

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

10 13 27 43 46

Megamember: 23

Jackpot: \$22 Million

FANTASY 5

12 15 16 18 31

DAILY 3

Daytime: 8 3 0

Evening: 2 1 1

DAILY DERBY

1st: 10 Solid Gold

2nd: 01 Gold Rush

3rd: 04 Big Ben

RACE TIME: 1:43.35

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: <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Lucella Bridget Gorman pleaded guilty in Brisbane, Australia, in December to two counts of theft, the first count for stealing things from a department store and the second count for stealing the mugshot camera while police were booking her for the department-store theft.

■ FEMA subcontractor Frank Tanner, 47, was charged with looting in Slidell, La., in January after he walked out the front door of Darin LeBlanc's home with an armful of electronic equipment. LeBlanc was standing in his front yard at the time, but Tanner, in the hubbub surrounding cleanup efforts, apparently thought LeBlanc was just another contractor.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 53rd day of 2006. There are 312 days left in the year

On Feb. 22, 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born at his parents' plantation in the Virginia Colony.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The passion for setting people right is in itself an afflictive disease."

MARIANNE MOORE
AMERICAN POET (1887-1972)

INDEX

Horoscopes

Smile away, Sag 2

Snow & Surf Report

Water temperature: 57° 3

Opinion

A deafening silence 4

State

California in brief 7

Real Estate

Know your capital gains 10

National

Selling cellars 14

People in the News

An animal-loving Golden Girl 15

Comics

Strips tease 16

Classifieds

Ad space odyssey 17-18

Walk the line

Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Harlan Hayes, 20, a climber from Santa Monica, keeps his balance at the beach as he steadies himself on the slack line.

Suit against City Hall goes to trial

By Daily Press staff

WEST LA — A trial is expected to begin today in a civil lawsuit against City Hall levied by a man who lost his arm and suffered brain damage when attempting to board a Big Blue Bus nearly two years ago.

Haroun Mehdipour is suing City Hall and the Big Blue Bus for negligence after he lost his left arm and suffered brain injury when he was struck by a Big Blue Bus of Santa Monica while attempting to board it on May 5, 2004.

Opening statements in the case are expected today in Los Angeles Superior Court's West Los Angeles Division before Judge John L. Segal. The trial is expected to last between two and three weeks.

Mehdipour and his wife, Parvin Mehdipour, are represented by Santa Monica lawyers Browne Greene and Geoffrey S. Wells, who work at the law firm of Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP. The firm is representing several victims in their civil lawsuits against City Hall over the July 16, 2003, farmers' market accident in which 10 people were killed and dozens injured.

On Nov. 18, 2004, Mehdipour filed a civil complaint for damages. He claimed negligence, negligent hiring and negligent supervision, among other charges. Mehdipour alleges that City Hall and the Big Blue Bus were negligent in the hiring and supervision of its bus driver and are thus responsible for the events that caused his injuries.

Mehdipour, 79, was attempting to board a Big Blue Bus at the corner of Barrington and Santa Monica Boulevard. On the sidewalk alongside the bus, Mehdipour was touching the bus and trying to get the driver's attention as he walked toward the front door, according to the lawsuit. The Big Blue Bus driver closed the front door before Mehdipour could enter and drove off, running over Mehdipour and causing the injuries, including the degloving of his left arm — which subsequently had to be amputated — and a traumatic brain injury, according to the lawsuit. An eyewitness to the incident drove up to the bus and signaled to the driver to stop, but he waved her off and drove away, according to Mehdipour's attorneys.

Attempts at a settlement failed last week, said chief deputy city attorney Jeanette Schachtner.

City getting high on Wi-Fi

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — City Hall is on the fast track to dial in disconnected Santa Monicans.

Plans are underway to expand free wireless Internet access at the pier, the Civic Auditorium, and the City Council chambers and courtyard at City Hall, increasing the number of public locations people can go online to 10.

The expansion is part of City Hall's effort to make the entire city Wi-Fi enabled, a term that refers to wireless-fiber optics, a data-transporting system that is faster than traditional phone and cable services, and is quickly becoming the hottest trend in infrastructure improvements.

"We can't claim to be the first (to Wi-Fi an entire city,) but we will be among the first," said Jory Wolf, chief information officer at City Hall.

So far, City Hall has spent roughly \$42,000 on free wireless access in public spaces, and another \$500,000 improving the fiber optics network, which now supports 45 government facilities and provides a higher capacity to transport voice, video and other forms of data.

See WI-FI, page 5

Local police help bust major drug ring

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — Santa Monica police were involved in a major drug bust earlier this week that netted multiple arrests for the distribution of cocaine and methamphetamine, federal authorities said Tuesday.

Known as "Operation Russian Ice," FBI agents, in conjunction with local law enforcement, used phone taps as well as evidence gathered by an informant to build cases against 14 individuals living in Hawaii and the Los Angeles area, including Westchester, Inglewood and Marina del Rey, authorities said.

The informant, a former member of the Russian military's special forces unit, was able to collect substantial evidence over a two-year period of illegal firearm sales as well as the distribution of hun-

See DRUG BUST, page 6

Jacquie Banks

310.586.0342

Great service ... every step of the way.

COLDWELL BANKER PREVIOUS

SGS

Safe Gas Services

Gas Safety Specialist

Be Prepared for the Next Earthquake

www.safegasservices.com

3017 Lincoln Blvd. • Santa Monica, CA 90405

310-664-8777

CALL NOW! EARTHQUAKE SHUT-OFF VALVES SAVE LIVES!!

SMALL BUSINESS STARTUP?

Let me help you succeed

CONSULTING • BOOKKEEPING • PLANNING TAXES

SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA

(310) 395-9922

100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800

Santa Monica 90401

INVITATION TO BID

MBE/WBE/DBE and OBE subcontractors and Suppliers requested for:

Project: Ballona Creek Stormwater Trash Capture System

Project #: SZS11289

Project Location: Los Angeles, CA

Owner: City of Los Angeles

Bid Date and Time: 03/08/2006 @ 10:00am, please respond by 9:00am

Trades Requested: Traffic Control, Welding, Pipe Supply, Paving, Concrete Structures, Equipment Rental, Dust Control, Saw Cutting, Rebar, Fencing and Toilets.

Plans and specifications are available for viewing at our office at 3201 Sturgis Road in Oxnard.

Other info: If assistance with obtaining credit, insurance and/or bonding is needed, please contact Michael Ireland, Project Manager at Blois Construction, Inc.

Blois Construction, Inc.

**3201 Sturgis Road
Oxnard, CA 93030**

Phone: 805.656.1432. Ext 20

FAX: 805.485.0338

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

SUSTAINABLE CITY TASK FORCE

Applications are invited to fill two vacancies on the Sustainable City Task Force (SCTF). All persons who reside or work in Santa Monica are invited to apply regardless of race, sex, age, disability, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual preference, or ancestry. Appointment will be made at a City Council meeting in April or May 2006.

Application forms and information are available on the internet at www.smepd.org Applications are also available at the Environmental Programs Division, 200 Santa Monica Pier, Suite J, Santa Monica, CA 90401. You may request an application by mail, email or fax by calling (310) 458-2213. All documents are available in alternate format by calling (310) 458-2213

To be eligible, applications must be received at the Environmental Programs Division office by 5:00pm Monday March 6, 2006.



RELAX
QUIT CIGARETTES - SWITCH TO A PIPE OR CIGAR
BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT ADDICTIVE

THE ORIGINAL
The Tinder Box
EST. 1928

2729 Wilshire Blvd.
SM CA 90403
Ph. 310/828-4511
wilshire@ix.netcom.com

Remember: A True Pipe or Cigar smoker Does Not Inhale

- Free Parking
- Personalized Service
- Rare and unusual gifts imported from 22 different countries

ASK FOR A FREE SAMPLE OF ONE OF OUR TOBACCOS IN ENGLISH, BALKAN OR A MILD AROMATIC



HOROSCOPES

Smile away, Sag

Santa Monica Daily Press



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)

★★★★ Take the high road. Seek out facts and information. Misunderstandings occur out of the blue. Refuse to take anything personally. Know when to put a halt to messy situations. See yourself as a troubleshooter. Tonight: Choose a mental escape.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your support systems touch you on a deep level, encouraging greater involvement in your work and community. Nevertheless, you could misunderstand someone and misinterpret what is important to him or her. Tonight: Togetherness.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Many people have a distinctive style and way -- you included. Sometimes your unique style might drive others away. Others will make the effort to reverse their processing and understand where you are coming from. Tonight: Happy as a cat.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Easy does it. You like what is going on because of your ability to relate on a deeper level. Listen well to someone who cares about you. Encourage new ideas by changing your setting. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Listen to what a child or loved one presents, even though it might be hard not to get confused or you don't want to hear every detail. Perhaps you see others very differently than they are. Is it time to revise your thinking? Tonight: Spring for a fun evening.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might be like, as one might say, a cat chasing its tail. You have what it takes and will do whatever you need to do to get there, but perhaps today is not the best day to pursue this course. New beginnings are possible, but not at this very second. Tonight: Happy as can be.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You say what you want and do what you need to do, though the support you might like will not be there. Listen well, and you'll come up with new ideas and suggestions. Brainstorming sessions might be confusing. Tonight: Hang out with a pal.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your ability to jump through hoops could come into play right now. You could easily run into a problem because others simply aren't getting it. Stay centered, knowing what your priorities are. Obviously, not everyone sees life from your point of view. Tonight: Pay bills.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You're thick into your "stuff," knowing what it is you want to do. You could get flak from a family member. Though you certainly are on a roll, you need to be sensitive to where there might be some disruption. Tonight: Smile away.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ How you handle a personal matter and what you do with information needs to be well thought out. Put on your thinking cap today, but be ready to take action tomorrow. Not everything you hear is factual. Tonight: In your head.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You zero in on what you want. Finding the right answers happens through confusion, brainstorming and listening to other opinions. Though every detail might not be precise, you do have a game plan. Tonight: Where the gang is.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Take a step toward what you want. Listen well to what is going on with a boss or parent. You could easily misconstrue others' words. Be a better listener. You have your own mental filter turned on. Tonight: Work late.



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 editor@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA PARENTING

Nina Furukawa nina@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fabian Lewkowicz FabianLewkowicz@aol.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Robbie P. Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Stewart O'Dell stewarto@smdp.com

TRAFFIC MANAGER

Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Lori Luechtefeld lori@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Michael Tittinger MoNeY.T.LaRoK@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER

Annie Kotok anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Idolize hometown talent

By Daily Press staff

You don't need to go coast to coast to find new talent to idolize. All you need is access to cable channels.

Downbeat Showdown on CityTV of Santa Monica Channel 16 and LA 36 is hosted by popular hip hop poet, actor and teacher Joe Hernandez-Kolski, a.k.a. "Pocho Joe." The show will take his Downbeat 720 show to television. Most Santa Monicans know Downbeat 720 as a safe, free mentoring forum for teens to express their talents in front of an audience and have fun while gaining confidence on and off the stage.

"Downbeat Showdown is a true talent competition for eighth to 12th graders inspired by the wonderful success of our 4-year-old Downbeat 720 high school open-mic program at the Miles Memorial Playhouse," said Santa Monica's cultural arts supervisor, Justin Yoffe.

Kids compete in three categories: singer, band and poet. Viewers are judges and you can vote either as a member of the audience when the show is taped live — at the Miles Memorial Playhouse at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday from Feb. 21 to March 21 — or online at www.DownBeatShowdown.org. Online voting starts the following Thursday at noon and goes to Sunday at midnight. Competitors in each category will compete Feb. 21, Feb. 28 and March 7. The championship round is on March 14, and the final winners will perform on March 21.

Each show will air seven times on CityTV: 8 p.m. Thursdays, and 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. each Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The show will air Saturdays beginning Feb. 25 on LA 36 at 10 p.m. For more information, contact CityTV station manager Robin Gee at (310) 458-8590.

Pre-Oscars at the library

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Public Library will present a pre-Academy Awards celebration this weekend.

On Sunday, Feb. 26, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, Steve Pond, Los Angeles Times' "Oscar Beat" columnist and author of the book "The Big Show: High Times and Dirty Dealings, Backstage at the Academy Awards," will speak.

Pond has been writing about the entertainment industry for more than 25 years at publications such as Premiere, the Los Angeles Times, Rolling Stone and The Washington Post. He will be discussing his motivations for writing a book on the Oscars, as well as sharing backstage stories from the most significant entertainment event in Hollywood. A book signing will follow.

Audience members also will have the opportunity to win memorabilia related to some of this year's nominated films in a raffle prize drawing.

For more information about this free public program, contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600 or visit the library's Web site at www.smpl.org.

Samohi wants your books

By Daily Press staff

Are your bookshelves bulging?

If you are looking for a place to donate used books, Santa Monica High School is accepting them. Drop off any and all books you no longer have need for in the main office, and they will be dispersed to students. Books can range from nonfiction to romance novels to classics.

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

CAN'T FIND A DAILY PRESS NEWSTAND IN YOUR AREA? WE'LL TRY TO GET ONE TO YOU!

Santa Monica Daily Press

CALL US AT 310 / 458-7737

SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 24"-48"	LIFT HOURS 8:30am - 4:00pm	RUNS OPEN 18	LIFTS OPEN 10/12
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Made, Machine Groomed				

JUNE MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 60"-84"	LIFT HOURS 8:00am - 4:00pm	RUNS OPEN 35	LIFTS OPEN 6/6
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed				

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 96"-120"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 150	LIFTS OPEN 26/28
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed				

MOUNTAIN HIGH

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 18"-30"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 17	LIFTS OPEN 9/16
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder				

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12"-16"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 am - 4:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 0	LIFTS OPEN 3/4
CONDITIONS: Packed Powder				

SNOW SUMMIT

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 24"-48"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 9:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 18	LIFTS OPEN 14/14
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Made, Machine Groomed				

SNOW VALLEY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 30"-12"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 am - 9:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 12	LIFTS OPEN 6/11
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed				

CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 57°

DATA PROVIDED BY WETSAND.COM

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)

Today looks a lot like today with only a light mix of NW and SW ground swells in the water.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

WSW swell Monday the 27th, but weather, winds likely...

Tracking promising SW swell for 4th-5th...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

MONDAY				
LOW TIDE:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HIGH TIDE:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

TUESDAY:				
LOW TIDE:	10:54AM	0.7FT	N/A	N/A
HIGH TIDE:	1:57AM	4.6FT	N/A	N/A

WEDNESDAY:				
LOW TIDE:	11:57AM	0.1FT	9:57PM	2.9FT
HIGH TIDE:	3:28AM	4.8FT	7:40PM	3.0FT

THURSDAY:				
LOW TIDE:	12:43PM	-0.6FT	11:32PM	2.6FT
HIGH TIDE:	4:49AM	5.21FT	7:42PM	3.3FT

FRIDAY:				
LOW TIDE:	1:22PM	-1.1FT	N/A	N/A
HIGH TIDE:	5:52AM	5.8FT	8PM	3.7FT

SURF AND SNOW QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? EMAIL ALEX@SMDP.COM



SURF CENTER santa monica

✱ **Core Surf/Lifestyle Shop** ✱

**1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE
IN SANTA MONICA • 310.656.CURL**

The  Line

Sponsored by...

Merchants on Fourth Street are urging the City Council to reconsider its decision to tear up the ficus trees that have lined the street for decades. Under the current plan, half of the aging trees would each be replaced with two smaller, less-dense trees. City officials say the current tree canopy is too dense and the mature trees are tearing up the sidewalks with their roots.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, **"Do you support the plan to replace the ficus trees along Fourth Street? Why or why not?"**

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

EST. 1934 **The Galley**

Rediscover The Galley's genuine service while experiencing our new weekend brunch served on our beautiful outdoor patio.

Serving Brunch from 11AM-4PM
Full Bar-Best Bloody Mary's in Santa Monica
(310) 452-1934
2442 Main Street • Santa Monica

THE BEST IN PERSONAL TRAINING

CUSTOM FITNESS PROGRAMS
FREE CONSULTATION
SPECIAL! 3 SESSIONS FOR \$100

MAC FITNESS
ISSA CERTIFIED/FRENCH ALL NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM

310/854-9400
TRAINERMAC@HOTMAIL.COM



FUNNY PAPERZ™

presents "THE FOUR RELIGIOUS TRUTHS"

IN THESE SERIOUS TIMES, IT IS IMPORTANT
FOR ALL OF US - OF ALL FAITHS
TO RECOGNIZE THESE FOUR RELIGIOUS TRUTHS:

1. MUSLIMS DO NOT RECOGNIZE JEWS AS GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE.
2. JEWS DO NOT RECOGNIZE JESUS AS THE MESSIAH.
3. PROTESTANTS DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE POPE AS THE LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN WORLD.
4. BAPTISTS DO NOT RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER AT HOOTERS.

JOE KING

© 2006 WWW.FUNNYPAPERZ.COM

THANKS TO LARRY MILLER!

E-MAIL: FUNNYPAPERZ@YAHOO.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

School board member clarifies statement

Editor:

Re: "School district losing students (SMDP, Feb. 20, page 1).

Thank you for your coverage of our district's enrollment decline. However, your reporter misinterpreted what I said during our conversation. I made it clear that the drop in enrollment was an anticipated and desired consequence on the moratorium on permits that the school board established about five years ago. I also said that I was an avid proponent of the moratorium when we implemented it and that I still support it without reservation. I believe strongly that shrinking our schools and enhancing their sense of belonging to the community are important goals. However, I pointed out that that the revenue loss from declining enrollment was likely to force difficult tradeoffs, if not this year then in the near future. Although personally I would keep the moratorium, the community needs to weigh in on how to manage these tradeoffs. The school board will look to parents and other community members to express their opinions when this issue comes before the board.

Jose Escarce

Member, SMMUSD Board of Education

Peace must happen in the Middle East

Editor:

(This letter was originally addressed to Cliff Nichols, author of the 'Witness Stand,' in reference to his Feb. 8 column.)

I have read many of your columns that I agree with, but this time ... you sound like the Judith Miller of the new Go Get Iran Movement. You should consider a spokesperson position with AIPAC. AIPAC been lobbying everyone in Washington against Iran long before Iran's president suggested Israel be wiped off the map. Since Israel illegally occupies Palestine in the minds of many and not just Palestinians, and since Israel illegally accumulated its own nuclear weapons with our tax dollars, is it not OK for Iran's president to retaliate, if just rhetorically? Israel's leaders have tried to wipe Palestinians off the map, not just rhetorically but factually and actually. Whilst Iran's president does so publicly, AIPAC does it secretly from within the U.S. State Department, and by spreading around contributions and taking secret meetings with our politicians.

AIPAC's agenda should be more loathed than Iran's president, but it won't be because our politicians in Washington have no spine and they love campaign contributions. I don't think the U.S. should be so quick to act on AIPAC's wishes. This whole anti-Iran movement has been started by AIPAC behind the scenes for years. Just because Israel terrorizes anyone who opposes them with U.S. support and weapons, etc., does not make it right.

Especially as a Jew, I have angered many with my view. However, I would gladly vote to have my tax dollars spent to move all of my Jewish brothers and sisters to California, so we can stop supporting the illegal occupation of Palestine and perhaps we can start to live in peace, although I am certain we will still need to sustain a few bitch slaps for all the wrong the U.S. has done on behalf of groups who follow AIPAC's wishes. As all politicians know, if you don't go along with AIPAC, kiss your ass good-bye in Washington. When that ends, perhaps the U.S. won't be such a target by those presently opposing us in the Middle East.

Daniel F. Stevens
Santa Monica

The sounds of silence keep growing louder



THE
WITNESS
STAND
BY CLIFF NICHOLS

Last week it was reported that a United States Army chaplain stationed in Iraq, Capt. Jonathan Stertzbach, was ordered to stop preaching. Apparently his censure came as a result of comments he had made about the military's growing intolerance toward Christian expressions. Specifically, Stertzbach found himself in hot water for complaining about how the military was pressuring ministers to offer up only non-sectarian prayers: i.e. those that omit any mention of Jesus Christ. But, for now, that is about all that we're going to be allowed to know. The captain has now been forbidden to discuss the matter with anyone, including the press.

When the Washington Times attempted to interview Stertzbach, he would only confirm that he had been silenced. Beyond that, he could only say, "I am not allowed to talk to anyone right now." What you have been allowed to hear is the sound of silence. When we hear it, we should listen. Under the right circumstances, it has the potential of crescendoing into a deafening roar that eventually could threaten the integrity of our most fundamental freedoms.

The First Amendment in its entirety provides as follows: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." This one power-packed sentence lists six rights. How many do you think may have been violated by the silencing of Stertzbach? Most would probably say four. Some might even say five — I believe all six.

First, the military clearly has infringed upon the chaplain's right to freely exercise his religious faith. The military should not be able to dictate to chaplains what they are or are not allowed to utter in sermons and prayers. Second, the military violated Stertzbach's right of free speech when it removed him from the pulpit and again when it prevented him commenting to the press. They obviously didn't want him to be able to either air his complaints about, or resist compliance with, their unconstitutional policy. To me such censorship about matters that are non-military in nature flies in the face of the purpose for which the right of free speech was created. Third, the military violated our right to a free press by imposing a silence that necessarily limited the press' ability to freely report about non-military matters that may be of public concern. The fourth violation stems from the fact that the military's non-sectarian religious directives objected to by Stertzbach effectively are very likely to render moot the right of people to assemble for the purpose of worshipping their God in any meaningful way. When the military constrains the content of religious services in

order to achieve some non-sectarian objective, it has gutted the very purpose for which the people decided they wanted to assemble. What's the point of Christians, or for that matter members of any other faith, gathering when they are not allowed to discuss the important beliefs and precepts they share in common? How long do you think a Harley club would continue to exist if a law prohibited any discussion of motorcycles at the meetings?

That leaves us with two remaining rights found in the First Amendment: The right to petition the government for a redress of grievances and the right to be free of any religion that the government might otherwise wish to establish. In my opinion, the silencing of Stertzbach, at minimum, threatens the violation of both. Can we all agree that when a government silences its citizens its actions at the very least should become suspect? It makes it difficult for the rest of us to determine if our right to petition the government for a redress of our grievances tomorrow is being safeguarded or denied by the very same government that is busy silencing others who have grievances today. One of the things history seems to have taught us is that when a government imposes silence upon its citizens, it is likely because it doesn't want the complaints of some to be considered and evaluated by the rest — especially when the government anticipates telling the people they have silenced to pound sand.

As to our right to be free of a religion established by our government, in my view the violation of this right may be the most insidious. The silencing of Stertzbach is evidently part of the government's overall agenda to homogenize all faiths. But by doing so, is the government not in reality creating its own religion? Wouldn't all churches, synagogues and mosques eventually be compelled to become members of the Global Church of the Non-Sectarian? Even if it is being done under the façade of promoting "tolerance," who cares? What matters is, if that agenda is allowed to stand, can you see how it could eventually lead to the persecution of others who, like Stertzbach, refuse to conform to the government's future mandates that limit religious practices? The possibility of that should concern all of us.

We hear how tyranny is a cancer that is only allowed to grow within a society where a complacent majority is willing to submit to its slow and gradual encroachments. Those that founded this country would be the first to remind us today that no government is inherently "good." That it is the duty of a free people to remain constantly vigilant to keep tyranny at bay. But, practically speaking, that task is often not easy. Especially when the only indications that tyranny may be taking root are those that are allowed to whisper to us from the sounds of silence.

(Cliff Nichols is an attorney practicing criminal defense/entertainment law in Santa Monica. He may be contacted at either 310-917-1083, cliff@cliffnicholslaw.com or www.cliffnicholslaw.com, and you may join his blog at www.thedaily-stand.com.)

LOCAL



City officials intend to spread the word on Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi, from page 1

The Internet can currently be accessed at all of the city libraries, the Third Street Promenade, parts of City Hall and Virginia Avenue Park.

To expand access to the pier and auditorium will cost roughly \$1,500, Wolf said.

The costs have been kept relatively low because much of the work has been done by city staff installing off-the-shelf technology, Wolf said.

The spread of Wi-Fi is being done so that personnel in the field, such as police officers, firefighters and building and safety enforcement, can work more efficiently by being quickly linked to data.

The technology will be used later this week as part of a traffic signalization program on Fourth Street between Pico Boulevard and Colorado Avenue to help better manage traffic, Wolf said. If the project is successful, Wolf said it will be expanded to cover the entire downtown area.

"We will have ample opportunities for communicating with real-time infrastruc-

ture throughout the city," Wolf said. "Instead of digging trenches along our streets to lay communications underground, we can use Wi-Fi for communications with traffic signals, water chemistry meters and eventually remote water quality readings."

Following the city of Anaheim's lead, City Hall is looking for private companies such as Adelphia or Verizon to use the city's fiber optic network to provide every resident with the opportunity for high-speed Internet access at a low cost. To use the city's network, private companies would have to offer free Internet to residents in public spaces, Wolf said.

By trusting the free market to keep costs low, Wolf said City Hall will be able to focus on improving government communications, which in turn would help lower operating costs.

Wolf said there are no exact figures available on how many people access the Internet using the city service, but data suggests about 30 people per day.

"We haven't done much advertising about this yet," Wolf said. "But we intend to very soon."

Great Labels

DESIGNER RESALE

L.A.'s hottest resale store!



... up to 75% off

STORE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 10am - 7pm

Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday 12noon - 5pm

www.greatlabels.com

1126 WILSHIRE BLVD. SANTA MONICA 310-451-2277



John McGrail, C.Ht.

Are You Ready?



Hypnotherapy can help you turn on the no-smoking sign for good

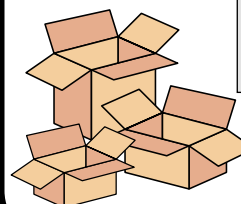
(310) 235-2883 www.hypnotherapylosangeles.com

RECYCLE NOW!

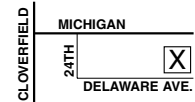


CARDBOARD: \$75 per Short Ton

(Up to \$85 per short ton) Drop-off donation bins available 24 hours in front

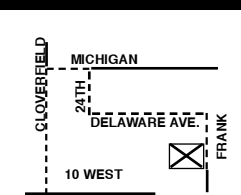


Santa Monica Recycling Center
2411 Delaware Avenue in Santa Monica
(310) 453-9677



Southern California
Transfer Company

**PUBLIC DUMP
IN SANTA MONICA**



310-828-6444

1908 Frank St. Santa Monica



THE ZONE DIET... DELIVERED!



The Party Is Over!
No More Excuses!
Lose Weight Now!

Call: 323-290-0200
www.zone-la.com

BENIHANA

for door to door directions
visit us online at
www.benihana.com

Welcome to the Longest Running
Dinner Show in the World



Try our delicious
new menu items

and let our amazing chefs
entertain you at the
Teppan Grill

NEW

Seared Hibachi Tuna Steak
Benihana Chicken Picante
Shrimp Tempura Yaki-Udon

Sample our Sake Grazer
Three distinctive blends of premium sake

Or make your own pairings from our
Sake and Snack Menu



Upstairs lounge open nightly
Evening Valet Parking corner of 4th and Broadway

Santa Monica | 1447 Fourth Street | (310) 260-1423



Now offering facials and full body waxing as a part of our services featuring Dermalogica. Come in or call today to schedule an appointment!

Glory
Beauty Supply & Salon
LUXURY PRODUCTS, ACCESSORIES & SALON

Glory Beauty Supply & Salon
1840 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404
ph 1.310.452.6800 toll free 1.888.40.GLORY
Open Monday - Saturday

Swartz **GLASS CO.**

AMPLE PARKING AVAILABLE

1726 Colorado Ave., Santa Monica

Phone: (310) 829-3625 Fax: (310) 829-0254

SMALL OFFICE CLEANING SERVICE

AVAILABLE 1-4X PER WEEK
STARTING AT \$35 PER WEEK

(Depending on size of office)

SPECIAL: SIGN UP FOR 3 MONTHS AND GET \$100 OFF



Quality Cleaning
(323) 605-7197

Share the love of a child!



Join European Adoption Consultants, Inc.

Special Guest Zhou, EAC's China Program Coordinator

Saturday, February 25, 2006

12:00PM - 3:00PM

Doubletree Guest Suites

1707 4TH Street, Santa Monica, California 90401

Free Adoption Seminar - Meet Adoptive parents and their children

VISITORS WELCOME!!!

For further information call

European Adoption Consultants, Inc.

Call today for free 866 586-5656 www.eaci.com

EAC is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization established in 1991 accredited in Russia
Over 5,500 adoptions completed from Russia, China, Kazakhstan and Guatemala

San Francisco is looking into the power of dog excrement

BY KIM CURTIS

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — City officials are hoping to harness the power of dog doo.

San Franciscans already recycle two-thirds of their garbage, but in this dog-friendly town, animal feces make up nearly 4 percent of residential waste, or 6,500 tons a year — nearly as much as disposable diapers, according to the city.

Within the next few months, Norcal Waste, a garbage hauling company that collects San Francisco's trash, will begin a pilot program under which it will use biodegradable bags and dog-waste carts to pick up droppings at a popular dog park.

The droppings will be tossed into a contraption called a methane digester, which is basically a tank in which bacteria feed on feces for weeks to create methane gas.

The methane could then be piped directly to a gas stove, heater, turbine or anything else powered by natural gas. It can also be used to generate electricity.

Methane digesters are nothing new. The technology was introduced in Europe about 20 years ago, and more than 600 farm-based digesters are in operation there. Nine are in use on California dairy farms, and chicken and hog farms elsewhere in the United States also use them.

Neither Norcal Waste spokesman Robert Reed nor Will Brinton, a Maine-based recycling and composting consult-

ant, knew of anyone in the United States who is using the \$1 million devices to convert pet waste to energy. But Brinton said some European countries process dog droppings along with food and yard waste.

"The main impediment is probably getting communities around the country the courage to collect it, to give value to something we'd rather not talk about," Brinton said. "San Francisco is probably the king of pet cities. This could be very important to them."

San Francisco — the city named after Saint Francis, patron saint of animals — has an estimated 240,000 dogs and cats.

Some experts believe methane digestion must become more attractive economically before it gets popular. Landfill space is relatively cheap, and natural gas and electricity also remain fairly inexpensive.

Reed points to San Francisco's groundbreaking food composting program, which began 10 years ago, as proof an unusual idea can work in this forward-thinking city. A Norcal Waste subsidiary collects 300 tons of food scraps per day from homes and restaurants and converts it into a rich fertilizer sold to vineyards and organic farms.

"Now, the city's asked us to look at dog waste specifically," Reed said.

Because animal waste contains disease-causing germs, composting it at home with yard waste and food scraps can be unsafe.

Two suspects are still being sought by law enforcement

DRUG BUST, from page 1

dreds of thousands of dollars worth of cocaine and a crystallized form of methamphetamine, known on the streets as "ice" or "glass."

Authorities said the suspects charged were responsible for moving drugs from California to Hawaii for sale.

Santa Monica police helped in the surveillance and apprehension of the suspects, said SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega. An officer in the police department is a member of the joint-jurisdictional task force that conducted the drug bust.

Those arrested Monday and Tuesday are: Jonathan de la Cruz, a.k.a Lazy, 24, of Los Angeles, who was charged with possession of a Galil rifle; Gennady Kievsky, a.k.a Genna, 41, of West Hollywood; and Samuil Vaisfeld, 39, Chatsworth, charged

with conspiracy to posses and intent to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine.

Also charged are: Oleg Svirsky, 41, of Sherman Oaks; Jesse Edmund Castillo, 35, of Westchester; Frank Bustamante, 34, of Inglewood; Perry Dane Rauch, 36, and Aaron Fredette, 28, of Haleiwa, Hawaii; Oleg Doroshenko, 33, of Los Angeles; and Eric Martin Cooperman, 44.

Two suspects who are currently being sought by law enforcement are Angel Jaramillo, 28, a Mexican national residing in the United States illegally, and Michael Montoya, 31, of Marina del Rey. Both are wanted for the distribution of narcotics.

The majority of the defendants were expected to be arraigned Tuesday afternoon, and some face a maximum sentence of 40 years in prison if convicted. The cases will be prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.



our edition is one click away
log on to smdp.com and subscribe to receive
the Daily Press daily to your inbox

STATE



STATE BRIEFS

Woman leaves death threat on pulpit

By The Associated Press

POMONA — A woman allegedly walked into the Islamic Center of Claremont mosque and left a written death threat on the pulpit, investigators said.

The note was signed by the woman, who also marked it with her thumbprint, mosque official Radwan Hafuda said. As she left, the woman allegedly told a female parishioner, "You see this face? Remember this face. I'll be back," Hafuda said.

FBI spokeswoman Cathy Viray said the alleged Feb. 3 incident was being examined, but she declined comment. A security camera inside the mosque recorded the incident, Hafuda said.

"We will kill every last one of you; we are at war," the note read, according to the Southern California office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. The name of the woman who left the note wasn't disclosed.

Hog on the rebound with antelope

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Shortly after his mate went to hog heaven, Willy the Red River porcine spied a new mud-pen pal in what officials are calling one of the oddest pairings at the Los Angeles Zoo.

Willy is a 10-year-old, 187-pound hog and his new mate is a 16-year-old bongo named Nicole, the largest member of the forest antelope family. The couple shares a muddy zoo exhibit where they nap and cuddle together — even nuzzling snout to nose.

"It's adorable. Wherever that bongo is, the hog is usually nearby," zoo spokesman Jason Jacobs said.

Willy's previous mate Ruby died last summer of cancer and within a week the hog turned to Nicole for companionship.

"I think he was probably lonely. He definitely was aware that his mate was gone," exhibit curator Jeff Holland said.

Nicole wasn't interested in Willy at first, but the persistent pig eventually won her over. They now share breakfast, groom each other and take walks together. Nicole leads, and Willy trails closely behind.

"I think he definitely likes her more than she likes him," Holland said.

It isn't known how long Willy and Nicole will be together. Curators hope to bring another bongo to the zoo for Nicole, probably another female, and Willy could be moved to another part of the zoo with other hogs.

TAXI SERVICE

"Santa Monica's Premier Taxi Service"



- Low Prices
- Reliable Service
- Experienced Drivers
- On-Time



21.00
TO 24.00
FROM LAX

Call Now! (310) 434-1999
www.metrocabco.com
Visit Our Website To Print More Coupons

*ASK
DISPATCH
FOR MORE
DETAILS.

PASSENGERS WANTED

**EXPRESS
TAXI**



Lotus Taxi

Express & Lotus Taxi now are one team to serve you better

We accept all competitors coupons!
20% off for seniors

Supporting Santa Monica Support Your Community

For Fast Pickup Call:
828-3333

**\$25 FLAT
TO LAX**

CALL US ABOUT ADVERTISING IN THE SERVICE DIRECTORY, IT'S ONLY \$204 A MONTH!

Santa Monica Daily Press

CALL US AT 310 / 458-7737

LEARN TO SURF LA

Surf Lessons

Private and Group
Equipment provided
CPR certified

310-920-1265

camp@learntosurfLA.com



SPORTS GRILL
Next door to 14/Below

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTIES

LUNCH TIME DELIVERY

1333 SANTA MONICA BLVD

310.899.0076

NHL NBA NCAA

WATCH IT HERE!

14 BELOW

1348 14TH ST. • SANTA MONICA, CA
310.451.5040 • WWW.14BELOW.COM

FRI • 02/17

BANYAN
+ SNS

STEPHEN PERKINS
MIKE WATT
NELS CLINE
WILLIE WALDMAN
NORTON WISDOM

With Very Special Guest:
The Nervous Return

tea leaf green
14 Below & Wagatall Present: Sat 2-18

SKELETON KEY

AFTER PARTY WITH LAYER BAND • MIDNIGHT •
+ Tarantula A.D. + Graves Brothers Deluxe : Thu 2-23

OF THE METERS

leo nocentelli
+ Gumbo Brothers + DJ MED14
MARDI GRAS PARTY • COSTUMES ENCOURAGED Sat 2-25

ERIC MCFADDEN TRIO

+ Pat McDonald + Fallwater Project + Crack Daniels
Tue 2-28 (FAT TUESDAY)

INFECTIOUS BOOKING: 323.969.0401
INFO@INFECTIOUSFORLAX.COM

Krems & Berdichevsky
Tax Professionals

310 395-0603 Over 40yrs IRS Experience!

Don't let APRIL 15th become your noose.
Take Advantage of OUR Hindsight and
Take CONTROL...Then **RELAX!**

"We're Your Back-Tax Specialist"

20% OFF Your Tax Prep Fee
when we file your Extension.

INCOME TAXES

WHAT

can get the power of email working for your business?

greatbignoise www.greatbignoise.com

745 394 metro.net

Metro Briefs
WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

Great Minds Think Alike

Saving time and money looks a whole lot smarter than sitting in traffic. Whether it's a daily commute or weekend outing, great minds Go Metro.

New Metro Map Now Available

Get a free 2006 Metro Bus & Rail System Map now at Metro Customer Centers as well as participating Ralphs and Vons supermarkets, Nix Check Cashing, Continental Currency Service and Ace Cash Express outlets.

Expo Rail Gets Go Ahead

Metro has approved the final environmental impact report on the 9-mile Exposition Light Rail Line proposed from Downtown LA along Exposition Boulevard to Venice/Robertson boulevards in Culver City. Construction is scheduled to begin this year.

West LA To Malibu On Line 534

Metro Bus Line 534 (formerly Line 434) offers service from the West LA Transit Center at Fairfax Avenue and Washington Boulevard to Malibu. The line also serves Santa Monica, Venice, Pepperdine University and the J. Paul Getty Museum Getty Villa when it reopens later this month. Check it out at metro.net.

New Pico/Rimpau Transit Center Opens

Now part of a major shopping complex, an updated Pico/Rimpau Transit Center has been relocated to adjacent San Vicente Boulevard. Improved passenger information and other amenities are prototypes of proposed upgrades for other Metro transit centers.

M Metro

If you'd like to know more,
please call us at
1.800.464.2111,
or visit metro.net

NATIONAL

Scientists dig into their pile of 4.5 billion-year-old comet dust

By The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Scientists said Monday they have begun slicing and dicing the first of hundreds of microscopic specks of comet dust, virtually unchanged since the birth of the solar system, that a NASA spacecraft successfully returned to Earth in late January.

Preliminary analysis shows the dust, captured when the robotic Stardust spacecraft flew past the comet Wild 2 in January 2004, is unmistakably cometary in origin, said Don Brownlee, a University of Washington astronomer who is the principal scientist for the \$212 million mission.

As such, the grains represent pristine samples of the primitive material that came together to form the sun, the nine planets and everything else in the solar system, including human beings.

"We believe materials coming out of comets now is the same material that went into comets 4.5 billion years ago," Brownlee told reporters at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The initial work on the samples shows they contain glassy materials, crystals like olivine and various trace elements, Brownlee said. Each tiny grain is being sliced, sometimes into hundreds of sections, for detailed analysis. Some grains are just four microns in diameter, meaning it would take 25 of them to equal the width of a human hair.

Eventually, each grain should tell scientists something about its birth billions of years ago in the wake of dying stars, as well as how they came together to form new stars.

"Dust, lowly dust, plays a very important role in both the birth of solar systems and the death of solar systems," said Lee Anne Willson, an Iowa State University astronomer.

The Stardust samples represent the first time a space mission has returned solid bits of extraterrestrial material since the manned Apollo 17 mission to the moon in 1972.

Direct study of the samples should allow astronomers, who can only peer on stars from afar, and astrophysicists, who are limited in what stellar processes they can recreate in the laboratory, to confirm hypotheses they've made about how things in the universe come together and fall apart, scientists said.

"Stardust is going to challenge the very guesses we've made," said Joe Nuth, an astrochemist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Stardust captured the comet samples in a material called aerogel, a silicon-based material that is 99.8 percent empty space. The particles left telltale tracks — some shaped like carrots, others like turnips — in the ice-cube-sized chunks of aerogel when they struck. Each particle can take hours to remove, including through the use of a computer-controlled needle that cuts around each track, Brownlee said.

"It's like taking a plug out of a watermelon," he said.

The first major science results from the Stardust mission are expected to be presented March 13-17 at the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference outside Houston.

The Stardust mission is managed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Supreme Court sides with church in a dispute over hallucinogenic-tea drinking

BY GINA HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled unanimously Tuesday that a small congregation in New Mexico may use hallucinogenic tea as part of a four-hour ritual intended to connect with God.

Justices, in their first religious freedom decision under Chief Justice John Roberts, moved decisively to keep the government out of a church's religious practice. Federal drug agents should have been barred from confiscating the hoasca tea of the Brazil-based church, Roberts wrote in the decision.

The tea, which contains an illegal drug known as DMT, is considered sacred to members of O Centro Espirita Beneficiente Uniao do Vegetal, which has a blend of Christian beliefs and South American traditions. Members believe they can understand God only by drink-

ing the tea, which is consumed twice a month at four-hour ceremonies.

New Justice Samuel Alito did not take part in the case, which was argued last fall before Justice Sandra Day O'Connor before her retirement. Alito was on the bench for the first time on Tuesday.

Roberts said that the Bush administration had not met its burden under a federal religious freedom law to show that it could ban "the sect's sincere religious practice."

The chief justice had also been skeptical of the government's position in the case last fall, suggesting that the administration was demanding too much, a "zero tolerance approach."

The Bush administration had argued that the drug in the tea not only violates a federal narcotics law, but a treaty in which the United States promised to block the importation of drugs including dimethyltryptamine, also known as DMT.

"The government did not even submit evidence addressing the international consequences of granting an exemption for the (church)," Roberts wrote.

The justices sent the case back to a federal appeals court, which could consider more evidence.

Roberts, writing his second opinion since joining the court, said that religious freedom cases can be difficult "but Congress has determined that courts should strike sensible balances."

CRIMINAL DEFENSE

The Law Offices of Clifford C. Nichols

A Law Firm Dedicated To Defending Those Charged With CRIMES

All Felonies and Misdemeanors
Juveniles and Adults

Offices Currently Located in the Searise Tower at
233 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 400
Santa Monica California
(Directly Across from The Promenade)

For An Appointment Call: (310) 917-1083

In The Case Of An Emergency, To Speak With An Attorney
Immediately Call Our 24 Hour Hotline: (310) 909-9024

INFUSE YOUR MESSAGE

COPIA CREATIVE
...creativity knows no boundaries

info@copiacreative.com • 310.8.Copia.C (826.7422) • www.copiacreative.com

MARKETING • BRANDING • DEVELOPMENT • CONSULTING

NATIONAL



Companies offer space services for remains of people without deep pockets

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER

Associated Press Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Scotty will be blasted into space — not beamed up — and Gordo is returning for his third flight.

The planned launch sometime in March of a rocket carrying the ashes of actor James Doohan, who played chief engineer Montgomery Scott on "Star Trek," and Mercury program astronaut Gordon Cooper will give a fitting send-off to two men who helped popularize human space exploration.

The craft also will hold the ashes of 185 others, including a telephone technician, a nurse and a college student.

Their families paid \$995 to \$5,300 for the flight, being conducted by one of a handful of growing businesses hoping to give a space experience to the common folk.

"It broadens the market, which is important to us because our whole business plan is about getting more people access to space," said Harvin Moore of Space Services Inc. of Houston, which is sponsoring the ashes flight. "Space needs to be affordable for all in some way."

Along with these services, space tourism businesses hope to send customers into suborbital space at a cost of \$25,000 to \$250,000 a person, far less than the \$20 million businessman Gregory Olsen paid Russia last fall for a ride to the International Space Station. Richard Branson's company, Virgin Galactic, already has 100 people who have paid \$200,000 apiece for flights, which the company has said it hopes to begin in 2008.

Kathie Mayo knew her 19-year-old daughter would have loved the idea of having her ashes sent into space. Rachael Mayo died in 2003 from complications of Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"She would have said 'It's about time, Mom, rather than keeping my ashes around the house,'" said Kathie Mayo of Winona, Minn.

Another company, ZeroG Aerospace Inc. of Seattle, hopes to launch a rocket next month with mementoes from by people who paid as little as \$49.95.

Colorado-based Beyond-Earth Enterprises plans to launch a rocket on a brief flight in October with hair samples or fingernail clippings sent by people who paid \$34.95 for the "DNA kit" package. The company will also transport science experiments — no animals allowed — for \$2,500.

So far, the response to Beyond-Earth's services has been in the low hundreds, said CEO Joe Latrell.

"We figured our market is actually Grandma and Grandpa," Latrell said. "I don't know about you, but I don't have \$200,000 to give Richard Branson to go and fly in space. If I did have \$200,000, the wife would definitely want the second home before I get any say in going to space."

Space Services' planned launch of ashes on an unspecified date next month from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California will be the fifth "memorial spaceflight" for the privately held company and its previous incarnation, Celestis Inc.

It conducted its first "space funeral flight" in 1997 with the ashes of "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry and 23 other people from all walks of life.

The ashes launched next month will be a secondary payload on a privately built Falcon 1 rocket launching an Air Force satellite. A module containing capsules of ashes will orbit for years before falling into the atmosphere, Moore said.

Doohan and Cooper's widows said the decision to send up their husbands' ashes was no different from those made by the families of the less famous.

"He always wanted to go up in space," said Wende Doohan.

Cooper, who died in 2004, piloted the "Faith 7" spacecraft in 1963 and was command pilot of the Gemini 5 mission in 1965. His widow, Suzan Cooper, said she and her daughters thought "Daddy would do it again if he could, so why not?"

Rachael Mayo adored "Star Trek" and the U.S. space program and wanted to be the first woman on Mars. "Fly Me to the Moon" was one of her favorite songs.

"This is the ultimate flight for her," her mother said.

Sen. John McCain: Bush needs to do more on immigration reform

BY SUZANNE GAMBOA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush needs to do more to help push a temporary guest worker program through Congress, Republican Sen. John McCain, the author of a key immigration bill, said Tuesday.

McCain, acknowledging that Bush has stepped up a campaign on behalf of the program, said the president has credibility on the issue because he was governor of Texas, the state with the largest border with Mexico.

"I want him to do more, from my viewpoint," McCain said in a conference call with reporters.

McCain held the conference call in advance of town hall meetings in Miami on Thursday and New York on Monday.

The administration has toyed with the idea of a temporary worker program since Bush took office in 2001. But it was pushed to a back burner by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, which triggered an outcry for a crackdown on immigration.

In early 2004, Bush laid out guidelines for a temporary worker program. But the 2004 elections made the administration and some in Congress reluctant to address it. That year, frustrated members of a Senate committee

openly criticized Bush for failing to fight for his own proposal.

Bush "is very carefully timing his involvement as debate begins" in the Senate, McCain said. "This issue is going to be decided in forums all over America."

Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., has told lawmakers the Senate will begin considering immigration legislation March 27.

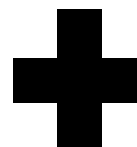
The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to vote on a bill on March 2. McCain, however, predicted the Senate would not consider immigration reform until April or possibly later because of lobbying reform legislation.

The House passed an immigration enforcement bill last year that called for building fences on the U.S.-Mexican border, allowing local law officials to enforce immigration laws, and requiring employers to verify the legal status of their employees.

Lawmakers remain divided on the 11 million illegal immigrants already in the country. Sens. John Cornyn, R-Texas, and Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., have proposed they leave the country before participating in the temporary worker program. McCain and the co-author of his bill, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., have proposed a path for workers already here to earn legal status.

DONATE Your Vehicle

Tax deductible.
No DMV hassle.



The call is free!
And so is the pick-up!

American Red Cross
1-866-7REDCROSS

1 - 8 6 6 - 7 7 3 - 3 2 7 6

Cars • Boats • RVs • Cars • Boats • RVs • Cars • Boats • RVs

FREE \$60 FACIAL
when you buy 3 \$60 Facials

FREE LIP & EYEBROW WAX
with a \$60 Facial

Gina Marchese

COMPLETE SKIN CARE

Gift Certificates Available • One offer per customer
310 562-1592 • 320 SANTA MONICA BLVD. • SANTA MONICA

Family-owned for over 25 years

PAUL'S TRANSMISSION

Thank You!

4 Free Inspections & Test Drives

SANTA MONICA: 825 Olympic Blvd. **(310) 450-6873**
CULVER CITY: 11526 Washington Blvd. **(310) 391-0533**

MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30AM - 5:30PM

TAXPAYER WARNING!

TODAY'S TAX ANSWERS
AFFECT TOMORROW'S
AUDIT!

COMPUTER + TAX SOFTWARE + LACK OF EXPERIENCE =

WHY TAKE CHANCES?

RISK, HIGHER TAXES, PENALTIES...

Would you let a wolf mind the chickens? Then don't report on an IRS site.
10% OFF Your Tax Prep Fee with this Ad!

Krems & Berdichevsky
Tax Professionals

310 395-0603 *Over 40yrs IRS Experience!*

Is Chronic Low Back Pain Controlling Your Life?

Acute and Chronic Pain Seminar
Sponsored by Lordex Spine Institute of Santa Monica

Tues. February 28 @ 7:00pm
1712 Ocean Park Blvd.,
Santa Monica, CA

If you have been incapacitated by chronic low back pain and have put your life on hold this **FREE** seminar is for you. A comprehensive presentation and a digital viewing of the latest therapy and treatment will be presented including the exciting new Lumbar Decompression Therapy (LDT) for people suffering from lower back pain lasting for six months or longer.

Conditions include:

- Chronic Back Pain
- Leg Pain
- Herniated Disc
- Foot Pain
- Facet Syndrome
- Sciatic
- Degenerative Joint Disease
- Spinal Stenosis

Space limited so register today.
Registration is required.

Please Call Lordex Spine Institute at **(310) 394-1515**
Refreshments will be served and parking is free.

Dr. Timothy Bullock

LORDEX®
SPINE INSTITUTE

Lordex Spine Institute
www.Lordex.com

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO REACH YOUR MARKET?

THINK  **IMAGINE**

Atomic Creative Group, Full-Service Project Management. Advertising. Marketing. Public Relations. Production | Phone 310.426.2456 Fax 310.426.2458 Email atomiccreativegroup@gmail.com

Living La Vida Local

**2 bed + 2 bath condo * north of Wilshire
1138 16TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403**



Asking price: \$675,000

2 bed + 2 bath 1,100+sf condo with private garden + garage in a desirable Santa Monica north of Wilshire neighborhood. Home boasts new plumbing, recessed lighting, tiled terraces, nice ambiance. Intimate building, low HOA fees. GREAT LOCATION! Close to restaurants, shopping, schools, beach.

**** Open Sunday February 26th - 1 - 4 pm. ****

**Jodi Summers * Boardwalk Realty
310.309.4219 * jodis@boardwalkrealty.com**



FULL SERVICE GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDIO

Print Design, Web Design, Printing

310.399.1269

www.studio10design.com

Our clients are happy. That is what we like.

Investors must understand how capital gains operate



DAYS ON THE MARKET

BY JODI SUMMERS

If you are investing your money — in real estate, stock, rare coins or any sort of collectible that you buy as an investment — you should have a healthy understanding of how capital gains tax works. Those in the know say, “Mastery of this convoluted part of the tax code can both soften your losses and sweeten your gains.”

In many jurisdictions throughout the world, including the United States and the United Kingdom, a capital gains tax is charged on the profit realized on the sale of an asset that was previously purchased at a lower price. The most common capital gains are realized from the sale of stocks, bonds, precious metals and property.

We all have capital gains we can deduct from our income taxes. In any given year, only 7 percent of all taxpayers report capital gains. And, of those reporting, two-thirds of them make more than \$100,000 a year.

In the United States, individuals and corporations pay income tax on the net total of all their capital gains, but the tax rate is lower for “long-term capital gains,” which are gains on assets that had been held for over one year before being sold.

Currently there are delicious incentives in place to motivate investment property owners to liquidate their real estate assets. For property sales transactions that conclude between May 6 and Dec. 31, 2013, the capital gains tax rate has been reduced from 20 percent to 15 percent. For those in the lower tax brackets, the tax is only 5 percent of the gain. In 2013, those reduced tax rates “sunset” and retreat back to pre-2003 rates — around 20 percent.

To get this complicated tax concept to work to your advantage, the first step is to understand how you are being taxed. A variety of variables come into play when you are calculating your tax rate:

- Your income from other sources.

- How long you have held the asset.

Taxes on short-term gains — assets held for less than one year — are taxed as ordinary income, which can run as high as 35 percent. Taxes on long-term gains — assets held more than one year — can range from 5 percent to 28 percent.

- The type of asset. As government irony would have it, your trilobite collection would most likely be taxed at a higher rate than your mutual-fund shares.

Once you’ve got a grasp on the different rates, you can strategize and use your losses to offset your gains.

“Almost everything you own and use for personal purposes, pleasure or investment is a capital asset,” said Smartmoney.com’s Bill Bischoff. “The IRS says when you sell a capital asset, such as stocks, the difference between the amount you sell it for and your basis, which is usually what you paid for it, is a capital gain or a capital loss.”

Your cost basis is the difference between

original purchase price. It’s adjusted for various things, including additional improvements or investments, taxes paid on dividends, certain fees, depreciation and the amount for which you sell the property.

Now for the exemptions:

- One person can exclude up to \$250,000 in capital gains on the sale of real estate if the owner used it as primary residence for two of the five years before the date of sale. This deduction jumps to \$500,000 for a married couple filing jointly. For more information, check IRS Publication 523.

- In one of those funny government twists, you must report all capital gains, but you may deduct capital losses only on investment properties. If you or your business realize both capital gains and capital losses in the same year, the losses can be claimed as a tax deduction against ordinary income and taxable capital gains. For individuals, if losses exceed \$3,000 in a year, any additional net capital loss can be “carried over” into the next year and again “netted out” against gains for that year. Corporations are permitted to “carry back” capital losses from prior years to offset capital gains, thus earning a kind of retroactive refund of capital gains taxes. See your accountant for details.

If you have taxable capital gains, you may be required to make estimated tax payments. See IRS publication 505, “Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax,” for more information.

Capital gains and losses are reported on Schedule D tax form, “Capital Gains and Losses,” and then transferred to line 13 of Form 1040. There is a worksheet in the 2005 Instructions to Schedule D to figure a capital loss carryover to 2006.

If you’re looking, you’ll notice that toward the end of each calendar year, there is a tendency for many investors to sell their investments that have lost value. Note the increased number of investment properties on the market come September.

- Individuals are able to defer capital gains taxes with tax planning strategies such as a charitable trust, installment sale, private annuity trust and a 1031 exchange.

The United States is unique in that its citizens are subject to U.S. tax on their worldwide income, no matter where in the world they reside. U.S. citizens, therefore, find it difficult to take advantage of personal tax havens.

Additional information on capital gains and losses is available in IRS publications 550, “Investment Income and Expenses,” and 17, “Your Federal Income Tax.” You may download the publications or order free copies by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

For more information on capital gains, try www.smartmoney.com.

For making capital gains and other tax scenarios work for you, consult your accountant.

(Jodi Summers is director of the investment division at Boardwalk Realty Santa Monica. Contact her at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com or call 310-309-4219. Visit her Web site at www.santamonicalandmarks.com.)

Do you have community news?

Submit news releases

Email to: editor@smdp.com or fax 310.576.9913

When in doubt, reverse the 1031 exchange



IN YOUR SPACE

BY CHRISTINA S. PORTER

Just what is a reverse 1031 exchange, how can it benefit an investor, and what are the risks involved?

A reverse 1031 exchange allows the investor to purchase a replacement property before selling the property to be relinquished. It also can be used when the investor wants to acquire a property and construct improvements on it before taking title.

The advantage to structuring an exchange that way is that the investor has more than the traditional 45 days to identify their replacement property. The main disadvantage is that the investor cannot depend on the cash coming from the sale of its relinquished property to purchase the replacement property.

The rules governing reverse exchanges can be summarized as follows:

■ The 5 Day Rule. A qualified

exchange accommodation agreement must be entered into between the taxpayer and the exchange accommodator titleholder — qualified intermediary in most cases — within five business days after title to the property is transferred to the exchange accommodation titleholder.

■ The 45 Day Rule. The property to be relinquished or sold must be identified within 45 days. More than one property can be identified using similar rules to those used when doing delayed exchanges.

■ The 180 Day Rule. The reverse exchange must be completed within 180 days of taking title by the exchange accommodation titleholder.

The key to successfully completing either a reverse or delayed exchange is good planning, having a clear set of investment objectives and having the right players on the investor's team.

Some of the members of the investor's team should be their real estate investment strategic advisor, a CPA, a real estate attorney, a qualified intermediary and a provider of 1031 replacement property.

We suggest that the investor consult with each member of their team as they

SAMPLE INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

Sample Investment Properties

Retail Name	City	State	SF	Price	Cap Rate
Davidson Plaza	Lexington	NC	126,392	\$2,830,000.00	9.80%
Malley Heights Shopping Center	Northglenn	CO	38,930	\$3,500,000.00	7.90%
Sunset-Parkson	Henderson	NV	140,000	\$3,750,000.00	7.82%
Pleasant Valley Market Place	Virginia Beach	VA	82,807	\$7,800,000.00	8.40%
Belvedere Plaza	Decatur	GA	381,253	\$26,500,000.00	7.10%

Tenant In Common (No Management)

	State	Minimum Investment	Year One Cash On Cash	Year Five Cash On Cash
Dry Stack Boat Storage/Marina	FL	\$100,000.00	6.00%	25.00%
Self Storage	NY	\$100,000.00	7.00%	10.90%
Single Tenant Net Lease Retail	GA	\$200,000.00	6.00%	7.10%
Kroger Anchored Shopping Center	GA	\$250,000.00	7.50%	8.80%
Oil & Gas	TX	\$250,000.00	20.00%	20.00%

The above is a sample of the types of properties that are selling across the country. The cash on cash amounts quoted are estimated and not guaranteed.

step through their 1031 Exchange.



(You can reach Christina Porter at 1-877-4 TM 1031 or e-mail her at christi-

na@tm1031exchange.com to discuss your specific needs. TM 1031 Exchange assists investors in planning and executing successful real estate investment strategies. Visit www.tm1031exchange.com for a complete list of investment properties and to download the TM 1031 Tool Kit. TM 1031 Exchange successfully did more than \$100 million of 1031 exchanges in 2005.)

Discover Opportunity...

Just two hours away, Downtown San Diego is booming. Minutes to dozens of world class golf courses, parks and the historic Gaslamp District...and the best ocean views in Southern California!



2 bed 2 bath + den 1,680 sqft ocean views!\$750,000
 2 bed 2 bath 1,221 sqft Ocean Views!!.....\$550,000
 2 bed 2 bath 1,700 sqft Prime water view location.....\$1,265,000
 2 bed 2 bath + den Penthouse level. Water Views!!!\$1,425,000



Prudential
California Realty

Chris Warren
 (619) 818-1666



warren@prusd.com • www.sandiegohomesdowntown.com

Defining conflicts, abstracts and liability issues for owners



THE HOA ADVISOR

BY MICHAEL CHULAK

Question: During the recent rains, the roof to my condominium leaked through a crack, causing damage to my furniture and other personal property. I have been informed by the association's insurance company that the master policy excludes coverage for my personal property. I don't have insurance. Can the association be held liable for not maintaining the roof?

Answer: Possibly. If the board of directors fell below the standard of care in maintaining the roof, it could be liable for negligence and would then be responsible for paying your damages. The fact that the roof leaked is insufficient, by itself, to prove negligence on the part of the board. For example, if the crack was new, the board would probably not be held liable for negligence. If the crack was old and the board failed to have the roof inspected, it would be more likely that a court would hold them liable. The facts of your case must be fully investigated before an educated opinion can be offered.

The lesson is clear. It is prudent for all condominium owners to obtain insurance to protect their property. It is inexpensive compared to the risk of harm an owner can suffer.

Question: Please define "conflict of interest."

Answer: A conflict of interest exists where an individual's duty to one party leads to the disregard of a duty to another. It exists when an outside influence affects a person's ability to make an independent, unimpeded, objective decision or when a person owes duties to separate parties with conflicting interests.

Whether or not a conflict of interest exists depends on the facts of a particular situation, which must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Question: Our homeowners' association recently obtained a small claims judgment for \$5,000 against a member for non-payment of assessments. What is our next step?

Answer: If you have a management company, they should be able to take any appropriate collection action. This should include filing an "abstract of judgment" in any county where the debtor owns real estate or resides. Other options include:

- Garnishing the debtor's wages.
- Seizing bank accounts.
- Seizing non-exempt personal property, such as accounts receivable.
- Conducting a debtor's examination in order to obtain the information needed to collect the debt.

Question: What is an "abstract of judgment" and what does it accomplish?

Answer: An abstract of judgment is a legal form filed with the county recorder's office that puts everyone on notice that you have a judgment against the debtor. Most importantly, it causes the judgment to attach to all of the debtor's real estate, including any real estate acquired by the debtor within 10 years of the entry of the judgment. The abstract may be renewed after 10 years, if necessary.

The recording of an abstract of judgment makes it nearly impossible for a debtor to sell or refinance real estate or to obtain new unsecured credit at favorable interest rates and terms. Thus, it is an excellent collection tool.

Judgments currently accrue interest at the rate of 10 percent per year. Also, certain post-judgment costs may be added to the judgment amount.

(Michael T. Chulak is a partner with Chulak Shiffman Quisenberry & Drescher LLP, Attorneys at Law. Questions can be e-mailed to info@CSQDLaw.com. Answers are general in nature. An attorney should always be consulted when legal advice is needed. For more information, visit www.CSQDLaw.com and www.HoaQandA.com.)

Oregon Supreme Court upholds property rights law

BY BRAD CAIN

Associated Press Writer

SALEM, Ore. — Ruling against a lower court, the state Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld a voter-approved measure that could give thousands of Oregonians a chance to develop property they have held since the state passed a landmark land-use law in 1973.

Measure 37 was passed by voters in 2004. Under its provisions, landowners can seek compensation from local or state agencies if land-use regulations reduce the value of their properties. If local or state government can't afford to pay the compensation, those regulations can be waived.

More than 2,000 claims have been filed since Measure 37 took effect in December 2004.

The law has been in a legal limbo since October when Marion County Circuit Judge Mary James said it violates the state and federal constitutions.

The state's highest court ruled otherwise on Tuesday, saying that James' arguments were not persuasive.

The ruling means that people whose claims were bottled up after James' decision can go ahead and try to get local, county and state agencies to approve their development plans.

Among them are Duane and Janice Weeks of Canby, who want to subdivide their 20-acre farm into as many as half a dozen rural homesites.

"It's amazing. I don't even believe it. We were steered that it wasn't going to go that way," Janice Weeks said in a phone interview.

While the court ruled that Measure 37 is constitutional, that is not the last word. There are still a raft of legal disputes involving such issues as whether a landowner can transfer the right to develop property through a sale or a bequest.

"Without some action by the legislature, it may be years before additional court cases begin to clarify all of the uncertainties about the law," Gov. Ted Kulongoski said in his response to the Tuesday ruling. "In the process, those cases will entail substantial costs and frustrations for state and local governments and private property owners throughout Oregon."

The group that sponsored Measure 37 hailed Tuesday's ruling as a victory for property owners.

"We hope the lawsuits end, the delaying tactics stop and that the claims can proceed. These people have waited for years to get back the use of their property," said Dave Hunnicutt, president of Oregonians in Action.

Opponents of Measure 37 were alarmed by the high court ruling, saying the character of Oregon's rural areas could be damaged by turning farmlands into subdivisions with increases in traffic and pollution.

"It is not fair to put a gravel pit next to someone's home, and that is what Measure 37 allows," said Bob Stacey, executive director of 1000 Friends of Oregon. "The government needs to find a way to pay those people who experienced a loss without sacrificing our quality of life and hurting neighbors."

Landowners began filing claims after

History of Oregon's Measure 37 in the courts

By The Associated Press

Nov. 2, 2004 — Measure 37 is passed by 61 percent of Oregon voters. Resulting from a property rights revolt, the law states that Oregonians can seek compensation from local or state agencies if land-use regulations reduce the value of their land. If those agencies can't afford to pay compensation, they can waive the regulation.

Oct. 14, 2005 — Marion County Circuit Court Judge Mary Mertens James tosses out Measure 37, saying it violates five provisions of the state and federal constitutions.

Jan. 10, 2006 — The Oregon Supreme Court hears oral arguments on the constitutionality of Measure 37.

Feb. 21, 2006 — The state Supreme Court upholds the constitutionality of Measure 37. But the court's ruling does not address numerous legal issues surrounding implementation of the law, which means the law will likely be the subject of legal arguments for years to come.

Measure 37 took effect December 2004. Counties, local governments and the state began issuing waivers because compensation would have been too costly.

But the law was put on hold when James, the Marion County judge, ruled that Measure 37 strips the Legislature of its power, gives long-time landowners an unfair advantage and fails to give their neighbors a voice in the process.

In its ruling, the state Supreme Court disagreed: "The people, in exercising their initiative power, were free to enact Measure 37 in furtherance of policy objectives such as compensating landowners."

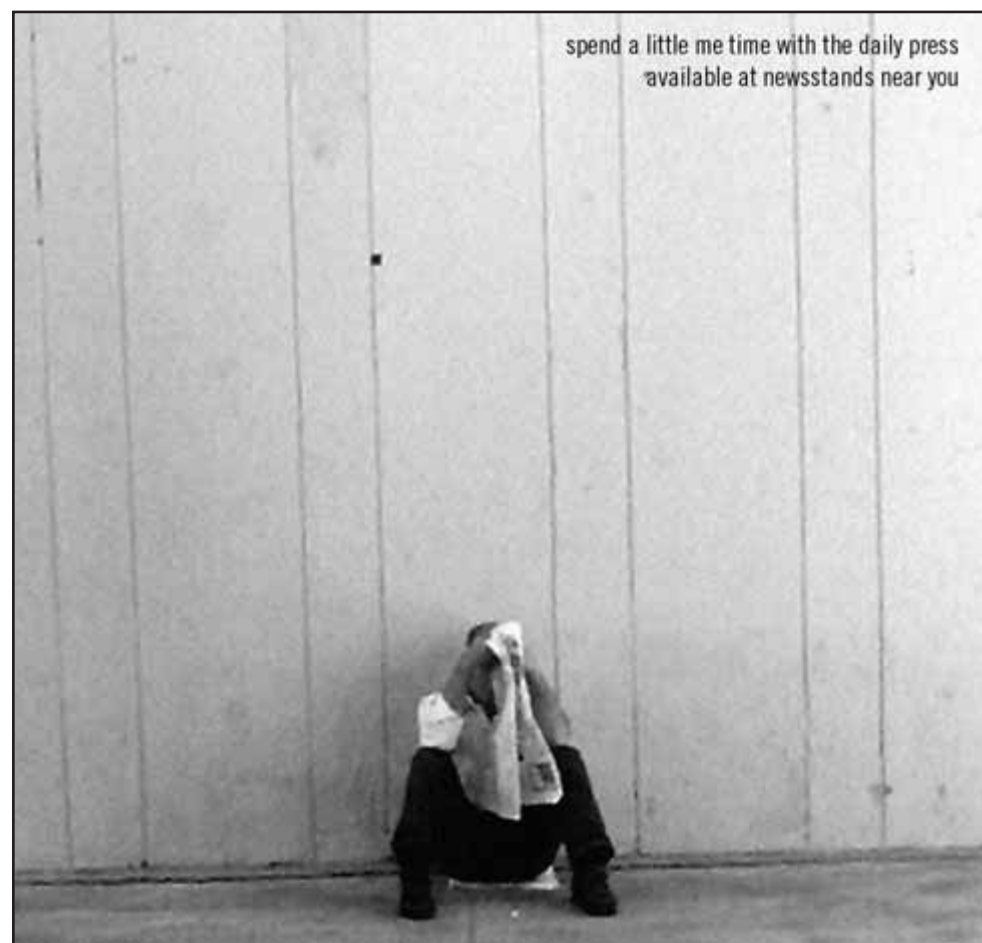
Counties have taken different approaches since James ruled against the measure on Oct. 14. Some counties have continued to accept and process claims for compensation by landowners, while others put them on hold pending a final resolution to the legal case. Without money to compensate claimants, many counties and state agencies instead waived regulations.

Oregon in 1973 adopted land-use policies that are often regarded as a model for protecting America's farmland and other open space. The combination of local, county and state regulations has confined most new housing to already built-up areas.

Those laws sparked a property rights revolt that led voter passage of Measure 37 after proponents argued that it was only fair to compensate property owners for losses caused by land use regulations.

Advocates on both sides of the issue were hoping that Tuesday's decision would give Oregon's new land-use task force clear guidance on where to take Oregon's 30-year-old land use planning system, regarded as the strictest in the nation.

Kulongoski and legislative leaders recently appointed what's been called the "big look" panel to propose reforms.



GOOD THING YOU RECYCLE YOUR PAPER...
CHANCES ARE YOU'RE READING IT AGAIN.



Decision on ports turns into political headache

BY WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bill Frist called Tuesday for the Bush administration to stop a deal permitting a United Arab Emirates company to take over six major U.S. seaports, upping the ante on a fight that several congressmen, governors and mayors are waging with the White House.

"The decision to finalize this deal should be put on hold until the administration conducts a more extensive review of this matter," said Frist. "If the administration cannot delay this process, I plan on introducing legislation to ensure that the deal is placed on hold until this decision gets a more thorough review."

But at the Pentagon, the UAE was praised as an important strategic military partner by both Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Rumsfeld told that a process was in place and "the process worked."

"Nothing changes with respect to security under the contract. The Coast Guard is in charge of security, not the corporation," Rumsfeld said.

"We all deal with the U.A.E. on a regular basis," he added. "It's a country that's been involved in the global war on terror ... a country (with which) we have very close military relations."

Pace said that "military cooperation is superb" with the U.A.E.

In the uneasy climate after the Sept 11 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration decision to allow the transaction is threatening to develop a major political headache for the White House.

"I'm not against foreign ownership," said Frist, "but my main concern is national security." He was speaking to reporters in Long Beach, Calif., where Frist was doing a fact-finding tour on port security and immigration issues.

The administration, however, insisted that national security issues had received a full airing before the interagency panel that reviews such transactions gave the go-ahead for the deal.

Frist, R-Tenn., spoke as other lawmakers, including Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., and Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said they would offer emergency legislation next week to block the deal ahead of a

planned March 2 takeover.

Frist's move comes a day after two Republican governors, New York's George Pataki and Maryland's Robert Ehrlich, voiced doubts about the acquisition of a British company that has been running six U.S. ports by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates.

The British company, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., runs major commercial operations at ports in Baltimore, Miami, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York and Philadelphia.

Both governors indicated they may try to cancel lease arrangements at ports in their states because of the DP World takeover.

"Ensuring the security of New York's port operations is paramount and I am very concerned with the purchase of Peninsular & Oriental Steam by Dubai Ports World," Pataki said in a statement. "I have directed the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to explore all legal options that may be available to them."

Ehrlich, concerned about security at the Port of Baltimore, said Monday he was "very troubled" that Maryland officials got no advance notice before the Bush administration approved the Arab company's takeover of the operations at the six ports.

"We needed to know before this was a done deal, given the state of where we are concerning security," Ehrlich told reporters in the State House rotunda in Annapolis.

The arrangement brought protests from both political parties in Congress and a lawsuit in Florida from a company affected by the takeover.

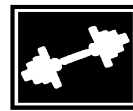
Public fears that the nation's ports are not properly protected, combined with the news of an Arab country's takeover of six major ports, proved a combustible mix.

Republican Sen. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina said on Fox News Sunday that the administration approval was "unbelievably tone deaf politically," and at least one Senate oversight hearing was planned for later this month.

Critics have noted that some of the 9/11 hijackers used the UAE as an operational and financial base. In addition, they contend the UAE was an important transfer point for shipments of smuggled nuclear components sent to Iran, North Korea and Libya by a Pakistani scientist.

get fit ... feel good

THE EASTON GYM



COMPLETE FITNESS FACILITY FREE PARKING EASTON GYM IS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD GYM
1233 THIRD STREET PROMENADE, SANTA MONICA (310) 395-4441

Discount rates WITHOUT DISCOUNT SERVICE.

It's no accident more people trust State Farm to insure their cars. Call today.



David B. Rosenberg, Agent
Insurance Lic. #0618319
1220 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica CA 90401
Bus: 310-458-3400

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR



STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company (Not in NJ), Bloomington, IL

P040034 12/04



Private Fitness Studio

Specializing in:

Custom Fitness Programs
Bodybuilding-Shaping
Strength Training
Weight Management

Free Fitness Consultation

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

216 Pico Blvd # 17 ~ Santa Monica Beach
Fabian@Fitbyfabian.com or 310-399-7049

INEXPENSIVE, QUALITY CARPET CLEANING

residue free * anti soiling treatment * 1 hour dry time

APARTMENT SPECIAL: \$25 PER ROOM.

FREE HALLWAY CLEANING

2 room minimum, includes free pre-vacuuming



Rob's Carpet Care 310-729-2931



High court declines to hear Montana mining appeal on 'takings'

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday declined to hear an appeal by a Colorado mining company over Montana's 1998 ballot initiative that prohibited new cyanide "heap-leach" gold mines.

The court, without comment, rejected the request by Canyon Resources Corp., which contends the voter-approved initiative amounted to an unconstitutional "taking" of its property.

The state Supreme Court had previously rejected the company's arguments in a separate, similar lawsuit.

"We are disappointed but not surprised by this outcome," said James Hesketh, Canyon Resources president and chief executive. "While we feel that we have a strong case, competition for space on the Supreme Court's crowded docket is high."

The company said in a statement it may go back to U.S. District Court in Montana, where a trial on merits was earlier denied on procedural grounds.

Canyon Resources contended it acquired a property right to mine land near Lincoln when it obtained mineral leases on state land and that its property — the value of the leases — was illegally taken when Initiative 137, passed by voters in 1998, outlawed cyanide use in such mines.

The Montana Supreme Court agreed with the state that the company had no operating permit ensuring it could mine using cyanide at the time the ban was enacted, so it had no property right that could be taken away by the initiative.

The company said it spent \$70 million in developing the Seven-Up Pete Joint Venture project since 1989 and tens of millions more were lost by being unable to mine the claim.

The company had filed a similar claim in federal court. It was that claim that the U.S. Supreme Court rejected Tuesday.

The mining venture estimates there is about 9 million ounces of gold and 20 million ounces of silver at to be mined at the Lincoln location, and more than half could be recovered by using cyanide.

Building around wine

By The Associated Press

BIG SKY, Mont. — Bob Lodge's wine cellar is more like a wine cathedral.

The room in his home that he has set aside for wine has a tile mosaic, lights with dimmers and a waterfall to keep the humidity — the most important and difficult component of a fully stocked Montana wine room — just right for the 850 bottles racked up inside.

The racks, an intricate design of redwood, line two of the room's walls and perfectly frame the dusky-color wine bottles that are stacked to the ceiling.

A glass door with grapes etched into the surface lends a sense of openness to the room, and contradicts the perception of wine cellars as dark, dank, cobweb-draped chambers.

"We drink a lot of wine, our friends like wine so we decided to go with it," Lodge said of the room, which cost several thousand dollars.

Lodge's wine room is indicative of the new trend toward wine-rooms that are as pleasing to the eye as the wine stored inside is pleasing to the palate.

Much of Lodge's wine cellar was designed and built by Greg Vilican, a former Bozeman wine seller who decided to get out of that end of the business and concentrate on building wine rooms.

He helped design the wine room, and installed the wood shelves. The finished product looks flawless, with no visible nails.

"I'm very happy with his work," Lodge said. "He was very good about ideas."

Lodge's wine collection is, as he alluded to, mostly for consumption.

Actually, Vilican said, 850 bottles is not as much as people think.

"You may think that's an awful lot, but these people entertain a lot," Vilican said. "This is not a collection. It's for entertaining."

Another Vilican-designed wine room, in a home at Moonlight Basin ski resort, however, was constructed just for the purpose of storing wine for decades.

The room features 10-foot ceilings and is so large that Vilican had to install a rolling ladder to move around the room. It is climate controlled and is decorated with a mural of the surrounding mountains.

Since he started building wine rooms just over a year ago Vilican has created 14 rooms in and around the Gallatin Valley. And although they can top out as high as \$23,000, they're not just for the very rich, he said.

"I've done them from \$2,000," he said. "There are television sets for \$3,000 to 4,000, so is that just for the rich? It just depends on your lifestyle."

Vilican's company, Vineyard Selection, is a subfranchise of a national company specializing in wine racks and wine rooms.

Vilican, who was already comfortable doing woodwork when he decided to make the career switch, had to attend classes in Ohio before he was given the green light to operate under the Vineyard Selection name. After that, his first two projects were done under the supervision of the company's owner, who flew in to help.

The rooms can be built with almost any kind of wood, he said, except cedar. "It will spoil the wine."

After that, two key factors come into play: temperature and humidity.

"What you really want is 55 degrees and for humidity you want it at 70 percent," Vilican said. Typically the humidity in Montana hovers around 30 percent, he said.

Humidity has no effect on the wine itself, but it can be murderous on the cork. A cracked cork means the wine is exposed to air and can be ruined.

Keeping the temperature around 55 degrees slows the aging process to a minimum.

Ken Meagher of Bozeman decided last summer that he wanted a wine room on the first floor of his Bozeman home.

Meagher's wine selection is a little smaller than Lodge's, at about 650 bottles, but he said any wine collection needs a good place to rest.

"Anyone who is interested in wine needs a system," Meagher said.

Without it, wine connoisseurs wind up with boxes of wine stacked all over the house, he said.

His wife, who met Vilican when he was running the Wine Gallery wine store, had heard that Vilican was doing custom wine rooms and wine racks.

Rather than build a whole new room for Meagher's wine stock, Vilican blocked off one side of the large bottom floor using sliding-glass panels and a glass door. The glass helps keep the right level of moisture present, but creates an airy, open feel.

The other side of the room Meagher has converted into a weight room.

Vilican predicted that business will keep booming because of wine's popularity.

"It's definitely in vogue now," he said. "Not a day goes by that there's not a magazine that comes out that doesn't have something about the benefits of wine."

The Daily Press connects you with consumers who are most likely to buy.

voted **#1** by Santa Monica residents¹

audited distribution **19,000**³

average readers per copy **2.1**

daily readership **39,900**

useful tool for **BUSINESSES**

direct reach to **LOCALS**

weekly readership **239,400**

local source for **TOURISTS**

75% of readership is **25-54** years old

AFFLUENT educated readership



5 FREE
quarter page display ads²

Call today
310-458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

Animal-lover Betty White honored

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Happy Homemaker is now an animal ambassador.

Betty White, whose many TV roles included domestic guru Sue Ann Nivens on “The Mary Tyler Moore Show” in the 1970s, was honored by the Los Angeles Zoo Monday for her commitment to animals.

The zoo made the Emmy-winning star an Ambassador to the Animals at a ceremony attended by about 50 people, including Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

A bronze plaque will be placed next to the zoo’s gorilla exhibit, home to White’s favorite animal.

“Betty has such a big heart and a beautiful spirit. She is a ‘Golden Girl’ in every sense of the word,” Villaraigosa said, referring to White’s former TV series, “The Golden Girls,” which ran from 1985 to 1992.

White, 84, joked that the honor would make her “tough to live with from now on.”

“I’m not sure what I’m going to do as ambassador except to love the animals as I have all my life,” she said.

White has served for more than three decades on the Morris Animal Foundation and the board of the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, and has been a zoo commissioner for eight years.

She also has written two animal-related books and received the Humane Award from the American Veterinary Medical Association.

“She’s the real deal,” said Madeline Bernstein, president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals-Los Angeles.

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Sarajevo’s authorities declared Luciano Pavarotti an honorary citizen because of his support for Bosnia during the war here.

“During the war he organized humanitarian concerts ... and established a music academy in Mostar,” Josip Jurisic, Sarajevo’s deputy mayor, said Tuesday.

The award will be presented to the 70-year-old tenor in April, when he will hold a concert in Sarajevo.

Pavarotti and U2 lead singer Bono were heavily involved in collecting humanitarian aid during Bosnia’s 1992-95 war. U2 dedicated a song to the city’s suffering — “Miss Sarajevo.”

After the war, Pavarotti financed and established the Pavarotti Music Center in the southern city of Mostar to offer Bosnia’s artists the opportunity to develop their skills and experts to perform music therapy with children traumatized by the war.

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. — Ricky Gervais’ podcast is going commercial.

A New Jersey-based company announced Tuesday it will begin selling subscriptions to “The Ricky Gervais Show” next week.

Gervais and Stephen Merchant, the team behind the BBC’s acclaimed comedy series “The Office,” launched the podcast in December. Podcasts are audio recordings that are posted online; most are free.

The 30-minute show contains much scatological humor. It features the pair interviewing Karl Pilkington, a producer at their old radio show, about topics such as the cognitive abilities of chimpanzees and the existence of vampires and ghosts.

Wayne-based Audible said it will offer two seasons of the show — one starting Feb. 28 and one in the fall — each with at least four episodes. The podcasts will cost \$1.95 per episode or \$6.95 per season.

LAS VEGAS — Celine Dion and Elton John sang together for the first time at a benefit to raise money for Harrah’s Entertainment Inc. workers affected by last year’s hurricanes.

The pair, who sang duets of “Sorry” and “Saturday Night” before a packed Colosseum at Caesars Palace on Monday night, also were joined by Jerry Seinfeld to raise \$2.1 million for some

8,000 casino workers in the Gulf Coast region.

The money came on top of \$4.5 million the world’s largest casino operator already had collected for its staff, said Harrah’s CEO Gary Loveman.

“I’ve played in Biloxi (Miss.) many times,” John said. “I’m just glad we can do a little something for those people’s lives that will never be the same again for many, many years. God bless them.”

Some 4,100 people paid \$100 to \$1,000 each to watch the trio take turns on the stage.

NEW ORLEANS — Steven Seagal will reign as this year’s celebrity monarch for the Krewe of Orpheus, a lavish Carnival parade that Harry Connick Jr. founded.

Seagal will be the celebrity spokesman for Rebuilding Together, the nation’s largest volunteer home rehabilitation group.

Rebuilding Together has partnered with the Mardi Gras krewe to publicize the group’s efforts to rebuild 1,000 Gulf Coast homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

The 54-year-old actor will lead the 27-float parade on Feb. 27, or Lundi Gras. Mardi Gras is Feb. 28.

SYDNEY, Australia — Harrison Ford was greeted by hundreds of screaming fans at the Australian premiere of the thriller “Firewall.”

Accompanied by his girlfriend, former “Ally McBeal” star Calista Flockhart, Ford told reporters Sunday that he was happy to be back in Australia for the first time in 12 years.

“It’s been a while, it’s good to be back,” the 63-year-old actor said.

In “Firewall,” Ford plays Jack Stanfield, a computer-security expert forced to help carry out a \$100 million cyber bank job after a crook takes his family hostage.

Asked why he was attracted to the role, Ford said: “I like to play a real person who has a real life and family. I just thought it would be a good movie for an audience to enjoy.”

Santa Monica Daily Press
MOVIEGUIDE
SHOWTIMES FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2006

Broadway Loews Cineplex
1441 Third St.
(310) 458-6232

The Matador
1 pm 3:15pm 5:30pm 8pm 10:15pm
Winter Passing
11 am 2:15pm 5pm 7:45pm 10pm
Walk the Line
1:45pm 4:30pm 7:30pm 10:30pm
Transamerica
1:30pm 4:15pm 7:00pm 9:45pm

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

Neil Young: Heart of Gold
12pm 2:30pm 5pm 7:30pm 10:10pm
Underworld: Evolution
12:30pm 3pm 10:30pm
Firewall
11:40am 2:20pm 4:50pm 7:20pm 9:50pm
Munich
11:20am 2:50pm 6:30pm 10pm
The Pink Panther
11:30am 2pm 4:30pm 5:30pm 7pm 8pm 9:30pm
When a Stranger Calls
1pm 3:10pm 5:20pm 7:40pm 10:20pm

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

Eight Below
1:20pm 4:10pm 7pm 9:50pm
Chronicles of Narnia
12:50pm 4pm
Capote
7:40pm 10:15pm
Curious George
12:40pm 2:45pm 5pm 7:20pm 9:30pm
Syriana
7:25pm 10:20pm
Final Destination 3
2:20pm 4:40pm 7:15pm 9:40pm
Nanny McPhee
12:30pm 2:50pm 5:10pm
Date Movie
1pm 3:10pm 5:20pm 7:30pm 9:50pm
Freedomland
1:30pm 4:20pm 7:10pm 10pm

Nuwilshire Theatre
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
(310) 281-8228

Brokeback Mountain
12:15pm 1pm 3:45pm 4:30pm 7pm 8pm 10pm

Laemmle Four-Plex Theatre
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Matchpoint
1:10pm 4:05pm 7pm 9:55pm
The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada
1:40pm 4:25pm 7:10pm 10:05pm
Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story
1:10pm 3:25pm 5:40pm 7:55pm 10:10pm
Good Night, and Good Luck
1:15pm 3:30pm 5:45pm 8pm 10:15pm

Questions or comments? Email calendar@smdp.com

MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1819, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

In 1879, Frank Winfield Woolworth opened a 5 cent store in Utica, N.Y.

In 1889, President Cleveland signed a bill to admit the Dakotas, Montana and Washington state to the Union.

In 1892, “Lady Windermere’s Fan,” by Oscar Wilde, was first performed, at London’s St. James’s Theater.

In 1924, Calvin Coolidge delivered the first presidential radio broadcast from the White House.

In 1935, it became illegal for airplanes to fly over the White House.

In 1973, the United States and Communist China agreed to establish liaison offices.

In 1984, a 12-year-old Houston boy known publicly only as “David,” who’d spent most his life in a plastic bubble because he had no immunity to disease, died 15 days after being removed from the bubble for a bone-marrow transplant.

In 1987, pop artist Andy Warhol died at a New York City hospital at age 58.

Ten years ago: The space shuttle Columbia blasted into orbit on a mission to unreel a satellite on the end of a 12.8-mile cord. President Clinton announced he would nominate Alan Greenspan to a third term as chairman of the Federal Reserve. Russia and the head of the International Monetary Fund reached a deal for a loan of more than \$10 billion to back up free-market reforms.

The advertisement features a blue background with a subtle pattern of ice cubes. In the top left corner is the Liquid Ice logo, a blue diamond with a yellow outline and a white drop shape inside. Below the logo, the words "LIQUID ICE" are written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with "ENERGY DRINK" in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font below it. On the right side, the text "This Is No 'Bull'" is written in a large, red, italicized, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a can of Liquid Ice Energy Drink, tilted diagonally. The can is blue with a yellow and white logo and the words "LIQUID ICE ENERGY DRINK" and "HIGH PERFORMANCE DRINK" on it. In the bottom left corner, the text "If you're gonna play the game you're gonna need the energy" is written in a large, blue, sans-serif font, with "the energy" in a slightly larger font size.



COMICS

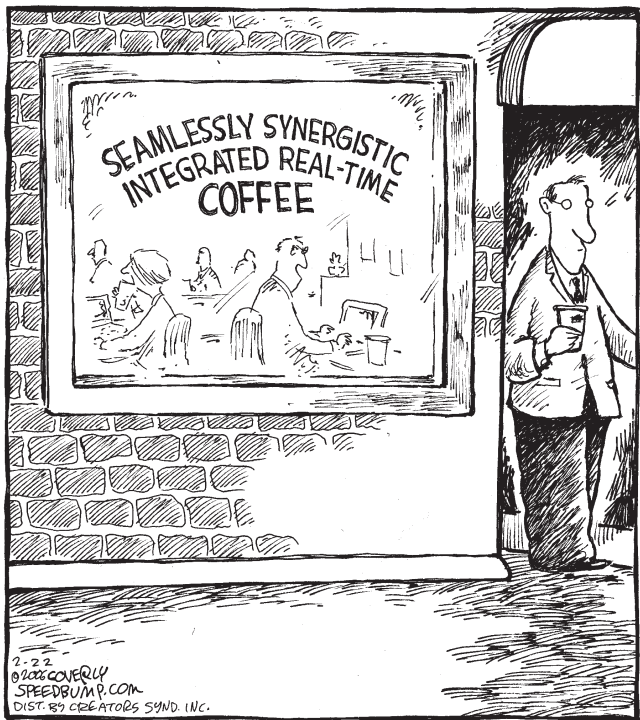
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Garfield® By Jim Davis



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Woods' forte
- 5 Stocks the party
- 11 Two-reed instrument
- 12 Slow passage
- 13 Lascivious
- 14 Mandrill, for one
- 15 Color
- 16 Brewery need
- 17 Singer Bonnie
- 19 Poker prize
- 22 Heston film
- 24 Replay feature
- 26 Fork choice
- 27 Traveling
- 28 Commencement
- 30 Auguries
- 31 Glimpse
- 32 Fighting
- 34 Watch part
- 35 Cavern dweller
- 38 Basketball shots
- 41 One of the Bears
- 42 Charm
- 43 Manipulative sort
- 44 Singer Holiday
- 45 Barber's call

DOWN

- 1 Olympian's goal
- 2 Follow orders
- 3 Like most of these letters
- 4 G-man
- 5 Labrador explorer
- 6 Makes ready
- 7 Bar bills
- 8 I strain
- 9 Southern resort
- 10 Icarus, to Daedalus
- 16 Concealed
- 18 Staff member
- 19 Politician's loyal supporters
- 20 Mideast sultanate
- 21 Contents of Santa's bag
- 22 God of love
- 23 Solitary
- 25 Himalayan monk
- 29 Asian capital
- 30 Night flier
- 33 Sample
- 34 Boring
- 36 High point
- 37 Pucker-inducing
- 38 Research spot
- 39 French friend
- 40 Actor Brynner
- 41 Groan inducer

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12					
13					14					
15				16						
		17	18					19	20	21
22	23				24	25				
26						27				
28				29	30					
31				32	33					
			34					35	36	37
38	39	40					41			
42							43			
44							45			

2-22

CLASSIFIEDS

CALL NOW!

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

310.458.7737

IS YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN AGING GRACEFULLY?

WE LIVE WHERE YOU LIVE.®

Keep your money hard at work, with 401(k) rollovers, TSAs, annuities and more. Call me to get started today.

Troy Wilson Lic.#: 0D75687
2451 Santa Monica Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA
310.315.1955

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Providing Insurance and Financial Services • statefarm.com®

State Farm Life Insurance Company, In NY and WI - State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company, Bloomington, IL. Annuities and other products offered by State Farm affiliates are not FDIC insured, not guaranteed by State Farm Bank, and are subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal. Consult your tax or legal advisor for specific advice.

\$5⁵⁰ 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 40,000.

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

Career opportunity. Female real estate broker needs personal assistant "wanna be agent" preferred. Part-time \$184/week plus commission (310) 820-6059

CAHSIER ORDER taker/ chef, full-time or part-time. Must speak English and have experience. Please call (310) 985-0080

CLERICAL ASSISTANT wanted. Sending out tapes, press kits, etc. errands, answering email, must have own transportation and mobile phone. starting \$15 per hour. Call (818) 789-2219

★ ADVERTISING SALES ★
Seeking: Self-Motivated, Energetic, Experienced Professionals.
Well established Co.
50+ years in L.A.
• High Commissions • Paid Weekly • Leads Furnished
Newspapers - Magazines
Classified & Display: Real Estate, Ethnic, Entertainment, Military, Business, Finance...
Call: **Paul 213-251-9100, Ex-25** and/or Please visit:
www.theglobalmediagroup.com/jobinfo.htm

FIT FEMALE MODEL WANTED FOR FIGURE DRAWING BY ARTIST. No experience necessary call. (818) 501-0266

FT ADMIN Assistant
Private school in SM seeking FT Admin Assistant. Must be bilingual in Spanish. Hours 7-4pm. Prior customer service exp & computer skills needed. Fax resume to (310) 828-5636 or mail to: School/Attn:HR 2118 Wilshire Blvd. #454, SM, CA 90403.

I WANT to hire a clean, homeless person. Robert (310) 394-1533

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the housekeeping department of Century City Doctors Hospital. All shifts available, PT/FT. Hospital housekeeping preferred. Call (310) 557-7785 for interview.

KITCHEN HELPER. Newly opened Japanese restaurant in Santa Monica is looking for a kitchen helper. Experienced p/t. Kaido restaurant. Call Hiro (310) 800-3248

LOOKING FOR professional, ambitious medical/dental administrator/receptionist, customer service. F/T. With experience preferred. Email resume media_najafi@hotmail.com

MEDIA SALES F/T or P/T Radio Publicity or Music Air play Campaign Sales. (310)998-8305 ext.86

NAZARETH HOUSE, a Long Term Care Facility in West LA has an opening for part-time RN or LVN for day and evening shifts. To apply send resume to mbrody@nazarethhousela.org or call Sister Margaret at (310)839-2361

OFFICE ASSISTANT for friendly SM medical practice four afternoons per week. \$14/hr. Call Robyn (310) 829-7593 (310) 664-8818

PARKING CASHIER Commercial Building Beverly Hills: Duties include cash handling, customer service, and reports. Must be legal, English speaking. (310) 657-8798

PART TIME retail sales/manager position available immediately. Santa Monica. \$10/hr. Retail experience/computer literate preferred. Call (310) 828-6500

POSTNET, OF Santa Monica, is looking for an Asst. Customer Service manager. Must be computer literate, word/excel, cash handling. Some weekends are required. Sales experience in shipping a +. Send resume to postnetsm@msn.com.

Employment

PART-TIME
SALES position available at nice Santa Monica Fine paper store that features custom invitations and stationary. Work 3 days a week, 11am-5pm. Days change each week. Pleasant atmosphere! Apply by faxing resume to (310) 394-4579 or e-mailing it to wilwespaper@aol.com. Applicants may also apply in person at Wilshire West Fine Paper, 3023 Wilshire Blvd.

RETAIL SALES
Omaha Steaks. P/T, flexible hours. Excellent starting pay. WLA. Call Al (310)445-3933

SALES
SALES of cruise and tour packages. 39 Year Old National Tour Company. Paid training, flex 30 hrs/ week. Some weekends required. Base + comm. No cold calls. \$40,000 possible for top closers. Near LAX (310) 649-7171.

For Sale

GRANDFATHER CLOCK. Windsor cherry. Brass weights, pendulum. cable-driven. Westminster chime. Silence option. Locking. \$500. (310) 306-7184

RATTAN FURNITURE for Sale: full set, settee, love seat, chairs, dinette table with chairs, small fridge, etc. (310) 828-6931

SPA/HOT TUB 2006 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5750, sell for \$1750 (310) 479-3054

Pets

TINY YORKIE puppies, male & female, toy/t-cup size available, shots & dewormed, registered with CKC or AKC, health guarantee, home raised and very loving & sweet, for more info please click on www.worldken-nelusa.com or call Kelly at (323) 823-1803/ (661) 675-6371

Advertise! Call us at (310) 458-7737

For Rent

2724 ABBOT Kinney Bl. Studio, gated building with subterranean parking. Newer building with courtyard area, quiet neighborhood. Laundry room, parking. 1 year lease, no pets. \$1095. Mike (310) 578-9729 ellynesis.com

501 N. Venice single unit 5 and 10, \$950. Stove, fridge, carpets, blinds, laundry, no pets, utilities included. (310) 574-6767 jkwproperties.com

Your ad could run here!

© Call us today at (310) 458-7737

BEST RENTALS
ELLY NESIS Co. Inc
(310) 396-4443
ellynesis.com

LOCATED STEPS north of Montana in a very desirable location with many shops & restaurants. Close to ocean. Has front & back yard. Front building has fireplace in living room, 1 bedroom & bath, kitchen. 1 car garage, rear building has 2 offices & laundry/utility room with hookups. All building fully networked for computers. Zoned commercial in residential neighborhood. Perfect for living work space. \$6500/mo Nurit (800) 714-4993

SENIORS- AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Live in a BEAUTIFUL apt/suite in Beverly/Fairfax or Santa Monica: **Starting at \$400/month**
(323) 650-7988

For Rent

ROQUE & MARK Co.
2802 Santa Monica Blvd.
310-828-7525
SALES • RENTALS
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Rentals available
No Pets Allowed

SANTA MONICA

847 19th St. \$1325
Lower 1 bed, hardwood floors, New stove, _ block S. of Montana

817 Hill \$1750
Lower 2 bed, 1 _ bath, new carpet, linoleum Blinds, & dishwasher, gated entry

OFFICE SPACE

1247 Lincoln, SM, \$695
2nd floor, 3 room office, _ block to Wilshire, negotiable terms

WESTSIDE

11905 Avon Way, Mar Vista, \$1050
Upper 1 bed, new carpet, new kitchen & bath linoleum, gated entry & parking

1133 Amorosa, Venice, \$1250
Lower 1 bed, hardwood floors, Gas stove, laundry room

1975 Beverly Glen, WLA, \$1300
Upper 1 bed, granite kitch. Counters, Newer kitchen cabinets, Pergo floors,

21 S. Venice Blvd, Venice, \$1400-\$1450
Lower & upper 1 bedrms, steps to beach, Fridge, stove, & parking

12258 Montana, BW, \$2200
2 bed, 1 _ bath, new granite counters, New carpet, gated entry & parking

FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO
WWW.ROQUE-MARK.COM

FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals. Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90403.

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310) 869-7901

Most buildings are pet friendly!

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AT:
www.howardmanagement.com

NEW storage unit in Venice Beach, 10'x14'. Great for business storage or personal extras, only \$225! (310) 396-4443 x2002 ellynesis.com

SANTA MONICA \$1300/mo
2bdm/1Bath. Carpet floors, upper corner, parking , stove no pets (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1695/mo
2bdm/2bath, Carpet floors, laundry, stove, dishwasher, yard, balcony, patio. (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

Advertise! Call us at (310) 458-7737

For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$2485/mo
3bdm/2.5bath North of Wilshire, parking, laundry, dishwasher, hardwood floors (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$825/mo
Bachelor/1Bath, hardwood floors, pool, laundry, refrigerator, yard, walk-in closet. (310) 395-RENT. www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1100/mo
1bdm/1bath, no pets,carpets, upper, laundry, refrigerator, paid utilities, patio. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1100/mo
1bdm/1bath; Hardwood floors, laundry, refrigerator, stove, controlled access building, a/c. (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1325/mo
2bdm/1Bath. Garden building. No pets, new carpets, upper front, yard. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

Santa Monica \$1750/mo
2bdm/2Bath. Upper, parking, laundry, stove, balcony, Ten blocks from ocean. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2100/mo
3bdm/2Bath, new carpets, upper, 2-car subterranean parking, laundry, dishwasher, balcony. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$850/mo
Studio/1Bath. Hardwood floors, laundry, refrigerator, stove, yard, sunny, fresh paint. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SINGLE WITH loft, 9th and Wilshire SM \$1400/month. Security gate (310) 923-8521. (two available).

VENICE BEACH 1 bd, 1 ba w/ocean view, hardwood floors, 1/2 block from beach on quiet walk street. Bright and tranquil w/ fresh paint, new blinds. 1 year lease, no pets. \$1450. (310) 396-4443 x 2002 ellynesis.com

VENICE SINGLE close to beach, All utilities included \$895. 1 year lease, no pets. (310) 396-4443 x2002 ellynesis.com

VENICE, BEAUTIFUL 2 bedroom apartment close to Beach and Venice commercial centers. Very spacious unit with lots of light. 1 year lease. No pets. \$1800. (310) 396-4443 x 2002 ellynesis.com

VENICE, LARGE Venice beach apartment with a quiet courtyard and swimming pool, 4 blocks to the beach. Gated, private parking, laundry room, Available first week of March. 1 year lease. No pets. \$1295. Erin (323) 350-3988 ellynesis.com

VENICE, MDR ADJACENT. 2+2, building with gated, subterranean parking, quiet neighborhood with courtyard area & laundry room. 1 year lease, No pets. \$1745. Mike (310) 578-9729 ellynesis.com

WLA \$1275 large 1+1 upper OCEANVIEW/BREEZES, private sundeck. Top of hill, private driveway (310) 390-4610

Houses For Rent

\$2450/MO. SPOTLESS 2 bedroom + den, 2 full bath. All major appliances, hardwood floors, new blinds, new double garage, manicured private yard. West of Centinela. North of Palms. (310) 837-0285

BEL AIR House: 11797 Bellagio Rd. 2+21/2, \$4650/mo., \$500 off move-in. Stove, blinds, carpets, hardwood floors, washer-dryer hookups, fireplace, walk-in pantry, sunroom, large unique gardens, garage parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

Roommates

FREE HOUSING SERVICE

⇒ Need a little extra income?
⇒ Need help around the house?

We help match seniors with other seniors or mid-age/younger people.

(323) 650-7988
Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

Alternative Living for the Aging
A Non-Profit of 26 years

Commercial Lease

MESSAGE SPACE in Santa Monica downtown to share Safe pleasant garden complex \$35/half day Call (310) 930-5884 r.nydoo@comcast.net

SANTA MONICA. Medical Building, 9th and Wilshire. 2500 square feet, fourth floor, patio. Also third floor, 2400 square feet, can reduce to two 1200 square ft. offices (must see). Dual elevators, 3 levels of underground parking. Will construct two specs upon acceptable lease. (310) 923-8521 or (310) 260-2619.

SM HOLISTIC center, beautifully remodeled. Reasonable rates. Adequate parking. Call Robyn at (310) 829-7593 (310) 664-8818

VENICE, INCREDIBLE Campus Entire Property inc. office, garden and parking areas! Historical 1919 Craftsman house which was torn down in 2005 and rebuilt from the foundation up. Everything is first class and authentic. The space has wood ceilings, brand new antique style moldings, windows, electrical, plumbing, ethernet, communication, DVR with cameras, gated parking, storage basement, central AC & Heat, incredible gardens, 60+' of Lincoln frontage, lots of street parking on San Miguel. 853 Lincoln Bl. \$6,500 NNN (310) 396-4443 x 2006.

Real Estate

FIXER UPPERS Bargains

Call for a free list
Free recorded message.
1-800-969-8257 ID #4448
www.LaFixerUppers.net

CREDIT REPAIR EXPERTS
Permanently Remove Late Payments, Bankruptcies, Collection Accounts & Evictions. Free Phone Consultation: **(888) 239-9001**

YOUR AD
COULD RUN HERE!
CALL US TODAY AT
(310) 458-7737



Real Estate

PAC WEST MORTGAGE

2212 Lincoln Blvd in Santa Monica
1-888-FOR-LOAN
310 392-9223

VERY AGGRESSIVE RATES
TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

30 YEAR FIXED	6.75%
10 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%
7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.625%
5 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%**
3 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%**
1 YEAR/1 ARM	5.375%
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	3.375%
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1.0%**

*Rates subject to change
* As of January 11, 2006
** Denotes an interest only loan

NEW CONFORMING LOAN AMOUNTS

1 Unit	\$417,000
2 Units	\$533,850
3 Units	\$645,300
3 Units	\$645,300
4 Units	\$801,950



ROB SCHULTZ

BROKER
LICENSED CALIFORNIA
BROKER #01218743



Vehicles for sale



'00 CARRERA \$45,983
Cab, H/Top, 18K Miles,
Tip (45653290)
(800) 784-6251
www.wisimonson.com



'01 \$500 \$37,982
Silver/Ash
(1A219725)
(800) 784-6251
www.wisimonson.com

SERVICE DIRECTORY

☎ Call us today at (310) 458-7737

☎ Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Free Consultation
Laurie Levine, MFT (MFC 23031)
Santa Monica/SFV
(310) 284-3699

**YOUR AD
COULD RUN HERE!
CALL US TODAY AT
(310) 458-7737**

CARPENTRY, ELEC., PAINT, ETC...
TERMITE AND DRY ROT REPAIR
ROOF REPAIR AND WATER DAMAGE



MICROSOFT
 SONY
 ANITA SANTIAGO ADVERTISING
 LA BREA BAKERY
 NEW LINE CINEMA
 IKEA
 WELLS FARGO
 BLT
 ANSCHUTZ ENTERTAINMENT
 NBC
 GUESS INC.
 LOWES HOTELS
 NEW WAVE ENTERTAINMENT
 TRAILER PARK
 UNIVERSAL PICTURES
 MTV NETWORKS
 STAR WARS
 SPIDERMAN
 HARRY POTTER
 LORD OF THE RINGS
 UCLA

PRINTING

- Posters
- Outdoor
- Banners
- Sales sheets
- Brochures
- Stationary
- P.O.P. displays
- Standees
- Packaging
- Statement stuffers
- Menus
- Rack cards
- Booklets
- Annual reports
- Press kits
- Ad film
- Pocket folders
- Direct mail
- Counter cards
- Labels
- Postcards
- Magazines

FULFILLMENT

- Folding
- Stitching
- Stapling
- Die-cutting
- Lamination
- Collating
- Numbering

MEDIA SERVICES

- Outdoor - All mediums
- 8-sheets
- 30-sheets
- Bulletins
- Bus shelters
- Bus kings
- Bus benches
- Bus wraps

What do they know about marketing?
They know a great marketing campaign
is nothing without an excellent printer.

Positive Existence Print & Media Experts
High quality • High volume • High-speed turnaround
 Call us today - we'll get you out of any printing bind
310-314-3537 or visit us online at www.peprinting.com

Service oriented • 52 years experience • Family owned and operated

SUPPORT LOCAL B2B

Real Estate

Pacific Ocean Properties

2212 Lincoln Boulevard, Santa Monica **310.392.9223**

PREMIER LISTINGS

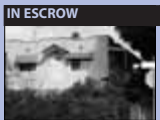


"Big Money Maker" Lots of potential, looking for investors Call for more info (310) 392-9223 50 million dollar resort which includes: Resort Components, Hotel amenities, Full Service Spa, Convention Center, 250 rooms, 40 Cabanas (2 bdrm + 1 bth), 25 houses (3 bdrm + 2 bth), 10 townhouses (3 bdrm + 2 bth), 12 Vacant lots, Restaurants, Real Estate Development,, Undeveloped Area, All sitting on 45 acres of beach property in Baja California

COMING SOON! New listing, in Westchester. Fixer. \$610,000



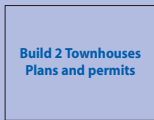
IN ESCROW
12624 FREEMAN
4 PLEX
\$670,000



IN ESCROW
2957 Lincoln Blvd.
Duplex, Santa Monica
\$1,499,000



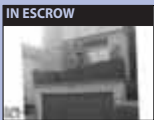
IN ESCROW
7912 Osage
Westchester
\$630,000



Build 2 Townhouses
Plans and permits
Venice Canals
\$1,825,000



NEW LISTING
1159 Nelrose Ave,
Venice
99,999!



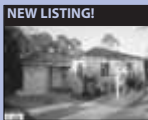
IN ESCROW
6644 Vista Del Mar
Playa del Rey
\$1,475,000



JUST REDUCED \$100K
124-126 Fowling
Ocean View Duplex
Playa del Rey
\$1,499,000



SOLD
5600 W. 79th Street
Westchester
\$649,000



NEW LISTING!
7436 Midfield
Westchester
\$669,000



Recent Transactions



1101 Superba,
Venice



1815 W. Holme
#5, Westwood



2519 4th St. #9,
Santa Monica



4020 Manhattan
Beach Blvd.



3448 Maplewood
Ave., Los Angeles



2432 21st St.,
Santa Monica



7250 W. 82nd
St., Playa del Rey



8314 Blewett
Ave., North Hills

Pacific Ocean Properties Broker Rob Schultz, #01218743

Department of Real Estate Phone - (916) 227-0864



Rob Schultz
Broker

Licensed California Broker #01381120



Pacwest Mortgage

TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

Rates as low as 6%

New conforming loan amounts:

One unit \$417,000, Two units \$533,850, Three units \$645,300, 4 units \$801,950

VERY AGGRESSIVE RATES

30 year fixed 6%

10 year/1 arm 5.75%

7 year/1 arm 5.625%

5 year/1 arm 5.5%**

3 year/1 arm 5.5%**

1 year/1 arm 5.375%

6 mos./6 mo. arm 3.375%

1 mo./1 mo. arm 1.0%***

* Rates subject to change

* As of February 7, 2006

** Denotes an interest only loan

*** Denotes Neg Am

2212 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica, CA
310-392-9223 1-888-FOR-LOAN (367-5626)