

**FREE**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2004

Volume 3, Issue 76

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## LOTTO

### SUPER LOTTO PLUS

7-24-9-35-12

Megamember: 12

Jackpot: \$7 million

### FANTASY 5

6, 29, 14, 17, 2

### DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 8, 8, 4

Evening picks: 1, 4, 5

### DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 04, Big Ben

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:48.12



## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

German and Swiss engineers, finally connecting their respective parts of the new Upper Rhine Bridge in Laufenberg, Germany, discovered that one half had been built 54 cm lower than the other, requiring massive reconstruction. And a 16-year-old boy, after holding a week-long series of parties while his father and stepmother were away, and seeing the damage done to the \$380,000 house, burned it down to hide the destruction, according to police (Cincinnati, Ohio).



## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"That's just the nature of democracy. Sometimes pure politics enters into the rhetoric."

— George W. Bush  
Crawford, Texas, Aug. 8, 2003



## INDEX



## Horoscopes

Taurus, pace yourself .....2



## Local

Teaching SM to pray .....3



## Opinion

Cheney in 2008? .....4



## National

2002 riot questioned .....8



## People

Gibson promotes "Passion" .....16

## 'Kucitizens' unite



John Wood/Daily Press

Zack Beatty, left, and Susan Nowak carry a banner in support of democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich on the Third Street Promenade Saturday. "Kucitizens" hung banners throughout the city over the weekend in a variety of places, including the Santa Monica Pier and bike path.

## Officials discuss ways to take the keys away from grandma

Sen. Sheila Kuehl hosts panel discussion in SM

BY JAMIE WETHERBE

Special to the Daily Press

**DOWNTOWN** — Last summer's Farmers' Market tragedy has prompted officials to think about how to better regulate senior citizens' driving privileges.

Sen. Sheila Kuehl hosted a roundtable discussion in Santa Monica on Friday in an effort to bring the issue of unsafe drivers to the forefront. Legislative changes, personal responsibility and frequent testing by the Department of Motor Vehicles were some of the issues discussed.

"We're not going to come to a conclusion today," Kuehl said, adding that she wants to explore ways to identify drivers of any age with physical, mental or visual impairments and get them off the road.

As California's senior population is expected to double in the next 15 years, officials said it's even more important than ever to find ways to take the keys away from unsafe drivers.

For the panelists and about 50 audience members, the issue is a personal one —

**"We're not going to come to a conclusion today."**

— SHEILA KUEHL  
Senator

some worried their independence and licenses would be revoked unfairly, and others worried about their senior parents on the road.

Kuehl questioned her own driving ability as she ages. "I'm going to be 63 on Monday," she said.

Mark Mitock, whose teenage daughter was killed five years ago in a crosswalk by a 96-year-old driver, was one of the 15 panelists.

"For (the discussion) to be real, a victim needed to be here," he said.

Mitock has campaigned to get unsafe

See TRANSPORTATION, page 5

## Builders ready to open checkbooks for better service

City Hall is understaffed, they say

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

Builders in Santa Monica want better customer service in City Hall and are willing to pay for it — whatever the cost.

Developers, architects and officials from the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce said the lack of competent and trained building inspectors is killing their businesses.

"I want to pay more taxes and permit fees," Craig Jones, one of largest developers in Santa Monica, recently told the City Council. "We need to properly staff the building and safety department."

City Hall's planning department has been under heavy scrutiny in the past several months — with criticism from the building community that the process is overly bureaucratic. But a new report reveals that the real problem is the department is seriously understaffed — a notion that planning director Suzanne Frick acknowledges.

The chamber recently conducted its own audit of the planning department through two different methods. One was an analysis that measured how Santa Monica compares to other cities — which proved to be woefully inadequate. The other was an in-depth review of the process by confidentially interviewing architects and builders, the primary users of the department.

What they found was that City Hall is severely understaffed and should hire at least 14 more people — from plan checkers to building inspectors. And because cities have legal authority to charge fees for both plan checks and building inspections to ensure proper service, chamber officials conclude there is no reason for the continuing problems developers face on a daily basis.

"Because of this, there is simply no excuse for the slow, shoddy service which has become more

See STAFF, page 6

## Redefining remodeling in SM

BY JOHN WOOD

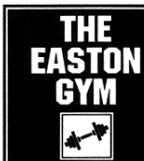
Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITY HALL** — In a city that's almost entirely built out and a state that rewards long-time property owners with hefty tax breaks, many residents and businesses choose to remodel — when they can.

But in Santa Monica, simple projects can often take months, if not years, to be approved. Plus, they can be expensive, due largely to a complex web of laws and planning codes that govern developments.

With these concerns in mind, the Planning Commission held a special workshop last week to gather public input and discuss how the process can be simplified. They recommended relaxing the laws governing

See DEFINE, page 7



## Easton Gym - Santa Monica

1233 Third Street Promenade

Santa Monica, CA 90401

310 395 4441

Easton Gym is your neighborhood gym.

COMPLETE FITNESS FACILITY • FREE PARKING

**Acadie**  
HAND CRAFTED FRENCH CREPES

◆ CREPES ◆ COFFEE ◆ SOUPS ◆ SALADS ◆

213 Arizona Ave. Off The 3rd Street Promenade Tel: (310) 395-1120

BRING THIS AD TO  
RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT

**BACK OR UNFILED TAXES?**

ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES

**SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA**  
(310) 395-9922  
429 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste. 710  
Santa Monica 90401

# Merger Proof

In this era of bank mergers, isn't it nice to know First Bank will **never** be sold? This means we are free to do what a bank should be doing – devoting all our energy to providing you with superior customer service and premium products.

Simply put, First Bank is Not For Sale.  
And that's more than a promise, it's a guarantee.



**Westside Office**  
11835 W. Olympic Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
310-473-8080



## AWARD WINNING BEER SELECTION

29 Beers on Draught

HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM Monday thru Friday

**\$5.99 Burger Monday!!!**

Your choice of:

Ahi • Salmon • Boca  
Garden • Turkey • Beef

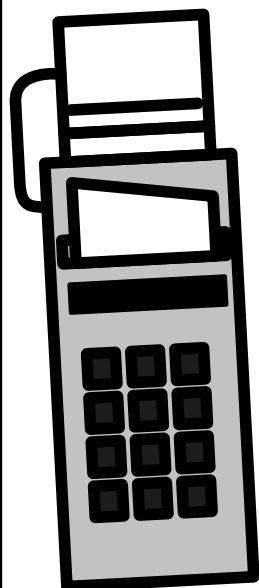
PLAN YOUR NEXT PARTY  
ON THE PATIO

2911 Main Street • Santa Monica • 11:30am - Midnight Mon-Sun  
Telephone 310.314.4855 • www.libraryalehouse.com

# SOLUTIONS

**SMALL BUSINESS CONSULTING  
TAXES • TAX AUDITS  
PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING  
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING**

**SAMUEL MOSES HELPS LET YOU  
UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUATION AND EXPLAIN  
IT IN REAL WORLD TERMS**



**TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR  
FINANCIAL SITUATION**

**AUDITS • BACK TAXES  
BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS**

**SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA  
(310) 395-9922**

**429 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste. 710  
Santa Monica 90401**



## HOROSCOPE

The Daily Horoscope is proudly sponsored by:



**THE COUNTER**  
BUILDING A BETTER BURGER

HOURS: M-TH:11AM-10PM FRI-SAT:11AM-11PM SUN:12PM-9PM  
2901 Ocean Park Blvd in Santa Monica • 310.399.8383

## Where your friends are, Sag



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)**

★★★★ Extremes are likely. If you're not in the mood to work, make it OK, rather than getting annoyed or angry at yourself or others. A brainstorming, solution-finding session will do more good than you can imagine. Tonight: Accept an invitation.



**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot of ground to cover, and you just might not feel like it. A comment could motivate you, especially if you don't like what is said. Be direct in your dealings, and don't get into a problem with a boss. Tonight: Work late.



**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★★★ You might feel pushed to perform, or at least to do someone else's bidding. Though you might grumble at first, consider how invaluable you are. You might be overly tired of financial matters. Take charge. Tonight: So what if it is Monday?



**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Sit back and listen. Everyone doesn't have to agree with you. Your fiery nature comes out, though later you could be sorry for words you said. Hold back rather than springing forth with ideas. Another person wants to dote on you. Tonight: Happy at home.



**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★★★ Think carefully before accepting a seemingly irresistible invitation. What are the implications of this? Sharp words are likely from someone in charge. Discussions are helpful and allow a common opinion. Tonight: Don't make it too late.



**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★ Deal with finances head-on. While you might have difficulty coming to an agreement with a child or loved one, you gain a deeper understanding. Aim for more of what you want in a specific area. Avoid scattering left and right. Tonight: Where your friends are.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★★ Your well-meaning ways could trigger a boss, as well as a partner. A little flirtation and nurturing could go a long way toward making peace. Sometimes you need a timeout from others. If that is the case, take off and/or close your door. Tonight: Whatever keeps the balance.



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★ Step back, especially as everyone seems feisty and cantankerous. Visualize more of what you want from a child or loved one, though right now might not be the best time to discuss this issue. Take your time with this matter. Tonight: Get some zzz's.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★★ Keep your focus, despite someone's interference. Clearly, a partner has a different point of view from you. A discussion can help ease the tension, but not eliminate it. Your fiery ways help others understand that you cannot be played with. Tonight: Where your friends are.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★ All eyes turn to you, yet when you have a suggestion, you could be baffled by someone's reaction. You might feel that you cannot win for losing. Avoid taking a risk, but be willing to talk. Right now, taking no action might be best. Tonight: Stay calm.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★★★ Read between the lines when a partner loses his or her temper. You might not be comfortable with this person, but you do need to deal with him or her. Avoid a similar reaction through self-discipline and detachment. Tonight: Stay in your head.



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ You might want to discuss a problem, whereas another person could be on the warpath. Work with someone closely, understanding the limits within a situation. You cannot force an issue to go your way. Tonight: Togetherness counts.

## Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday  
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913  
1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

### PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa .....ross@smdp.com

### EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason .....sack@smdp.com

### STAFF WRITER

John Wood .....wood@smdp.com

### CHILD DEVELOPMENT COLUMNIST

Margie Altman .....margiealtman@yahoo.com

### ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Piubeni .....rob@smdp.com

### ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Steve Averill .....steve@smdp.com

### ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker .....schwenker@smdp.com

### PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana .....del@smdp.com

### PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II .....alex@smdp.com

### ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Heather Rich .....heather@smdp.com

### CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Mitch Troy .....mitch@smdp.com

### CIRCULATION MANAGER

Robert DeAmicis .....robert@smdp.com

### CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt .....keith@smdp.com

### CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan .....glenn@smdp.com

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth .....dave@smdp.com

### MASCOT

Maya Furukawa .....maya@smdp.com

## LOCAL



### Fenced



Ross Furukawa/Daily Press

Los Angeles Police responded to a car accident on Sunday at Centinela Avenue and Broadway. An unidentified driver was heading east, jumped a curb and landed in a person's front yard.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### SM can pray on V-day

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica church is offering a workshop on how to pray. "Talking, Listening, Walking" will cover four types of prayer: breath, centering, lectio divina and body prayer/labyrinth walk.

The free event will be held on Feb. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fireside room of the First United Methodist Church, 1008 11th St. — two blocks north of Wilshire Boulevard.

For more information or to register, contact Mary Garbesi in the church office at (310) 393-8258.

### Movin' on up

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica "skyscraper" will move on up to a building competition in Canada. Wilshire Tower last month won the "Building Owners and Managers Association Western Region Building of the Year Award" for its category — its third award of the season.

The tower, located at 2811 Wilshire Blvd., in June will move on to compete in the association's international competition in Toronto.

Wilshire Tower began its winning streak last summer when the Environmental Protection Agency honored it with the EPA Energy Star Award, which recognizes corporate buildings that exceed the EPA requirements for energy conservation. The tower proved its efficiency by lowering its energy usage while maintaining indoor air quality, comfortable interior temperatures and light levels, company officials said.

The association last year also awarded Wilshire Tower the title of "Best Building under 100,000 Square Feet in Los Angeles County," an honor given to buildings that operate at the highest standards and contribute to the community.

General manager Neal Perkey works closely with the Santa Monica Police Department to keep his tenants and the community conscious of safety issues in the area.

## surf report

A reinforcing NW wind and ground swell pulse came up on Sunday to keep the surf small, but rideable. Many areas were in the knee-waist high range, while standout NW breaks of Ventura and a few other select regions pulled in some shoulder high and occasionally bigger sets. Look for smaller surf to be on tap for Monday and Tuesday, with a modest NW swell building on Wednesday and into Thursday. Stronger NW swell is possible by next weekend.

Write us at [wood@smdp.com](mailto:wood@smdp.com) and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break. Epic.

Today the water is:

57°



### LOW TIDES

### HIGH TIDES

|           | LOW ONE | LOW TWO | HIGH ONE | HIGH TWO |
|-----------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| SATURDAY  | 3:05 AM | 4:08 PM | 9:15 AM  | 10:37 PM |
| SUNDAY    | 3:45 AM | 4:36 PM | 9:48 AM  | 11:02 PM |
| MONDAY    | 4:30 AM | 5:08 PM | 10:28 AM | 11:37 PM |
| TUESDAY   | 5:23 AM | 5:38 PM | 11:14 AM | N/A      |
| WEDNESDAY | 6:30 AM | 6:06 PM | 12:15 AM | 12:15 PM |
| THURSDAY  | 8:03 AM | 6:48 PM | 12:59 AM | 1:47 PM  |
| FRIDAY    | 9:43 AM | 7:45 PM | 1:54 AM  | 4:15 PM  |

The Surf Report is sponsored by:

Today's Special:

Roast Beef Sandwich

\$8 tax included

includes:  
Pickles or coleslaw,  
french fries or salad  
and drink



Store Hours:

Open  
Daily from  
11 a.m. to  
10 p.m.

119 Broadway, Santa Monica  
310.394.0100

## The Q Line

The national unemployment rate has dropped to 5.6 percent — the lowest level in two years. But with only 2 million jobs created since he took office, President George Bush has the worst job creation record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

But the economy as a whole appears to be climbing back up. However, municipalities are still struggling — including Santa Monica, which faces a \$4 million deficit next year. And the local school district faces \$3.5 million budget shortfall for the upcoming school year. Many of our woes are because of the state's multi-billion dollar deficit, which doesn't appear to be as easily solved as our new

governor once thought. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed state budget would take more money away from local municipalities and school districts.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "What should be done to solve our local economic crisis?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Saturday's paper (responses used to be printed on Friday but have been moved to Saturday). Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



Since 1967  
Quality & Value Always!

Open 6am - 2:30pm Mon. - Fri.  
6am - 4pm Sat. - Sun.

310-399-7892

2732 Main St.  
Santa Monica

HEALTHY  
HEARTS  
EAT HERE!

## Design a Party with a Slice!

Specializing in Event Catering, Office Parties and Birthdays

"A slice of NY in your own backyard."

— Anthony Dias Blue  
Bon Appetit Lifestyle

Lunch/Office Delivery

915 Wilshire Blvd. • 310.451.SLICE (7542)  
1622 Ocean Park Blvd. • 310.399.4060





## OPINION

# LETTERS

### JFK for president?

Editor:

Your Thursday columnist, Ron Scott Smith, said that media wise guys predict that vice president Dick Cheney is likely to be the Republican candidate for president in '08 (SMDP, Feb. 5, page 4). A frightening thought, although if Cheney is up for the top job, competition for the vice presidency should rival that of the current Democratic race for president, given his well known health problems. Still in 2008, the incumbent president JFK, should win in a landslide.

Joanne Gamlin  
Santa Monica

### Separating fact from fiction

Editor:

Although I must confess to being flattered just to be listed as one of Santa Monica's leaders (a bit of a stretch), I feel I must take issue with Mr. Bauer's line of reasoning in insisting that I was rewriting history (SMDP, Feb. 6, page 4).

Fact: Peter (Tigler) and Don (Gray) were very active and very effective as Pico Neighborhood Association leaders on issues such as graffiti, green space and traffic flow. I can only hope that I am even half as effective as they were.

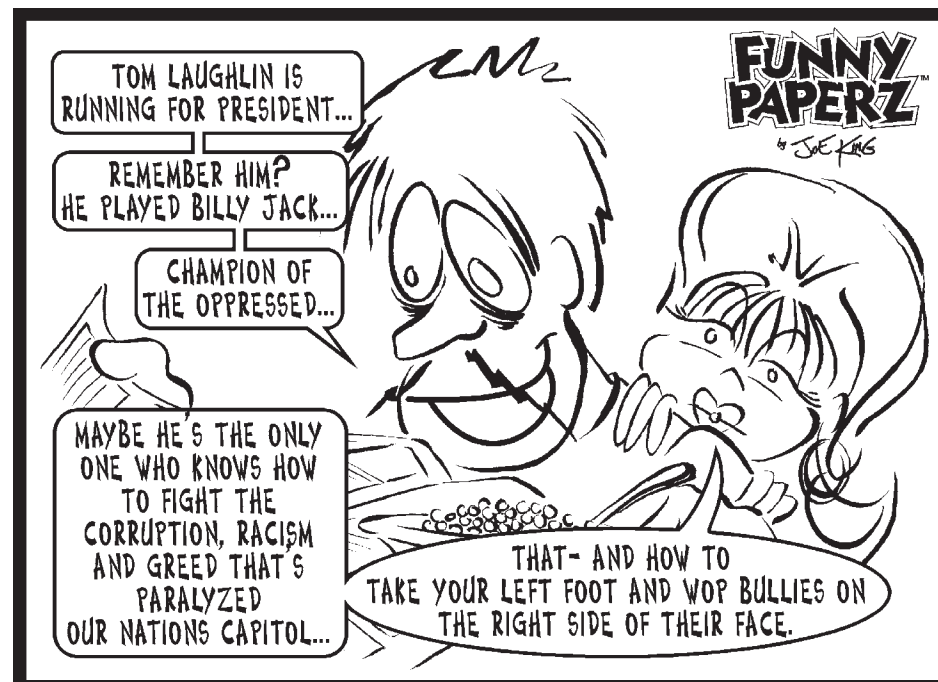
However, that does not change the fact that they also moonlighted as anti-education radicals, campaigning against any school funding issue that did not meet with their personal litmus test.

Fact: The neighborhoods within PNA voted in higher percentages for both school funding measures than did any other neighborhood group in the city — nearly 80 percent. Therefore, on that issue Don and Peter were out of touch with their constituency.

The folks that showed up that morning and cast their votes were acting within the bylaws of PNA. Those that I spoke to expressed a strong sense of commitment to public schools in general and their neighborhood schools in particular. I do not remember running into Mr. Bauer that day, so I'm not sure what exactly his source of information on this issue is.

And since when is a person's sense of justice, social or otherwise — to be questioned by those who do not know them? Mr. Bauer appears to sit pretty much up on high and cast judgments off as casually as parking tickets. Get to know people first hand before judging them, Bill, if you must judge them at all.

Marc Sanschagrin  
PNA Board rookie



Member: AAEC, NCS, SCCS

© 2004 WWW.FUNNYPAPERZ.COM

### Make the pier a smoke-free zone

Editor:

The City Council is to be commended and congratulated on taking action to direct city staff to draft an ordinance banning smoking on public beaches and the Santa Monica Pier — an important and critical step.

I had the pleasure and honor of testifying before the Council in support of smoke free parks.

The Council is now looking to the Pier Restoration Corp., whose mission is to manage and preserve the pier, to take a position, make a recommendation to the Council, and take action given the existing Council action.

As a resident of Santa Monica and a longtime healthcare advocate, I urge the PRC Board of Directors to take a position and action which will result in a smoke free pier and health protection for the citizens in our community.

Robert Donin  
Santa Monica

*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 sack@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.*

# Life's sharp edges sometimes become missed opportunities



My best friend at 7 years old was Callie. She loved Madonna as much as I did, and our greatest joy was spending countless hours dancing around my basement and learning all the words to "Material Girl" before falling asleep still wearing hot pink Spandex. Once in a while, during recess or a game of truth-or-dare, she would tell me secrets about her home life, which I only later realized were very private and troublesome. The details are not mine to divulge, but I promise the shape of her life had sharp edges. And I didn't realize how much strength it would take for her to grow up in that shape, amongst those edges, until very recently.

When we're kids, our reason for making friends is simple: We like. We don't judge otherwise. You might be from dif-

ferent neighborhoods, and you might some day turn out to be entirely different people with different paths, but at 7 years old, without the world eager to define you, you are given the space to be best friends with anyone. Callie and I might have been night and day, but at 7, we were best friends.

Still, as simply as we drifted together, and in spite of our promise to marry twins, buy houses on the same street and live happily ever after, by age 13, we'd drifted apart. We moved to different junior high schools. There was no falling out, no fight over a boy or backstabbing involved. We just drifted.

I later thought we stayed apart because we had nothing in common anymore. I'd hear reports on how Callie was doing throughout high school from a mutual friend of ours: At age 16, I heard she was working at some fast food joint, and I felt sorry for her. Later, I learned she was into drugs and assumed that unlike the experimental type, her usage was indicative of someone who just didn't have it together. And when she dropped out of high school, not only was I not surprised — she always was pretty distractible — I never bothered to find out why.

These pieces of information about her flitted in one ear and out another. They moved through my thoughts only long enough to pass judgment on them.

So when I thought of her in passing, I thought of an irresponsible, immature, flippant, though sadly well-intentioned girl whose mistakes were somehow more tragic than my own. I saw her as something distant, and myself as better off for it. Years passed.

Last weekend, I went to the mutual friend's baby shower. I'd known that Callie would be there though I thought little of it. Her presence at the party would be inconsequential as it had been in general for years. But when I stepped out onto the gift-lined patio there sat a radiant red head, smiling, and with no hesitation we hugged the longest, most unexpected hug, and I then I just watched her. I watched her — watched her talk to other guests, laugh with her mom, and be supportive of the friend we were there to celebrate. Callie was the most calm, collected person there. She was gracious, elegant, even wise.

Callie and I talked, not much about what had been, but quite a lot about what was: Her soon-to-come baby, her job at the coffee house, and the man she's loved

for four years.

I thought of the small pieces of information I'd let define my image of her, and it occurred to me then that if you randomly selected sour pieces of information about my life, you could paint a very bleak picture of who I've been as well. It also occurred to me that there were secrets I could have shared, not early enough for recess or truth-or-dare, but later on, about why life was hard for me, too.

Who knew how she turned out that way. Who knew what kind of a struggle softened her life's sharp edges. I knew none of this. I hadn't been watching.

But I wish I had been. I think back on the years in between 7 years old and now and I wish I could have been there to see how she went through things. The exact way in which she threw up her middle finger when life gave her a shit hand. I could have shared something.

I could have learned something big.

(Caroline Bodkin lives in Los Angeles and wonders daily if she'll miss her calling. You can e-mail her at [hiptobesquarebybodkin@yahoo.com](mailto:hiptobesquarebybodkin@yahoo.com)).

## LOCAL



# Public transportation not enough for seniors who don't drive

TRANSPORTATION, from page 1  
drivers off the road.

"What happened in the Farmers' Market was really a slaughter," he said. "(Russell) Weller's car stopped only by the flesh underneath it."

Weller on July 16, 2003, sped through a crowded downtown Farmers' Market. His car killed 10 people and injured 63. He is currently being prosecuted for 10 counts of felony vehicular manslaughter. His defense is that it was a tragic accident — he hit the accelerator instead of the brake.

California currently has no driving age limit. Drivers older than 70 years old can no longer renew their licenses via mail but must head to the DMV where they might be subject to a written test or eye exam.

"At a certain age people need a closer look," said Beverly Hills Councilwoman

Linda Briskman, who said she's concerned that her 92-year-old father recently renewed his license without doing anything more than waiting in line.

California is undergoing changes to roadway design to make driving safer, including more visible signs and stop lights. Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom suggested existing driving classes should be better publicized.

A tiered driver assessment system is being evaluated by the California DMV. Although the exact structure is still unknown, evaluations could include sensitivity, eye and computer tests or a road test. Those who fail could have their licenses revoked or restricted.

But in auto-centric Los Angeles, getting around without a car might not be easy.

Most seniors live in rural or suburban areas with the least amount of public transit, and cities don't have the funds to

accommodate seniors if they start losing their licenses, officials said.

DMV officials worry that setting an arbitrary age to test people for license renewals could be overwhelming and a waste of resources.

And "old" doesn't necessarily mean "bad" when it comes to driving.

Collision rates prior to 80 years old are better than those in the 15- to 29-year-old bracket, according to a report prepared by Older Californian Traffic Safety Task Force, Policy and Legislation Workgroup.

But after age 80, crash rates begin to increase and those over 65 have more fatal collisions, the report said.

About 5 to 7 percent of those over 65 suffer from dementia — which deteriorates the brain, "the single most important organ needed to drive," said Dr. Jaime Fitten, a professor of psychiatry at the University of California at Los Angeles.

For those over 85, those affected by dementia increases to one in four, Fitten said.

Many older drivers will self-regulate — giving up night or freeway driving to compensate for any impairments they might have, officials said. But people with severe dementia can't recognize their own limitations, Fitten said.

Police and medical panelists also requested that family, friends and the community be able to report unsafe drivers to the DMV for reevaluation.

Other states have laws in place that are designed to take the keys away from unsafe drivers. These range from driving restrictions to shortening time between renewals.

Illinois requires everyone over 75 years old to take a road test, the report said. And Missouri law makes it easier for family, police and doctors to confidentially report people they believe are unsafe drivers.

**PEBBLES**  
BOUTIQUE

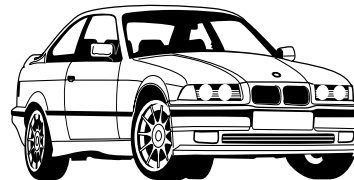
Main Street's  
Newest and  
Hottest Boutique

Clothes!  
Gifts!  
Collectibles!

2400 Main Street, Santa Monica  
310.314.6472

## GERMAN CAR SERVICE

Specialist in Repair of **Porsche • VW • Audi • BMW**



- Best alternative to high dealer prices
- Complete service and repair
- All work guaranteed
- Locally owned and operated since 1965

2202 OLYMPIC BLVD., SANTA MONICA • (310) 829-2563

Serving OCEAN PARK and nearby beach communities



**Monte Hartman**  
Real Estate Services



**oceanparkhomes.com** (310) 448-5968



## Incontinent?

If you're a woman 18 or older with urinary incontinence (A medical condition where urine leaks with exercising, coughing or any other sudden movement or urine leaks easily with a strong urge to urinate) you may be eligible to participate in a research study.

For more information call: (310)-829-1317

Pacific Clinical Research • 2021 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 510E  
Santa Monica, CA 90404



It's always raining  
somewhere.



"Expect the unexpected" is the traveler's motto, so of course we **always** have a wide selection of umbrellas and rain gear in stock, no matter what the weather.

**Magellan's**

AMERICA'S LEADING SOURCE OF TRAVEL SUPPLIES

1006 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica

At Wilshire & 10th, ten blocks up from the beach.

Open Monday ~ Saturday from 10 to 6. Sunday 11 to 4.

**www.magellans.com**



# Britannia Pub

A Great Place To Anchor

Great Food... Great Cocktails... Great Crew... GREAT FUN!!



English Premier Soccer League • All NFL Games "Always Live"

Full Bar • Restaurant • Live Music  
International Sporting Event • Heated Patio

Try our NEW low carb menu!

Open Daily @ 9:00 a.m.

**KARAOKE! Tuesday, Thursday,  
Saturday & Sundays • No Cover**

**Join us for  
SUPERBOWL  
SUNDAY!**

318 Santa Monica Blvd. • Santa Monica  
310-458-5350 • [www.britanniapub.com](http://www.britanniapub.com)

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

## THE TOOLS OF BUSINESS SUCCESS - A FORUM

presents

**Saturday,  
March 27, 2004  
8a.m. and 1p.m.**

**Key note speaker: Beate Chelette  
President of BeateWorks**

featuring panels on:  
**Marketing/PR • Finances • Worksource Issues**

\$20 per person. Includes refreshments.  
Bring a guest and they pay only \$10!

Call us for more information

**SBDC**

3233-C Donald Douglas Loop South  
Santa Monica, CA 90405

310.398.8883  
[www.vedc.org](http://www.vedc.org)



## LOCAL

# Chamber suggesting changes for City Hall

STAFF, from page 1

the rule than the exception in Santa Monica," states a chamber report given to the Council last month. "Project applicants would be willing to pay for quality service because the cost of slow, poor-quality service is far greater than the true cost of paying for enough qualified staff."

Jones, who heads JSM Builders and is the developer of numerous projects throughout the city, said the worker shortage in City Hall unnecessarily causes him excessive and costly delays.

"Inspectors are overworked and at their wit's end," Jones said. "It's prolonging construction projects by more than a third. What should take 18 months takes two years."

Council members acknowledged Jones' and others' frustrations. They will direct staff members to pursue what kind of fee hikes would be necessary to provide the suggested new hires. At least one of them — Councilman Herb Katz, who is an architect — believes that the city is at risk of losing new development and the resulting tax revenue that comes from it.

"People are going away because they can't operate that way, both large and small businesses," he said.

Jones also told the Council that if life becomes much more difficult here, he'll pull his business out of Santa Monica.

"You are driving us out of the city," he said. "Maybe there are people who want to drive us out, but we pay over \$1 million in school tax and over \$4 million in water fees."

In a 20-page report, the chamber made a series of recommendations that City Hall should consider. Among them:

- Hire five to seven more building inspectors, and five to seven plan checkers. Of those interviewed, the overwhelming complaint was slow turnaround — too much lag time to get appointments, too much time to complete inspections and too much time to get follow-up appointments.

- Only with adequate staff can the city realistically expect staff to process applications or inspect buildings promptly and to take the time to meet with applicants, return their phone calls and respond to inquiries in a timely fashion," the report states.

- Use common sense and be accessible. Interviewees reported that plan checkers frequently failed to return phone calls and are unavailable to meet in person, which exacerbates timing and communication problems, they say.

Builders report that City Hall requests conflicting revisions or they're too late in the process. The staff also fails to identify significant issues until very late in the process and will re-check each others'

work, which generates additional modifications. They say different staff members will apply different and conflicting interpretations of city requirements to the same project. There also is confusion as to which department made which comments, which leads to duplication and delays, builders claim. They also are frustrated when staff members refuse to honor previously approved plans, and city law "gives it nearly unfettered authority to require changes to approved plans at any point in the process."

- State appropriate turnaround policies. The city's stated goals are to complete its initial plan check review in six weeks, follow-up review within three weeks and a third review within one week. Interviewees reported that although the city sometimes makes the initial six-week deadline, it's extremely rare to receive subsequent plan check comments or approvals within the time period established, the report states.

- Make an early "one stop" meeting available for a fee. Interviewees support the idea of a formal initial meeting at the beginning of the process so applicants can sit down with representatives of various agencies within City Hall to get a preliminary "read" as to what parameters and standards apply to the project. Cities like Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and Culver City employ this practice, builders say.

- Establish performance standards. Next-day inspections are indispensable features of quality service, the report concluded. Next-day inspections are readily available in all other cities surveyed (West Hollywood, Long Beach, Los Angeles and Pasadena), according to the chamber.

- Properly train employees. Interviewees noted that inspectors frequently lack the level of expertise needed to properly inspect a project. The chamber asked the city to consider the system used in Los Angeles — where inspectors specialize in specific areas like plumbing or electrical.

- Make building inspections available on all Fridays. City Hall is closed every other Friday as a part of a statewide effort to reduce emissions by commuters. Workers there are expected to work longer hours during the weeks City Hall is closed.

"Because the city can pass the full costs of these services through to applicants, the city's overall budget situation is no excuse for poor customer service stemming from inadequate staffing," the report concludes. "The city can and should provide excellent customer service in a budget-neutral fashion."

## Tell Santa Monica what you think!

...write a letter to the editor

Email to: [sack@smdp.com](mailto:sack@smdp.com)  
or fax 310.576.9913



*Santa Monica Daily Press*

# LOCAL

## Remodel rules might be relaxed

DEFINE, from page 1

remodels, which now will be redrafted and voted on in the coming months.

"We feel it's a social benefit to the city to remodel properties and improve them, to keep existing structures through remodels, rather than tearing them down and putting up properties that in some way detract from the ... age and the ambiance of the city," Planning Commissioner Jay Johnson said.

The commission looked specifically at what constitutes a "substantial remodel," a legal distinction that carries an array of practical implications, including everything from increased bureaucracy through hearings and review, to stricter development requirements, like parking and setbacks.

In the end, the commissioners directed City Hall staffers to redraft the ordinance concerning remodels with two major changes. Both are geared to allow property owners to do more work without falling into the category of a "substantial remodel."

The first includes taking the issue of building foundations out of the complicated planning review process. Commissioners said the issue is structural and not design related, and added that architects and developers will ensure the foundations are fit for their individual projects. The second change allows people to replace whole walls in a normal remodel, so long as the new walls are in the same location and have the same configuration and style as the old walls. Previously, remodels had to retain at least 50 percent of old walls to keep from being considered substantial.

City Councilman Kevin McKeown, who acts as a liaison to the Planning Commission, said it makes sense to give residents some leeway if it means they might consider remodeling rather than demolishing their structures. He added that the change regarding allowing new walls is good for several reasons.

"We've had people count on saving walls that turned out to be still standing only because the termites were holding hands," McKeown said. "When something like that is discovered part way through a good-faith remodel, they shouldn't lose the whole house if they can put in a new wall in the exact same place that looks and works like the old one."

Wednesday's lengthy discussion also included many members of the public, some of whom spoke out on the importance of preserving Santa Monica's landmarks and other buildings of historical importance. The commission also directed staff to consider allowing proposed remodels to historic buildings go before the Landmarks Commission.

### A 'substantial remodel' ...

By Daily Press staff

Officials last week said remodeling should be easier.

To help encourage remodels in Santa Monica, the Planning Commission agreed the current laws need to be relaxed. Specifically, they discussed changing what's allowed before a remodel is considered "substantial."

Once substantial, a remodel is subject to the same codes and regulations that govern complete tear-downs and new construction. That means stricter development standards, including requirements for setbacks and parking.

But that wasn't the only reason the Planning Commission held a special workshop on the issue, commissioners said.

"Clarity is a big thing to me," said Planning Commissioner Barbara Brown. "Even if we were not going to amend this particular code section substantially, it would need to be fixed grammatically, and fixed for interior coherence and so forth. It's really pretty awful ..."

Here is the current definition: Section 9.04.02.030-825

"A substantial remodel involves the removal, in whole or part, of a structure. A structure shall be deemed to have been substantially remodeled or demolished if at least 50 percent of exterior walls have been removed or relocated for any duration of time. A substantially remodeled or demolished structure shall lose any legal, non-conforming status which it may have had and may only be replaced or rebuilt if the entire structure is made to conform to all current, applicable zoning code requirements, including, but not limited to, setbacks, height and parking.

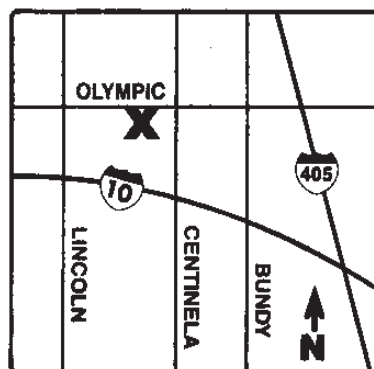
"In determining whether a project is a substantial remodel, a wall shall be deemed to be demolished if the structural supporting members (columns, two-by-fours, or other such elements) of the wall have been removed or are no longer attached to the foundation. The roof structure must also be retained unless the roof line is being modified or additional floors are being added, in which case the roof structure may be removed.

"Demolition and new construction shall mean the same as substantial remodel as defined above."

## AA OLYMPIC Self Storage

Serving Santa Monica and West L.A.

**2 Months FREE Rent  
+ FREE Lock**  
Call for details



**OPEN 7 DAYS**

**Call About  
FREE Truck  
Rental Plan**



**(310)829-2525**

**3250 OLYMPIC BLVD. • www.selfstorage.net/aaolympic**

## ALL LAKERS & KINGS GAMES \$2.50 Pints – 12 Different Beers on Tap



8 TVs • 2 Big Screens  
Pop-a-shot • 3 Pool Tables  
Authentic Philly Cheese Steaks,  
Burgers and More!

**Open Weekends @ 9am  
Breakfast Specials**  
Showing All NHL & NFL/College Games

**Happy Hour 5-7 M-F**  
\*Burger, Fries  
& Pint — \$6<sup>95</sup>

**(310) 899-0076**  
1333 Santa Monica Blvd.  
(corner of 14th and Santa Monica)  
Lunch-Time Delivery Available

### SUB SANDWICH

Buy One at Regular Price & Get the 2nd  
of equal or lesser value for **FREE!**  
With Coupon. Expires 2/28/04

let your  
voice be  
heard ...  
it's anonymous!

Check Out the Question of the Day on  
Page 3 and Call Us with Your Opinion!

**Q-Line: 310.258.8106**



Since 1993  
Available for private parties  
**14 BELOW**

Next door to  
Over/Under  
**(310) 451-5040**  
www.14below.com

### Upcoming Headliners

**FRIDAY 2/06**

Sean Pander, Strikk 9 & Mr. Precise

**SATURDAY 2/07**

El Jefe, Rising Sun & The BMC's

**SUNDAY 2/08**

Cubensis (Grateful Dead Tribute)



## STATE

# State asks federal prosecutors to probe 2002 Folsom Prison riot

BY DON THOMPSON

Associated Press Writer

**SACRAMENTO** — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has asked a federal prosecutor to probe the 2002 Folsom State Prison riot, two weeks after witnesses told state Senate committees that prison officials helped trigger the 90-second gang fight and then covered up their mishandling of the riot and its aftermath.

McGregor Scott, the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of California that includes Sacramento and neighboring Folsom, said in a statement he will consult with other agencies before deciding whether to conduct an investigation. A spokeswoman said there is no timetable for a decision.

Excluding California's massive budget deficit, the state's adult and juvenile prison system has flared as Schwarzenegger's largest and most unexpected policy crisis since he took office in November. Within the last

month the system has been criticized by a federal overseer, national experts, state Senate witnesses, all amid reports of rampant overspending.

The administration also said Friday it has ended the California Youth Authority's practice of using wire cages to contain misbehaving youths after criticism from national experts and state senators last week. Schwarzenegger, among others, found the cages "offensive," said Legal Affairs Secretary Peter Siggins.

Schwarzenegger also reversed his plan to sharply cut funding and staff for the independent Office of the Inspector General. Senators had criticized his proposal to merge the office into the same Youth and Adult Correctional Agency the inspector general is charged with overseeing.

The administration said Schwarzenegger's call for a federal probe of the Folsom riot is "unprecedented" in California.

"I don't remember a governor ever asking the federal

government to come in and review a prison. In fact I've often fought them when they've tried," Siggins said. He spent 14 years as top deputy to state Attorney General Bill Lockyer and heading the attorney general's correctional law section before joining Schwarzenegger's new administration.

Acting Department of Corrections Director Rick Rimmer told senators two weeks ago that he was temporarily reassigning the entire Folsom administration during an independent investigation of the April 2002 riot, a probe he said could involve state or federal prosecutors.

The U.S. attorney has powers such as federal civil rights laws that aren't available to state or county prosecutors, and doesn't have the potential conflicts that the state attorney general would while acting as the state's lawyer, Siggins said. Lockyer's office agreed with Schwarzenegger's request.

Folsom's warden was fired last year. Rimmer said the new investigation will probe allegations by Folsom guards that the acting warden on the day of the riot had ties to the Southern Mexicans, or Mexican Mafia, one of the two gangs involved in the brief battle.

Twenty-five inmates were wounded, one correctional officer suffered a permanent disability as he helped break up the fight, and another committed suicide after complaining about his treatment by prison officials in the riot's aftermath.

The gangs, which had been separated for 12 weeks because of a previous incident, were supposed to be released into the prison exercise yard in small groups to prevent another fight. Instead, they were released all at once even after a correctional officer questioned the move, a question that was later deleted from the audio portion of videotapes of the riot.

State Sen. Jackie Speier, D-Daly City, who co-chaired the prison hearings, praised Schwarzenegger for reversing his plans for the inspector general. While the independent Folsom probe is wise, she said the state's watchdog needs to be given enough teeth that a federal review isn't needed.

Siggins said Schwarzenegger is committed to improving what he had previously dismissed as a worthless oversight office that Siggins said focused too much on "bureaucratic reviews of financial practices" instead of employee wrongdoing. That will likely mean more staff and money for an office where Schwarzenegger previously wanted to trim both, Siggins said.

## PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO ADDRESS PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY MANAGEMENT AND ANTENNA SITING ORDINANCE

The City of Santa Monica is in the process of drafting a "Right-of-Way Management Ordinance." The proposed ordinance will regulate the access of public streets, sidewalks, and alleys (the public right-of-way) by private utilities and wireless companies for the purpose of installing facilities, including overhead antennas. The proposed ordinance is designed to regulate the aesthetic placement and design of facilities in the right of way, establish siting preferences, preserve the integrity of the right of way, and minimize inconvenience to the public during excavation and construction.

**What:** Public Workshop on Proposed Right-of-Way Management and Antenna Siting Ordinance

**When:** Wednesday, February 11, 2004 @ 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Ken Edwards Center  
1527 4th Street, Meeting Room 103  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

**Parking:** Parking is available at the public parking structures on Fourth St. (2 free hours) and at metered spaces on the street. Parking will not be validated.



City of

Santa Monica®

Civil Engineering & Architectural Division  
1918 Main Street, Suite 300  
Santa Monica, CA 90405  
Tel: (310) 458-8721 or Fax (310) 393-4425

## CLASSIFIEDS

ARE EASY!

### CALL NOW!

ALL CLASSIFIEDS \$2.50 A DAY UP TO 15 WORDS  
20¢ PER WORD THEREAFTER 12 DAY MINIMUM

## 310.458.7737

**Southern California  
Transfer Company**

**PUBLIC DUMP  
IN SANTA MONICA**

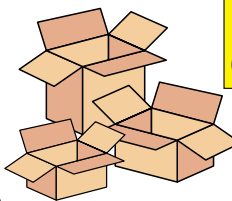
310-828-6444  
1908 Frank St. Santa Monica



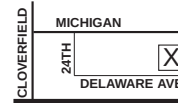
## RECYCLE NOW!



**CARDBOARD: \$60 per Short Ton**  
(Up to \$70 per short ton) Drop-off donation bins available 24 hours in front



**Santa Monica Recycling Center**  
2411 Delaware Avenue in Santa Monica  
(310) 453-9677



## NATIONAL



# Unemployment rate falls to 5.6 percent in January

BY LEIGH STROPE

AP Labor Writer

**WASHINGTON** — The nation's unemployment rate fell to 5.6 percent in January, the lowest level in more than two years, as employers stepped up hiring — but not at a brisk enough pace to ease concerns about the prolonged job drought.

Job growth is expected to be a key issue as November's presidential election nears. The economy has lost more than 2 million jobs since President Bush took office, the worst job creation record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

January's unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage point to the lowest level since October 2001, when it was 5.4 percent. Last month's rate matched the 5.6 percent posted in January 2002, the Labor Department reported Friday.

Companies added 112,000 new U.S. jobs overall, marking the fifth straight month of payroll gains and the largest in three years. But economists had expected a larger increase of 150,000 new jobs or more.

"It is not disastrous news, but it is definitely disappointing," said Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services.

The report sent stocks sharply higher on Wall Street.

Analysts are looking for monthly payroll gains of 300,000 or more for sustained job growth, and the economy remains far from that mark.

About 8.3 million people were unemployed in January, with the average duration of 19.8 weeks without work.

Bush touted the lower unemployment rate while touring the National Targeting Center in Herndon, Va., which provides support for counterterrorism efforts.

"That's good," Bush said. "Things are getting better. There is more to do. The economy is growing in strength."

Over the past five months, 366,000 jobs have been added. That includes an upward revision of job growth in December, from 1,000 to 16,000.

The economy is strong and jobs eventually will follow. But it has been "painfully slow, and not fast enough for George Bush," Cheney said.

Americans are anxious about the economy. A survey

of consumers by The Associated Press and Ipsos-Public Affairs in early February found Americans were less enthusiastic about the economy's prospects and their own financial situations in the months ahead. However, consumers' feelings about job security showed little movement from January.

Democrats are seizing on the troubled job market to boost their election prospects, and some Republicans recognize they might be vulnerable.

Those concerns led 39 House Republicans to break rank this week and support a Democratic measure to provide 13 weeks of extra unemployment benefits to people who exhaust their state benefits. Democrats are pushing for a vote on the issue in the Republican-controlled Senate.

"The administration can talk about productivity and the stock market and how the rich are getting richer, but the election will be about jobs, jobs, jobs," said Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y. "And this administration's record on jobs as been dismal."

Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Cal., chairman of the House Ways and Means committee, had a different take. "The U.S. economy is creating jobs and rapidly expanding, he said. "Tax relief is working."

Hiring by retailers and construction companies accounted for much of the overall increase in payrolls in January. Factories continued shedding jobs for the 42nd month in a row, though at a slower pace than in previous months.

Some economists think job growth is occurring in the U.S. economy, but it is not reflected in the Labor Department's monthly survey of business payrolls. In the separate survey of households, which determines the jobless rate, employment jumped by 496,000 last month.

The household survey counts self-employed workers and contract workers, which are increasing. The survey of businesses does not.

"They're not recording the outside contractors — they're not reflecting something that is tremendously fundamental now to the American corporate scene, and that's outsourcing to outside contractors," said Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics.

Businesses are being squeezed by intense competition from other countries and soaring health care and pension expenses. They are holding down costs by outsourcing,

working their employees harder and shipping jobs overseas.

Just this week, companies announcing layoffs included Cigna Corp., Carrier Corp. and The Boeing Co.

"Whatever the reasons, they aren't hiring," Cheney said. "This keeps raising concerns that maybe something really is different this time and the process isn't working the way it's supposed to anymore."

Friday's report showed workers are indeed working more hours. The average work week climbed by 0.2 hour to 33.7 hours. The manufacturing work week increased by 0.3 hour to 40.9 hours.

Construction companies helped boost overall hiring gains, adding 24,000 jobs last month. Buoyed by continued strength in the housing market, the sector has added 147,000 positions to its payrolls since last March.

In the service sector, where most of the job growth is taking place, retailers added 76,000 new jobs. Garden supply and home building material stores were particularly strong, also reflecting a strong housing market.

## SECONDS AWAY FROM THE OCEAN YEARS AWAY FROM THE ORDINARY



Whether it's an awe-inspiring ocean view or a hotel staff dedicated to making your stay impeccable, the Georgian hotel in Santa Monica has what it takes to put your mind at ease. With 84 luxurious rooms including 24 suites and 3 meeting facilities we have more to offer that just a prime location. So spend a moment on our oceanfront terrace and experience the definition of extraordinary

### Valentine's Day Package "Ocean Romance"

*Let the calm, classic style of the Georgian Hotel be your backdrop for Valentine's Day weekend. Stay in an ocean view queen or ocean view suite and receive champagne upon arrival, up to four complimentary in room movies, and a gift certificate for dinner at Ocean Avenue Seafood.*

Bookable January 1st, 2004-February 13th, 2004.  
Valid February 12-15, 2-night minimum stay required.  
\$235 Ocean View Queen, \$335 Ocean View Suite

Book on line at [www.georgianhotel.com](http://www.georgianhotel.com)  
or by calling 800-538-8147



1415 Ocean Avenue  
Santa Monica, California 90401  
(310) 395-9945 • (310) 451-3374

## DID YOU KNOW?: President George Washington owned foxhounds named DRUNKARD, TIPLER and TIPSY.

**Paddington's**  
TEA ROOM

**"Home of L.A.'s  
Most Famous  
English High Tea"**

**355 S. Robertson Blvd.  
Beverly Hills  
(310) 652-0624**

## ARE YOU BACKED UP?

IT'S EASY AND WILL SAVE YOU TIME  
AND MONEY IN THE LONG RUN.

- Data backup packages start at \$50 a month
- Daily and Weekly back ups available
- It's automatic!
- Recovery assistance available.

**ZyLink**

Call Zylink at 866.227.9539



## NATIONAL

# Writing Congress might be final victim of bioterror attacks

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — Somewhere in America, a classroom of children is likely busy scribbling letters to Congress, perhaps asking for a flag that flew over the Capitol for their school or legislation outlawing beets at dinnertime.

Or an elderly woman, using careful penmanship, may be pleading to her congresswoman to get a local post office renamed after one of her heroes, or to get help with a Social Security dispute.

These could be the ultimate victims of this week's ricin attack on the Senate, the second time in history that the U.S.

Capitol mail has shut down because of a letter laced with poisonous white powder.

Some lawmakers are now questioning whether it will ever be safe again to open and read unsolicited letters from their constituents.

Despite the flood of e-mails, faxes and telephone calls that Congress receives daily, handwritten and typed letters are still the main way members of the House and Senate correspond with the people who elected them.

"Most people still send letters, about 5,000 a week in my office here in Washington, so it's still the principal method by which people will communicate with us," said Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio.

No one among the several thousand

employees of Congress became ill this week from the latest attack by mail. But dozens of people had to be decontaminated and three Senate office buildings were shut down after an intern in Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's office found a suspicious white powder while going through letters in his mailroom.

The powder tested positive for ricin, a deadly poison relatively easy to make from castor beans. More than 6,000 workers were locked out their offices for two days, many of them longer, as experts collected, tested and likely destroyed unopened letters throughout the Capitol to ensure no others posed a biohazard.

It was the second time since October 2001 that congressional interns opening letters have proved to be the weak point in the Capitol's security. The targets of anthrax-laced letters back then were Frist's predecessor as majority leader, Democratic Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota, and Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

"Something has to be done, because we can't continue to put these young interns in danger like this," said Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., chairman of the Senate Rules Committee.

Lott is looking at new computer technology already being tested in the House for scanning letters and delivering them to lawmakers' offices digitally.

Many worry that any further change would make pen and paper the slowest and most unreliable way to talk to Congress. After the 2001 anthrax attack, Congress decided to irradiate most mail, delaying its arrival by two weeks on average.

Often, letters from their constituents are yellowed or shredded by the deconta-

mination screening, if they show up at all, lawmakers complain. And nothing angers people more than writing to Congress and not getting a response.

"I just received in, I think either October or November, a Christmas card from December 2001. That was the postmark on it, December 2001," said Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine. "And people wonder why we have a problem turning around our mail — not that part of it isn't our fault."

Letters have been a key element of the Capitol since it opened in 1800.

"Getting mail was so important that a room in the original Capitol that was designed to be a library was turned into the Capitol post office instead," said Senate Historian Richard Baker.

Even after e-mails became popular, many lawmakers continued to prefer hearing from voters and schoolchildren through typed or handwritten letters.

"There were some members' offices that would take e-mails and send them back asking for a handwritten or typed letter," Baker said. "I think that's all gone by the wayside now, especially after Sept. 11 and the anthrax attacks."

Many advocacy groups years ago switched their emphasis from letters to e-mailing, faxing and phoning.

The National Rifle Association, for example, says it now sends 72,000 e-mails to Congress a year through its Web site. The AFL-CIO inundates lawmakers with more than 1.5 million faxes and e-mails each year and AARP estimates its members make more than 500,000 annual contacts with Congress through faxes, e-mails and phone calls.

## BOB GABRIEL INSURANCE

*Providing Professional & Personalized Service Since 1936*



- Auto Experts
- Life, Disability & Pension
- Homeowners
- Commercial & Business
- Workers Compensation
- Group & Individual Health

**Representing "A" rated companies  
including MERCURY INSURANCE**

*California survey shows Mercury Insurance Auto  
rates to be the most competitive in this area.*

Phone Quotes Available

We encourage you to visit the Santa  
Monica Historical Society Museum —  
The Archives of Santa Monica.  
1539 Euclid (310) 395-2290

**310.829.0305**  
**2325 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica**



**Starting at  
\$46.95/mo!**

**always on,  
always fast**

**"Since LA Bridge installed  
DSL at my home, I have  
found the flexibility  
to use the Internet in  
a whole new way."**

**—Bill Foster,  
Apple Computer**

**each account includes:**

- 24/7 Internet connection
- 7 days/week tech support
- 6MB personal web space
- free local dial-up acct
- 2 IP addresses
- over 4000 worldwide dial-up locations for laptop users who travel. (a metered service).

**786k to 7.1M Now Available**



**pre-qualify online at [www.LABridge.com](http://www.LABridge.com)  
or call 310.228.3626 x3**

## NATIONAL



# Despite resources, Indians still live in poverty

BY ANGIE WAGNER  
Associated Press Writer

## MONTEZUMA CREEK, Utah —

Against the soft blue sky, oil wells steadily pull the black riches from Mary Johnson's land. She can hear the oil running through the brown pipes that criss-cross through hills and valleys like twisted licorice.

It wasn't so long ago that Johnson, 78, a member of the vast Navajo Nation, believed all this production meant dollars for her. The federal government managed her royalties for her, sending statements and checks — sometimes for \$3,000, sometimes \$200.

The checks never seemed to come regularly and often didn't come at all.

The wells kept pumping, the oil kept flowing. But Johnson saw hardly any of the money. She still lived in a tiny, pale yellow house with no running water, a propane stove and just one bedroom. From the windows, she could look out and see the rocking of the oil wells just down from her house on a hill.

It didn't seem right.

Across the country, but mostly in the West, many other Indians claim they, too, haven't been paid properly for oil and gas production from their land. A class-action lawsuit representing a half-million Indian landowners accuses the Interior Department of mismanagement dating back to 1887.

The government admits it could have done a better job, and is now revamping the system. But after more than a century of mismanagement, Indians are skeptical the problem will ever be resolved.

Instead, they wait for checks that may never come and watch oil wells pump from their land.

"I wonder why it's me?" Johnson said, her arms drawn tight around her waist in the brisk afternoon breeze. "Why do I have to suffer so much?"

## TRUST ACCOUNTS IN DISARRAY

When the government took the land from Indians and forced them onto reservations in the 1800s, the reservations were divided into sections, or allotments. Those allotments can be leased by oil, gas and timber companies, who pay the federal government for that privilege. The government, in turn, holds the money in trust accounts for the Indians.

But the trust accounts have been in disarray for decades. Records have not been kept up. Required appraisals on property leases have not always been done.

In 1996, Blackfeet banker Louise Cobell, determined to find out why the system was so inefficient, filed the class-action lawsuit against the Interior Department. The plaintiffs claim they are owed as much as \$137 billion.

But unless a historical accounting is done, there is no way of knowing if every Indian — or any Indian — received what was due.

In the 1950s, oil was discovered here in remote Montezuma Creek and nearby Aneth, two communities that are part of the Navajo Nation — one of the most mineral-rich tribes in the country. The reservation covers 18 million acres through Utah, Arizona and New Mexico.

With more than 180,000 members, it is the country's largest Indian tribe, but also one of the poorest. More than 40 percent of its people live in poverty. The median household income is just \$20,000, less

than half the national median.

## DRILLERS HIT A CASKET

Johnson has lived here in Montezuma Creek her entire life. A petite woman whose deep wrinkles make her look perpetually tired, she never learned English, never went to school. She speaks only Navajo.

A few dusty roads off the main highway, the one-room, stone house where she grew up still stands about a mile and a half away from her home today. Oil pipelines run across land she owns with five siblings. During the summer, a rotten egg stench from the oil hangs in the air.

Johnson gestures to her mother's grave in the distance. She remembers the day a company drilling for oil hit her mother's casket.

The oil and gas lease for her property was signed in 1953, and Johnson and her family trusted the Bureau of Indian Affairs to pay them for the production on their land. Johnson depends on the checks to buy groceries and to pay bills. She has no other income.

Sometimes, the checks would be for just pennies. Once, she was so fed up with her sporadic checks that she marched out to an oil well and turned it off.

Her last check was for \$5.30 last November. Over the years, Johnson and her five siblings have received about \$50,000 each. But she and her family believe they are due much more, perhaps as much as \$1 million apiece.

"It's difficult for people like Mary to look out their window and see this kind of production, and they go to the post office and see nothing in payments coming to them," said Kevin Gambrell, former director of the Federal Indian Minerals Office in Farmington, N.M. "It gives them a real hopeless feeling."

But whether Johnson is really due more money is virtually impossible to know because a century of records are incomplete.

## YEARS OF INACTION

As trustee, the BIA is supposed to send out regular statements telling allottees exactly how much oil is being produced from their land and how much money is in their account. The government is also supposed to appraise Indian lands to make sure they get fair market value for leases, such as rights of way for pipelines.

Gambrell noticed that wasn't always done. As director of the FIMO office, it was his job to make sure Navajo allottees were paid for their oil and gas leases. He was appointed to the job just months after the Cobell lawsuit was filed in 1996.

He suspected Navajos were not being paid properly and reported it to the Interior Department. But, he said, nothing was ever done.

Last year, court-appointed investigator Alan Balaran found that companies paid private landowners near the Navajo reservation nearly 20 times what Navajos got for the right to build pipelines across their land. The government is challenging some of Balaran's findings.

Gambrell was fired last September. He says it was because he asked too many questions. He said the Interior Department told him it was because he destroyed records. The department would not comment on the case. Gambrell said he and the department have reached a confidential settlement.

"I think people are pretty incompetent in the federal government," he said. "The Department of Interior, instead of fixing

the system, they just keep putting it off and putting it off."

## \$13 BILLION AT STAKE

The lawsuit calls for a historical accounting, and the government believes it has the records to do that.

"The challenge is putting those records into useable form," said Ross Swimmer, the Interior Department's special trustee for American Indians.

Robert Anderson, director of the University of Washington's Native American Law Center, said there is no way the government could ever do that type of accounting, but the government won't admit that.

"They never had an adequate record-keeping system in place," Anderson said. "I think they thought it was going to go away, so they didn't pay any attention to it."

Both sides agree \$13 billion has passed through the system, but Keith Harper, attorney for the plaintiffs, said the government needs to prove how much of that reached the Indians.

"These people, they should be millionaires and they're living in abject poverty," he said. "We're talking about generations of cycles of poverty created because of the mismanagement."

Swimmer, a former chief of the Cherokee Nation, said reviewing all the accounts would cost more than \$6 billion and might take five to 10 years — and Congress has been unwilling to allocate the needed money. In many instances, the system is a paperwork nightmare: 19,000 accounts have less than a dollar in them, and in one case, 2,500 Indians are fractional owners of one parcel of land.

## ADDRESSING THE MESS

The case is such a mess it has created a whole new set of problems for the government.

Many of the Interior Department's Internet connections have been shut down twice since December 2001 to keep hackers from reaching the trust money. That led to a disruption of checks in the dead of winter. Royalty checks are the only income for many Indians.

Swimmer said all Indians who are supposed to be receiving checks are now getting their money.

It took months to install security fixes that allowed the Web sites to go back online, but the BIA's site has still not been restored.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton has been held in contempt of court because U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth said she lied about progress on the trust accounting and concealed gaping holes in computer security. That ruling was overturned on appeal.

Lamberth wanted the accounting done by 2007, but now Congress has passed a measure that prohibits the department from starting court-ordered accounting until 2005.

The Interior Department is reorganizing the entire trust system and asking Indians to review the proposal. Leases, accountability, the way money is collected and appraisals will all be done more efficiently, Swimmer said.

He admits it should have been done decades ago.

## A NAJAVO LIAISON

It's up to Ervin Chavez to keep the Navajos updated on the complicated case. He heads the Shii Shi Keyah Navajo

Allottees Association. (Shii Shi Keyah means "this land, my land.")

Chavez, also a San Juan County commissioner, meets with the allottees, often driving to their homes to tell them about court proceedings and translate for those who do not speak English. Often, he does not know what to tell them, especially when they ask why their checks are for so little.

Many Indians do not understand the trust system, do not know how much land they own, how much it is worth or which companies lease the land.

Gambrell is trying to help Mary Johnson and her siblings find out why oil companies are continuing to pump on their land even though leases have not been renewed.

Interior secretaries have never been held accountable "for the damage they've done to the beneficiaries," Gambrell said. "Interior's gotten away with whatever they wanted to do."

## MONEY WOES JUST THE BEGINNING

Gloria Champion, executive director of the Home for Women and Children Inc. in Shiprock, N.M., believes frustration over missing checks has increased domestic violence on the reservation.

Of the 225 women the shelter can house each year, Champion said about half are from families that receive money from oil and gas leases.

"If they're not getting the money, it causes a great strain, a great stress," she said. "It's pretty bad. We are over capacity."

Many times, Champion said, Navajo women who are being abused have nowhere else to go.

"A lot of times they would go to the extended family, but the extended family is struggling, too. The elders aren't getting the money."

The Echo Inc. Food Bank in Farmington, N.M., serves about 1,000 Navajos each month, more when checks are overdue. Some allottees qualify for food assistance even when they are getting their royalty checks.

"We do see an increase when there's a big gap between when they get their check," said Vicki Metheny, food programs supervisor. "They're certainly up front about it."

Chavez sees the frustration first-hand.

"Navajo families already have a lot to go through as it is. In a lot of cases, it's the only flow of income. To cut that off just triples the stress level for many families," he said.

## A 1-CENT CHECK

Down a rough dirt road riddled with potholes and lonely brush near Bloomfield, N.M., Johnson Martinez emerges from his dilapidated white trailer and checks on his barking dogs. The 68-year-old Navajo lives in such a remote area that he often doesn't see another soul for six months.

On this day, his pickup truck has broken down on the side of the road. He lives in this old trailer just yards from where gas pipelines sit on his family's land. He has no running water, no electricity and sometimes, no food. He builds a fire at night so he and his dogs can keep warm from the chill of the desert air.

Martinez has 48 cents to his name.

His only income is the money he gets from his gas leases. Three months ago, he got a check for \$80. Once the check was for just 1 cent.

"They're using us," he said of the government. "They are starving us."



# COMICS

## The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



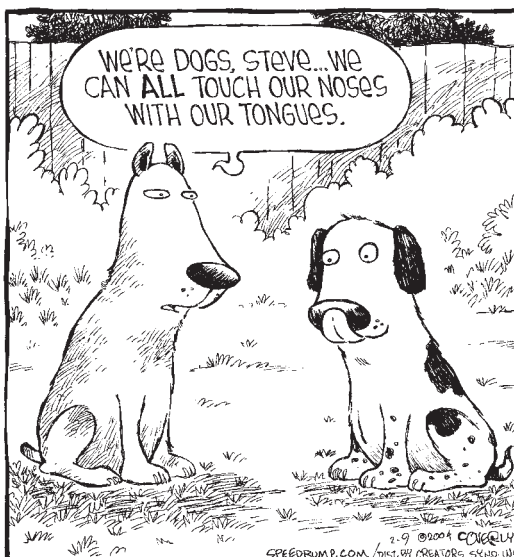
## Reality Check®

By Dave Whammond



## Speed Bump®

By Dave Coverly

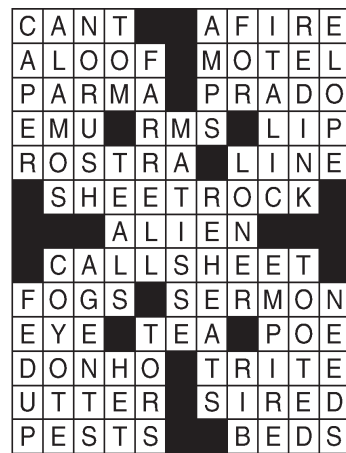


2-9 ©2004 CORKLEY SPEEDBUMP.COM / DIST. BY CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

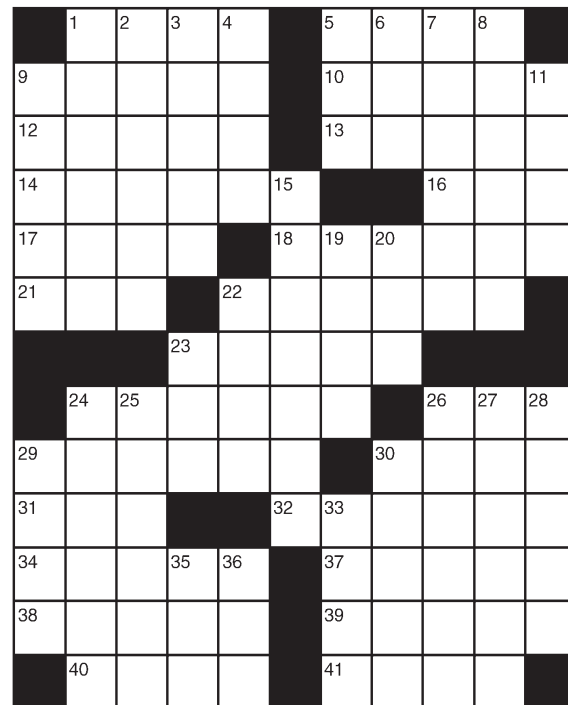
- ACROSS**
- 1 Hind side
  - 5 Bill stamp
  - 9 Viet-name city
  - 10 Central
  - 12 Writer Chekhov
  - 13 Social blunder
  - 14 "Search me"
  - 16 Gusher output
  - 17 Clothing
  - 18 Nettle-some
  - 21 Hog holder
  - 22 Missouri motto
  - 23 Nut part
  - 24 Overseas
  - 26 Krazy —
  - 29 Not so distant
  - 30 Poi source
  - 31 Top
  - 32 Cheap
  - 34 Helps, in a way
  - 37 Busy
  - 38 Find
  - 39 In the buff
  - 40 Long tale
- DOWN**
- 1 Expired
  - 2 Sloppy
  - 3 States of mind
  - 4 Needle source
  - 5 Porker
  - 6 Literary collection
  - 7 Tell
  - 8 Give the meaning of
  - 9 Ship workers
  - 11 Depend
  - 15 Basically



### Saturday's answer

- 19 Grasp
- 20 Hogwarts messenger
- 22 Oxford, for one
- 23 Some H.S. students
- 24 Suspect's stories
- 25 Grocery store
- 26 Stylized Japanese drama
- 27 Stands
- 28 Carried
- 29 Not bare
- 30 Sound-related
- 33 Cellar contents
- 35 Pull on
- 36 Relaxing place

**NEW CROSSWORD BOOK!** Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



2-9

## STRONG CD RATE.

WITH AN EVEN STRONGER GUARANTEE.

Get a guaranteed yield with a Certificate of Deposit from State Farm Bank®. It's a secure place to grow your money. For more information, call me today. And talk with someone you know you can count on.

WE LIVE WHERE YOU LIVE.™



Troy Wilson  
Lic # 0D75687  
2451 Santa Monica Boulevard  
Santa Monica, CA 90404  
310-315-1955

**2.02%**  
1-YEAR CD

**3.64%**  
5-YEAR CD



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.™

\*Annual Percentage Yield as of 4/1/03, rates subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open an account and obtain the stated APY is \$500. A penalty may be imposed for a withdrawal prior to maturity. Certificates automatically renew at maturity at the then current rate for the same term. Some products and services not available in all states.

STATE FARM BANK • HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS • statefarm.com

P03919

03/03

## RICHARDS

Tune Up Service

## Brake Specialists



- Air Conditioning
- Tune Ups
- Alternator/Starters
- Foreign & Domestic

All Makes and Models  
Fair, Honest Pricing

Free Brake and A/C inspection  
**310-581-0727**

2700 S. Lincoln Blvd • Santa Monica  
(across the street from McDonalds)

## KEEP YOUR NUMBER. ANSWER IT FOR FREE.



NEXTEL

Trade up to Nextel. Bring your number.

**FREE INCOMING CALLING PLAN**  
400 outgoing cellular minutes  
Free incoming cellular minutes  
Unlimited Push To Talk™ walkie-talkie minutes  
Nationwide long distance included

**\$59.99** per month. Other monthly charges apply. See below.\*\*

**SAVE \$50 ON THE NEW i330**  
Our slimmest full-feature phone  
Built-in digital walkie-talkie, Web access  
Speakerphone, color screen



2410 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica  
**(310) 453-3541**

\*\*Nextel also imposes a Federal Programs Cost Recovery (FPCR) fee of \$1.55 or \$2.83. The FPCR is not a tax or government required charge. The fee is charged for 1 or more of the following: E911, number porting in wireless number portability. Offer expires Dec. 31, 2003. 1730 phone offer: available while supplies last. \$50 is off of the national and promotional price of \$349.99 and requires a 2 year service agreement. National promotional price requires 1 year service agreement. New activation required. Free incoming plan requires 1 or 2 year service agreement and credit approval. \$200 early termination fee applies, after 15 day trial period (conditions apply). Set up fee of \$35 per phone, up to \$70 max per account applies. Free incoming calls are calls received while in the U.S. on Nextel's nationwide network. Free nationwide long distance includes domestic long distance only. Nextel Direct Connect minutes are available in your local calling area only. Unlimited direct connect minutes do not include group connect calls, which are 0.15/min. Direct connect and group connect are calculated by multiplying the minutes if use, number of participants and the applicable. Group Connect can only work with members of the

Santa Monica Daily Press

# CLASSIFIEDS

**\$3<sup>50</sup>** per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call 310-458-7737 and promote your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 15,000.

## CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements  
Creative  
Employment  
For Sale  
Furniture  
Pets  
Boats

Jewelry  
Wanted  
Travel  
Vacation Rentals  
Apartments/Condos Rent  
Houses for Rent  
Roomates  
Commerical Lease

Real Estate  
Real Estate Loans  
Storage Space  
Vehicles for Sale  
Massage  
Services  
Computer Services  
Attorney Services

Business Opportunities  
Yard Sales  
Health and Beauty  
Fitness  
Wealth and Success  
Lost and Found  
Personals  
Obituaries

## Employment

\$3 - 5K per week income potential work from home, NOT MLM. (800)570-3782 Ext. 4020.

APARTMENT ASST. MANAGERS: immediate opening, couple needed for senior bldg. Salary plus benefits. Fax to (310) 451-1628 (E.O.E.)

AUTO DETAILER wanted. No experience required will train. California drivers license/clean DMV required. Apply with DMV printout P/T.F/T \$7/hr 310-459-6800, Greg

CASHIER NEEDED Part-time, reliable person desired for evening/weekend shift at small fdmr/lqr store. Call 323-932-0873ext.600

DENTAL OFFICE, Office Assistant. Multi-task, salary flexible depending on experience. Fax resume to 310-394-0697

FIGURE MODEL wanted. Fit female model wanted for figure drawing by artist. No experience necessary. Call (818)501-0266

GOOD OPPORTUNITY for F/T or P/T employment. R.N., up to \$85K/year & M.S.W/Master in Social Work up to \$55K/year needed for Adult Day Health center in M.D.R 310-821-3599 Fax 310-821-3387

INSIDE & Out Nutrition Marina Del Rey vitamin/sports/hair & skin care. Retail sales P/T & F/T positions available. Excellent customer service skills required. 310-306-5232 Fax/resume 310-306-5026

JR. ADMINISTRATOR for Santa Monica art studio. College grad w/substantial computer& organizational skills. Data entry, phone, filing, errands, multi-tasking in friendly environment. Mon-Fri 9am-5:30pm \$10/phr+benefits fax resume 310-264-1765

## Employment

### PART-TIME RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATE

Seeking motivated Sales Associate for women's boutique on Montana Ave. in Santa Monica. Must have team player attitude and experience in sales and merchandising.

Part-time position available. Fax resume to E.M. @ (323) 584-5955.

THE DAILY Press is seeking Advertising Interns for the spring semester. This is a fantastic opportunity to jump into advertising. Flexible hours, college credit available. Email resume to ross@smdp.com.

THE DAILY PRESS IS SEEKING NEWSROOM INTERNS FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER. FLEXIBLE HOURS AND A GREAT WORKING ENVIRONMENT. GAIN EXPERIENCE IN JOURNALISM WORKING FOR THE ONLY DAILY LOCAL NEWSPAPER IN SANTA MONICA. IF INTERESTED, E-MAIL RESUME TO HEATHER@SMDP.COM

UPSCALE W. LA Rental salon needs to replace recently retired manicurist who had excellent clientele. Chair rental available for stylist 310-838-1766

WORK P/T No experience needed, evenings, \$8/hr, flexible schedule. Call (888)263-9886.

## Instruction

DRUM LESSONS in your home! Great w/children & beginners, first lesson FREE! Call Tom (310)422-2699.

## For Rent

3RD STREET PROMENADE Apts. Ocean views, remodeled units 1+1, \$1500-\$2000, 2+2 \$2100-\$2500. 1453 3rd Street. MOVE IN SPECIALS! (310)862-1000.

### Casa Loma Apartment 101 Dudley Ave. Venice NOW LEASING!

Steps to the beach  
Singles and Studios  
\$695.00 to \$1095.00

MOVE IN SPECIAL  
FIRST MONTH FREE!  
(Requires S.D. & 1 yr. lease)  
1-888-399-1166

SANTA MONICA \$1195/mo Best neighborhood, nice lower front 1bd, 1ba. Appliances, redecorated, private patio Open Daily 1318 Euclid #1 310-395-1495

## Vehicles for sale



### OF SANTA MONICA

#### '02 Ford Escape XLT

V6, Automatic A/C P/window P/lock, tilt, CD, white leather (ID#2KB22246) \$17,895

#### '02 Ford Explorer Sport

V6, automatic, alloys, R/W/P/L, tilt, CD, roof rack (ID#2UB54578) \$14,989

#### '02 Chev Tahoe L/S

Dual A/C, CD, Dual P/seats, third seat, alloys, much more! (ID#193678) \$23,985

#### '98 Honda CR-V

Sport utility, 4x4, 4-door, auto, A/C, CD, alloys, P/S, P/B, P/W (ID#WC107541) \$11,895

#### '98 Lincoln Continental

A/C, P/S, P/W, Leather Moon Roof, low miles \$10,888

PLUS TAX, LICENSE & DOCUMENT FEE ON ALL VEHICLES

1230 Santa Monica Blvd.  
310-451-1588

## Vehicles for sale

### Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer

#### '96 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER

SE, VIN 484227 \$7000

#### '94 DODGE CARAVAN

VIN 635648 7 passenger V6 \$3995

#### '95 SATURN SL2

VIN 392250 \$4000

#### '92 FORD TAURUS

4DR VIN 233060 One Owner \$2000

#### '93 TOYOTA PREVIA

Mini Van VIN 112783 One owner \$4000

#### '90 ACURA LEGEND

Coupe VIN 003085 \$5000

#### '70 BUICK RIVIERA

VIN 925668 Classic \$5000

#### '65 VW BUG

VIN 260574 \$4500

2501 Lincoln Blvd.  
in Venice  
(310) 395-3712

## Vehicles for sale

### LOOK LEXUS/VOLKSWAGEN OF SANTA MONICA PRE-OWNED CENTER



As Low as **1.9%**  
Financing on  
Selected Models.  
Limited Term OAC.

#### 2001 LEXUS GS 430

4D Sedan, 5-Speed Auto Moon Roof, Alloy Wheels (002870)

#### 1998 LEXUS GS 300

4D, Sedan, 5-SD Automatic, Alloy Wheels, Moon Roof (019197)

#### 2001 BMW X5

4D SUV, Automatic, Leather, Moon Roof (H14719)

#### 2002 VW GOLF GLS

4D Hatchback, 5-Speed Air Conditioning (016284)

#### 2001 LEXUS GS 430

4D Sedan, 5-Speed Automatic, Leather Moon Roof (002870)

1100 Santa Monica Blvd  
(310) 319-1661  
LAcarGUY.com

## Vehicles for sale



### NewDeals 4 NewYears!

'00 CAMRY XLE  
TOYOTA CERTIFIED  
(Y0239166) \$14,750

'99 HONDA ACCORD  
EX-AT, A/C + More  
(XA063802) \$10,995

'00 LANDCRUISER  
Black, LOADED  
(40111676) \$33,995

'01 HYUNDAI ACCENT  
AUTO, A/C, \$5,995

'00 VOLVO S80T6  
Auto, Leather, Low Miles  
(Y110204) \$21,950

'02 MAZDA 626  
(25277385) \$9,998

'99 AVALON XLS  
TOYOTA CERTIFIED  
(X4297250) \$13,995

AD EXPIRES 2/09/04  
All advertised prices exclude government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charges, and any emission testing charge.

HURRY TO:  
832 Santa Monica Blvd.  
800-944-4157  
LAcarGUY.com

## TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER P/T HELP WANTED

Like meeting people from all over the world? Have up-to-date knowledge of Marina del Rey area, great customer service/phone, previous office and computer skills including Word?

We are looking for mature people with these qualities to help tourists in our Visitors Center, 2-3 weekdays, \$9-\$10/hr.

### Mail/fax/e-mail resume:

Debra Machida, Marina del Rey CVB, 4701 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292 fax: 310-306-6605 e-mail: info@VisitMarina.com. Calls for info not stated above: 310-306-6602 (M-F).

OFFICE MANAGER needed ASAP! Excellent office facilities, minimum 4yrs computer and communications experience required. Fax resume 310-453-2749

SECURITY GUARD for Luxury Condo. Must have guard card and CPR certificate. Excellent benefits, midnight shift 10:30pm 7:05am. 310-457-9000ext.481

P.O. Box 777, Santa Monica, CA, 90406  
info@copiacreative.com  
310-8-Copia C (826-7477)  
www.copiacreative.com

# COPIA CREATIVE

Where Creativity knows no boundaries...  
Where imagination has no limits...  
Where innovation and integrity go hand and hand...  
Where intelligent marketing strategy and compelling concepts...  
...all thrive

Specializing in:  
Brand Identity • Marketing Strategy • Web Development •  
Print and On-Air graphics and design • Product Packaging



## CLASSIFIEDS

### For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$1300/mo 2bd, 11/2ba, upper, carpets, blinds, refrigerator, stove, laundry, parking. No pets. 9th St. north of Wilshire 310-456-7137

SANTA MONICA \$1375/mo 2bd, 1 ba lower, 19th St. near S.M. Blvd. Quiet 6 unit building, private patio, ample closets, appliances, gas range, dishwasher, refrig. available, will consider indoor cat. Info 310-828-4481 9am-7pm

SANTA MONICA \$1790/mo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, prime location, parking available, hardwood floors.(310)451-2178.

SANTA MONICA Cottage. r/s, patio, yard, tile, lg closets, prkng, near beach,\$945 www.westsiderentals.com

### For Rent

SANTA MONICA ADJ. Townhouse, \$2000/mo 2bd, 2 1/2ba, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, parking 310-391-8580

SANTA MONICA Duplex, r/s, balcony, gated, hrdwd flrs, near park, yard \$1250 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA Duplex, upper, r/s, hrdwd flrs, big windows, blinds, garage, \$1400 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA lower, r/s, yard near shopping, new paint, util incld, \$800 www.westsiderentals.com

WLA \$1390/MO. 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, large kitchen (310)391-8880.

### For Rent

### For Rent



**CENTURY WEST PROPERTIES**  
EXCEPTIONAL WESTSIDE RENTALS

**LEASING CENTER**  
**1437 SEVENTH STREET, SUITE 200**  
**SANTA MONICA**



**COMPLEMENTARY RENTAL LIST & LEASING CONSULTATION**  
**WALK-INS WELCOME 10AM - 6PM DAILY**  
**(310) 899-9580**

### For Rent

SANTA MONICA shared apt, pvt rm, r/s, quiet, blocks to SMC, prkng, m to m, \$550 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA shared apt, pvt rm, pvt bath, r/s, laundry, util & cable incld, \$565 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, \$925 1BD 1BA Gas Paid 2535 Kansas Ave. #210 Santa Monica CA 90404 Manager in #101

SANTA MONICA, dog ok, r/s, new crpt, refurbished, near beach, prkng, \$995 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, lower, r/s, laundry, new kitchen, near SMC 2-car garage, \$1300 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, pet ok, r/s, hrdwd flrs, pool, prkng, near Wilshire, util incld, & 790 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, r/s, blinds, clean 4-unit bldg, landscaping, off Wilshire, \$1025 www.westsiderentals.com

SM 2+2 1/2 2 car garge, direct acces to unit, laundry room. Near Wilshire \$2600/mo. (310)439-2073.

**VENICE GREAT LOCATION 1 BLOCK TO BEACH 2BD 11/2 BA, ALL NEW AMENITIES INCLUDING REFRIGERATOR, WASHER/DRYER, PRIVATE PATIO, 1 PARKING \$2295/MO W/1YR LEASE GAS & WATER PAID AVAILABLE NOW 310-403-8729**

### Houses For Rent

2BR 1BA House, 1507 18th Street, new paint & blinds, carpet. \$1500/mo NO PETS 310-532-3876

### Commercial Lease

OFFICE SPACE. 235-340 Sq Ft. Reasonable. 19th & Colorado Santa Monica 310-453-4427

MDR SHARE space. New suite, 3 space in small Law Firm. Law Library, Conference Room, Receptionist, Copier, DSL, Parking Available, 90 Freeway close. Starting at \$800. (310)553-0756.

### Commercial Lease

#### SANTA MONICA OFFICES 6th ST.

#### ONE MONTH FREE RENT

Remodeled: Mediterranean Design  
Near Promenade, Windows  
Parking, Garden Courtyard  
Janitorial, Utilities included  
2-4 Rooms, Short/Long Term

**\$1495-\$2450**  
**(310) 395-4620**

### 1617 BROADWAY

#### Individual Offices

New building.

All services included.

Reception telephone answering.

High speed T-1 Internet.

Full use of conference rooms,

copier, printer, faxes...etc.

Parking. Flexible lease terms.

**310-526-0310**

DENTAL OFFICE to share. Seeking aggressive dentist to start solo practice. Share quality Santa Monica location in a prestigious professional medical building. Available mornings until 1pm, all day Fridays and Saturdays. Call 310-315-3676.

SANTA MONICA 1334 Lincoln Blvd 1140sq/ft \$2200/mo. & 600 sq/ft 1300/mo. Can combine. E. Keasbey (310)477-3192.

SM/OCEAN PARK: room available in well located Chiropractic & Acupuncture office 3 days per/wk \$500/mo. Jasmine (310)392-9596.

### Real Estate

**I WILL BUY YOUR MORTGAGE NOTE. CALL TODAY TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN CONVERT YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENTS INTO A LARGE LUMP SUM OF CASH.**  
818-878-3006

### Real Estate



#### AGAPE ESTATES Pride of Ownership

Homes and Units

Realtor and Developer

Call Today

**310-745-4847**

Buy or Sell Tomorrow

### Real Estate Wanted

**MOTIVATED BUYER:** I buy houses, any area, any price, any condition .  
Call (310)422-4933 .

### Massage

**\$10 OFF/AD THERAPY & RELAX 1227 LINCOLN BLVD #201 SANTA MONICA (323)630-9506**

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue. Energy balancing. Strictly non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$50.00/1hr. Lynda, L.M.T. (310)749-0621

DEEP TISSUE THERAPY \$40/FLAT PROFESSIONAL AND NURTURING. I WILL ALSO TRADE MASSAGE PAUL (310)741-1901.

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing bodywork by mature European. Professional Lady Sonja (310)397-0433.

OCEAN THERAPY: nice relaxing massage Spanish & Asian Staff (310)899-3709.

SENSUAL MASSAGE \$100 Special Sensual full body massage. Young, fit, positive attitude, fun & playful! Outcall only very discreet & classy. Mara 310-797-2153

WESTSIDE BOMBSHELL Sparkling green eyes, 5'2", fit and toned. Naturally busty, soothing sensual touch, full body massage. Crystal 310-339-6709 In/Out \*Special Rate for Outcalls\*

### Announcements

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP meeting. Last Wednesday of the month; at Sunrise Assisted Living, Pacific Palisades call (310)573-9545/Linda.

#### Denied Medical Claims Billing Issues Medicare Questions

#### FREE CASE WORK

Part of LA Market research  
Call: 866-279-7464

### Business Opps

ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE! 60 Vending machines with excellent locations all for \$10,995. (800)234-6982.

EARN \$1,000's processing postcards. Mail to Wes-State Corporation. 1450 N. 7th Ave. Dept.4468,Eugene OR, 97402..

LOCAL VENDING route 60 machines. Locations included, all for \$10.995. (800)509-7909.

**SALES CONSULTANT:** Channel or Enterprise Sales. Founder of several 7 - 10 figure companies. www.aivaccents.com or call 310-739-3287

### Fitness

**Ocean Oasis**  
A Medical Day Spa for Women  
Facials • Yoga • Pilates • Therapeutic Massage  
Pregnancy & Post-pregnancy services  
BRING IN A FRIEND FOR YOGA AND SHE'S FREE!  
**(310) 458-8190**  
Dr. Lisa Masterson, M.D.

1333 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica

TAI CHI/I-CHIUNG classes in Santa Monica call for info. (626)429-6360.

### Personals

**Talk to a Model 24hrs.**  
**310-786-8400**  
**818-264-1906**  
**213-259-1902**  
**949-722-2222**  
**\$15/15 min.**  
**CC/Check OK**  
**www.USLove.com**

WE ARE THE *Classiest* GIG IN TOWN!

### The Daily Press Hiring Guarantee:

Run an ad in the classified section of the Santa Monica Daily Press for 4 weeks and we'll guarantee that you'll find the perfect employee! Call for more details.

**Call Mitch at the Santa Monica Daily Press 310.458.7737 ext.111**

# CLASSIFIEDS



## PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE SANTA MONICA SERVICE DIRECTORY

**Services**

**COPPER REPIPE SPECIALIST**

LOW WATER PRESSURE? RUSTY UNSAFE WATER? GETTING SCALDED? We specialize in Copper Repipe of private homes & apartments. Call us! Senior Citizen Discount

**FREE** Estimates  
**1-877-379-9455**

**SOL'S PLUMBING**

**FREE** WATER HEATER

**VISA** **MasterCard** **AMERICAN EXPRESS**

Lic#767143 Bonded & Ins. ALL WORK IS GUARANTEED ALWAYS A CLEAN QUALITY JOB!

HOME THEATER AND MUSIC: system design, installing and troubleshooting. 16 years experience with audio/video systems, satellite, cable, telephone and computer networks. (310)450-6540.

**Services**

**A/C CONSTRUCTION**

**COMMERCIAL**

Residential Remodel  
HONEST & RELIABLE  
FREE ESTIMATES

**310.278.5380**  
**Fax 310.271.4790**

Lic# 804884 Fully Insured

A1 CONSTRUCTION, framing, drywall, electrical. 30 years in this area. Free estimate. (310)475-0497 or (310)415-7134.

**Services**

**AWARD PAINTING**

When Quality Counts!

- Excellent References
- Knowledgeable, Professional
- Affordable Pricing
- Mastercard / Visa
- Faux Finishing
- Proper Preparation
- Beautiful Finish Work
- Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call Dave Ward for a Free Estimate:  
**(310) 641-1235**

**30+ Years Experience**

Insured Lic. 502762

B.C. HAULING clean-up; all types big truck; hydraulic liftgate -small truck. No Saturdays. (310)714-1838.

**BEST MOVERS**  
No job too small

**2 MEN, \$59 PER HOUR**  
Fully insured. We make it EZ. Free prep. & boxes. Discount for handicap & seniors!

Since 1975 Lic. T-163844  
(323) 997-1193

**BRICK REPAIR CEMENT WORK GUTTER CLEANING**

**QUICK RESPONSES**  
**310-475-0864**

**D.J. Service**

Corporate & Private Events  
Negotiable Rates  
**818.370.1659**

**Services**

**THE MOLD EXPERTS**

Expert Mold Inspection, Investigation & Remediation

400 S. Beverly Dr., Ste 214 in Beverly Hills  
**(310) 281-2282**  
[www.errandsetc.biz](http://www.errandsetc.biz)

**GET ORGANIZED!**

for filing system set-ups, unpacking from a major move, uncluttering closets and other home/office paper management problems, etc.

**HIRE A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER!**

Call Christine Cohen:  
**310-274-4988**

Member: National Association of Professional Organizers

**GODDARD CONSTRUCTION**

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR**

Improvements • Remodels  
Repairs • New Construction  
Interior/Exterior Painting

**Excellent References**  
**35 YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
Senior Discount

**Mobile: 310.650.9376**  
**Office: 310.373.7716**  
CA Lic#777282 • Insured • Bonded

MARCO TELECOM: Phone jacks, installation & repair. Rewiring phone line, splitting business. (310)301-1926, pager: (310)351-7673.

**Services**

**IRONMAN Handyman Service**

**323-842-9767**

Electrical, Painting & More

Free Estimates Fast, Friendly Service

"JENNY CAN CLEAN-IT" fast, reliable. We take care of your cleaning, own transportation. \$40 (818)705-0297.

**NOTICE TO READERS:**

California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or 800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

ONE HOUR Alterations, hemming, jeans, pants, skirts, etc. Made by professional Call Michael 310-980-2674

PAINTING TOP QUALITY A&A custom, interior And Exterior . Free Quote. Jeff Arrieta (310)560-9864.

Lic.#759420 All Work Guaranteed

**Steve's DISCOUNT PLUMBING**

**DRAINS • HEAT RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL**

**(310) 439-7771** ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE  
**15% OFF WITH THIS AD**

**Services**

**STILL SMOKING?**

Life is short — Why make it shorter

John J. McGrail, C.Ht.

Certified Hypnotherapist

**(310) 235-2882**

When You Get Ready to Fix Up, Call Us!

**NED PARKER CONSTRUCTION**

Bonded & Insured • Lic#658-486  
PAINTING • CARPENTRY • ROOFING  
CONCRETE • ELECTRICAL

**323.871.8869**

**Business Services**

DO YOU Mind Earning an Extra \$109K/year Working 10 Hours a Week? Call 323-632-1234

**High-Speed Internet Access**  
UP TO 8X FASTER THAN DSL

**NoCat Networks**  
**310-393-4037**  
[www.NoCatNetworks.com](http://www.NoCatNetworks.com) • [sales@nocatnetworks.com](mailto:sales@nocatnetworks.com)

Only \$12<sup>99</sup> per month  
• No Contract  
• Includes Email and Webspace  
• 1-Month Free Trial

**Computer Services**

COMPUTER HELP: Your office or home. Typing, tutorial, Micro-soft Word, Excel, Access, internet navigation, software installation. Also, notary public services. (310)207-3366

VERY PATIENT friendly & affordable repairs, set-ups, training networks and more! Digital Duchess. (310)395-6884.

live and local

# six days a week

Your only source of daily news in Santa Monica

Call today for a great, affordable advertising rates to propel your business to the next level.

**310-458-PRESS (7737)**  
1427 Third Street Promenade Santa Monica

**Santa Monica Daily Press**



## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

# Gibson trains church leaders to promote "The Passion"

By The Associated Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Mel Gibson said his need to reevaluate his life inspired him to make the biblical epic "The Passion of the Christ."

"I've been offered every kind of excess that money and fame brings and it's not good enough," Gibson said Saturday before 3,800 invited guests at evangelical Azusa Pacific University.

The event, which was broadcast to churches nationwide, was billed as a "training rally" for pastors and church youth group leaders who may use the intense portrayal of Christ's suffering to attract new members to the faith.

The film has been criticized by some Jewish leaders who fear the portrayal of Jesus' crucifixion could lead to anti-Semitism.

"I'm not anti-Semitic," said Gibson, who directed, co-wrote and financed the \$25 million film. "... I've shown it to many Jews and they're like, it's not anti-Semitic."

Gibson plans to open the film in the United States on Feb. 25 — Ash Wednesday on the Roman Catholic calendar.

■ **WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass.** — U.S. poet laureate Louise Glück has decided to leave Williams College for a writer-in-residence position at Yale University.

Glück will teach two poetry writing courses at Yale this fall. Her appointment is for a five-year, renewable term, according to Yale spokeswoman Dorie Baker. The move was reported in Thursday's editions of the Yale Daily News.

Glück, 60, of Cambridge, has taught at Williams since 1983, usually only during the fall semester. She made the 150-mile commute to Williams about once a week.

She has published nine books of poetry, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 and a Bollingen Prize in 2001. She was named poet laureate last August.

Williams spokesman James G. Kolesar said the col-

lege hopes the departure is not permanent.

"Louise Glück has several times in the past taken leaves from her position at Williams to teach elsewhere, and in each instance she returned," he said. "She's a valued teacher and colleague and the college hopes this will be the case again."

■ **LOS ANGELES** — For 50 years, crime novelist Mickey Spillane has written about tough guys. He even has a hard-boiled image himself.

But it's all an act, says Spillane, whose 53rd book, "Something's Down There," was published in December.

"I'm actually a softie," Spillane said. "Tough guys get killed too early."

The 85-year-old writer has sold more than 180 million books and rubbed shoulders with Hollywood, where his material has been turned into movies and TV series.

"Something's Down There," set in the Caribbean, swaps his trademark urban grit for balmier turf. This time the main character is Mako Hooker, a retired government operative who investigates tales by fisherman of a shark-like sea monster.

Once one of the five most translated writers in the world, Spillane says his major achievement has been staying alive.

"I've got a full head of hair and don't wear eyeglasses," he says. "And I've kept the smoke coming out of the chimney for a very long time."

■ **PHNOM PENH, Cambodia** — Actress Minnie Driver said she was ignorant about the conditions that women in poor countries work under until she visited garment factories in Cambodia and Thailand.

"The poorest people with the least are making sacrifices for those of us who have the most," said Driver, 33, who

visited Southeast Asia as part of the British charity group Oxfam International's "Make Trade Fair" campaign.

Wearing a patterned red skirt made out of Cambodian silk by local garment workers, Driver said she wanted corporate leaders to carefully consider their buying practices.

"Every time they squeeze to get lower production costs, faster production, it's nobody but the working women who suffer," said Driver, who earned an Oscar nomination in 1998 for her role in "Good Will Hunting."

She spoke Sunday after a fashion show in Phnom Penh where garment workers modeled clothes bearing large tags reading "Made in Cambodia ... by us ... US\$0.25 per hour."

■ **BERLIN** — Actor Tim Roth said he wants to go behind the camera as a director, which he calls "the best job in the world."

Roth, who has acted in movies including "Reservoir Dogs" and "Everyone Says I Love You," made his directorial debut with 1999's "The War Zone," a drama about incest.

Roth said Sunday that he's still searching for the right project to take on.

Meanwhile, he stars with Nick Nolte and Damien Nguyen in Norwegian director Hans Petter Moland's "Beautiful Country," which documents a young Vietnamese man's efforts to find his American father.

The film is one of 23 movies competing for the Berlin Film Festival's Golden Bear Prize.

After escaping a refugee camp in Malaysia, Nguyen's character stows away as human cargo aboard a ship commanded by the morally ambivalent Captain Oh, played by Roth.

The movie tries to "stay away from the cliché and not to preach," Roth said.

www.buickinvitational.com  
619-281-GOLF

# BUICK<sup>®</sup>

## INVITATIONAL

Torrey Pines / February 9-15, 2004

BUICK INVITATIONAL  
THE CENTURY CLUB  
PGA TOUR