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Santa Monica Daily Press



LUNCHBOX RITUALS ALTERED
SEE PAGE 6

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE BACK TO REALITY ISSUE

Lights Out

Some neighbors of Malibu High oppose field lights

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MALIBU On a clear night, the scenery can't be beat.

Far from the light pollution of Los Angeles is a pure sight of the night sky that is hard to come by on the Westside — a vision of what seems like an infinite number of stars, sparkling like brilliant-cut diamonds.

But there's a group of residents in the Malibu Park neighborhood who feel the view, as well as their overall quality of life, could be in jeopardy if school district officials move ahead with erecting permanent field lights at Malibu High School as part of its Measure BB campus modernization project.

The proposal, as well as a rough estimate by administrators that the athletic fields would be illuminated for no more than 203 nights a year, is causing waves among some high school neighbors who believe that the lights would destroy what they described as

SEE LIGHTS PAGE 8

Find out how the economic stimulus could affect you

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

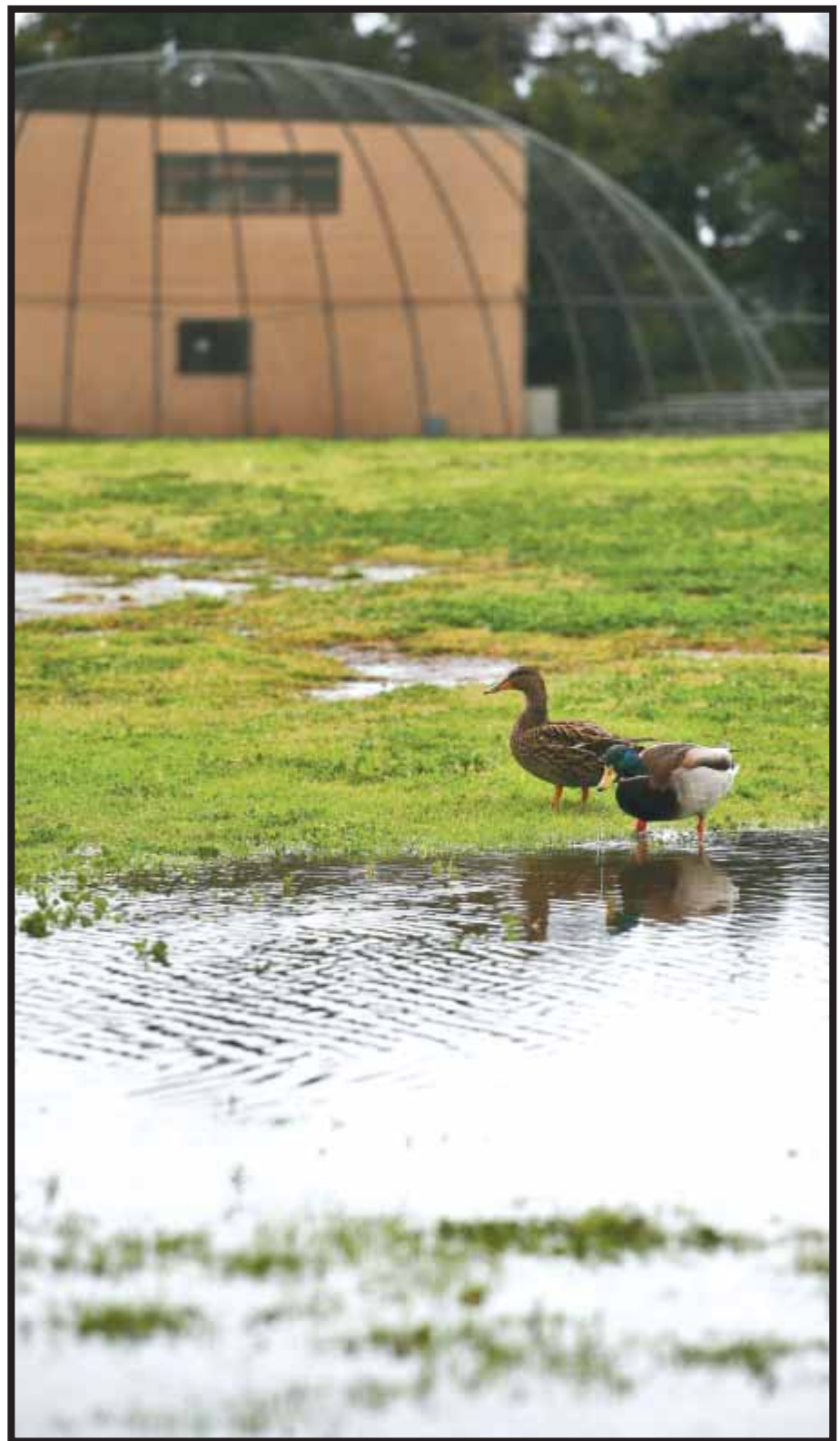
An examination of how the economic stimulus plan will affect Americans.

•Taxes:

The recovery package has tax breaks for families that send a child to college, purchase a new car, buy a first home or make the ones they own more energy efficient.

Millions of workers can expect to see about $13 extra in their weekly paychecks, starting around June, from a new $400 tax credit to be doled out through the rest of the year. Couples would get up to $800. In

SEE STIMULUS PAGE 9



DRINK UP

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The heavy rains flooded the baseball field at Stewart Street Park, keeping residents inside on Presidents' Day. The only guests seen at the park were sea gulls and ducks, who stopped for a drink or two. Forecasters predict cloudy skies today with a couple showers.

New massage law makes City Hall tense

BY ROB LAWRENCE
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE There might be a few kinks in City Hall's plans to regulate massage parlors.

The new state law, created by State Sen. Jenny Oropeza (D-Long Beach), regulating massage therapy in California is creating questions and confusion as to how it will affect City Hall's strict laws that were imposed last summer.

"Some parts of the ordinance would conflict with the Santa Monica municipal code," Deputy City Attorney Ivan Campbell said.

"The state law may permit, or may not contain, regulations as tough as what we have on the books here, that's something we need to discuss," Campbell added.

Generally, municipalities must obey state law, but there are conflicting reports coming from Oropeza's office.

"The way I understand it, if Santa Monica has a stricter law than our new state law, anyone wanting to become a licensed masseuse in Santa Monica must comply with Santa Monica's law," Ray Sotero, communications director for Oropeza, wrote in a statement.

This is contrary to what Oropeza wrote in her statement.

"The new rules formulated by the MTO (Massage Therapy Organization, which is a non-profit statewide organization created by the bill to certify massage therapists) would be standard across the state and will supersede local laws."

The bill, which became law on Jan. 1 and goes into effect in September, will create a statewide standard for obtaining a massage therapy license.

In the past, a masseuse seeking certification would have had to obtain a license from each city they wished to practice in. That may not be the case anymore and Gary Hunt, a local masseuse at The Massage Company, is definitely excited.

"We've been campaigning to try and get a state-run organization, so we can get licensed by the state, so we don't have to pay individual license fees," Hunt said.

SEE MASSAGE PAGE 8

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Elias Simé — Eye of the Needle, Eye of the Heart

Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.
Ethiopian artist Elias Simé exhibits his collages on canvas using yarn, plastics, tattered fabric, buttons, used plastic and bottle tops. This is his first exhibition in the United States. Call (310) 586-6488 for more information.

Valentine's Enchanted Lunchtime Fairytale Theatre

Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
This lunchtime extravaganza includes story-telling, sing-a-longs, crafts theatre games and an enactment of a Cinderella-themed fairytale. Mommy, daddy and their 3 to 6-year-olds are welcome to attend for a magical afternoon. Reservations are a must, so call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2 or visit santamonicaplayhouse.com.

Bongo Fury

Harvelle's
1432 Fourth St., 9:30 p.m.
Harvelle's, the oldest continuously open space on the Westside, presents Bongo Fury, a night of fierce Afro-Cuban jazz and cabaret. There's a $10 cover charge. Call (310) 395-1676 for more information.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009

Business & Consumer Expo 2009

Sheraton Delfina
530 West Pico Blvd., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Local businesses and artists will be showing their wares at the Sheraton Delfina this Wednesday night. The Chamber of Commerce encourages people to come down and network and see how business is done in the city of Santa Monica. Call (310) 393-9825 for more information.

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009

Terri Cheney presents: "Manic: A Memoir"

Main Library's Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Terri Cheney wrote "Manic: A Memoir" after her own diagnosis with bipolar disorder. She watched in frustration as others suffered from the same comparison and struggled to find words to describe their pain. This book is a compilation of their stories as well as her own. A book sale and signing will follow the author's presentation. Call (310) 458-8600 for more information.

Esau Andrade, folk artist

Every Picture Tells a Story Gallery
1311-C Montana Ave., 4 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Celebrated amongst the company of famed Latino painters such as Diego Rivera and Rufino Tamay, artist Esau Andrade's works are found hanging in respected museums and galleries. Enjoy refreshments and readings from his book, "A Perfect Season for Dreaming." Call (310) 451-2700 for more information.

FUEL

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third St., call for times
Fuel, the acclaimed documentary by Josh Tickell about America's dependence on fossil fuels, will be playing for the last time in Santa Monica on Thursday. The documentary explores the oil addiction and how green energy alternatives can change our world.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

LENDING A HAND: **General Manager Mike Butler (center) helps out behind the oyster bar during the opening day of Santa Monica Seafood's Wilshire Boulevard store on Monday afternoon. Tuesday, Santa Monica Seafood will be donating crates of food and other products to the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank to help the needy.**

And you can take that to the bank

SM Seafood donating $10K worth of products to local foodbank

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN When Jeremiah Higgins contemplated moving the Santa Monica Seafood Co.'s storefront from its Colorado Avenue address to the new Wilshire Boulevard location, there were a few kinks inherent in the transition. A big question was what he would do with almost $10,000 worth of product sitting in large panels in his storage facility.

"I've brought in quite a few new products and I have other products I'm not going to carry anymore," said Higgins, director of operations for Santa Monica Seafood Co. "I didn't know what to do with it, to sell it at a lower price or what."

But Higgins had been hearing stories about troubles at the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, an organization to which the Santa Monica Seafood Co. routinely donates unsold bread. This sparked an idea.

The company is donating all $10,000 of food to the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank today as part of its transition to the new space on 10th and Wilshire.

Donations run the gamut from bread and cheese to gourmet sauces for seafood and cooking utensils.

"I've seen quite a few stories about how it's hard for them to keep their shelves full because of the tough economic times, so we wanted to help out," Higgins said.

Darren Hoffman, communications director for the foodbank, said that a donation of that size will go a long way toward

SEE SEAFOOD PAGE 8

Student sues L.A. college over anti-gay marriage speech

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A community college student has filed a lawsuit claiming a public speaking professor berated him and refused to let him finish a speech opposing same-sex marriage.

In the suit filed last week in a Los Angeles federal court, student Jonathan Lopez said that midway through his speech when he recited a dictionary definition of marriage and recited a pair of bible verses, professor John Matteson cut him off, called him a "fascist bastard" and would not allow him to finish.

The suit says Matteson told students they could leave if they were offended, and when no one left he dismissed the class.

A student evaluation form included with the lawsuit lacks a score for Lopez's speech, and reads "ask God what your grade is."

Lopez and his attorneys are seeking financial damages and also seek to strike down a code at Los Angeles City College forbidding students from making statements deemed "offensive."

Lopez made the speech last November days after the passage of Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage in California.

"He was expressing his faith during an open-ended assignment, but when the professor disagreed with some minor things he mentioned, the professor shut him down," David J. Hacker, an attorney for the Alliance Defense Fund, a Christian legal organization based in Scottsdale, Ariz. that is representing Lopez, told the Los Angeles Times. "Basically, colleges and universities should give Christian students the same rights to free expression as other students."

In a letter to Alliance, Dean Allison Jones said she had met with Lopez, considered his complaint "extremely serious in nature," and had begun a disciplinary investigation. Jones said in the letter she could not elaborate because of concerns for Matteson's privacy.

Jones wrote that two students had been "deeply offended" by the speech, and one of them said that "this student should have to pay some price for preaching hate in the classroom."

The lawsuit names Matteson, the Los Angeles Community College District, its board of trustees and several administrators.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Saying no to Olympic route

Editor:

Santa Monica Treesavers strongly opposes the Olympic Boulevard Light Rail alternative and fully supports the Colorado Avenue alternative. We passionately oppose losing any of the 44 coral trees or any of the grassy open space on the Olympic median. We have more than 100 active members and many thousands of Santa Monica supporters.

We hope you will support the much more pedestrian-, community- and tree-friendly Colorado alternative.

Jerry Rubin
Co-Founder, Treesavers
Santa Monica

Giving thanks

Editor:

I would like to thank the community for helping me with my Eagle project. The project was a huge success. With over 250 hours of work put into the project by volunteers, we collected just over 2,500 items to donate to the various shelters at OPCC. The items included: 247 pairs of jeans, 634 pairs of socks, 107 pairs of shoes, 577 bars of soap, 167 tubes of toothpaste, 348 towels, 104 toothbrushes, 71 sweaters, 252 shirts, 13 pairs of shorts, three robes, three hats, 33 baby items, four pillows, three purses, and even three puzzles. I am thankful that I had the opportunity to help out so many people. If I could have helped out just one person, I would have been happy. To know that we helped many people leaves me even happier. Thank you to everyone who helped out.

Eagle Scout candidate Jared Hammer
Troop 2, Boy Scouts of America
Santa Monica

What's up with the library?

Editor:

Will someone please tell me why the staff at the Main Library does not know how to assist a patron with printing a simple Word document from a flash drive? After I asked for help, one staff member simply left me without saying a word!

I sat like an idiot for 10 minutes at the printing station because when she walked away I assumed she was getting help. Gee, thanks lady, you sure are swell! Why are these printing stations not up to speed? What's more puzzling is how useless the staff is.

Not to mention so thoughtless as to simply walk away without so much as a word.

James Zeruk, Jr.
Santa Monica





What's the Point?

David Pisarra — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

The bigot next door

ENTHUSIASTS. FANATICS. ZEALOTS. Extremists. Bigots. These are five words to describe differing levels of devotion to activities and ideals. This is why I love language, and why language matters.

The dictionary describes each of these words as follows:

• An enthusiast displays an intense and eager interest in something, like sky-diving.

• A fanatic is not only intense and eager but possibly irrational in his or her enthusiasm. Fanatic suggests extreme devotion and a willingness to go to any length to maintain or carry out one's beliefs, such as a fly-fishing fanatic who hired a helicopter to reach his favorite stream.

• A zealot exhibits not only extreme devotion but vehement activity in support of a cause or goal, such as a feminist zealot who spent most of her time campaigning for women's rights.

• An extremist is a supporter of extreme doctrines or practices, particularly in a political context. This would be a paramilitary extremist who anticipates the overthrow of the government.

But it is the bigot who causes the most trouble, exhibiting obstinate and often blind devotion to his or her beliefs and opinions. In contrast to fanatic and zealot, the term bigot implies intolerance and contempt for those who do not agree.

That's me. Bigot Extraordinaire.

I am obstinate, and frequently blindly devoted to the ideas I hold. I actually believe that all people should be treated equally in the eyes of the law. When I get into an argument, I dig my foxhole and start shooting with every rhetorical weapon I can muster, from the epee of emotional plea, to the broad sword of sarcasm. I also love the bazooka of bombastic badgering. I will fight dirty to win an argument. Occupational hazard I suppose.

So when it comes to the things I am passionate about, I find it hard to rein in my emotions. For example, this Proposition 8 Vietnam that the Mormons, Catholics and Jewish leaders have gotten us into. I cannot tolerate their intolerance. I don't particularly care that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints has people so scared of ideas that "devout Mormons will avoid R rated movies." I met with one Mormon to discuss gay civil rights and the LDS church doctrine. I suggested that he see the movie "Milk" to aid in our discussion. He declined. It is rated R, so he can't see it.

I think it is absurd that the Catholics listen to a man who lives in a castle who pontificates about how they should live their lives, but it does me no harm if my neighbor decides to give up meat during Lent.

It is not my business if the orthodox Jewish leaders, who have been so instrumental in the civil rights movement, want to associate with Catholics who have a history of elevating Holocaust deniers, then the pox be on their heads.

It is when my neighbor actively tries to take away my rights that I have a visceral reaction of anger, resentment, and become intolerant and contemptuous of them. This is when my blood boils and I take off the gloves.

I THINK IT IS ABSURD THAT THE CATHOLICS LISTEN TO A MAN WHO LIVES IN A CASTLE WHO PONTIFICATES ABOUT HOW THEY SHOULD LIVE THEIR LIVES, BUT IT DOES ME NO HARM IF MY NEIGHBOR DECIDES TO GIVE UP MEAT DURING LENT.

One of them for example is Richard Raddon, the executive director of the Los Angeles Film Festival, who resigned after his donation of $1,500 to the Yes on Prop. 8 campaign was made known. He lives just down the street from me in a nicely appointed six unit condominium complex on 11th Street. He resigned from a job that he held for a number of years. Part of me feels bad that his political convictions cost him, if not his career, at least an esteemed position that took years to achieve. On the other hand, his support aids the movement to divorce 16,000 couples. His checkbook morality is going to negatively affect the lives of 32,000 should his side win.

He's not as bad as Mrs. Christianne Danielson of 21st Place, who according to eightmaps.com, gave $25,000 to support her bigotry.

The support these two "neighbors" of mine for such a mean-spirited proposition is pure evil in my mind. It is equivalent to the use of landmines in fields. It allows the death and destruction to be done, far from the sight of the actor.

Mr. Raddon and Mrs. Danielson wont have to face the couples who will be forcibly divorced. They wont have to look people in the eyes and tell them that the society they live in does not value them equally.

They will not have to see the tears, and hear the pain, when I tell couples that, in California, they are not considered good enough to be equal to the Raddons and the Danielsons.

So yes, I'm a bigot. I have no tolerance for the Raddons and the Danielsons in this community, and yes I want to make it uncomfortable for them. Let them find comfort in their moral condemnation of others.

I hope it is very, very, cold comfort.

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

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Your column here

Anthony Gregory
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The separation of television and state

OBAMA SIGNED A BI-PARTISAN BILL ON Feb. 11 decreeing that analog television will remain until June. If you were unaware of the national conversion to digital TV, you're not alone.

"Backers of the delay feared that 20 million mostly poor, elderly or rural households were" unprepared for it, reports Reuters.

Nevertheless, by next week 681 stations will have abandoned analog, according to the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC might even forbid stations from meeting the very deadline originally set by the government. In 2005, Bush signed the Digital Transition and Public Safety Act, setting the deadline this February and appropriating $1.5 billion for digital-to-analog converter vouchers. Consumers would redeem the coupons at retailers certified by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

But Scott Wallstein of the Technology Policy Institute concludes that these vouchers have "created a floor on the price" on the converters. Certified retailers have no incentive to charge less than $40, the value of the coupons. Analyzing retail prices nationwide, Wallstein estimates that the vouchers have "increased the price of converter boxes by $21-$34."

Moreover, the vouchers were first-come, first-served. They boosted converter sales but failed to prepare enough Americans for the original deadline. Many had never heard the news.

Coercive regulation supposedly enables large-scale coordination where the market would fail. But this national television conversion scheme reveals the limits of central planning. Wilmington, N.C., was the guinea pig, going off analog last September. The FCC got 1,800 calls for assistance, including from hundreds who followed the instructions but got no signal. On a national scale this would spell chaos.

Denver's mountainous terrain poses severe interference problems. Buffalo's major stations use high-power analog signal to cover large areas; after the switch many rural viewers would lose all broadcast programming. Digital signals have trouble reaching urban buildings and remote rural areas alike. A weak analog signal means a fuzzy picture. A weak digital signal means no picture or a flashing image. The stations and telecom companies have scrambled to adjust to the national timetable.

Most stations and viewers are ready. After investing in the conversion, some resent the delay. Congressman Joe Barton (R-Texas) protested, "[N]o matter when you set the date — Feb. 17, June 12, July the Fourth, Valentine's Day — there are going to be some people that aren't ready."

Universal digital television is a national priority, but any central plan will leave millions behind. Under FCC airwaves regulation, big players thrive and smaller competitors struggle. CBS, NBC and ABC can easily continue broadcasting analog, while smaller networks can hardly afford obeying the capricious dictates of the FCC and Congress.

Why is the government involved anyway? Why not a more organic and regional transition? The FCC grew out of the Federal Radio Commission created in 1927. Allegedly, the market had allocated airwaves poorly. In fact, a system based on property rights and homesteading already worked and was upheld in a 1926 Illinois case, Tribune Co. v. Oak Leaves Broadcasting Station. In the 1920s, Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover arbitrarily withheld broadcasting licenses. He was rebuffed in United States v. Zenith Radio Corps. He responded by assigning licenses indiscriminately — "a classic 'tragedy of the commons,'" as economist Thomas Hazlett noted. Whereas the common-law allocation of spectrum worked, federal intervention created the radio chaos that supposedly warranted a new regulatory agency.

The FCC became a political tool, entrenching favored networks, punishing small ones, and censoring dissent. The agency propped up AT&T's phone monopoly for many years, obstructed the rise of cable and kept cell phones off the market for a decade.

With television going digital, federal regulators lose their classic rationale — the need to control limited spectrum. But don't expect the feds to step away. What fails to serve consumers can still benefit politicians, regulators, and connected industry leaders.

In the Internet age, a national plan for universal digital TV is a clumsy anachronism. High picture quality, consumer availability and liberty would be better served by a separation of television and state.

ANTHONY GREGORY is a research analyst at the Independent Institute. For more information see www.independent.org.

The Q Line

Cutting back

The City Council recently revealed that it will be facing significant reductions in revenue during the next couple of years. The Board of Education, too, has expressed fears that the next few budget cycles are going to be tough all around.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

If cuts have to be made to services, which do you feel should be first to go under the knife?

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

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE (SMC)
RFP # IC 0109
FOOD SERVICE VENDOR (FSV)
Notice is hereby given that SMC is calling for responses to this Request for Proposal (RFP's), from qualified Vendors who can provide all management, staff, materials, equipment and insurances to perform Food Service preparation and vending in the SMC Cayton Center campus cafeteria.
The RFP is due on **March 5, 2009, 2:00 p.m. local time.**
The space available to perform the Food Service storage, preparation and vending is approximately 1,825 square feet and includes utilities (water, gas, electrical) for the Facility Use Fee which will be paid by the Vendor to SMC.
The Menu **must include** but not be limited to a variety **of International Cuisine meals.**
To requests for a copy of **RFP IC 0109**, please send a **Letter of Interest referencing RFP IC 0109 in writing** by: fax, email or mail service to: Ardelle Jarvis, Purchasing Department (Fax: 310 - 434 3654, email:avjtbo@yahoo.com) or Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 -1628.
A mandatory pre-proposal walk-through will be held on **February 20, 2009,** at Cayton Center cafeteria, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 900425-1628 at **3 p.m.**
NOTE: All Proposers are required to attend the mandatory walkthrough to familiarize themselves with the food storage, preparation and vending area.
Phone calls for information concerning the RFP will not be accepted.
To be published on February 17

Peanut butter scare changes lunchbox rituals

BY HOLLY RAMER
Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.H. The nationwide salmonella outbreak has left many parents in a situation as sticky as peanut butter itself: Should they pack their kids' lunches with PB&J or stay away from the old standby?

Jarred peanut butter sales were down significantly last month compared to the previous year, suggesting that many children are going without their favorite sandwiches even though leading brands of jarred peanut butter have not been recalled.

Other parents are taking a more moderate approach, sticking with the jarred stuff and avoiding everything else, or carefully combing through the recall lists before shopping.

It's a dilemma even President Barack Obama has faced: Earlier this month, he said his younger daughter eats peanut butter sandwiches several times a week. "And you know, I don't want to have to worry about whether she's going to get sick as a consequence to having her lunch," he said. A White House spokesman said Sasha is still eating peanut butter.

In Seabrook, Texas, Dayna Steele is more worried that her 9-year-old son will become sick if he doesn't eat peanut butter. After years of trying to get him to eat other foods, his pediatrician said, "He's fine. Let him eat all the peanut butter he wants. When he meets a girl, he'll start eating something else."

Steele, a former rock deejay turned motivational speaker, has been holding her breath every time another recall notice pops up online, but she is confident for now that the tubs of Kroger-brand peanut butter her son favors are safe.

"Maybe it's my rose-colored glasses, but I do want to believe that if a company like Kroger, who stands to lose a lot, felt like there was any danger whatsoever with their jarred peanut butter, that there would be an immediate announcement," she said.

The salmonella outbreak has sickened some 600 people in 43 states and is being linked to nine deaths. More than 1,900 products have been recalled, and the company at the heart of the recall — Peanut Corp. of America — is under FBI investigation and filed for bankruptcy Friday. Leading brands of jarred peanut butter are not affected, but some parents aren't taking any chances.

Camille Hurst of Tallassee, Ala., used to buy a jar of peanut butter a week for her three children. Before the recalls, she switched to an all-natural brand because of concerns about unhealthy ingredients. Now she has sworn off peanut products entirely.

"Once they find it in one major brand it is found in others," she said. "Just like in the melamine contamination, we were told it was only in a few products but then more and more came up."

Hurst, 31, said she is frustrated that there is no real way for consumers to trace the origins of their food.

"We are blind consumers who trust and rely on the government and manufacturers, and they are abusing that trust and putting the health of consumers in jeopardy," she said.

That attitude is further evidence that consumers have grown less trusting of government, said Michal Ann Strahilevitz, a professor of marketing and consumer behavior at Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

"Americans feel that they trusted officials to monitor a lot of things that they clearly did not monitor carefully enough. The economy is one example. However, people are particularly risk-averse when it comes to what they feed their families," she said. "So no surprise, federal assurances are not going to make all the fear go away."

Government assurances also tend to get lost in a sea of media coverage, said David Urban, professor of marketing at Virginia Commonwealth University. The message that comes through is "peanutsunsafe."

"It's a good example of what gets through to consumers and what doesn't," he said. "The big negative headline that has any connection to one's children is really going to stick."

There are plenty of parents, however, who aren't reacting with an all-or-nothing approach. In Bow, N.H., Eleana Walsh has thrown out any processed products that contain peanuts or peanut butter, including items that haven't been recalled. But Walsh, a mother of two boys, also hasn't given up jarred peanut butter.

"With the economy going the way it is I need peanut butter to be safe. We will be relying on this to stay alive if things don't look up," she joked.

Statistics compiled by Yahoo! suggest plenty of parents are looking for answers online before they shop. Yahoo! Internet searches for "peanut butter recall" have increased almost 125,000 percent in the past month. Nearly two-thirds of the searches are being made by women, and the top age group is 30-44.

Martha Dexter, 45, of Litchfield, N.H., admits she waited until coming home from the grocery store to make sure the products she bought for her family hadn't been recalled. She didn't think much about it until her daughter came home from 3rd grade and said, "Mom! That has peanut butter in it. What are you trying to do?"

She then called the grocery store and looked up the recall lists online.

"I felt reassured. But we spent about half an hour making sure our food was safe to eat, which is kind of crazy," she said.

It's reasonable for parents to react strongly to the initial news of the recalls, said Barry Glassner, a sociology professor at the University of Southern California, but unnecessarily avoiding peanut butter in the long run could teach children to be afraid of food.

Many more children will die from being hit by lightning than tainted peanut butter, said Glassner, author of "The Gospel of Food: Everything You Think You Know About Food is Wrong."

"Are you going to prohibit your child from going outside every time it rains?" he asked. "If you're rational, what you'll do is, if there's lightning outside, you'll keep them in, and when that's done, you let them go out safely and go to school in the rain. I think this is the same thing. It's very reasonable to take peanut butter off the menu until we knew what was going on, but then it's not anymore."

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Tornante

Steve Parker Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Putting it in reverse

GENERAL MOTORS AND CHRYSLER MUST TODAY TURN-IN their homework, uh, their "viability plans," to Congress. Watch tonight's TV news to see how they were scored.

I don't know about you, but I've had enough bad news to last awhile. So, let's have some fun and talk local motor racing history. And there's a lot of it, too. Santa Monica and the Westside have figured strongly in racing since the sport's inception. During pre-WWII winters, our weather drew racers from around the country as sure as college football came to the Rose Bowl, all used as a promotion to bring people west to buy real estate and homes and establish families and businesses.

Before and after WWII, local companies like Douglas Aircraft, at what was then called Clover Field (Oh! So that's where that boulevard gets its name!), meant a growing population in this area of skilled machinists, engine-builders and parts fabricators. Designing and building race cars and all kinds of high-performance parts and engines were just a natural outgrowth of their work.

Pre-WWII, races including the Santa Monica Road Race and the Venice Grand Prix were both run on local city streets. The Santa Monica event drew massive crowds, well over 100,000, and world-famous drivers like American Barney Oldfield, France's Louis Chevrolet and Ralph DePalma from Italy. The race used Wilshire and San Vicente boulevards as long straights with shorter roads connecting them to form what was essentially a big oval dirt track. Speeds of over 120 miles per hour were common, even then.

Imagine them driving on those tall and skinny tires mounted on wood wheels, with their mechanic as a passenger hand-pumping gasoline and oil, both wearing shirts and jeans, maybe coveralls, with leather "Snoopy" caps and glass goggles for protection. It's amazing any of them lived to see their grandchildren, though many didn't.

Between 1903 and 1997, according to Harold Osmer's book, "Where They Raced," over 100 different race tracks, including ovals, street courses and drag strips, were located in Southern California. In our part of the world, between Culver City, the I-10 and Century Boulevard, there were race tracks including the Los Angeles Motordome, Culver City Veterans Stadium, Mines Field (which today is Los Angeles International Airport), Loyola High School Stadium, Culver City Speedway and Ascot Speedway when it was located in Venice (that name had incarnations at many local tracks over the years). In the early 20th century, motorcycles were often raced on wickedly fast and dangerous high-banked ovals built of wood. The first "board track" in the country, the aforementioned Los Angeles Motordome, was located in what is now an open field just a few feet south of Fiji Way in Marina Del Rey. Local pilots take note; from above, the indented outline of the track can still be seen.

From the 1960s, the most-recent Ascot Park and its world-famous dirt oval and motocross and TT tracks, called Gardena home. Promoted by the legendary J.C. Agajanian, a two-time Indy 500-winning car owner, the track closed in 1990, replaced, to some extent, by the modern Irwindale Raceway. And if you know what a TT race is, then you're as old or older than me. You probably remember the Catalina Hare and Hounds and AMA District 37 desert racing, too.

Santa Monica has also been called home by many important racing figures, including the late first American Formula 1 champion Phil Hill, and SPEED TV host Tommy Kendall, who held the SCCA Trans-Am Series title a record four times in the 1990s. Race drivers are superstitious and irreverent. You may have seen or heard Tommy Kendall's clucking Chicken Car, with its giant roof-mounted rooster, cruising Santa Monica streets. Now if you see it, you'll know who's driving.

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

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District to examine impacts of field lights

FROM **LIGHTS** PAGE 1

a community with a small-town vibe.

"There's a group of us very concerned about the environment, about the ambiance of living in Malibu Park," said Victoria Epstein, a 22-year resident who signed a petition opposing the proposal. "It's a country community, not a big city."

District officials are planning on hosting a community workshop concerning the field lights issue, according to Superintendent Tim Cuneo. A date has not been set for the meeting.

The field is currently lit about seven nights every year for home football games using temporary stands that are rented by parents at a cost of approximately $25,000 a season, according to Malibu High School Principal Mark Kelly.

But that donation might put the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District out of compliance with its California Coastal Commission permit, which prohibits temporary and permanent field lights at MHS.

The Board of Education earlier this month hired CAA Planning for more than $24,000 to prepare the necessary paperwork to amend its permit with the California Coastal Commission, hoping to correct a violation that has apparently been going on for several years. Cuneo said he believes the parents will continue to financially provide the temporary lights if the change to the permit is approved.

The district is also in the process of launching an environmental assessment on the permanent field lights, which officials said is still a long way off from even being installed. If economically feasible, the lights would be added during the second phase of the MHS campus remodel project.

"Once we have the data back and know what the potential uses are, there will be more discussion of what is going to be involved," Board of Education President Ralph Mechur said about the number of nights the field lights would be on and for what use.

While neighbors of the high school have differing opinions on the presence of field lights, all agree that 203 is an excessive number.

The estimate was based on the assumption that the school would have a full athletic program — consisting of boys and girls freshman, junior varsity and varsity teams for fall, winter and spring sports — and thriving joint-use agreement with Malibu City Hall, a scenario that is far from the status quo.

"I presented (the number) as sometime in the future should Malibu High grow larger and there be three levels of competition in the fall, winter and spring sports and we're able to do night activities," Kelly said. "In my lifetime, I could not see that happening."

Laura Rosenthal, a school parent whose oldest son plays high school football, said that she believes neighbors and district administrators can reach a compromise on the final number, agreeing that 203 is unrealistic.

She is among Malibu Park residents who are in favor of the lights, but understands the concerns that the lights would impact those who live closest to the field.

The lights would only be used a few nights a week, mostly during the late fall and winter months when the days are shorter, she said.

Rosenthal added that it's important to have the lights for the school to continue hosting Friday night football games, which gives youth in the community a place to gather.

"As everyone who lives in Malibu knows, there is nothing for teenagers to do on a Friday night," Rosenthal said. "There is no place for them to congregate."

Barry Snell, the school board vice president, said he believes the estimate was overstated and can be negotiated.

He said the actual number of nights will fall around 20-30 a year.

"We are going to be very sensitive to the community," he said. "Through discussion we will find some kind of compromise."

For Epstein, the greatest concern is the impact that the lights could have on the overall character of the neighborhood.

Epstein criticized the district for what she said was little advanced notice to residents about the proposal to put up permanent field lights, which she learned through a blurb in the local Malibu newspaper.

She refuted claims made by some that the opponents are only thinking about themselves and are out to hurt the school, arguing that they are also saving the community for the students.

"They act like we don't want their children to have sports," she said. "We want them to have sports and a good environment."

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Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

RUBBING THEM OUT: **City officials are concerned a new state law regulating massage parlors will weaken a local ordinance approved last summer that weeds out prostitutes disguised as therapists.**

Therapists hopeful for statewide license

FROM **MASSAGE** PAGE 1

Hunt has been frustrated about individual city licensing fees and he is glad that it could be over with.

"The cities want to make money from us, this is why massage therapists are irritated, it's taking money from us, it has nothing to do with safety," Hunt said.

According to Oropeza's statement, the purpose of the state law is to crack down on crime organizations using massage therapy as a front for prostitution.

Hunt argued that stiffer regulations wont have an effect on illegal massage parlors.

"If you're into prostitution you won't want to be licensed at all," Hunt said. "It's really only affecting the legitimate therapists. If you're going to do something illegal you're going to keep it as underground as possible."

The Santa Monica Police Department enforces the laws regarding massage therapy, and the department is not concerned about new laws, which may make it easier to obtain a license.

"The main focus is going after criminal organizations, not just criminals, that is the most effective way to attack," SMPD Sgt. Robert Almada said. "I don't think the new laws will prevent us from doing that."

news@smdp.com

Demand for free food up 40%

FROM **SEAFOOD** PAGE 3

meeting the ever-increasing demand during the economic slump.

"Demand has gone up over 40 percent and our food volume has gone up only 25 percent," Hoffman said. "We distributed 39 million pounds of food in 2008 but demand is still outpacing that. Our agencies are always looking for food, so this is great."

Economic circumstances forced the foodbank to look for food in new places, such as bringing in fresh produce from the Central Valley, a task which incurs new transportation and storage costs.

Regular donators are tapped, and nonperishable goods and proteins like those donated by the Santa Monica Seafood Company are in high demand.

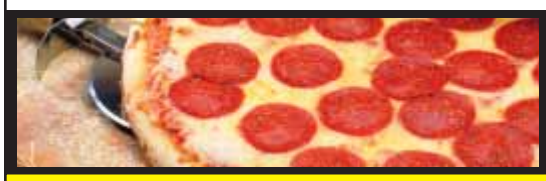
Individuals who want to donate food or money to the foodbank can go to http://www.lafightshunger.org to locate a nearby pantry.

Trucks will be running the donated food from the Colorado facility to the foodbank from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. today as business at the Wilshire storefront goes into its second day.

The 1,700-square-foot Colorado facility housed the Santa Monica Seafood Co. for 40 years. The new Wilshire store is 5,000 square feet with an oyster bar and 64-foot showcase that lets the company offer 70 species of seafood.

A cafe, run by Scott Leibfried of Hell's Kitchen, offers patrons the opportunity to cook their purchases to order on-site.

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Unemployed to pay less to keep health coverage

FROM **STIMULUS** PAGE 1

2010, the credit would be about $7.70 a week, if it is spread over the entire year.

The $1,000 child tax credit would be extended to more low-income families that don't make enough money to pay income taxes, and poor families with three or more children will get an expanded Earned Income Tax Credit.

Middle-income and wealthy taxpayers will be spared from paying the Alternative Minimum Tax, which was designed 40 years ago to make sure wealthy taxpayers pay at least some tax, but was never indexed for inflation. Congress fixes it each year, usually in the fall.

First-time homebuyers who purchase their homes before Dec. 1 would be eligible for an $8,000 tax credit, and people who buy new cars before the end of the year can write off the sales taxes.

Homeowners who add energy-efficient windows, furnaces and air conditioners can get a tax credit to cover 30 percent of the costs, up to a total of $1,500. College students — or their parents — are eligible for tax credits of up to $2,500 to help pay tuition and related expenses in 2009 and 2010.

Those receiving unemployment benefits this year wouldn't pay any federal income taxes on the first $2,400 they receive.

•Health insurance:

Many workers who lose their health insurance when they lose their jobs will find it cheaper to keep that coverage while they look for work.

Right now, most people working for medium and large employers can continue their coverage for 18 months under the COBRA program when they lose their job. It's expensive, often over $1,000 a month, because they pay the share of premiums once covered by their employer as well as their own share from the old group plan.

Under the stimulus package, the government will pick up 65 percent of the total cost of that premium for the first nine months.

Lawmakers initially proposed to help workers from small companies, too, who don't generally qualify for COBRA coverage. But that fell through. The idea was to have Washington pay to extend Medicaid to them.

COBRA applies to group plans at companies employing at least 20 people. The subsidies will be offered to those who lost their jobs from Sept. 1 to the end of this year.

Those who were put out of work after September but didn't elect to have COBRA coverage at the time will have 60 days to sign up.

The plan offers $87 billion to help states administer Medicaid. That could slow or reverse some of the steps states have taken to cut the program.

•Infrastructure:

Highways repaved for the first time in decades. Century-old waterlines dug up and replaced with new pipes. Aging bridges, stressed under the weight of today's SUVs, reinforced with fresh steel and concrete.

But the $90 billion is a mere down payment on what's needed to repair and improve the country's physical backbone. And not all economists agree it's an effective way to add jobs in the long term, or stimulate the economy.

•Energy:

Homeowners looking to save energy, makers of solar panels and wind turbines and companies hoping to bring the electric grid into the computer age all stand to reap major benefits.

The package contains more than $42 billion in energy-related investments from tax credits to homeowners to loan guarantees for renewable energy projects and direct government grants for makers of wind turbines and next-generation batteries.

There's a 30 percent tax credit of up to $1,500 for the purchase of a highly efficient residential air conditioners, heat pumps or furnaces. The credit also can be used by homeowners to replace leaky windows or put more insulation into the attic. About $300 million would go for rebates to get people to buy efficient appliances.

The package includes $20 billion aimed at "green" jobs to make wind turbines, solar panels and improve energy efficiency in schools and federal buildings. It includes $6 billion in loan guarantees for renewable energy projects as well as tax breaks or direct grants covering 30 percent of wind and solar energy investments. Another $5 billion is marked to help low-income homeowners make energy improvements.

About $11 billion goes to modernize and expand the nation's electric power grid and $2 billion to spur research into batteries for future electric cars.

•Schools:

A main goal of education spending in the stimulus bill is to help keep teachers on the job.

Nearly 600,000 jobs in elementary and secondary schools could be eliminated by state budget cuts over the next three years, according to a study released this past week by the University of Washington. Fewer teachers means higher class sizes, something that districts are scrambling to prevent.

The stimulus sets up a $54 billion fund to help prevent or restore state budget cuts, of which $39 billion must go toward kindergarten through 12th grade and higher education. In addition, about $8 billion of the fund could be used for other priorities, including modernization and renovation of schools and colleges, though how much is unclear, because Congress decided not to specify a dollar figure.

The Education Department will distribute the money as quickly as it can over the next couple of years.

And it adds $25 billion extra to No Child Left Behind and special education programs, which help pay teacher salaries, among other things.

This money may go out much more slowly; states have five years to spend the dollars, and they have a history of spending them slowly. In fact, states don't spend all the money; they return nearly $100 million to the federal treasury every year.

The stimulus bill also includes more than $4 billion for the Head Start and Early Head Start early education programs and for child care programs.

•National debt:

One thing about the president's $790 billion stimulus package is certain: It will jack up the federal debt.

SEE **PLAN** PAGE 10



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Stimulus increases college aid, tax credits for parents

FROM **PLAN** PAGE 9

Whether or not it succeeds in producing jobs and taming the recession, tomorrow's taxpayers will end up footing the bill.

Forecasters expect the 2009 deficit — for the budget year that began last Oct 1 — to hit $1.6 trillion including new stimulus and bank-bailout spending. That's about three times last year's shortfall.

The torrents of red ink are being fed by rising federal spending and falling tax revenues from hard-hit businesses and individuals.

The national debt — the sum of all annual budget deficits — stands at $10.7 trillion. Or about $36,000 for every man, woman and child in the U.S.

Interest payments alone on the national debt will near $500 billion this year. It's already the fourth-largest federal expenditure, after Medicare-Medicaid, Social Security and defense.

This will affect us all directly for years, as well as our children and possibly grandchildren, in higher taxes and probably reduced government services. It will also force continued government borrowing, increasingly from China, Japan, Britain, Saudi Arabia and other foreign creditors.

• Environment:

The package includes $9.2 billion for environmental projects at the Interior Department and the Environmental Protection Agency. The money would be used to shutter abandoned mines on public lands, to help local governments protect drinking water supplies, and to erect energy-efficient visitor centers at wildlife refuges and national parks.

The Interior Department estimates that its portion of the work would generate about 100,000 jobs over the next two years.

Yet the plan will only make a dent in the backlog of cleanups facing the EPA and the long list of chores at the country's national parks, refuges and other public lands. It would be more like a down payment.

When it comes to national parks, the plan sets aside $735 million for road repairs and maintenance. But that's a fraction of the $9 billion worth of work waiting for funding.

At EPA, the payout is $7.2 billion. The bulk of the money will help local communities and states repair and improve drinking water systems and fund projects that protect bays, rivers and other waterways used as sources of drinking water.

The rest of EPA's cut — $800 million — will be used to clean up leaky gasoline storage tanks and the nation's hazardous waste sites.

•Police:

The stimulus bill includes plenty of green for those wearing blue.

The compromise bill doles out more than $3.7 billion for police programs, much of which is set aside for hiring new officers.

The law allocates $2 billion for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, a program that has funded drug task forces and things such as prisoner rehabilitation and after-school programs.

An additional $1 billion is set aside to hire local police under the Community Oriented Policing Services program. The program, known as COPS grants, paid the salaries of many local police officers and was a "modest contributor" to the decline in crime in the 1990s, according to a 2005 government oversight report.

Both programs had all been eliminated during the Bush administration.

The bill also includes $225 million for general criminal justice grants for things such as youth mentoring programs, $225 million for Indian tribe law enforcement, $125 million for police in rural areas, $100 million for victims of crimes, $50 million to fight Internet crimes against children and $40 million in grants for law enforcement along the Mexican border.

•Higher Education:

The maximum Pell Grant, which helps the lowest-income students attend college, would increase from $4,731 currently to $5,350 starting July 1 and $5,550 in 2010-2011. That would cover three-quarters of the average cost of a four-year college. An extra 800,000 students, or about 7 million, would now get Pell funding.

The stimulus also increases the tuition tax credit to $2,500 and makes it 40 percent refundable, so families who don't earn enough to pay income tax could still get up to $1,000 in extra tuition help.

Computer expenses will now be an allowable expense for 529 college savings plans.

The final package cut $6 billion the House wanted to spend to kick-start building projects on college campuses. But parts of the $54 billion state stabilization fund — with $39 billion set aside for education — can be used for modernizing facilities.

There's also an estimated $15 billion for scientific research, much of which will go to universities. Funding for the National Institutes of Health includes $1.5 billion set aside for university research facilities.

Altogether, the package spends an estimated $32 billion on higher education.

•The Poor:

More than 37 million Americans live in poverty, and the vast majority of them are in line for extra help under the giant stimulus package. Millions more could be kept from slipping into poverty by the economic lifeline.

People who get food stamps — 30 million and growing — will get more. People drawing unemployment checks — nearly 5 million and growing — would get an extra $25, and keep those checks coming longer. People who get Supplemental Security Income — 7 million poor Americans who are elderly, blind or disabled — would get one-time extra payments of $250.

Many low-income Americans also are likely to benefit from a trifecta of tax credits: expansions to the existing Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit, and a new refundable tax credit for workers. Taken together, the three credits are expected to keep more than 2 million Americans from falling into poverty, including more than 800,000 children, according to the private Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

The package also includes a $3 billion emergency fund to provide temporary assistance to needy families. In addition, cash-strapped states will get an infusion of $87 billion for Medicaid, the government health program for poor people, and that should help them avoid cutting off benefits to the needy.

news@smdp.com

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www.ToyotaSportsCenter.com



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 55°

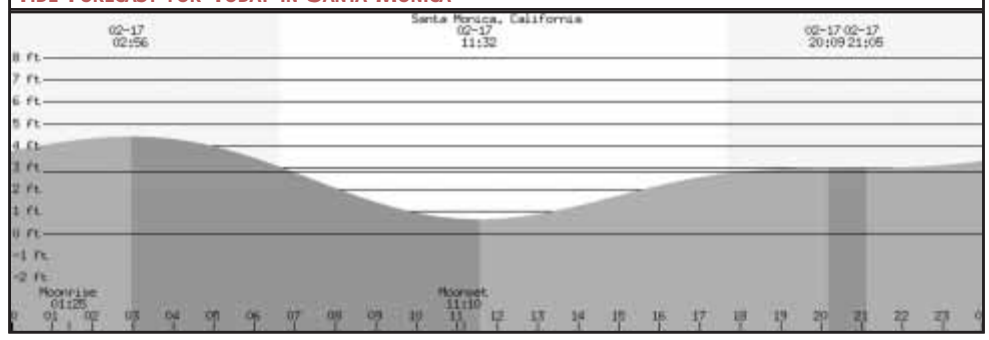
Swell Forecast (1-1 FT)

Tuesday the 17th sloppy wind swell is expected to continue with at least head high peaky junk around west facing breaks. Winds should calm to perhaps 10 mph from the south.

Long Range Synopsis

Wednesday the 18th the sloppy wind swell should back down. Chest+ is the call based on the models today.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **February 10, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 11
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 11
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8 / 38

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card® is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information

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

Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1hr 27min
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

Fuel (NR) 1hr 55min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:15

Milk (R) 2hrs 08min
1:20, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00

Defiance (R) 2hrs 17min
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45

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

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2hrs 48min Closed Captions and Descriptive video
3:00, 6:30

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) 1hr 52min
1:35, 4:05, 7:05, 9:35

The Uninvited (PG-13) 1hr 27min
10

Coraline 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
1:45, 4:25, 7:00, 9:25

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55

Push (PG-13) 1hr 51min
1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50

Friday the 13th (2009) (R) 1hr 35min
2:20, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05

The Pink Panther 2 (PG) 1hr 32min
2:10, 4:55, 7:30, 9:45

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

Crips and Bloods: Made in America (NR) 1hr 33min
1:00, 9:50

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

Waltz With Bashir (R) 1hr 30min
3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

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

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

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

The International (R) 1hr 58min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

Gran Torino (R)
11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30

Taken (PG-13) 1hr 33min
12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40

He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
12:40, 3:40, 7:00, 9:00, 10:20

The Reader (R) 2hrs 02min
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40

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

Take control, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Keep digging to get more information. You might be blocking an important point or something that is significant. A friend pushes you hard. You could take this person's shove positively, or you could lose your temper. Which will it be? Tonight: Ask; question; brainstorm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Work with individuals rather than groups. Understand that each individual has a different set of issues; you need to flow with a situation. A responsibility might drop on your shoulders. Tonight: A must opportunity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Understand what is happening. Listen to news that heads your way. If you detach, you'll discover some facts that will help fill in the gaps in a complicated story. Make calls to experts, and continue to seek new information. Tonight: New vistas.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Talk is cheap and hard to bypass. If you understand what is happening behind the scenes, you'll get past an immediate problem. Your ability to get the job done, even with hassles left and right, marks your potential. Tonight: Put your feet up.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Where answers don't come easily, your creativity finds a path to fill in the blanks. You could be shocked by what is going on. Your light and easy way puts a smile on others' faces. Let others run the show. Tonight: Be the lively Lion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Pressure builds on the personal front. Your strong drive earmarks your actions. Incorporate patience, and you will easily clear a hurdle. Effectiveness is your trademark. You get the job done, perhaps to the surprise of others. Tonight: Mosey on home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Keep communication flowing. Carefully remember what is happening. The unexpected occurs with a child or loved one. Remain centered, and you might be amused rather than upset by what goes down! Tonight: Whatever you do, be passionate about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Recognize the pros and cons of a financial situation. If you want to get feedback, ask. Many could have strong opinions, though they might not want to express them unless asked. Curb a tendency to go overboard. Try to approach a situation differently. Tonight: Treat yourself to a new item for spring.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are on cruise control and can do very little wrong. With that knowledge, make important decisions and clear your desk. Trusting in your abilities could make a big difference. Tonight: What would knock your socks off?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Know when to walk away from a situation. Sometimes you need no explanations, only to understand. Your intuition homes in on a financial matter. Follow through, as long as the risk is not too high. Tonight: Much-needed private time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Where you are is where your friends are. Others seek you out en masse. You also might need to restrain your followers, as you have other matters to handle. Lady Luck rides on your shoulder. Tonight: Focus on what you want.

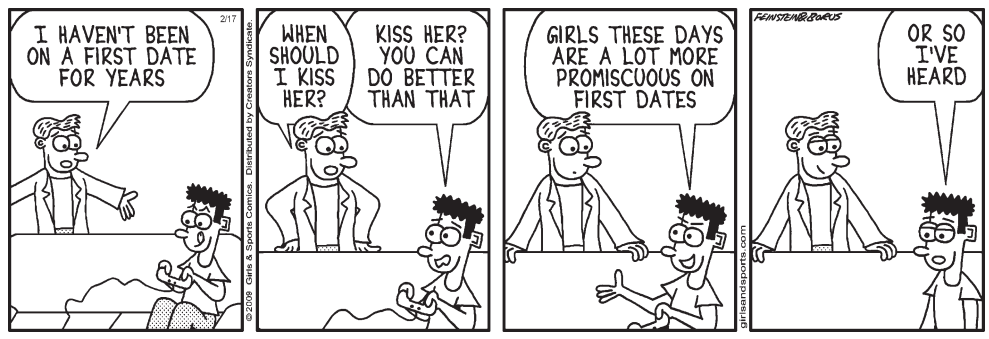
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A must appearance dominates your day. If you get to the bottom of a problem, you will succeed. Your instincts often serve a purpose, but right now your feelings race through your thoughts. Tonight: At the helm of the ship.

Happy birthday

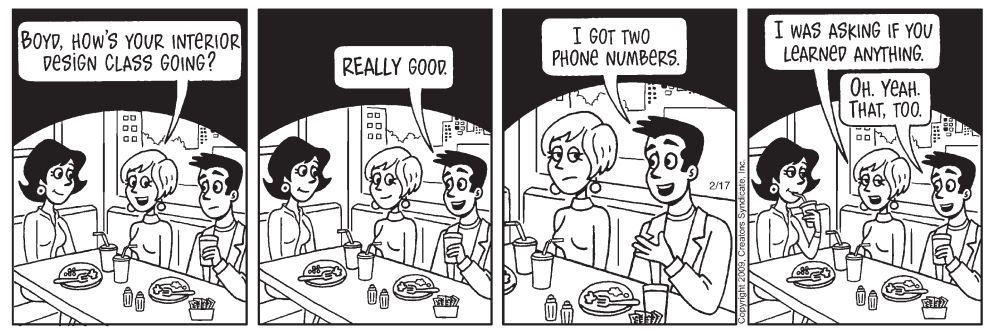
This year, know what you want. You have the drive, personality and energy to make your goals realities. Verbalize your desires, and use others' suggestions to make them a reality. Your personality melts others' resistances, and you gain as a result. You are lucky this year and begin a new life cycle. Organization is very important. If you are single and you want a dynamic relationship, it is yours to have. You can change your life if you want. If you are attached, let your significant other bathe in your good will. Listen to news and be open. SAGITTARIUS always gives you that extra shove.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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



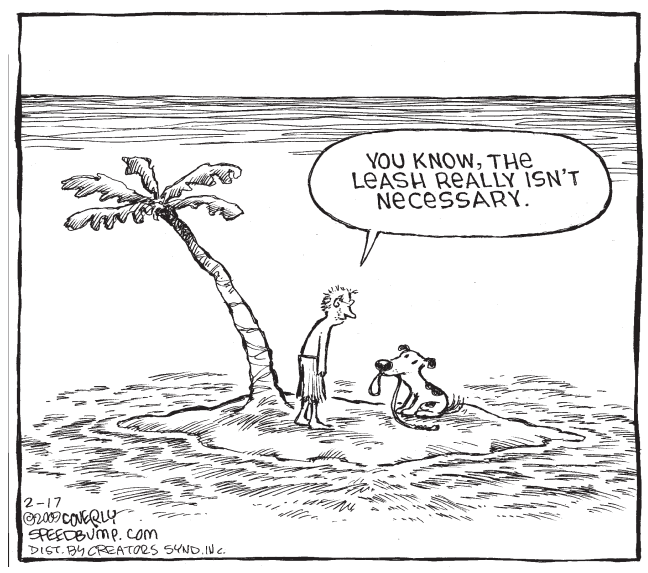
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Boot attachment
5 Jeweler's unit
10 Fork features
12 Make a speech
13 Guiding light
15 Regret
16 Moray, for one
17 Compass dir.
18 Gives rise to
20 Yard parts
21 Sculpting medium
22 Casino calculation
23 Grades
25 Long-eared runner
28 Bud holders
31 Ready for business
32 Like a short play
34 Free (of)
35 Frank McCourt book
36 That lady
37 Breathing
40 Whale's home
41 Rural sights
42 Prepared
43 "Gomer —, USMC"

DOWN

1 Mixes up
2 Locker art
3 Kick out of office
4 Agent, for short
5 Anthracite, e.g.
6 Gallery fill
7 Poured
8 Made amends
9 Principles
11 Reddish brown
14 Water behind a dam
19 Half of humanity
20 "Cabaret" director
24 Topeka's state
25 Movie genre
26 For each
27 View from Arabia
29 Without breaking a sweat
30 Fish flock
33 High-strung
35 Minuscule
38 Steno need
39 Pointer

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

2-17

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 25 36 37 40 51
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: $103M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 15 26 29 40 42
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $9M

Fantasy 5: 9 11 15 23 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 6 6
EVENING: 6 5 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:47.96

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A Prosecutor's Worst Nightmare: At a dramatic moment in the November trial of a bus driver accused of rape in Edmonton, Alberta, the prosecutor asked the victim on the witness stand to look around the courtroom and identify her attacker. The victim adjusted her glasses and scanned the room, but looked past the defense table and pointed confidently to a man in the gallery later identified as a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reporter, who in fact had nothing to do with the rape. (The judge allowed her a second chance, based on the volume of other evidence against the defendant, and she correctly identified him.)

■ Apparent closure was reached in 2006 in a long-running News of the Weird story in which, for sexual thrills, a man periodically telephoned managers of fast-food restaurants and, pretending to be a police detective, persuaded the manager to strip-search one or more employees, supposedly to recover stolen merchandise, and to describe the search over the phone. In January, another man, John Brady, 49, was arrested and charged on New York City's Staten Island with telephoning women at random and instructing them to perform digital rectal exams on themselves, claiming that he was doing research on the digestive system. At least one woman complied.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1904 the original two-act version of Giacomo Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly" was poorly received at its premiere at La Scala in Milan, Italy.

1947 the Voice of America began broadcasting to the Soviet Union.

1959 the United States launched Vanguard 2, a satellite which carried meteorological equipment.

1964 the Supreme Court, in Wesberry v. Sanders, ruled that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population.

1972 President Richard M. Nixon departed on his historic trip to China.

WORD UP!

interminable \in-TUR-muh-nuh-buhl\, *adjective*:
so long as to seem endless; never stopping

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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

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For Sale

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

For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 16 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1295, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$500 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA, LARGE 3+2. OCEAN VIEW, top of hill, on prv drvwy, 3 patios/backyard, gated. Redeco, end unit. $2345/mo Cat ok 310-390-4610.

1248 11TH st. unit I, 3bdrm/1 1/2bath, stove, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets.on site manager $2450/mo $500 off move in (310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

25 Westwind 4+3 Unit 4 dishwasher, tile countertops, stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, sundeck, intercom entry, washer.dryer, tandem parking, no pets.$3600/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice 1+1, #37 $1350/mo stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

615 1/2 MIDVALE lower Bachelor, no kitchen, sink, fridge,hot plate,, ceiling fan, carpet, street parking, no pets $895/mo utilities included (310)578-7512 wwwjkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 206 & 208 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1100/mo $400 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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Culver City 4058 LaSalle Unit C lower duplex unit 1bdrm/1bath, hardwood floors, breakfast nook, washer/dryer stove, fridge, parking, no pets. $1350/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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225 Montana Ave. #205,105 Studio $1295 Each

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rentals@howardmanagement.com

LARGE SM SINGLE CAR GARAGE or storage easy access, electricity $200/mo OBO (310)729-5367

For Rent

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