 18 MINUTE LAUNDRY #3, 9836 NATIONAL BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90034; AND NO OTHERS

The name(s) and business address of the Buyer(s) are: BEN KHOE, 2223 14TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

The assets being sold are generally described as: GOODWILL, TRADE NAME, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, LEASEHOLD INTEREST, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, AND INVENTORY OF STOCK IN TRADE

and are located at: 2521 17TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

The business name used by said Seller(s) at said location is: 18 MINUTE LAUNDRY #1

The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 WILSHIRE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010 and the anticipated sale date is FEBRUARY 21, 2007

The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.

The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 WILSHIRE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010, ATTN: LARRY SHEWFELT, ESCROW #121235 and the last day for filing claims by any creditor shall be FEBRUARY 20, 2007, which is the business day before the anticipated sale date specified above.

Dated: JANUARY 24, 2007
BEN KHOE, Buyer(s)
PCTS LA126212 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 1/31/2007

Vehicles for sale

'04 Volkswagen R32 Hatchback
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
V6 3.2L, 6 speed, Manual, Leather, AWD, Premium Sound, Moon Roof
(P1511) $27,951
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

'05 Ford F150 Super Cab
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Silver, V8, 4.6L, Automatic, Dual Front Air Bags, ABS, Bed Liner
(P1521) $19,951
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

'06 Toyota Highlander Sport SUV 4D
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
4-Cyl., 2.4L, Automatic, Pwr Pkg, Air bags, Third Seat, Roof Rack
(P1489A) $26,991
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

'06 Scion tC Hatchback 2D
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
4-Cyl., 2.4L, A/C, Pwr Pkg, Cruise, MP3, Moon Roof, Spoiler, Alloy Wheels. (P1515)
$17,951
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

BOLD IT! MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT

'03 Acura RSX Type S Sport
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
4-Cyl., 2.0L Ho VTEC, 6 speed, Manual, Bose Sound, Leather. (I6582A)
$16,991
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

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Automotive

SELL YOUR PRE-OWNED VEHICLE. The only directory for used vehicles in and around Santa Monica. Santa Monica Daily Press

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

$45 for two weeks.
$20 every two weeks after.

Vehicles for sale

'03 Hummer H2 4D
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Black, Adventure pkg, OnStar, Nav. system, LOADED! (P1506)
$39,951
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

'03 Prius
Certified, w/car lane sticker (30084221)
HYBRIDS – 8 TO CHOOSE!
$16,788
Santa Monica Toyota
(800) 579-6047

'04 Accord LX 4DR
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Lo Lo Miles, Auto, Air, Tilt, PwrWin/Locks. (029872)
$14,788
Toyota Santa Monica
(800) 579-6047

'02 Jetta GLS $11,995
Low Miles! Auto, Air, Moon
Full Pwr, Tilt, Cruise
(2M165750)
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1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15

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