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JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Volume 7 Issue 75



Santa Monica Daily Press

FEELING FLUSH?
SEE PAGE 4

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE NEW TITLE ISSUE



Byron Kennerly *news@smdp.com*

SEEING SIGNS: **An electronic billboard is located just outside the city limits at Bundy Drive and Olympic Boulevard. There is a battle to ban the billboards in Los Angeles because they allegedly distract drivers and are aesthetically displeasing. Santa Monica has already banned them.**

Billboards get held in check

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE As the debate on billboards in Los Angeles drags on, activists are using Santa Monica as the shining star of municipal sign policy.

Los Angeles stemmed a growing flood of visual clutter in 2002 when the City Council passed a billboard moratorium, banning the construction of new billboards. It was immediately attacked by billboard interests and vetted by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals this year.

Santa Monica, however, never let it become a problem.

That's because in 1985, the Santa Monica City Council underwent a drastic change in sign policy. Not only did it ban all billboards, it heavily regulated the size, location and type of signage that could be seen in the city. Any billboards — defined as free-standing, off-premise signs — that still stand predated the 1985 code.

Not only do signs have to be attached to

SEE **SIGNS** PAGE 11

Samohi boys basketball squad hopes to bounce back from slow start

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica High School boys basketball coach James Hecht is searching for answers.

His Vikings were 13-2 entering Ocean League play and ranked in the top 20 in the state by MaxPreps. Big things were in the offing.

That's when Morningside High School came to town. Instead of a win on its own court, Samohi lost 68-69 in overtime. Just two days later, the Vikings traveled to Inglewood High hoping to win its first league game.

SEE **HOOPS** PAGE 10

Super goes from interim to permanent

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Tim Cuneo, a former education consultant who arrived here last summer to take over a district that had gone through a series of major personnel changes and challenges, is expected to be named the next superintendent.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District announced on Friday that the Board of Education will name Cuneo, who is currently serving as the interim superintendent, as the permanent chief. The appointment is expected to occur at the board meeting on Feb. 5.

The board was in the process of reviewing proposals from different firms to head the superintendent search when it decided to hire Cuneo to ensure consistency in leadership.

His time for the past several months has been occupied with a number of pressing issues, including revamping the troubled special education department and addressing the state budget crisis, which is expected to impact funds locally.

"Tim has done great work while he's been here," board President Ralph Mechur said. "He's helped stabilize leadership in the district."

Cuneo, who served as the senior partner with Cuneo Zinner Group in San Jose (wife Jane Zinner is a partner) before coming to SMMUSD, said he accepted the interim position assuming that he would only remain for a year to help the district in a transition period.

He was hired in July to replace former Superintendent Dianne Talarico who resigned after serving less than two years to be closer to her husband in Northern California, taking on the same job with the Burlingame School District.

The terms of the contract, which will end in July 2011, have yet to be finalized. When he was initially hired as the interim superintendent, Cuneo was earning $900 a day.

"I have to admit that I really enjoyed the

SEE **DISTRICT** PAGE 13

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



'A Little Princess'
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Come watch a play based on Frances Burnett's timeless story of a very different type of princess whose generous spirit is undimmed by dark circumstances. This play is not just for girls! Donations of new or gently-used books in English or Spanish ages 0-10 will be accepted and forwarded to the Venice Family Clinic. There is another showing on Sunday. Reserve seats for $6-8 at (310) 828-7519.

Greening from within
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Start the new year with this series which guides you in a unique and personal approach to ecology. Call (310) 392-3804 for more information.

'Cinderella: The Musical'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Audiences help romance bloom in this internationally acclaimed musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a charming prince, zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. There is another showing on Sunday. For information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 651.

Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009

2009 Surf City USA Marathon
Waterfront Hilton
21100 Pacific Coast Highway, Huntington Beach, 6:50 a.m.
The race begins at the Waterfront Hilton at PCH and Huntington Street. The Active Lifestyle Expo is located across the street from the hotel. At the end of the race, enjoy the Beer Garden Beach Party. Check out www.runsurfcity.com for more information.

Isabelle's Salsa Sundays @ Casa Escobar
Casa Escobar Restaurant and Bar
14160 Palawan Way, Marina del Rey, 7:15 p.m. — 12:00 a.m.
Every Sunday at Casa Escobar, Isabelle's Dance Academy brings you salsa lessons. Three instructors offer independent classes at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. Lessons are $15 per person. Call 310-392-3493 for more information.

Monday, Feb. 2, 2009

Santa Monica Rotary
Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Dr., Pacific Palisades, 12 p.m. — 1 p.m.
The Rotary Club of Santa Monica is hosting a lunch, every Monday, for its members. Those interested in attending should contact June M. Doy at 310-917-3313.

Bridge and scrabble
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Come to the library for bridge and scrabble free every Monday at the library. Call 310-450-0443 for more information.

Gentle yoga for older adults
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Kelly Cunningham conducts a series of six yoga classes geared for older adults. Advance sign-up and personal yoga mat required and the space is limited. Call 310-392-3804 for more information.

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.



Byron Kennerly *news@smdp.com*

IN A HOLDING PATTERN: **The long-awaited project to aesthetically revitalize a barren stretch of 20th Street and Cloverfield Boulevard will have to wait while the plan is revisited.**

Pico improvements stalled — again

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD The long-awaited project to aesthetically revitalize a barren stretch of 20th Street and Cloverfield Boulevard will have to wait a while more.

About a decade after residents first approached City Hall about sprucing up the two corridors from the I-10 Freeway to Pico Boulevard, the City Council earlier this week sent conceptual designs for the streetscape improvement project back to the drawing board, dissatisfied that the plans were missing several elements, including bicycle lanes.

The council directed city staff to address the absence of bike lanes and work with planning and transportation management staff over the next 60 days before bringing back the designs.

The estimated $6.7 million undertaking in its current incarnation includes new trees, upgraded lighting, and landscaped curb extensions. The existing plans for both 20th and Cloverfield are to maintain the current street and parking configuration.

Several councilmembers criticized the current designs as insufficiently addressing the issues of pedestrian and bicycle safety on the streets, and just merely changing a few aesthetic qualities. Some said they would like to see a bike lane on 20th Street, which isn't as heavily impacted as Cloverfield.

"I was one of the people who championed it about a decade ago and made sure we had the money in the budget to do it," said Mayor Ken Genser, who was among the councilmembers who did not approve of the designs. "I recognize the importance of doing it, I just think it is wrong to speed ahead when it's not thoughtfully done."

Genser said he felt that the reasoning behind the designs was not thoroughly explained, including the lack of medians on 20th Street, which he pointed out would be a benefit to pedestrians with mobility issues.

Calvin Abe of Ah'bé Landscape Architects said that the fire marshall was against the median because it could impede emergency access.

Residents asked for the beautification project because of concerns of pedestrian safety and traffic on the two streets, which are located near an elementary school and park.

Maria Loya, who serves on the Pico Neighborhood Association's Board of Directors, said she is surprised that the project was delayed again.

"The city is always talking about promoting walking and a pedestrian-friendly community," Loya said. "We want the same kind of pedestrian-friendly streets and boulevards in the Pico Neighborhood and part of creating a pedestrian-friendly neighborhood is tied to the improvement of these major

SEE **PROJECT** PAGE 12

Former L.A. priest gets prison for molesting boy

BY LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

SAN FERNANDO In a courtroom where victims denounced him and still-devoted parishioners embraced him, a former Roman Catholic priest was sentenced Friday to three years in prison for molesting a boy in the late 1980s.

George Miller, 70, of Oxnard, had earlier pleaded guilty to molesting the boy starting when the youth was 9, and admitted to sexually assaulting four other boys whose cases couldn't be prosecuted because of statute of limitations problems. Arriving at court, he was hugged by a half-dozen former parishioners who watched the sentencing with tears in their eyes.

"Not guilty," two of them said to a reporter outside, but they refused to explain.

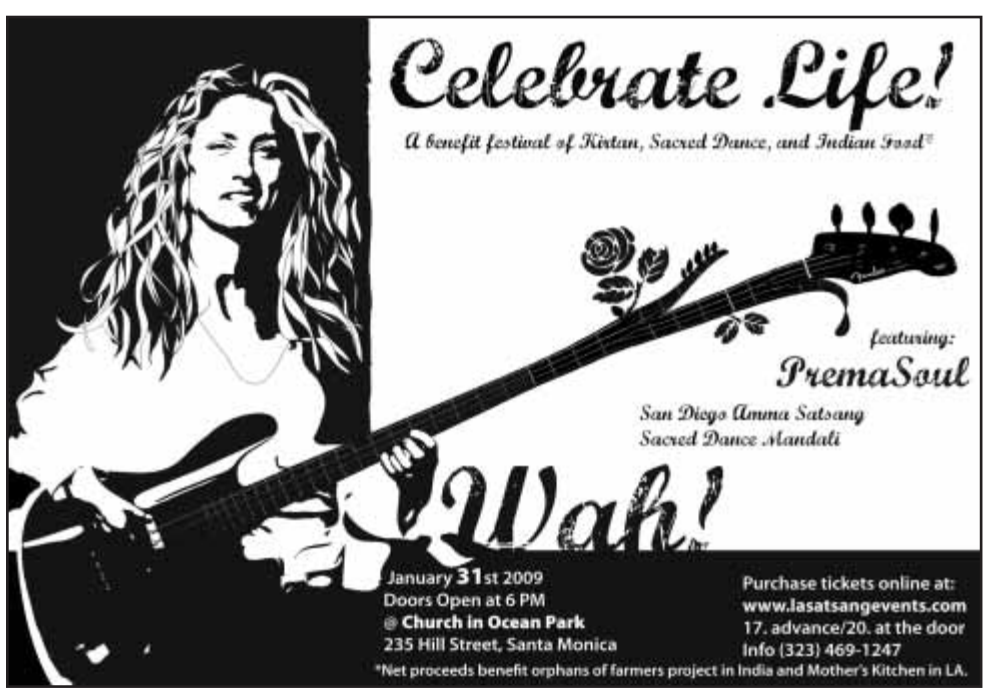
Before his sentence was pronounced, two victims in the uncharged cases asked to speak. A man, now in his 30s, asked Miller to turn and face him.

"I looked to God and God gave me you," he said, fighting back tears. "You're a priest, for crying out loud. My family trusted you to teach me the ways of the Lord, not the ways of hell."

The man, whose name was kept confidential, is the brother of the man whose case was the subject of Miller's sentence. He said his brother is now in jail on drug charges and had drifted into drug use after being molested.

A second victim, 42, told Miller: "I don't love or respect you. ... When you infiltrated our family and poisoned them, our faith was rocked. We were left emotionally bankrupt."

The gray-haired Miller, wearing casual clothes and seated at the counsel table, said nothing. Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Cynthia Ulfig imposed sentence and told Miller that for the rest of his life he would have to register as a sex offender. He was taken into custody immediately.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Love for Lowery

Editor:

Mariel Howsepian, who identifies herself as a sixth grade teacher at a Los Angeles middle school, has made a disgraceful reference to an icon of the civil rights movement, describing The Rev. Joseph Lowery's benediction as "ridiculous." Does Ms. Howsepian have any notion who she has ignorantly insulted?

Dr. Lowery, now 87 years old, was a founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, along with Dr. Martin Luther King, serving as its president for 20 years, from 1977 to 1997. At the request of Dr. King, Dr. Lowery led the Selma to Montgomery march in 1965. To honor this distinguished individual, the city of Atlanta named a street after him, one which runs past Georgia Tech, as well as the historically black colleges of Atlanta. Among his many awards are one in 1997 from the NAACP honoring him as "dean of the civil rights movement."

The words with which Dr. Lowery began the benediction that Ms. Howsepian has labeled ridiculous, "God of our weary years, God of our silent tears" are from "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the black national anthem. Thousands of people, both black and white, were emboldened by its words as they struggled for equal rights.

Ms. Howsepian's ignorance and insulting attitude toward this towering figure would be shocking in any case, but they are particularly appalling from someone entrusted with the education of children. Her students, whatever their race, should be encouraged to regard with gratitude and awe the life of this man to whom so many people owe so much.

Laurie Brenner
Santa Monica

Going vegan

Editor:

The issue of vegetarian children was put before the public recently in a number of stories in the media and on the Web. PETA appreciates the growing interest in this subject, but feel it's vital to set the record straight concerning misleading analysis of the study mentioned in these stories.

All three authors of the report as well as the study itself make it clear that the figure cited for vegetarian youths — one in 200 — only includes those who have changed their diets for health reasons. Of course, most young people adopt a vegetarian diet for reasons other than health, whether because eating meat is a leading cause of climate change or because they don't wish to fund the abuse of animals.

To learn more about the advantages of going vegetarian, readers can visit www.GoVeg.com. Compassionate teenagers are encouraged to go to www.peta2.com for further information.

Jeff Mackey
People For the Ethical Treatment of Animals
Norfolk, Va.





Modern Times

Lloyd Garver — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Some executives are feeling flush

A QUESTION THAT MANY OF US WOULD love to have answered is, whatever happened to those original billions in Wall Street bailout money? Would we be wrong to say that some of that went down the toilet?

It's hard to remember since there have been so many plans, but wasn't the money from Bailout No. 1 supposed to help the banking and mortgage crisis? Well, have you or any of your neighbors felt that your mortgage problems have gotten better since the banks got this money? Or maybe they decided to help us another way: has your savings account interest gone up since they increased the amount of cash in their vaults? I don't think so.

F. Scott Fitzgerald famously said, "The rich are different from you and me." Ernest Hemingway replied, "Yes, they have more money." But now it's obvious that some of them also have more gall, chutzpah, ego, selfishness, and imported area rugs.

Like the rest of us, the wizards of Wall Street saw how foolish the Not So Big Three automaker heads were when they flaunted their luxurious ways by flying to Washington the first time in their private jets.

Yet Citigroup didn't cancel the order for its new $50 million jet until it was pressured by the Obama administration. Now that it canceled it, Citigroup might not get its deposit back. Do you feel as sorry for them as I do?

As billions flew into banking coffers courtesy of, well, us, millions flew right out of those coffers in the form of bonuses. That's right. Some bailed-out banks gave big bonuses to their bosses. I didn't watch every minute of the news during those early bailout days, but I don't think that's what the money was intended for.

Oh, there's something else that some of these greedy executives are: clueless. What's missing in their brains that tells them it's OK for them to accept huge bonuses while others would consider it a bonus to just still have jobs?

Their rationalizations are succinct, but absurd. In the case of the GEO's (Greedy Executive Officers), they claim that their company needs to attract the best people to do the best job, and those people sometimes like to be pampered.

John Thain is an executive who liked to be pampered. The recently fired GEO of Merrill Lynch & Co. spent $1.2 million last year to renovate his office. His office! While he was at his very beautiful desk, his company gave out an undisclosed amount of bonuses. These bonuses were paid after, you may recall, Merrill Lynch was rescued by Bank Of America which was helped by — you guessed it, us.

But back to Thain's office. Among the things he had his company pay for were $87,000 area rugs, a $25,000 pedestal table, a $68,000 19th-century credenza, an $18,000 chair, a $16,000 custom coffee table, and a $35,000 antique commode. It wasn't even a new toilet, but the guy spent 35 grand for it.

Once Thain was caught with his pants down, he said that he would pay the money back to the company. He added that considering the times, this expensive redecorating was a mistake in judgment.

AS BILLIONS FLEW INTO BANKING COFFERS COURTESY OF, WELL, US, MILLIONS FLEW RIGHT OUT OF THOSE COFFERS IN THE FORM OF BONUSES. THAT'S RIGHT. SOME BAILED-OUT BANKS GAVE BIG BONUSES TO THEIR BOSSES.

Hiring Thain was the real mistake in judgment. He wasn't just fired because of his extravagant office tastes. He was let go because while he was in charge, Merrill Lynch lost more than $15 billion in one quarter.

That's $5 billion a month or about $166 million a day. If he put in an eight-hour workday, he lost about $21 million an hour, $346,000 a minute, or $5,787.04 a second. This business expert lost money probably faster than anyone can print it.

That's what's so aggravating about all this. These people who have been buying islands and giving their kids platinum pacifiers aren't necessarily geniuses. They are the same jerks that got us into the big financial mess in the first place.

Whoever came up with the idea of giving bonuses to people who do a bad job probably never filled up his car with gas by himself, never took out the garbage, and never uttered the words, "Is this going on sale soon?"

If these people had done a great job, their desire for money and luxurious things wouldn't seem so absurd. Let's put it this way: if any of them had made a profit instead of a loss of $15 billion in the fourth quarter of last year, they'd deserve to have any kind of toilet they want in their office. But I still think that 19th-century credenza is a bit much.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his Web site at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.

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The Q Line

COUNCIL SEARCHES

This past week, Q-line asked:

The passing of City Councilman Herb Katz recently forced his colleagues on the dais to search for a replacement. It will be difficult to replace the esteemed Katz, who dedicated much of his life to civil service. Who would you like to see as the new City Councilmember?

Here are your responses:

"BASICALLY, TWO MONTHS AGO WE, the Santa Monica residents, cast our ballots for the council seats. Ted Winterer and Susan Hartley lost by a nominal margin. To appoint someone else goes against the residents' choice and the election process. The council needs to put their egos, agenda and alternative motives aside and abide by the residents' voting choice. Will they do the proper, just and right thing, or go against our wishes and choose their political allies, making a mockery of the election. I don't see much of a question, Winterer then Hartley is the only justifiable choice."

"I THINK A SPECIAL ELECTION SHOULD BE held so that the citizens decide the replacement. It has got to be taken out of the hands of the self-serving City Council members. Otherwise we'll have more stacking the deck."

"MY CHOICES FOR SANTA MONICA CITY Council are as follows: Jane Fonda, Tom Hayden, Maria Shriver, Barbra Streisand, and Dick Van Dyke, who I have seen serving food at the Los Angeles Mission standing next to Jackie Stallone. I make this recommendation more out of tribute than reality. All our celebrities and their cups runneth over. All have expended energy for the betterment of Santa Monica. It has been said that we shall be known for and by our deeds. The good deeds of those aforementioned have been plentiful and understood by those who have taken time to notice."

"SINCE WE JUST HAD AN ELECTION IN November, I think that the person who got the next highest number of votes should be on the council and I think that's Ted Winterrer. I don't see what the big controversy is on this issue."

"I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BOBBY SHRIVER replacing Katz."

"ALTHOUGH IT WILL NOT HAPPEN, I would like to see Jerry Rubin as the new City Council member."

"THE COUNCILMEMBER TO REPLACE Herb Katz should be elected. Our present SMRR-dominated City Council may feel that they can appoint somebody to supposedly save money that a special election would cost, however, the amount for such a special election is a drop in the bucket compared to the $500 million annual budget the city has. So let's do it right and have an election."

"I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SUSAN HARTLEY in Katz' place on council because she is the exact opposite of Katz. I'm sure she would never sell her vote to developers, but will keep our city from becoming a mass of skyscrapers."

"UNLESS THEY WANT ANOTHER ELECTION, one of the two who came in right after the lifetime incumbents in the last election. Ted Winterer or Susan Hartley is the obvious proper choice. Of course, they want one of their own from Santa Monicans for Developers' Rights, probably Terry O'Day."

"THE BEST PERSON FOR OUR TREES and other important community issues is Jerry Rubin, or someone like him."

"I WOULD LOVE TO SEE PEACE ACTIVIST Jerry Rubin on our City Council. He really would be the best."

"I FEEL THAT TED WINTERER SHOULD BE on the City Council because he came in fourth and if Herb Katz died a little earlier, Ted Winterer would be on the City Council and he was voted next by the people."

"POOR MR. KATZ HAD HIS LAST MEOW and now the rabid dogs from Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights are salivating and barking to replace him with another fascist kook from their dirty kennel. If they were fair, Ted Winterer, a moderate runner-up in the last election should be seated. However, we all know they will pick someone absolutely evil from their pack of wiley coyotes."

"SUSAN HARTLEY."

"WHY NOT JUST GIVE THE SEAT TO A BUM or a transient, since they have free reign over the city anyways."

"MY VOTE IS FOR LINDA PIERA-AVILA. Why? Integrity, intelligence, and deep concern for the city."

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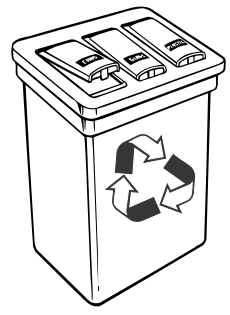
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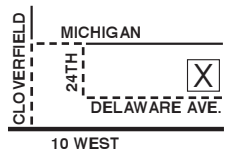
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Get Out of Your Way

Dr. Jeanette Raymond
Send comments to edit

Feelings of guilt tear deep at one's soul

THE CALL CAME AT 1 A.M. — THE CALL that never should have come, the call that Bruce would have moved heaven and earth to prevent. The call ended everything when an apologetic voice dealt the fatal blow — his wife had suffered a heart attack at work and died.

Bruce went through the motions as the autopsy, funeral and aftermath took their course. He allowed friends and relatives to take care of the arrangements, acting as an obedient robot. He lost his appetite and had trouble sleeping. The pills his doctor prescribed forced his shocked mind and body to switch off. He was glad when exhaustion took over, so he could get a break from the relentless guilt that tortured his every waking moment.

How could that innocent beauty have been ripped away so soon? Why did she have to die so young when she had never harmed a soul? Why had he taken advantage of her sweet, trusting nature and cheated on her whenever he was tempted?

Why hadn't he thanked her more sincerely for the secure and stable home she had given him? Why had he been so selfish and refused to have a child? Why had he not given her one iota as much as she had given him?

Bruce lived on a diet of self-loathing and recrimination. It took the edge off the guilt so he could continue living. He exiled himself from his community of neighbors and friends because he couldn't face what he imagined would be their accusatory looks and harsh judgments.

Loneliness, and an abhorrence of his own company led him to find another companion. He got through the days and nights of his first year of widowerhood by the good grace and kindness of his new lady friend. But she wanted more of him than just his company.

Giving her more was like sacrilege, so he gave just enough to keep her in his life. The rest of the time he was the loyal and grateful husband to his dead wife that he failed to be during her lifetime.

A year later his house was exactly the same as the morning his wife died. Bruce turned it into a shrine and worshiped at its feet hoping to expiate his guilt and alleviate his remorse. He was plagued with horrific nightmares of being chased in jungles, thrown overboard from ships, crashing in a plane and being set on fire. He always woke up just before he was about to die, but the intense images and sensations stayed with him long afterwards. Life awake was not much better than life in the land of violent punishing dreams.

A wish for relief from the incessant nightmares provided an acceptable reason for him to seek psychotherapy. He wanted absolution.

As Bruce talked about his life it became apparent that guilt was no stranger to him. He was guilty that he left his meager childhood home for a better life while the rest of the family lived like paupers. He was guilty about stealing his wife away from her first lover. He was guilty about not visiting his mother when she was dying, and for failing to get his veterinary license after six attempts at the exams.

Putting his guilt into words allowed us to examine the cloth and feel the weave of the material he confessed. Slowly but surely Bruce learned that his perceptions were more than a little skewed. He had sent money home for his brother's education. His wife chose to leave her lover and marry Bruce. His mother had died unexpectedly as he was en route to her sick bed. His wife had agreed not to have children.

BRUCE LIVED ON A DIET OF SELF-LOATHING AND RECRIMINATION. IT TOOK THE EDGE OFF THE GUILT SO HE COULD CONTINUE LIVING. HE EXILED HIMSELF FROM HIS COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS BECAUSE HE COULDN'T FACE WHAT HE IMAGINED WOULD BE THEIR ACCUSATORY LOOKS AND HARSH JUDGMENTS.

He had worked three jobs while studying to be a vet, making studying difficult. He rescued stray cats and dogs and donated money to animal shelters.

Grief and loss made him color his past behaviors with selfish intentions and mean spiritedness. His goodness and decency were lost to him until he began to hear me reflect them back to him. He learned to accept that he was cut from a cloth that could wash out its stains and still be fit for wear. As he made room for his kind traits, Bruce dreamt of his wife coming down to him in the form of an angel, holding her arms out in a loving manner. He felt the joy of being reunited with a warm and loving wife.

A small dose of guilt is useful when it serves to prick our consciences into doing the right thing. An overdose of guilt is a pernicious force that rots you from the inside out. It mangles your memory of the past and blurs your vision of the future. Bruce discovered that forgiving himself was the only effective antidote to his self-induced poisoning.

DR. JEANETTE RAYMOND is a licensed psychologist. She helps people overcome debilitating emotions, so they are free to make the most of their lives. You can reach her at (310) 985-2491 or at www.drjeanetteraymond.com.



Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nutritious dips for the big game

SUPER BOWL SNACKING IS TYPICALLY thought of as a carnivorous feeding frenzy, but these vegan-inspired treats will turn even the most bloodthirsty fans into PETA petitioners.

For those who think that meat eating is an essential contact sport, understand that you can meet your nutrient needs on a vegetarian diet. However, a vegan voyage might necessitate that you take these nutrients for your trip: adequate protein and omega-3 essential fatty acids (EPA & DHA) as well as vitamin D, B12, iron, zinc, calcium and riboflavin.

Adequate protein can be obtained by eating a variety of legumes (beans, peas, peanuts, lentils, tempeh and tofu) plus grains (corn, brown rice and quinoa), nuts and seeds. Each group is deficient in an essential amino acid. When combined, these protein sources "compliment" each other by providing the deficient amino acids in adequate amounts to promote growth, repair and maintenance of the body.

Omega-3 fatty acids EPA and DHA are difficult to obtain in a vegan diet. Flax oil and flax seeds although high in Alpha-Linolenic-Acid (AHA) omega-3 fatty acids, do not provide any EPA or DHA. If you are willing to eat eggs, you could get omega-3 rich eggs, obtain some EPA and DHA and would be called an ovo-vegetarian.

If not, microalgae supplements provide DHA but not EPA-More on EPA in a future article.

Vitamin D also requires its own article, but for now, look to sunlight and almond milk for D. Almond milk also contains calcium and vitamin E. Fatty fish and egg yolks are good sources of vitamin D too and another reason to include omega-3 rich eggs each day.

Vitamin B12 and riboflavin can be obtained from fortified soy milk as well as my favorite source, nutritional yeast flakes, which taste similar to parmesan cheese.

If you think iron equals meat, try my favorite vegan sources: black strap molasses (in chocolate protein shakes) and dark leafy greens (blended into fresh fruit and vegetables juices).

Zinc is associated with testosterone production, which brings meat to mind, but zinc is also found in legumes, nuts, grains and mushrooms.

Try these recipes to help you meet your nutrient needs without giving in to meat. Go Stealers!

ELIZABETH BROWN is a registered dietitian and certified holistic chef specializing in weight management, sports nutrition, disease prevention and optimal health through whole foods. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net.

Homemade Chips

8 corn or flour tortillas or 4 whole grain pitas, split open, each cut into six pieces.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cover two large baking trays with a light coating of Spectrum Organic High Heat Canola Oil. In a bowl combine two teaspoons of one of the following flavorful, high heat oils: sesame, avocado, almond or canola. Add 1/3 cup of one of the following liquids: lime juice, lemon juice, orange juice, apple cider vinegar, malt vinegar, tomato or carrot juice. Add one or two of the following seasonings: chili powder, garlic powder, onion powder, cumin, coriander or curry powder. Let your nose be your guide when combining flavors. Mix the flavors then brush onto your choice of assorted flat breads or tortillas. Bake 8-10 minutes or until chips are crisp. Serve with the following dips along with a selection of fresh chopped veggies.

Spicy Bean Dip

2 (15 ounce) cans organic baked beans, such as Amy's, Eden or Organic Valley
1 tsp. Tabasco sauce
1 tbs. chili powder
1/2 tsp. sea salt
1 (4 ounce) can green chilies, diced
1/4 yellow onion, minced
3 cloves garlic, minced

Add beans, Tabasco, chili powder and sea salt to blender or food processor and blend. Gradually add chopped chilies, onion and garlic. Pulse processor if you like chunky dip or blend for a smoother consistency.

Guacamole

2 avocados
1 jalapeno, seeded and diced
1/2 onion, red or white, diced
1 tomato, seeded and diced
1/4 cup cilantro, chopped
1 lime, juiced
1/2 tsp. salt

Cut avocados in half and remove pits. Scoop out avocado and mash in a bowl. Add the rest of the ingredients and blend with a fork. Taste and adjust seasonings as needed.

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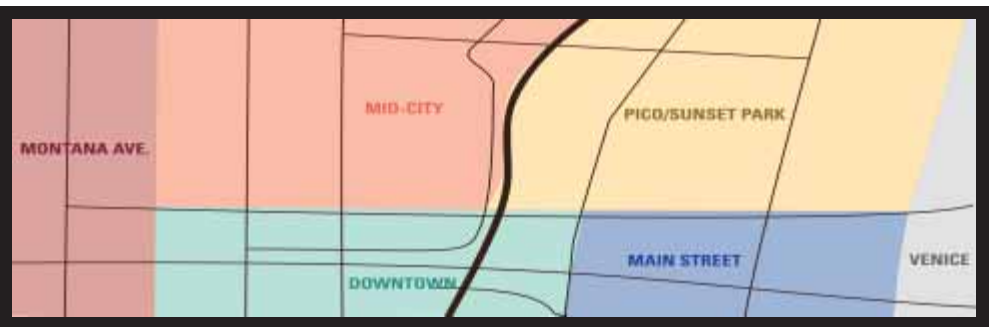
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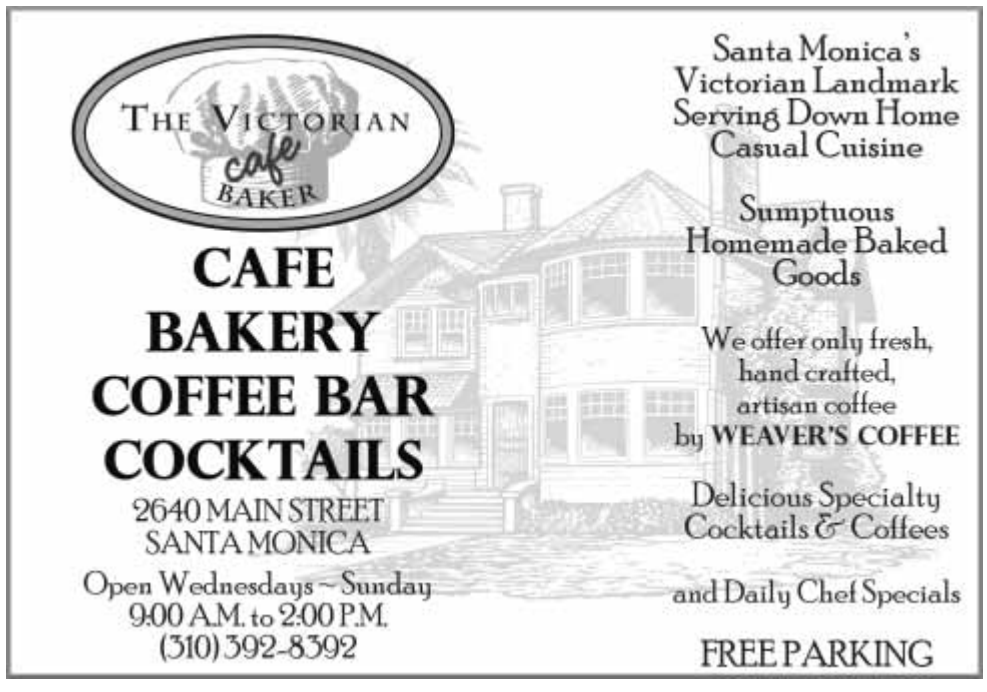


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Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

SWISH: **Santa Monica High School's Kunnu Shofu goes up for a shot against Culver City High School earlier this season. The Vikings are 15-5 overall and 2-3 in Ocean League play.**

Vikings to play at Fairfax Saturday

FROM **HOOPS** PAGE 1

Inglewood didn't oblige.

The Sentinels routed the Vikings, 51-74.

Two games, two losses. Last season's Ocean League champ was forced to lick its wounds and forge ahead.

"There isn't an easy answer [for the losses]," Hecht said. "Losing the season opener, emotionally, was deflating."

The Vikings have since won two of three and took on Morningside, which is undefeated in league play, in a rematch on Friday night. The score wasn't available as of presstime.

With the two wins — over Hawthorne and Beverly Hills — the team appears to be back on track, Hecht said. The team is now 15-5 overall and 2-3 in league, which puts them in a tie for third place. The top three teams are automatically awarded a spot in the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section playoffs.

He attributed the slow start partially due to a rash of injuries that have plagued some of his top players since league play began earlier this month.

Senior forward Kunnu Shofu, who is getting looks from major college programs, injured his thumb in the league opener. Terry Horn broke his nose and was forced to play with a mask for a couple of games. Senior guard James Montgomery has been hobbled by an Achilles tendon strain.

"We seemed to lose our intensity and aggressiveness," Hecht said of the losses. "We're just trying to stay focused. The message remains the same."

With most of those players on the mend and cleared to play, Hecht expects to be ready for the second half of its league schedule.

"I think we are still in the hunt," Hecht added.

Before the Vikings can get back to work in the Ocean, they will travel to Fairfax High School to take part in the school's State Preview Classic on Saturday, which pits five top teams from Los Angeles County against five from San Diego County. The one-day extravaganza will feature Samohi against Oceanside El Camino at 3 p.m.; L.A.'s Price High takes on San Diego Torrey Pines; Winward takes on San Diego's Hoover; Campbell Hall faces Long Beach Poly; the featured game is Etiwanda taking on Woodland Hills Taft.

While the weekend event forces Santa Monica to play two games in two days, Hecht welcomes the challenge. He said that some believe it takes away from focusing on league games. He disagrees.

He understands why some see playing in these types of events as a distraction, but believes that the players enjoy facing new competition.

He anticipates that Oceanside's physicality may give his Vikings a bit of a hard time. Hecht said that Saturday's opponent is aggressive at both ends and likes to pound the ball in the paint.

"We have to pressure their ball handlers," Hecht said. "We'll also try to bring their big guys away from the basket a little bit."

Senior guard Donte Bowie agrees with Hecht's assessment of Oceanside. But, after watching game tape, the defensive-minded Bowie believes that the key to victory will be the pace of the game.

Santa Monica likes to run a full-court press from buzzer to buzzer, which Bowie feels will give his Vikings a slight advantage.

"Offensively they like to walk the ball up unless it's a fast break," Bowie said. "They want to slow down the game.

"As long as we keep the game at a fast pace, we should tire them out."

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Santa Monica leads the way on sign ordinance

FROM SIGNS PAGE 1

buildings, signs can only advertise services or products that are sold in the store they are attached to, with the exception of corporate products, which cannot be advertised. That means the ubiquitous iPod or Coca Cola billboards that dot Downtown Los Angeles are not allowed here.

"Sign proliferation was detracting from the beauty of the city," said Bob Holbrook, a Santa Monica City Councilman. "The council was worried about what the city would look like in 2015."

The council reviewed the sign code in July 2008 and adopted changes in September 2008. According to Barry Rosenbaum, the senior land use attorney for the City Attorney's Office, the council looked at recent judicial decisions and altered the code slightly to ensure that it was in accordance with state and federal law.

The main concern involved violations of the first amendment. The code was amended to protect noncommercial speech and to allow owners of signs to change the content of their signs without applying for an additional permit. That way, no accusations could be made that the content of signs was being censored, just their location.

As a result, the Santa Monica municipal code is held up by billboard activists like Dennis Hathaway, the president of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight, as a model for other cities to emulate.

"You realize you're in a different kind of place with a different kind of thinking and a different kind of atmosphere," Hathaway said.

Not that billboard companies are necessarily making it easy for Los Angeles officials to curb them. Despite the moratorium in Los Angeles, new billboards appear overnight. Increasingly, advertising companies are relying on large signs called super graphics that span the entire side of buildings. Super graphics are a new outgrowth of the debate and were not specifically regulated against in the moratorium.

"For years there's been a sentiment in Los Angeles for making it more desirable, to control illegal billboards, but it's just been uncoordinated," Hathaway said. "The city decided it would be easier to make settlements than fight lawsuits. What it boils down to is that Santa Monica has the political will and you can see the results."

Santa Monica's size is a major factor in effective policing, making it harder for companies to engage in illegal sign construction.

"We have seven council members and there's hardly any part of the city one of us doesn't see every day," Holbrook said. "And we have over 200 police officers, so if something happens they know about it immediately. We're pretty aggressive about it."

Problems in Los Angeles also stem from companies taking billboards digital. This new breed of billboard flashes a new ad every eight seconds, increasing exposure for companies but also adding to light pollution. Companies began converting their conventional signs into digital LED signs, pressuring the Los Angeles City Council to put a moratorium on digital billboards in December. The extra time will allow them to fix their own jumble of code concerning billboards and address safety concerns.

Some argue that they represent a hazard to drivers who are distracted by the light and the alternating picture, accusations that outdoor advertisers are quick to refute.

"Digital billboards are safety neutral," said Jeff Golimowski, communications director for the Outdoor Advertising Association of America. "There is no correlation between the presence of digital billboards and traffic accidents."

Safety experts and activists take issue with the studies cited by the OAAA and maintain that no comprehensive and conclusive study has yet been completed, although there are two under way.

For Hathaway, that's a good enough reason to keep them out of circulation.

"The government shouldn't allow them until these new studies are out," he said. "If you allow them now, it's like drug companies coming out with a new drug and the FDA says, 'You can sell it, but we'll study whether it's safe or not … but you can sell it.'"

The state of California felt the same way. California Assemblyman Mike Feuer (D-Los Angeles) put forth Assembly Bill 109 in early January 2009, which would effectively ban digital billboards across the state. Los Angeles City Council was supposed to vote to support the ban on Friday, Jan. 30, but the vote was pushed off because the council was losing quorum.

Santa Monica banned any kind of digital sign in the revise of the municipal code in September. Previously, signs that flashed the temperature and time were allowed, but since September even those are on the city's hit list.

In Golimowski's mind, the complaints leveled against billboards and outdoor advertising in general are unfair.

"This is a business just like the bakery on the corner," Golimowski said. "I think what you see in Los Angeles is a small vocal minority who's making a lot of noise. But the average citizen, I don't think the groundswell of negative feeling is there."

In Santa Monica, at least, the "negative feeling" is strong and entrenched.

"I get called all the time by billboard companies," Holbrook said. "I just tell them it probably won't happen. Their company would die to work in Santa Monica."

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Pico project to wait at least another 60 days

FROM **PROJECT** PAGE 3

thoroughways in our community."

Among the concerns raised by residents are speeding cars, some of which go down the boulevard at 40-50 mph, Loya estimated.

Residents are also concerned about restricting traffic too much on 20th Street, fearing that the cars will begin flowing into the neighborhoods, she added, referring to a proposal presented last year that eliminated one travel lane in each direction.

There were few people who spoke during the council meeting on Tuesday when the item came up for discussion. Those who did provide their input spoke solely on the absence of bicycle lanes on 20th Street.

The bike lane issue received the support of Councilmember Kevin McKeown, who is a cyclist himself.

"I can't fathom why given the opportunity we have on 20th Street, why we would approve and spend money on yet another incomplete street," McKeown said. "We're hearing from residents that they are turning to bicycles and they feel unsafe on our streets.

"How can we in good conscious now approve a street that doesn't incorporate bike lanes?"

Only two councilmembers voted to move the project along — Bob Holbrook and Richard Bloom, who pointed out that it's been about a decade since the issue first came up.

"We promised this to the Pico Neighborhood," Bloom said. "This is a streetscape plan that fundamentally benefits the Pico Neighborhood and we put it off at least twice that I can think of to address some of these same issues and we have to bring this to a conclusion."

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Board to appoint Cuneo on Thursday

FROM **DISTRICT** PAGE 1

district and the community and professional staff," Cuneo said. "When the board asked me, I was very honored and very pleased that I can stay and work at a place I enjoy a great deal."

He came to the district as it was recovering from a rocky period, marked by the special education controversy in which parents alleged a culture of intimidation and the arrest of a Lincoln Middle School teacher who was arrested for sexually molesting his students.

Several top-level administrators also resigned during that time, including Deputy Superintendent Tim Walker, followed by Talarico.

Officials are currently addressing the special education issue, publishing the parent handbook, holding workshops and forming an ad hoc committee to study recommendations from previous consultant studies.

Barry Snell, the school board vice president, praised Cuneo for his leadership over the past six months, structuring board meetings so they run more efficiently, cultivating stronger relationships with principals and having a better presence in the community.

A graduate of the University of Santa Clara where he received a master's degree in counseling and guidance, Cuneo served as the foreman pro tem for the Santa Clara County Grand Jury from 2007-08.

He also served as the interim superintendent for Scotts Valley Unified School District and as the senior executive director for 21st Century Education Initiative, which is part of Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network, overseeing all aspects of public/private partnership investments in K-12 school reform.

His background in education spans several decades, serving as superintendent, assistant superintendent and other leadership positions with Oak Grove, Whisman, Pajaro Valley Unified and Fremont Union High School districts from 1966-1996. Cuneo is also the former president of the Association of California School Administrators.

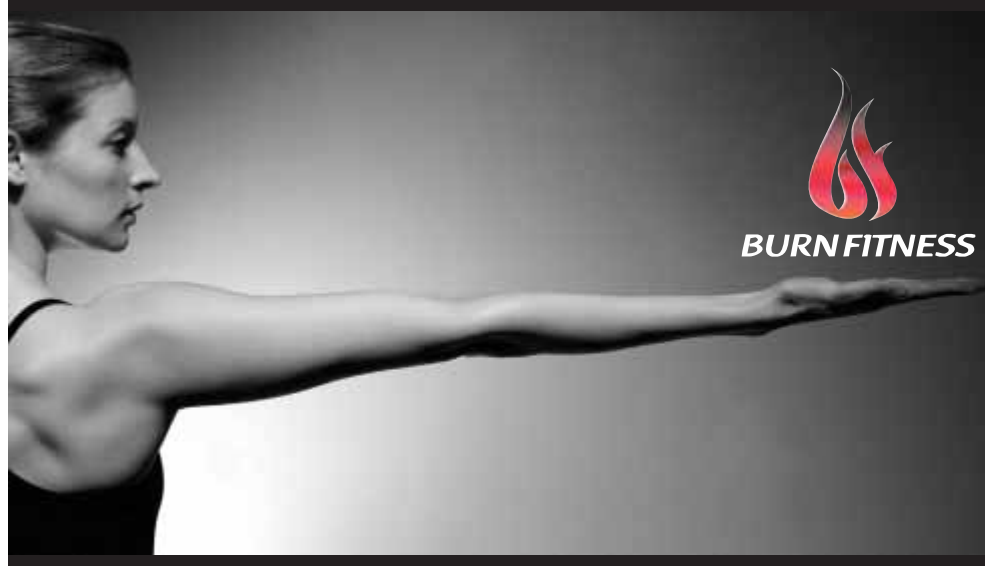
One of the things that Cuneo said he would like to address in the future is closing the achievement gap, looking at the present strategic plan.

Currently one of the biggest issues facing the district is the state budget and its potential impact on local funding.

"These are difficult times and we will have to very carefully review all our programs and make some really tough decisions going forward," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

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NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
AIRPORT COMMISSION

One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2009.
Applicants must reside in Santa Monica.
Applications due by noon, Tuesday, March 3, 2009.
Appointment to be made by City Council, Tuesday, March 10, 2009.

The Airport Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters pertaining to the Municipal Airport and to aviation matters generally to the extent that they affect the City.

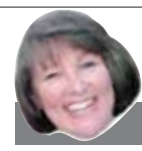
Commissioners must be qualified electors of the City of Santa Monica and may not hold paid office or employment in the City government.

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires Commission members to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action by filing a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www.smgov.net/cityclerk/boards. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.



Play Time

Cynthia Citron — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A search for peace

AN INNOCENT 16-YEAR OLD GIRL seduces the boy she has loved all her life on the night before he is to leave for the war. In the case of Jim Leonard's disturbing new play "Battle Hymn," the war happens to be the Civil War and the girl is named Martha.

Pregnant and disowned by her clergyman father, Martha then pursues her lover through every American war of the last 150 years, still carrying her unborn child in her belly.

Martha, beautifully played by Suzy Jane Hunt, remains actively onstage for the entire production, while her lover (Bill Heck), her father (William Salyers), their man-servant (Robert Manning, Jr.), and a Civil War soldier (John Short), morph into countless other ensembles to flesh out her long desperate odyssey. It is a tour de force for each of them, individually and collectively.

As she travels through time, participating in a battle here, surviving on a farm there, she stubbornly holds onto her baby, refusing to give birth in the troubled times she is living through. Meanwhile, Henry, her love, resigned to the life of the eternal soldier, experiences the terror, the anguish, the male bonding, and the intense camaraderie of the battlefield. In the same time period, Lanford, the indentured manservant, becomes a free man, an entrepreneur, a proud gay husband.

"Battle Hymn" encompasses all the battlefields of the 20th century (the bloody wars, civil rights, women's rights, voting rights, gay rights, economic ups and downs) in all their clamorous ferocity. There are polemics, profundity, irony and humor in their playing out, sapping the audience's energy as well as the cast's. But well worth sitting through.

Director John Langs keeps his superb cast moving at a pace that overcomes the weight of a few scenes that might otherwise drag, and costume designer Dianne K. Graebner has them changing from one complicated and elaborate costume to the next in the twinkling of an eye.

She makes this cast of five seem like 100 and adds a breathless component to the action.

An original score by Michael A. Levine, sound design by Cricket Myers, lighting by Brian Sidney Bembridge and background projection design by Jason Thompson all contribute to the overall epic sweep of this magical saga.

The world premiere of "Battle Hymn" is being presented Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Feb. 21 at (Inside) the Ford, at 2580 Cahuenga Blvd., in Hollywood. Call (323) 461-3673 for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 56°

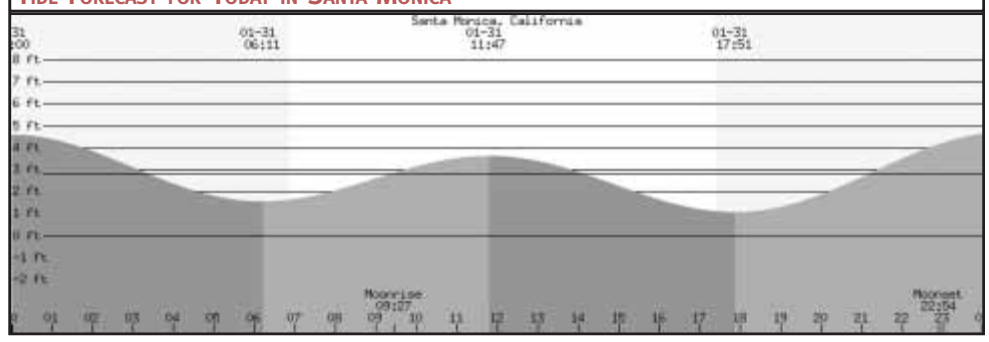
Swell Forecast (1-2 FT)

Saturday the 31st may be flat. No significant swell energy is expected. Sunday the 1st is also looking awfully small right now.

Long Range Synopsis

Monday the 2nd isn't looking any better, perhaps knee to maybe waist high at west facing breaks, ankle to knee high at south facing breaks.

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 27, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 29
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / 12

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

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

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

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

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.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Bride Wars (PG) 1hr 30min
11:00am, 1:15, 3:25, 5:50, 8:00, 10:15

Yes Man (PG-13) 1hr 44min
10:05

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

Inkheart (PG) 1hr 46min
11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30

Notorious (R)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

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

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2hrs 48min
11:10am, 2:45, 6:20, 9:55

My Bloody Valentine 3D (R) 1hr 41min
11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15

New in Town (PG) 1hr 36min
11:00am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25

The Uninvited (PG-13) 1hr 27min
11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:35

Defiance (R) 2hrs 17min
11:40am, 3:10, 6:35, 9:45

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
10:50am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (R) 1hr 32min
11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

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

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

Doubt (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

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

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

Betrayal (Nerakhoon), The (NR) 1hr 36min
11:00am

Man on Wire (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:00am

Trouble the Water (NR) 1hr 36min
11:00am

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

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

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

Taken (PG-13) 1hr 33min
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 12:00am

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

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

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

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

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

Where the action is, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You go full steam ahead. Determine your plans, because you aren't about to drop this level of energy. Charisma abounds. A misunderstanding occurs, though it might take patience to clear the air. Tonight: In the center of the action.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Take your time if you'd like. Others don't seem to care if you act out the lazy Bull routine – sniff the flowers; share some news; lounge around. Everyone needs a lazy day – you included. Tonight: Vanish, and you'll add mystery. Is that so bad?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
HHHHH Where your friends are is where you want to be. Certainly surround yourself with people right now. Go off to a game, movie and a meal. A party can erupt at any given moment with you around. Tonight: Where the action is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ A must appearance makes all the difference. A parent, boss or older friend or relative appreciates your attention and caring. Why not invite this person for a day outing, if not today, then real soon? Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for others. You might be surprised by news. Planning a trip in the near future could be just what the doctor ordered. In fact, you might be very surprised at what comes down your path. Tonight: Follow the music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Everyone seems to want you at the same time. How do you handle that type of popularity? Clearly someone will not be content without your exclusive attention. Talks could be confusing and difficult, but you'll get answers. Tonight: Evaluate what is happening in a key relationship.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Defer to others and listen. Confusion surrounds your domestic life. The way a situation looks right now is not necessarily the way it will be when it's resolved. Be patient and listen. Tonight: Where the action is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Get in some exercise, even if it is only a walk around the block. You might find that letting go of some stress proves to be helpful and rewarding. Listen to someone's thoughts, knowing they might be rigid or distorted. Tonight: Choose easy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are fiery and energetic. Others admire your get-up-and-go. Get into a favorite sport or pastime with or without a friend. You naturally meet people with your high energy and drive. Tonight: Fun and games ... and nothing less.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Stress mounts, even if you deny its existence. How you deal with this tension makes a big difference in your wellbeing. Get into a physical project, be it cleaning, racquetball or chasing the family pet. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You say a lot, and others listen. But there could be mixed messages, so confirm what you thought you said and what you thought you heard from the other party. Caution could prevent a problem. Tonight: Talk up a storm.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Treat yourself well, and go off and splurge. Invite a friend or partner along for the ride. How you see a situation develop could change. Verify and confirm meetings and messages. Don't stand on ceremony. Tonight: Relax, and others will relax with you.

Happy birthday

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

You will make a big difference in others' lives this year. Often, a whirlwind of confusion could surround you when seeking out answers and trying to get to the bottom of issues. People might be drawn to you, but at the same time confused by your words. The mantra "clarify and confirm" needs to become a habit in order to make the year flow more easily. If you are single, you'll meet a lot of new people, but don't commit too quickly – OK? If you are attached, you discover what a banner year you can have when you both agree to disagree. The banter will be continual. ARIES always adds zip and fun.

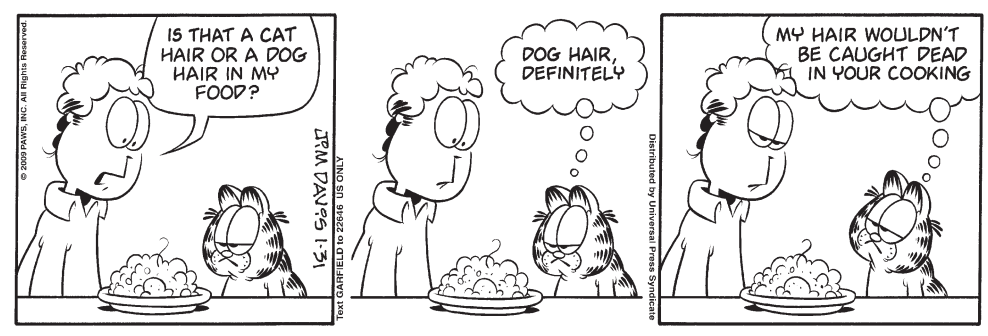
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



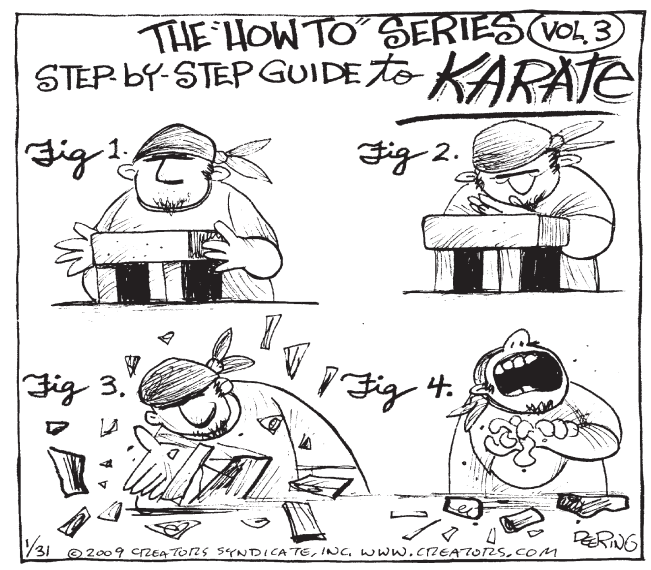
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Raised
5 Writer P.D.
10 Bowling button
12 Singularly
13 Bisected
14 Out of style
15 Greek letter
16 Low digit
18 Golf goal
19 Wealthy backer
21 Miseries
22 Rules for walkers
24 Take the wrong way?
25 "Deacon Blues" band
29 Influence
30 Engaged in riot crimes
32 Cribbage need
33 Debtor's letters
34 Tint
35 Heart, for one
37 Rose hazard
39 Blatant
40 "Graceland" singer
41 Brought about
42 Disavow

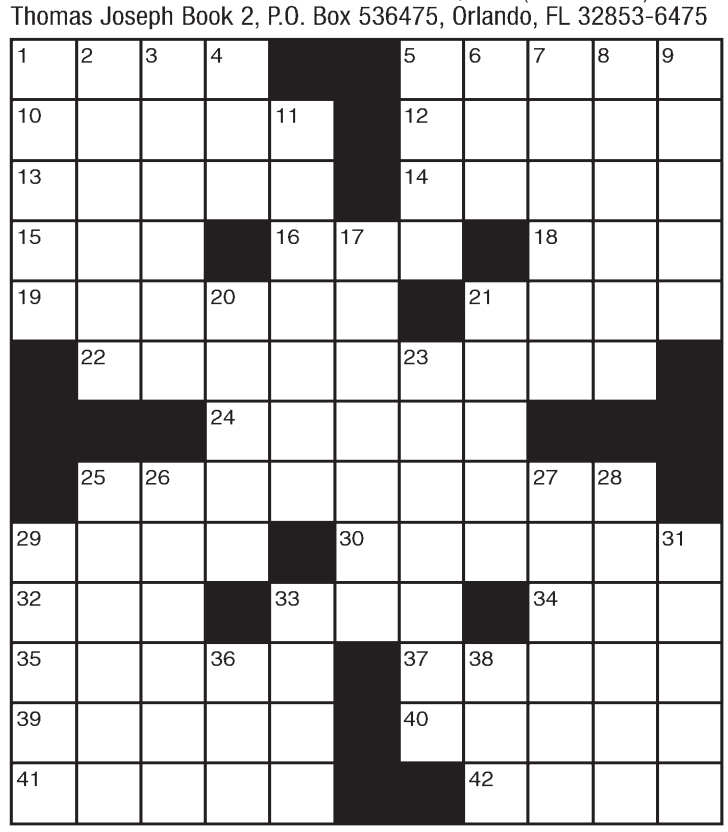
DOWN

1 Short
2 Tourist's car
3 Will topic
4 Drops on the lawn
5 Practical joke
6 According to
7 Kremlin setting
8 Follows
9 Oozes
11 One way to season
17 Desdemona's husband
20 Batter of verse
21 Fellow found in kids' books
23 Floor plans
25 Turn suddenly
26 Put a price on
27 In
28 Impulse relayer
29 Thread buy
31 Pitcher McLain
33 Wild about
36 Knack
38 Stashed

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

Yesterday's answer

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



1-31

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 13 16 19 53 55
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: $40M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 8 13 21 26 41
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: $66M

Fantasy 5: 5 15 25 31 32

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 9 0 0
EVENING: 7 8 4

DAILY DERBY
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.44.34

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

■ Photographer Yeon Lee's exhibit in a London gallery in December featured a burqa-clad model, fully robed from head to toe except for a tiny opening, but that opening was not the typical one, for the woman's eyes. Ms. Lee's openings exposed only the model's nipples, highlighting, she said, "the ways women are categorized in male-dominated societies."

■ Family Knows Best: (1) Evelyn Poynter, 86, had refused for months to leave her apartment in Pittsburgh and move in with her sister, Laura Stewart, 72, who had offered to take care of her. In December, according to police, a fed-up Stewart forcibly wrapped Poynter's arms, legs, neck and body in duct tape, tossed her in the back seat, and drove her home to Shaker Heights, Ohio. "There was nothing sinister," said Stewart's daughter, but still, Stewart was arrested. (2) In October, police in Elgin, Ill., said they were investigating an accusation that after a 13-year-old boy and girl broke off their relationship, the girl's mother ordered the boy to reconcile with her daughter by threatening to release nude photos of him that her daughter had taken.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1929 revolutionary Leon Trotsky and his family were expelled from the Soviet Union.

1944 during World War II, U.S. forces began a successful invasion of Kwajalein Atoll and other parts of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands.

1945 Pvt. Eddie Slovik, 24, became the first U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion as he was shot by an American firing squad in France.

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

1971 astronauts Alan Shepard Jr., Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

2000 an Alaska Airlines jet plummeted into the Pacific Ocean, killing all 88 people aboard.

WORD UP!

bemoan \bi-MOHN\, *verb*: to moan about or weep for; mourn

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Employment

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

GROOMER/KENNEL TECHNICIAN for a Veterinarian office, experience needed e-mail resume animedctr@hotmail.com (310)575-5656

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

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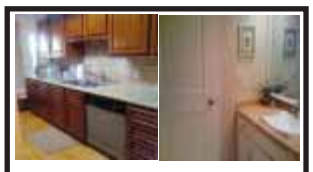
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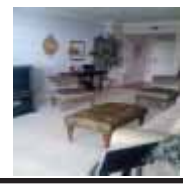
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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20082226924 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as STARBRITE SALES CORP, 6336 S. RIMPAU BLVD., LA, CA 90043, COUNTY OF LA. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : STARBRITE SALES CORP, 6336 S. RIMPAU BLVD., LA, CA 90043, (CA) This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact busi-

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ness under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: STARBRITE SALES CORP, PRESIDENT, JEROME GARDINER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/18/2008. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 1/17/2009, 1/24/2009, 1/31/2009, 2/7/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20082219918 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LAND LOCD, EVIL GORGEOUS, 336 RENNIE AVENUE, UNIT A, VENICE, CA 90291, COUNTY OF LA. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JESSICA E. TUCKER, 336 RENNIE AVENUE, UNIT A, VENICE, CA 90291; BROCK MAYEUX, 336 RENNIE AVENUE, UNIT A, VENICE, CA 90291 This Business is being conducted by, husband and wife. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)12/1/2008. /s/: JESSICA TUCKER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/17/2008. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 1/17/2009, 1/24/2009, 1/31/2009, 2/7/2009

A drunk driver ruined something precious. Amber Apodaca.

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Photo by Michael Mazzeo

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Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$750,000	$1,995,000
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