



MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE
SEE PAGE 12

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LOCAL ISSUES ISSUE



NOT FOR LONG? Santa Monica resident Liza Zereski puts plastic grocery bags into the trunk of her car in the Vons parking lot on Lincoln Boulevard. The City Council is crafting an ordinance that would ban single-use plastic bags from all local retailers.

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

Plastic bag ban on the front burner

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE In the sustainability slogan of “reduce, reuse and recycle,” City Hall is affixing a fourth measure — ban.

Just weeks after the prohibition of Styrofoam take-out containers went into effect in the city’s dining establishments, the City Council decided on Tuesday to tackle the next big environmental threat, directing its staff to devise an ordinance that would ban single-use plastic bags from all local retailers. A draft is expected in the coming months and if adopted, businesses would have six months to comply.

The prospect of a plastic bag ban in Santa Monica has received widespread support from the community, urging city officials to follow the leads of their colleagues in cities like San Francisco, which banned non-biodegradable plastic bags last year.

Environmental leaders often point to the detrimental

SEE BAN PAGE 10

Treesavers lose in their day at court

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN L.A. The 54 ficus trees causing a stir in Downtown Santa Monica could soon be on the outs after a Los Angeles Superior Court judge ruled on Thursday that a lawsuit against City Hall over alleged violations of state environmental laws was filed too late.

Judge Ann Jones determined during a hearing in Downtown Los Angeles that the statute of limitations during which time a lawsuit could be filed challenging the Second and Fourth Streets Streetscape Improvement Project ended in mid-2006. The Santa Monica Treesavers last October filed a lawsuit alleging City Hall violated the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), seeking a preliminary injunction to prevent the removal and transplantation of 54 ficus trees in the downtown area.

As per state law, the 180-day clock during which time a suit could be filed began ticking in October 2005 when city officials determined the project was CEQA exempt. But according to Tom Nitti, the Treesavers attorney, the statute of limitations should have started in August 2007 when the City Council approved the project.

The judge’s determination that the Treesavers were more than a year too late in its lawsuit essentially mooted the preliminary injunction, paving the way for City Hall to commence with the tree removal aspect of the project, which was originally slated to have happened in early October but was

derailed when a judge issued a temporary restraining order.

City officials do not yet have a timetable for the tree removal and transplantation. Last week, City Hall agreed it would wait until the hearing on Thursday to begin any work on the ficus trees.

The project, in addition to beautifying Second and Fourth streets by enhancing lighting, adding curb extensions and repairing sidewalks, also calls for the removal of 23 ficus trees that have been deemed as structurally deficient, and transplanting 31 trees to elsewhere in the city. Each empty ficus plot will be planted with two ginkgo biloba trees.

Kate Vernez, assistant to the City Manager, said on Thursday that city officials will conduct careful logistical planning in moving forward, reconnecting with the contractor to determine what the next step should be.

Vernez added that the public process was honored throughout the formulation of the project over the past 11 years, including environmental reviews in 1997 and 2005.

“At all times the city fully informed the public about what it was we were doing and what the vision for Second and Fourth streets was,” Vernez said.

The court hearing drew a few Treesavers to Downtown Los Angeles, showing their support of the ficus trees they have championed over the past half year.

It was an emotional hearing for some, the decision caus-

SEE TREES PAGE 10



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

RULING: A Superior Court judge ruled on Thursday that the statute of limitations during which time a lawsuit could be filed against City Hall to stop the removal of ficus trees from downtown actually expired in 2006. This ruling effectively nullifies the Treesavers’ quest for a preliminary injunction to stall the project.



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Calendar

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Invertigo

1651 18th St., 8:30 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Highways Performance Space's "Leap Year Waltzes, etc." features three contemporary dance works; choreographed by Laura Karlin. For more information, visit www.highwaysperformance.org.

Men will lunge

100 S. Barrington Pl., L.A., 3:30 p.m.

Broadway Gymnastic School plays host this year to the 17th Annual Peter Vidmar Men's Gymnastics Invitational featuring gymnasts from "Across the USA" and "Around the World" and including a Special Olympics Session. Spectators admission fees are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children (5 — 12 years). For more information visit www.broadwaygym.com or www.petervidmarinvite.org.

'Vampire Lesbians of Sodom'

12420 Santa Monica Blvd., W. L.A., 8 p.m. — Midnight

The Black Box Theatre presents Charles Busch's camp comedy, "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom." Travel with these lusty ladies through 1920s Hollywood and 1980s Vegas as they learn to redefine friendship. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased by calling (310) 712-5711 or e-mailing jayceeproductions@gmail.com.

'The Silver Key: A Search for the Way Out'

1211 Fourth St., 7:30 p.m. — 8:45 p.m.

Santa Monica Playhouse brings back DeCarlo's musical myth in which Witches and Fairy Godmothers imprison a magical world filled with feisty heroines, zany goblins and a host of fantastical creatures. For ticket information, call (310) 394-9779, ext. 651.

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Sister City Luncheon

1250 Capri Dr., Pacific Palisades, 11 a.m.

The Santa Monica Sister City Association is hosting the 2008 Installation Luncheon & International Sister Cities' Youth Soccer Benefit. The program includes a silent auction, entertainment and the new Board Installation. For more information, call (310) 454-6591.

Monthly Movie Musical: 'Once'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Free screening of the recent hit Irish independent film. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

The Big One

2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

David K. Lynch, author of "Field Guide to the San Andreas Fault," will visit the Ocean Park Branch Library to answer questions about the San Andreas fault and the possibility of California falling into the ocean. For more information, visit www.smpl.org.

SoCal casas

1201 S. Figueroa St., L.A., 9 a.m. — 6 p.m.

The L.A. Convention Center will be home to more than two dozen educational "how-to" seminars, presented in English and Spanish, designed to help home buyers navigate today's real estate market; nearly 250 exhibit booths featuring industry experts offering information about programs pertaining to home ownership and the home-buying process; free "green" giveaways; free attendee T-shirts and bags; a children's play area; first 200 attendees to present an entrance coupon on each day will receive a free movie ticket (one ticket per person).

Reach out and touch someone

1341 Lake St., Venice, 2 p.m. — 6 p.m.

Planet Social Sports games and matches are followed by team gatherings at local bars, which include discounted food and drinks, along with social activities. Men and women must be 21 to play. Check the Web site for specific times and locations www.planetsocialsports.com.

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





CLOSING TIME

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

(Top) Lydia Strong, head coach of the Santa Monica College women's basketball team, goes over plays with her squad during halftime of the team's first-round playoff loss to Antelope Valley College on Wednesday at SMC. (Above) The Corsairs' Dakiya Covington (left) streaks down court while AVC's Brittney Lloyd plays close defense during the 57-45 loss.

Warm welcome at police station

Editor's note: For the next 11 weeks, Editor in Chief Kevin Herrera will be writing a first-person account of what it's like to be enrolled in the Santa Monica Police Department's Citizen Police Academy, which is intended to foster better communication between Santa Monicans and police officers, while giving residents a better understanding of what it takes to preserve the peace.

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor In Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Even though I was suffering from a severe head cold and was laying comfortably on my couch watching a replay of Tuesday night's Lakers game while popping Sudafed, I knew that there was no way I could miss the first day of class at the Santa Monica Police Department's Citizen Academy, an 11-week course that takes residents and employees' of local businesses through the intricacies of police work.

The academy, now 28 classes deep, is an extremely popular course with a long waiting list. There are only 20 students to a class and you are allowed only two absences or you get scolded. There was no way I was going to waste one, especially on the first day. Lauralee Asch, SMPD's community relations coordinator and the academy's taskmaster, would never let me forget it if I did, especially since I've been saying for the last two years how interested I was in the academy but never had the time to commit to it.

So, I peeled myself off the couch, brushed my teeth and headed out the door for class with a little pep in my step, excited about going back to school.

When I arrived, there was Asch waiting by the door, ready and waiting to tease me

every second she got. Now, the Daily Press has a good working relationship with the police department (aside from that whole Speedo incident on April Fools' Day), but traditionally, in cities all across the country, there has been some conflict between the Fourth Estate and the boys in blue. After all, journalists and lawyers are often viewed in the same unfavorable light.

That explains the good-natured ribbing I received from Lauralee and SMPD Chief Timothy Jackman, who playfully referred to the Daily Press as "bird cage" material. They were just joking, right?

Hey, it was all in good fun and I rolled with the punches. It made the night of introductions interesting and will surely keep me on my toes throughout. Now all I need to do is come up with some good one-liners that won't ruffle too many feathers.

The first night was great. The class started off with introductions. We went around the room and introduced ourselves and talked about why we were wanted to enroll. There were volunteers with the SMPD's Mounted Unit, employees from RAND Corp., a resident who had taken the course eight years earlier and wanted to freshen up, representatives from homeless services provider Common Ground interested in learning how police interact with the down-and-out, an employee with the school district, and a life-long resident who was drawn in by her neighbor.

It was a diverse group of people, all friendly and willing to interact with total strangers. You really had no choice since you had to sign a waiver form and have a witness initial it.

After introductions, Jackman stood

SEE ACADEMY PAGE 9

Schwarzenegger wants interventions for failing school districts

BY JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger pledged Wednesday to bring help, and possibly punishment, to 97 school districts that have persistently failed to make progress under the No Child Left Behind Act.

He said the proposal he crafted with state Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell would channel some \$45 million in federal money to the students who need help the most. But in the face of proposed budget cuts next year, it's not clear whether that will be enough to boost the failing districts.

The districts face sanctions for the first time this year under the federal law after failing to meet their achievement goals for five years. Collectively, they are responsible for educating about a third of California's 6.3 million students.

"It's not just the funding that will help those schools, it will be also reforming the

system and switching out personnel and helping them in every way possible," Schwarzenegger said during a news conference at Northwood Elementary School in Sacramento, part of a school district that made the list. "It's not like a hostile takeover;

SEE SCHOOLS PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Breen is way off base

Editor:

I was surprised to see that the Santa Monica Daily Press published the long-winded piece “Cleansing the old Soap Box” (page 4, Feb. 27) which, while full of disjointed ramblings and Coulteresque spewing, failed to make any clear points in his rebuttal to a previous article. It seems Republican’s are only able to respond (not debate or rebut) with emotion and not facts, and must resort to name-calling in an effort to defend their warped view of the world.

Mr. (Bennet) Kelley’s objections to torture and waterboarding ... are dismissed as “flaccid leftist indignation” and combined with ad homonym and defamatory attacks. Additionally, Mr. Postman delivers the Clinton, Clinton, Clinton mantra straight from the Bush Republican handbook on defending their party but which has no relevance other than to reveal the true intent of his hatchet job.

Breen, having endured waterboarding in the Navy, seems to wear this treatment as a badge of honor. It is not. He states that he is “no worse the wear.” One might notice from his disjointed writings that he clearly suffered some oxygen deprivation resulting in brain damage from his experience.

In addition, I am not clear from Breen’s piece which John McCain ... he is referencing, the McCain who was against it five months ago, or the new flip-flopping pro-tean McCain who now approves it.

In his defense, Breen states “waterboarding is probably the only time that these cowardly terrorists have ever employed water for hygienic purposes.” This is a thinly disguised form of racism; tsk, tsk.

Lastly, Breen should spend more time in the mirror admiring his looks and less time writing hate filled garbage. I hope the next time the Daily Press receives a piece like this it responds, “Return to sender.”

Bunny Hooper
Santa Monica

Thanks for the heads-up

Editor:

Ms. Melody Hanatani does a service by bringing this scam to the attention of the public (“Business scam hits Westside,” page 1, Feb. 27). I am a lawyer and suspicious by nature, but even I had to read through this letter carefully to figure out that it was a scam. Constantly in a rush, as are most business owners, I almost paid it! I can imagine that many business owners have indeed paid it. However, Ms. Hanatani’s article doesn’t dig deep enough. I can’t imagine that something this misleading is actually legal (despite the fine print at the bottom). Perhaps you can check with the Secretary of State to see whether their office is on top of this?

Cherie Rodgers
Santa Monica

Still looking for answers

Editor:

We have heard nothing about the 31 ficus trees that are going to be placed in storage by the city. It is bad enough to cut down 23 trees ..., but to remove 31 others.

To move these, it will require a major pruning of the trees’ leafy crowns, basically reducing them to half their present size. Then, their roots will be drastically pruned so they can fit in big boxes. We have been told some of the trees being reduced to mulch are sick due to root trimming and bad pruning. Hello, are we not just setting up these 31 trees to die of neglect in some city lot far from the view of the people.

Let’s get some answers: Are mature ... ficus trees able to survive such drastic pruning and storage for possibly years? Let us be given specific statistics and not just an “Oh, yes” by a city paid employee or contractor. Is the city just playing games with us; has this problem even been really studied?

Bob Wolff
Santa Monica

Political Playhouse

Nick Mockiavelli

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Yes we can ... be seriously annoying

CHANGE ISN’T JUST A HANDFUL OF grimy dimes and nickels you put into the laundry machine. Change doesn’t have to be limited to what you do in lanes of traffic, or what you do in life when you realize you’re in a poisonous, co-dependent relationship with a manipulative woman who happens to look exactly like a hammerhead shark. We can do better than some chick that looks like a hammerhead shark.

Yes we can.

Change is a vague concept we can all glom onto. Change is something we can all embrace, because we’re kind of lazy and pressed for time, but we can probably spare four minutes and 30 seconds for something that’s really hot on YouTube. If Scarlett Johansson is featured in that video clip all the better. In fact, we’ll do whatever she says with regards to politics even though she’s never stepped foot into a college classroom and probably can’t point out Missouri on a map. We can get into politics if dopey Hollywood types are into it for a few months.

Yes we can.

We can take a fairly normal politician, and make him into an amalgam of Martin Luther King Jr., John F. Kennedy, and Gandhi, because honestly those are the only three people we remember from our history books.

Yes we can.

We are young and naive. But that doesn’t mean we can’t be know-it-all electionistas who act like this is the first time there have been Democratic elections in the United States. We’re pretty sure there was an election four years ago, but it was between two boring white guys who went to prep school. Sure, all our friends are white, but it would be pretty neat to have a cool, well-spoken black friend with an exotic name. We can see ourselves getting into other cultures down the road someday when we have more time.

Si se puede.

Wait, what does that mean again? Spanish, right? Again, not a lot of Hispanics in our life at the moment, but we totally

might do a semester in Madrid. We can see having a lot of fun in those nightclubs.

Yes we can.

We can faint at rallies. We’ve never worn an American flag on a piece of clothing in our lives, but now it’s hip. It’s off the hook. Patriotism rocks. It’s like, the bomb (the good kind, not the totally lame kind we drop on the Middle East when we’re in oil stealing mode). We can speak loud and proud on a Facebook page where we face no risk of direct confrontation over the words we spew without discretion. Mom and Papa coddled, babied, encouraged, burped and sheltered us our whole lives into young adulthood, so frankly, this kind of sheltered forum where our actions have no consequence fits us perfectly. We can keep going on like this.

Yes we can.

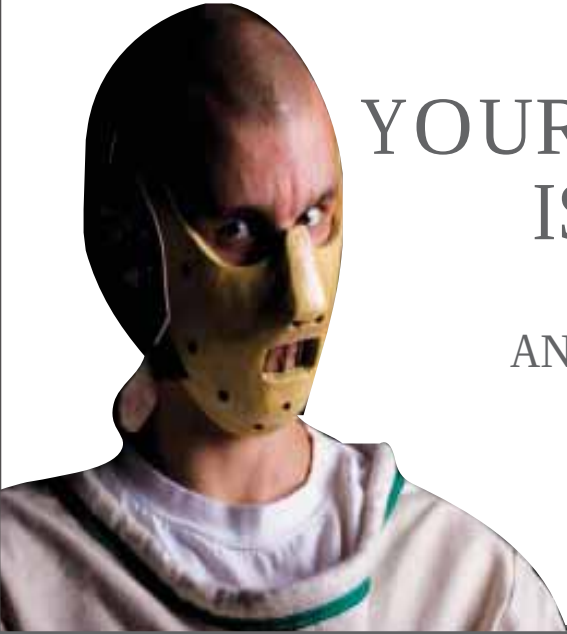
We dream audacious dreams. We are hope. We can do anything (admittedly, this one’s a little easier for us, because Dad’s a managing director at Bear Sterns). For instance when we graduate, we’re going to change the world by doing something wild, unpredictable, and never seen before. We might be the world’s first Astronaut-Poet. Imagine ... NASA launches us high into space, and when we get into orbit, we refuse to do all the establishment science experiments and just write verse. Ha, take that NASA! That sounds like freedom. We can dig freedom, any time, any place.

Yes we can.

We also dig airy, sonorous pronouncements. We tend toward broad, all-encompassing topics like courage, hope, change and unity that truly defy explanation when you try to pin any one of them down. After all, we went to a liberal arts college and making random, disconnected arguments while sprinkling in AP Literature vocabulary is our forte. We can see how other people hate us.

Yes we can.

Read more of **NICK MOCKIAVELLI** at Mockiavelli.com. He can be reached at info@mockiavelli.com



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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Busey gropes Jennifer, no kiss for the old man

LAST SUNDAY, INSTEAD OF WORKING out, I turned on the pre-Oscar festivities, proving how much I like working out. Ryan Seacrest was interviewing Laura Linney and Jennifer Garner and I thought to myself what show isn't he on. Truthfully, I can't stand the red carpet chitchat. Everyone pretends they're having a grand time when you can practically feel how miserable they are, or knee-knocking nervous, or worse, dying just to be seen. If I watch too long, much like working out, I have to take a shower afterwards.

But Laura Linney and Jennifer Garner held my attention, for obvious reasons. Suddenly, like a mad stalker, Gary Busey charged into the picture and gave a not-so-thrilled Linney an unusually intimate kiss on the cheek. Being generous, I'm assuming he was congratulating her for her Best Actress nomination. Less generous, while he's a compelling actor, Busey is well known for erratic behavior, to put it mildly. Suddenly I felt an air of danger. I wasn't alone.

Turning his affections to Garner, Busey began kissing her beautiful neck (I know, am I jealous or complaining?). As if the moment needed more weirdness, Busey was accompanied by a woman who's either a girlfriend or his attorney (On Wikipedia it says he attends these functions with his female attorney. Now I can understand why).

Witty under the pressure, Seacrest nervously looked for security, or at least Ben Affleck. Finally, Linney escorted the still-shaken Garner away and Busey made as strange an exit as he had made an entrance. Relieved, Seacrest said into the camera, "I have no idea what just happened."

Perhaps, other than Busey, no one had a more gratifying Oscar night than Joel and Ethan Coen. Their movie, "No Country for Old Men," won four awards. In accepting for Best Screenplay Adaptation, Joel gave his speech but Ethan got severely tongue-tied. Awkward seconds passed but he remained mute. Finally he mustered, "Thank you." Not long after he redeemed himself. When they won their second Oscar, Ethan joked, "I don't have much to add to what I've already said."

A number of the Oscar nominated movies were relentlessly dark such as "No Country," "There Will be Blood," and "Gone, Baby Gone." Referring to "Juno," host Jon Stewart quipped, "Thank God for teenage pregnancy!" As outstanding as "No Country" was, what are we to take away from it? If you happen to stumble onto \$2 million

dollars in a suitcase but there are numerous dead bodies strewn all around, you might want to take a pass on the cash? Or, if you take the money expect to be followed by a rather menacing man with an extremely bad haircut and a cattle prod?

I'm joking, of course, or at least trying. To me, Cormac McCarthy's book was saying that today, for so many reasons, senseless violence being just one, we have become no country for old men (My luck, just I'm getting old). But I still don't see it as a Best Picture of the year. For that I think of movies like "Casablanca," "Bridge on the River Kwai," "Lawrence of Arabia," "Midnight Cowboy," or "Ordinary People."

I thought the Oscars went well enough, although after all the wait, having the first award be "Best Costume Design" doesn't necessarily make for riveting television. I temporarily flipped to the Lakers game (Praise God, or Mitch Kupchak, the Lakers are suddenly a very good team). For backup I was taping the Oscars. When it was over I even labeled the cassette. I do that with many shows only by the time I get around to watching them, they are more than slightly irrelevant. I have a Bush-Kerry debate around here somewhere, the one with the transmitter sticking out of the back of Bush's jacket. His campaign said it was just an unusual crease from dry cleaning (Doesn't that happen to everybody?). I suppose it's time to either watch the tape or record over it.

On Monday following the Oscars my friend Robin lent me her Netflix copy of "In the Valley of Ella," with Tommy Lee Jones, Susan Sarandon and Charlize Theron. The movie was so good I kept thinking why didn't it at least get nominated for Best Picture.

An interesting side-note, all four acting awards this year were won by foreign-born performers: Daniel-Day Lewis is Irish, Javier Bardem is Spanish, Marion Cotillard is French, and Tilda Swinton is British. I'm wondering if Lou Dobbs will boycott next year's Oscars.

I was glad to see Diablo Cody win Best Original Screenplay for "Juno" Not only is she an American, she's a former stripper. I'm thinking maybe that's why none of my screenplays ever get made. Forget rewrites, maybe I need to work on my abs?

When not video taping TV shows he'll never watch, **JACK** can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

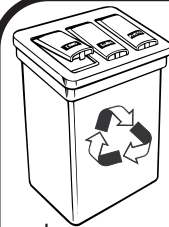
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 11, 2008

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Room 213, Santa Monica City Hall,
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

USE PERMIT 07-005, 1502 Montana Avenue. The applicant requests approval to install, operate, and maintain an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility on the roof of the two-story commercial building at 1502 Montana Avenue in the City of Santa Monica. The proposed facility would include 12 panel antennas, one parabolic antenna, five equipment cabinets, and related equipment. The project does not comply with the height, location, or screening requirements of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) 9.04.10.06.110(a)(6). Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.06.110(b) the Zoning Administrator may approve modifications to the design standards for non-parabolic commercial antennas. The request to modify the regulations and design standards requires a Use Permit application. The Zoning Administrator will also consider adoption of the Initial Study and Negative Declaration which analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed project. [Planner: Grace Cho] **Applicant: Verizon Wireless. Property Owner: Duesenberg Investment Company.**

Wall Height Modification 07FWHM-0007, 1107 San Vicente Boulevard. The applicant is requesting approval of a wall height modification to construct an 8 foot high wall and entrance gates located in the front yard setback area. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.02.080, fences, walls, or hedges cannot exceed the maximum height of forty-two inches in the required front yard area. Ordinance Number 2236 (CCS) permits a height modification above the maximum forty-two inch height limit in the front yard setback area, subject to approval by the Zoning Administrator. [Ivan Lai] **Applicant/Property Owner: Martin Bohan.**

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #7 and #8 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.

The Q-Line

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The City Council last week denied an appeal made by local activists to landmark a number of ficus trees in the downtown area. The Treesavers are now taking the city to court to continue their fight.

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How far – within the law – do you think the Treesavers should go to save the trees?

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



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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance which would, in part, amend **Article 9 (Planning & Zoning) of the Santa Monica Municipal Code, by modifying the landscape maintenance and protection regulations and by relocating standards concerning irrigation and water conservation to the Green Building Ordinance, SMMC Chapter 8.108**

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed text amendment:

Amendment to the City of Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance Sections 9.04.10.04.100 and 9.04.10.04.110 to modify landscaping maintenance and protection regulations and to relocate standards that pertain to landscape irrigation and design for water conservation to the Green Building Ordinance, Section 8.108 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code. The proposed new language in the Green Building Ordinance would apply modified standards to reduce water use and waste to all zoning districts, including R1 (Single Family), which was previously exempt. The ordinance under consideration by the City Council would also update and amend the current Green Building requirements set forth in Chapter 8.108 and modify and relocate the construction and demolition material waste management requirements from Chapter 7.60 to Chapter 8.108.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, March 11, 2008 AT 6:45 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Landscaping and Irrigation Standards
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project, please contact Brenden McEneaney, LEED AP, CGBP, Green Building Program Advisor at (310) 458-8549, or by e-mail at brenden.mceneaney@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutiérrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

No rest at the Rest Haven

Crime Watch is a weekly snapshot of the Santa Monica Police Department, culled from their own reports. The following are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SUNDAY, FEB. 17, AT 6:55 P.M.

Santa Monica police officers on routine patrol in the 800 block of Grand Street ran the license plate of a car parked at the Rest Haven Motel. The officers discovered that the car had been stolen on Feb. 12 in the LAPD's Pacific Division. Officers went to the motel manager and were able to find the car theft suspect in his motel room. Officers also found the keys to the car, a stolen drivers license and a credit card belonging to someone else. Officers also discovered an ignition bypass switch and two laptop computers, along with various electronic equipment and several sets of car keys. Officers were able to make contact with the owner of the car who said that his car and the items in it were stolen from his home in Beverly Hills. The suspect was arrested for grand theft auto. He was identified as Troy Matthew Walls, 41, of Playa del Rey. No bail was set.

SUNDAY, FEB. 24, AT 3:20 A.M.

Officers responded to the 2400 block of 28th Street after receiving a report about a car burglary in progress. Officers responding to the scene were flagged down by several witnesses who pointed out the suspect, who was walking away from the scene. Officers detained the suspect and confiscated items in his possession. Officers then spoke with the witnesses who said they saw the suspect walk away from a parked car carrying several items with him. Officers contacted the owner of the vehicle who said the items recovered were his. The items included a cell phone and charger, clothing and DVDs, all valued at \$235. The suspect in custody was arrested for auto burglary. He was identified as Raafat Bikhit, 22. No bail information was available.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, AT 6:15 A.M.

Officers responded to the 900 block of Stanford Avenue regarding a report of an auto theft that occurred in the early morning hours. Officers were informed that the owners of the vehicle activated the OnStar auto safety and security system that shows law enforcement where the car is in real time. Officers used information provided by OnStar to locate the suspect and the vehicle on Stanford. Officers arrested the suspect for possession of a stolen vehicle and for possession of a small amount of cocaine. The victims told officers that they had parked the car in their garage and believe the suspect broke into their garage and found the keys to the car. The suspect was identified as Edward Anthony Mason, 35, of Santa Monica. No bail was set because Mason was on probation, police said.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, AT 3:10 A.M.

Officers responded to the 2600 block of Washington Avenue regarding an auto theft in progress. When officers arrived, they saw two men running away from the scene of the alleged theft. Officers apprehended the suspects about a block away. They recovered a couple of small flashlights and a set of keys that were thrown into some bushes. The officers then made contact with the owner of the vehicle, a truck with tool boxes containing power tools worth more than \$6,000. It turns out that the truck had been broken into two times in the last two months. The owner said he was sleeping when the sound of someone breaking into his truck woke him up. He looked out his windows and observed two subjects in the front of the truck with flashlights. That's when he called police. The suspects were arrested for auto burglary and possession of burglary tools. Suspect one was identified as Juan Gilberto Aldecoa-Sandova, 23, from the city of Bell. His bail was set at \$20,586. He had a warrant for his arrest, police said. Suspect two was identified as Jose Estrella, 22, from Huntington Park. His bail was set at \$30,000. He had two warrants for his arrest and he had a small amount of marijuana, police said.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16, AT 1:45 P.M.

Police on routine patrol on the Third Street Promenade noticed a man they had prior contact with walking a bicycle while smoking a cigarette, a violation of the municipal code. Officers stopped the suspect and noticed that he had black spray paint on his hands and that the bike he was walking looked as if it had just been painted black. Suspicious, officers asked the suspect where he obtained the bike. The suspect gave several conflicting stories. Officers said the suspect had been arrested before for possession of a stolen bicycle, and figured he was at it again and placed him under arrest. In his possession officers found a small amount of marijuana. He was booked for possession of a stolen bicycle, possession of marijuana and for smoking on the promenade. The suspect was identified as Robert Barney, 19, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, AT 6:55 P.M.

Officers on routine patrol at the corner of Fourth Street and Olympic Boulevard observed a suspect riding a bike at night without the proper lighting. Officers went to issue the suspect a ticket when they discovered that he had two fairly new iPods in his possession. The suspect said he had had purchased one iPod from a friend at a discount because the friend needed money. The other iPod he received in exchange for some wheels and trucks on a skateboard. Officers checked out the iPods and found information regarding the true owner of the device. Officers contacted the owner who said he had bought the iPod for his daughter seven months ago and that it had gone missing. Based on that information, officers arrested the suspect for possession of stolen property. The suspect was identified as Thomas Vincent Lucas, 24, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at \$20,000.

L.A. gunman had a specific target

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A gunman who wounded five children and three adults at a South Los Angeles bus stop was aiming at a specific person and wound up shooting bystanders, police said Thursday.

"There was a target," Capt. Rigo Romero said.

Police had said they were confident the gunman would be quickly caught because there were many witnesses. Romero said more than 100 people were at the intersection.

Armed with a semiautomatic handgun, the man opened fire around 3:15 p.m. Wednesday at a busy intersection filled with shoppers, motorists and students.

Bratton said the gunman got into a dispute with someone and fired 15 to 16 rounds at him but missed and instead hit the victims.

Two of the victims ran away and were

found outside a nearby middle school, police Officer Sara Faden said.

The gunman ran away after firing the shots, she said.

Police and fire officials initially reported that the child victims were four girls and a boy. On Thursday police changed that to three boys and two girls. Some victims' ages were also adjusted.

A 12-year-old girl who was shot in the chest remained hospitalized Thursday but "she's going to be fine," Officer Karen Smith said.

Smith said six other people were treated at hospitals and released: a 12-year-old girl who was shot in the arm; two 12-year-old boys were treated for leg wounds; a 15-year-old boy who was grazed in the thigh; a 43-year-old man was treated for a wounded knee; and a woman, 48, was shot in the face.

A 68-year-old man was treated at the scene for a wound to his right arm, she said.

All were expected to recover.

State sues U.S. to protect forests from development

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES California sued the U.S. Forest Service on Thursday for adopting a management plan that would allow for the construction of roads and oil drilling in the state's largest national forests.

The lawsuit, filed by the state attorney general's office in federal court, claims the plan ignores a state moratorium on road construction in pristine areas of national forests and asks for an injunction. The California Resources Agency and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection are also plaintiffs.

"Today in the face of threats, we are forced to once again stand up for California's forests," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "Despite repeated attempts to ensure that the United State Forest Service honor its written assurances that California's roadless areas would be protected they have failed to do so."

The plan would open up more than 500,000 acres in the Angeles, Los Padres, Cleveland and San Bernardino national forests to road construction. It also would allow for oil drilling on more than 52,000 acres in or around Los Padres National Forest.

The lawsuit accuses the Forest Service of violating federal environmental laws that require it to draft the management plans in coordination with state laws and policies. The Forest Service did not consider the environmental impacts of making more trails available to off-road vehicles and the potential harm to the endangered California con-

dor from more oil and gas exploration, the lawsuit says.

The forests stretch from Big Sur on the Central Coast to the Mexican border and provide habitat for at least 31 animal species and 29 plants that are federally listed as threatened or endangered, as well as 34 sensitive animal species.



**TODAY IN
THE FACE OF
THREATS, WE ARE
FORCED TO ONCE
AGAIN STAND UP FOR
CALIFORNIA'S FORESTS."**

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger
California

Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman said the Forest Service said in 2005 and 2006 correspondence that it would not allow road construction in these areas. Each of the country's 155 national forests has its own management plan, which is periodically updated.

Forest Service spokeswoman Allison Stewart said they were reviewing the lawsuit and looked forward to resolving the dispute. Stewart did not comment on the drilling, but said the roads were needed to fight fires, which have been a perennial issue in the tinder dry wilderness.

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Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 3,675,625	\$ 1,039,613
South of Wilshire	= \$ 932,316	\$ 762,197
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,473,059	\$ 676,281
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,919,800	\$ 1,031,234

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Bass makes history as speaker

BY JULIET WILLIAMS

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Karen Bass, the first black woman to lead either house of the state Legislature, promises to bring a cooperative spirit to meetings with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the other legislative leaders.

But the newly elected speaker of the Assembly said she's prepared to fight, too. Growing up with three older brothers taught her to stand her ground and already has helped her in the male-dominated Legislature.

Bass was elected Thursday to the position regarded as the second-most powerful in state government. As speaker, she is one of the so-called 'Big Five' — along with the governor and the three other legislative leaders of both parties — who often try to broker compromises on major policy issues.

Under Schwarzenegger's tenure, many of those meetings have convened in the smoking tent outside the governor's office.

But the amiable Bass, 54, is a health advocate who said that if she's invited to the tent, the cigars will have to stay in their box.

"I'm going to have to make them come out of the smoking tent — 'cause that's going to make me sick," she quipped Thursday at a press conference.

Negotiations are expected to be intense this year as lawmakers grapple with a deficit estimated at \$16 billion through June 2009. Lawmakers already have taken steps that they expect will cut that in half by July.

Schwarzenegger has proposed dealing with

the rest through spending cuts, but Democrats want to close certain tax loopholes and put tax increases on the table.

For now, Bass will work alongside Speaker Fabian Nunez, a fellow Democrat from Los Angeles who is termed out of office at the end of this year.

In nominating Bass to succeed him, Nunez said her colleagues chose her from among 10 candidates vying for the spot. They did so not because she is a black woman, Nunez said, but because of her work ethic and ability to work with the 47 other Assembly Democrats and with minority Republicans.

"Karen Bass is going to be the next speaker of this great house because she has the where-withal, the experience, the intelligence and the substance," Nunez said.

Bass was elected to the 80-member chamber in 2004 and is known for writing legislation on child welfare and social justice issues. She also was one of the top supporters of Barack Obama's campaign in California.

"She is intelligent, she is committed to good public policy, and she is unflappable. I'm really looking forward to working with her," said Sen. Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, who will take over the top post in the Senate when the current president pro tem, Don Perata, is termed out office this year.

Bass will become the 67th speaker of the Assembly, considered the second most powerful job in state government behind the governor. The Speaker appoints chairs to legislative committees, sets staff budgets and largely controls what legislation reaches the

Assembly floor.

"For the first time, we will have a woman in the 'Big Five' negotiations on the budget. Our top negotiator will bring a woman's perspective to negotiating the budget," said Assemblywoman Noreen Evans, D-Santa Rosa, the chairwoman of the Assembly Democratic caucus.

She will become just the second black woman leading a state legislative chamber but the first with day-to-day responsibility, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Center for American Women and Politics at the State University of New Jersey.

In Washington, Sen. Rosa Franklin holds the largely honorary title of Senate president pro tem.

Nationwide, black women make up only about 3 percent of the 7,382 state legislators, according to the center.

"This is an amazing, amazing moment," Bass told her fellow Assembly members after the unanimous voice vote. "Thank you so much for your vote of faith and confidence in me as your next speaker."

"I am deeply honored and deeply humbled by the trust you have placed in me. I will work to be worthy of that trust every day I am speaker."

Like its companion position in the Senate, the Assembly leadership role has become a revolving door since California voters passed the term limits law in 1990. Assembly members are limited to three two-year terms.

She pledged Thursday not to seek another

office, such as the state Senate, before she is termed out in 2010.

How productive that time is depends on her relationship with Schwarzenegger and her Republican counterpart, Assembly Minority Leader Mike Villines of Clovis.

Before the vote on the Assembly floor, Villines said he had spent long hours negotiating with Bass on legislation and praised her as "a great partner."

"I think you are very good for this house," he said.

Schwarzenegger called her "a terrific leader" and said he was ready to work with her and other legislative leaders "to pull ourselves out of this economic downturn as quickly as possible."

With her selection, all four legislative leaders have been chosen for next year. Senate Republicans chose Sen. Dave Cogdill, of Modesto, last week.

Bass' only child, Emilia Wright, and son-in-law were killed in a car crash in Los Angeles in October 2006. Both were 23 and students at Loyola Marymount University.

They had been married just a few months when their sedan struck a concrete bridge support and burst into flames.

Known as an advocate for social issues, especially those dealing with children, Bass sponsored legislation in 2005 that would have eased the rules on California's high school exit exam for students with disabilities.

The bill would have allowed them to use alternative performance assessments if they could not pass the test.



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L.A. Parent™

Editor enjoys the first day of school

FROM ACADEMY PAGE 3

front and center, dressed immaculately in his dark blue uniform. He spoke about his roots, growing up in a small town in New Hampshire and how all police officers were volunteers. He said it created the type of environment that fostered trust between residents and officers, not something that is easily achieved in larger cities like Santa Monica — hence the importance of the academy.

Jackman spoke about “the lions” in the community who prey on innocent victims and how it is the police department’s job to protect the public. He also touched on the difficulty officers face every day, trying to perform perfectly every second they are on the clock even though they are human and are faced with the challenge of making life-or-death decisions in the matter of seconds. It’s not easy, not by a long shot.

He asked us students how many armed confrontations we think police officers have every day. Some said none, while one student said three or four. They were all wrong. Jackman said every confrontation an officer has is an armed confrontation because the officer brings the weapon.

After wishing us well, the chief departed with his entourage of officers, not to be seen until graduation. He was replaced by Officer Jacob Halloway of the Homeless Liaison

Program. Halloway, a five-year-veteran and a budding stand-up comedian, gave the class a little PG-rated strip tease as he removed his Batman-esque duty belt, pistol, radio, tazer and other tools of the trade and passed them around. It was amazing to me how heavy just the belt and the baton are, and I wondered how could the officers run with all of it on, not to mention the bullet-proof vest, and that’s when Halloway made a joke, saying he usually uses his radio to have other officers do the sprinting.

Students asked him how much his uniform costs, whether or not he likes working with the homeless, and what his favorite beat is. Naturally, it was the beach, which he referred to as “bikini patrol.”

Asch wrapped things up with a brief speech about herself and why she decided to join the police department as a non-sworn officer, meaning she doesn’t get to carry a gun, but doesn’t have to manage the stress that comes along with witnessing horrific acts of violence. She prefers to work with the community and embrace communication. It suits her. She’s fun, self-deprecating and knows how to take a joke. At least that’s what I’m hoping, because if it’s all give and no take, it’s going to be a long 11 weeks.

kevinh@smdp.com

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL



SUBJECT: Extension of Affordable Housing Density Bonus Interim Ordinance No. 2180 (CCS) to July 26, 2010

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed text amendment:

Extend an interim ordinance originally introduced in February 2006 that implements State law regarding density bonuses for projects that include affordable housing.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008 AT 6:45 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Affordable Housing Density Bonus Provisions
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project, please contact Elizabeth Bar-El, AICP, Senior Planner at (310) 458-8549, or by e-mail at liz.bar-el@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Meter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

**INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
CHECK OUT THE HOROSCOPES ON PAGE 15!**

Santa Monica Daily Press

Call us at (310) 458-7737

Eateries have issues with reusable bags

FROM BAN PAGE 1

effects that plastic bags have on the marine bio life, polluting the waters and killing thousands of sea animals that mistake it for food every year. Many also note that plastic bags are a wasteful use of petroleum, a finite resource that would be better served in other forms, like medical equipment.

"I think we need to start making those choices," David Allyn, a health care analyst from West Hollywood, said on Thursday while shopping at Vons. "Those are petroleum based and we should be getting off of that."

The prospect of switching from the useful plastic bags to reusable bags doesn't seem to faze some local consumers who say they don't foresee a disruption to their shopping routine if the ordinance passes and wouldn't opt for a market outside city limits.

"I get really annoyed when they pack groceries in 15 bags," Gemini Adams, a Santa Monica writer, said during a grocery excursion on Thursday. "I would be really happy. My biggest pain in life is when they use 20

bags and (I) only need one."

Other residents have already been proactive and made the switch to reusable bags.

"My girlfriend usually shops with two to three linen bags," Dan Gregoire, a Santa Monica resident said on Thursday.

In addition to banning single-use plastic bags, which are often distributed by grocers and liquor stores, the proposed ordinance could also require retailers to charge a paper bag fee, a step toward slowly changing consumer behavior and encouraging a switch to reusable bags, city officials said.

Councilmembers Bob Holbrook said he would have a problem with an ordinance that would force business owners to charge a fee for paper bags, adding that it's part of the cost of doing business.

While the intent with the fee might be to encourage customers to begin using reusable bags, Holbrook said he believes retailers will charge no more than a penny a bag.

The council unanimously agreed that plastic bags don't have a place in Santa

Monica, hoping the ordinance will change consumers' reliance on the bags.

"We're one little small corner of the earth," Mayor Pro Tem Richard Bloom said during the meeting. "(But) this is going to make a difference I hope in other communities."

Californians go through an estimated 19 billion plastic bags every year, approximately 6 billion of which come from Los Angeles County alone, according to statistics by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. City Hall in 2005 conducted a survey of 25 local grocers and food markets and found they distribute a total of 23 million plastic bags each year.

Benjamin Kay, a biology teacher at Santa Monica High School who brought several of his students from Team Marine and the Heal the Bay Club to the meeting, said that as an avid surfer, his arms often get caught in plastic bags.

The students in Team Marine, Heal the Bay Club and S.A.G.E. have led several marches in protest of plastic bags in the past three months, including in December during the "Day Without A Plastic Bag" event.

Several of the students spoke during the meeting.

"I think they speak on behalf of all Samohi faculty and staff and many of the student body who are increasingly embracing and practicing the use ... reusable bags," Kay said. "It's an easy change to our lifestyle."

Andrew Casaña, a representative of the California Restaurant Association, said that while he doesn't oppose the ban on plastic bags, some of his members have expressed concerns about possible cross-contamination in bringing reusable bags containing produce into the kitchen. Casaña added that a fee on paper bags could prove challenging for some of the small mom and pops, like taquerias, that mainly use small paper bags for carry-out items.

"The last thing we want is something to come into the kitchen that is reusable and all of a sudden it's cross-contaminating everything," Casaña said.

Natalie Edwards contributed to this story

melodyh@smdp.com

Timetable not yet set for downtown tree removal

FROM TREES PAGE 1

ing one Treesaver to shed some tears in the hallway outside of the courtroom.

"We exhausted every possible means to engage the city in dialogue," Louise Steiner, who fasted last year for the trees, said. "We wanted to sit at a table and have a reasonable discussion but we have not gotten an answer."

Gillian Ware, a Santa Monica resident who splits her time between the United States and the United Kingdom, said she was hopeful in coming to the courthouse that the judge would rule in favor of the Treesavers.

"We don't think it was a fair decision," Ware said.

Nitti said he is exploring other legal options, including filing an appeal to a higher court. The Treesavers have also vowed to chain themselves to the trees once

construction work commences and even held a "tree defense" workshop on Wednesday night in anticipation of a possible unfavorable decision by the judge.

The lawsuit was just one of a series of measures that the Treesavers have taken since the City Council approved the project last August, including most recently, attempting to landmark all of the ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets in Downtown Santa Monica.

The landmark attempt was denied by both the Landmarks Commission and subsequently, the City Council.

"The Treesavers continue to do everything possible to save these trees," Jerry Rubin, one of the leaders of the pack, said. "We feel we have the support of majority of residents and businesses in the community."

melodyh@smdp.com

Struggling schools face sanctions

FROM SCHOOLS PAGE 3

we are going to work with those schools. It's not about punishing anyone."

The governor downplayed questions about how the state will pay for any changes that might be needed.

He declined to elaborate on how he expects to make dramatic reforms in the state's neediest schools while simultaneously proposing to cut \$4 billion in education spending in the budget year that begins July 1.

Education groups, which already have launched a media campaign against the proposed cuts, were quick to criticize the plan.

"An \$800 cut per pupil will decimate some of the very programs and staff that contribute to student achievement and closing the achievement gap," Bob Wells, executive director of the Association of California School Boards, said in a statement.

The proposal, which will go before the state Board of Education for

approval in March, calls for a sliding scale of interventions.

Seven school districts face the harshest sanctions, which eventually could include replacing administrators or a takeover by the state.

They are: Greenfield Union Elementary in Monterey County; Arvin Union Elementary and Fairfax Elementary in Kern County; West Fresno Elementary in Fresno County; Ravenswood City Elementary in San Mateo County; Keppel Union Elementary in Los Angeles County; and Coachella Valley Unified in Riverside County.

Coachella, a district in far southeastern California with a high migrant population, faces the harshest sanctions.

Coachella Valley Unified Superintendent Foch "Tut" Pensis said he was disappointed with the prospect of having a trustee oversee the district.

About 90 percent of the district's 17,500 students come from poor families.



TOUCHING UP

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

Workers from the Rotin Painting Company give the building at 1311 Third St. a coat of fresh paint on Thursday afternoon. It houses the Criterion Apartments and Brookstone, a popular store.

current

life, leisure & the arts
(now, that's entertaining)



Photo courtesy Summit Entertainment LP

See it more than 'Once'

The Irish romance film "Once" is one of those indie darlings that has managed to stay in the limelight despite minimal budgeting, a short runtime, and little fanfare aside from glowing word of mouth reviews. The chemistry of the two leads – Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova – was so palpable amid the dreary but touching Dublin setting that the two are now dating. For all of the film's achievements, it was the soundtrack that won "Once" an Oscar. The songs, which strongly resemble the music released by Hansard's longtime band The Frames, hold the simple narrative together and give it a mighty and necessary touch of drama.

"Once" will be screened at the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium in the Santa Monica Public Library at 3 p.m. Tickets are free. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

NATALIE EDWARDS

Improvisation TIME

Lovers of jazz improvisation note: Pianist Keith Jarrett, bassist Gary Peacock, and drummer Jack DeJohnette have been playing extemporaneously for a quarter of a century and their flow is unparalleled. Jarrett played on four Miles Davis albums while still a young man in the '70s. Since, he has prolifically released albums both solo and in concert with other musicians combining jazz, gospel, and post-bop so complex it sounds rehearsed even when entirely improvised. With Peacock and DeJohnette, the trio has been a cornerstone in Jarrett's career – and the jazz world.

The trio can be heard at Royce Hall



KEITH JARRETT TRIO

on the UCLA campus March 5 at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$20 (student) to \$88. For more information, visit www.uclalive.org.

NE

Feast of voices

Handel's "Radamisto," the composer's first major operatic work to achieve widespread success, is rarely performed. Over three stagings, Music Director Martin Haselbock has led the Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra on a tour of Europe, a 12 performance residence at the Hamburg Opera, and, finally, coupled performances in Los Angeles bring "Radamisto" to light.

"Radamisto" will be staged Saturday at 8 p.m. at Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School of Performing Arts and on Sunday at 4 p.m. at Schoenberg Hall on the UCLA campus. Tickets range from \$12 (student) to \$49. For more information, visit www.musicaangelica.org or call (310) 458-4504.

NE

Modern myth-makers

Each year, the Santa Monica Playhouse sends 12 performers to Japan for a theater workshop and performance-focused cultural exchange as part of its American Cultural Youth Ambassadors' Tour.

To celebrate the exchange, the Santa Monica Playhouse will put on an original play – collaboratively created by both the Playhouse and its sister theater organization, the Model Language Studio in Tokyo – and perform it both stateside and in Japan.

See "Make Nine Myths" at the Santa Monica Playhouse Main Stage Thursday March 6 at 5:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary and tickets are \$10. Call (310) 394-9779, ext. 1 for more information.

NE

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West Dressed

Mariel Howsepian

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

IN FIVE TO SEVEN WEEKS, OSCAR GOWN KNOCK-OFFS will hit the racks at Macy's, giving high school girls plenty of time before prom to decide whether they are more of an Anne Hathaway or a Cameron Diaz.

This year's Academy Awards fashions were, as one red carpet reporter after another called them, "timeless." Timeless is a euphemism for boring. Timeless means that this year's gowns looked more like the off-the-rack prom dresses they inspire than the inspirations themselves.

Speaking of prom dresses: I'm so glad high school is over. Freshman year – The Winter Formal. "He's just a friend," I had insisted for weeks leading up to the dance, in reference to the boy who had asked me. Six of us shared a limo to an Italian restaurant, and a table in our darkened gymnasium, decorated with a "Winter Wonderland" theme.

Adam and I look so awkward in the photograph. We're standing against a blue backdrop, between white columns and fake poinsettia, Styrofoam snow at our feet. The photographer posed us just as he had posed every couple that evening.

"All right, get in close. Put your hand on her waist there. And you, put your hand on his arm so we see that lovely corsage of yours."

We hadn't danced yet. As soon as we had gotten to the formal, we got in line to take pictures, to get it over with. Adam and I had never stood that close to each other, our bodies touching, the whole front of my body pressed up against the whole front of his body. What had I thought dancing was going to be?

I tried not to breathe, as if breathing were a sign that

I was comfortable with, or even enjoying, being pressed up against this boy who was just a friend. Adam looked at me, to silently ask permission to follow the photographer's direction. He rested the very tips of his fingers on my waist. His touch was so light that it tickled. I wanted to laugh, and that's when the flash went off.

Me stifling a giggle fit.

It's not that bad really. My eyes are a bit squintier than I might want them, and my jaw is tight, but I wonder if I could walk through that gym now, view myself in my life, if I might just whisper, "Look at me, I look fine."

Earlier that evening, my mother had painted my fingernails with red polish. She curled my long, brown hair on pink sponge-rollers, and brushed the tight ringlets into soft waves. I wore the dress I had worn a year earlier as a bridesmaid in her second wedding. My dress was emerald green satin, off-the-shoulder, full skirt, tea-length. My shoes were dyed to match. I had grown a couple of inches during that year, and the skirt had gone from tea-length to at-the-knee. It didn't look right. My mother had her friend sew me an underskirt trimmed in layers of black tulle flecked with little emerald sparkles. My dress was again tea-length, and I swished when I walked.

But at the time, all I

HOW TO AVOID LOOKING LIKE EVERYONE ELSE

Skip:

- The color red
- One-shouldered dresses
- Big earrings
- Long necklaces

My advice?

- Shop vintage.



Join the City of Santa Monica to

Roll out the Transportation Plan

With a presentation and feedback sessions that pull together the community's ideas about all forms of transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

Saturday, March 1, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Doors open at 9:30. Presentation at 10:00. Stop by anytime.
Santa Monica High School Cafeteria - 601 Pico Boulevard

**Saturday, March 1
10:00 - 2:00 pm**
Santa Monica
High School Cafeteria
601 Pico Boulevard

Santa Monica's Planning & Community Development Department invites you to the conclusion of our workshop series on transportation. At this meeting we will roll out the 20-year transportation plan, which includes all that we've heard from the community:

- **Traffic:** Citywide policy to manage auto trips
- **Character:** Tools for maintaining Santa Monica's charm and improving walkability and bicycling
- **Parking:** Solutions for improving parking in neighborhoods and business districts
- **Climate Protection:** Programs for reducing emissions for a sustainable future.
- **Public Benefits:** Requirements for amenities to make Santa Monica better and measuring progress

The entire Santa Monica community is encouraged to participate in **Shaping the Future!**

Doors open at 9:30. Presentation at 10:00. Stop by anytime.
RSVP to ensure accurate refreshment count.
www.shapethefuture2025.net 310.458.8341
Big Blue Bus lines #2, 3, & 7. Secured bike parking provided.
Auto parking at the school or Civic Center parking structure.

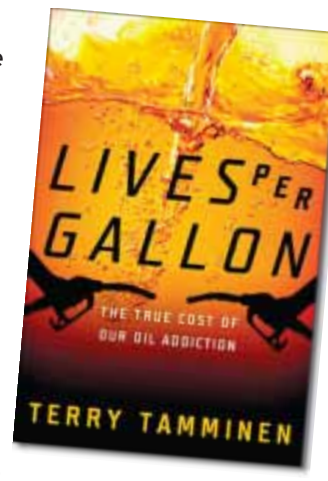
Esto es una noticia sobre talleres para planear el futuro de Santa Monica. Para mas información llame a Peter James al numero 310.458.8341.
To request disability-related accommodations, please contact 310.458.8341.





BOOK REVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



'Lives Per Gallon'

By Terry Tamminen • Island Press

THE SUBJECT OF THIS poignant work couldn't be more current. Though "Lives Per Gallon" was first published in 2006, the warning within it's pages couldn't be more urgent.

Author Terry Tamminen himself in an e-mail correspondence states that the bad news is that many of his predictions are playing out as described, but the good news is that solutions are evolving to meet the problems.

Tamminen says we are destroying ourselves and our young by polluting the planet, not just the pollution you can see but the particles that you can't. It's the nitrogen oxide that is spewed into our air by cars, by jets. It's our forests that are being cleared to produce biofuels that has created the pollution problem we are plagued by in our modern times. Not to mention fumes from petroleum products such as fertilizers, diesel fuel in farm equipment, bunker fuel in ships, diesel in trains, which are shortening lives and costing governments an insane amount of money to cope with the effects caused by these products.

We are in the midst of a crisis. It is a crisis caused by oil. We tend to ignore it. We ignore it by allowing our paradigm to be one of plenty. But our oil is finite. It will disappear. Yet we buy cars that need more and more gas. We buy cars we don't need: Look at all the Hummers that dot our roads. Look at the SUV's. Look at the consumption of oil products we use in our gas guzzlers. Look at the miles per gallon we are accepting in our cars.

Our health is affected by the tiny particles in the air we breathe daily as evidenced in the particles that

Oh, brother, where have you been hiding?

BY CYNTHIA CITRON

Special to the Daily Press

Their names are Jack and Bobby, but the Kennedy brothers they're not. In fact, they're more like Jackie O's crazy relatives – the ones who lived in Grey Gardens.

Stef Tovar, a buttoned-down Jack, and Johnny Clark, a crazed Bobby, confront each other for the first time in many years in John Kolvenbach's intense and gripping play "On An Average Day." Bobby, who is, literally, a scuzzy bum, lives in the grungy home of their dead parents – or rather, in the grungy recesses of his troubled mind.

He saves newspapers that carry stories about unidentified dead bodies "in case one of them turns out to be me." And he worries about his upcoming trial for attempted murder, in which he will have to explain why he threw a man with whom he'd hitched a ride out of a speeding car. Mostly he worries because the "jury of his peers" consists of people he considers "idiots and freaks."

Bobby thinks that Jack has come to help him, but Jack has problems of his own. Both of them were severely damaged by their father, who abandoned them when they were young. But Jack, who at 15 was the elder brother, stayed, and, as Bobby acknowledges, "chose to raise me." To which Jack replies, "I just kept on making breakfast."

Jack, in order to entice Bobby to eat, made up fantasies about their father, which Bobby still believes. And then Jack, in turn, abandoned his brother at 15. Jack has returned now, after an absence of 18 years, with an agenda that is revealed slowly as the two rehash the events of their childhood and disclose the lives they have lived since.

Bobby, filled with fears and phobias, talks sometimes with fierce lucidity, sometimes in schizophrenic gibberish. Drinking all the while. Jack, who finally joins him, beer for beer and whisky for whisky, remains cold and calm until, unexpectedly, the two suddenly engage in one of the most ferocious fights ever seen onstage. For long minutes they hurl each other into cabinets and walls, bang heads into doors, and inflict damage on each other that you are sure will be fatal. Director (and sound designer) Ron Klier, who has done an outstanding job up to this point, has enlisted fight choreographer Ned Mochel to create this scene, which Mochel does so realistically that the brothers wind up panting and bloody in a nearly demolished kitchen.

The kitchen setting is the brilliant work of Danny Cistone (who recently designed the amazing subway set for "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot"). There is muddy linoleum on the floor, dirty dishes in the sink, a three-tiered hanging vegetable



Photo credit VS. Theatre Company

A VERY ODD COUPLE: Stef Tovar (left) and Johnny Clark star in 'On An Average Day.'

holder filled with empty beer cans, a garish turquoise-painted refrigerator, and above, in a visible attic storage space, such things as a child's bike, a wax Santa Claus, a fake Christmas tree, cardboard boxes, a topless steamer trunk, and other detritus of the family that used to be.

Derrick McDaniel, who designed the lighting, makes good use of the device of spotlighting the speaker and darkening the rest of the set each time one of the brothers regresses into a memory from the past.

Their clothes, designed by Gelareh Khalioun and Erin Mueller, speak volumes about who they are. Jack, in chinos, glasses, and a brown sleeveless sweater, looks like a working stiff. Bobby, in pants torn at the knee, a filthy striped tee shirt, a woolen hat pulled down over his ears, and a gray zipper-front hoodie with tattered cuffs, needs only an overflowing grocery cart to complete his "homeless man" effect.

"On an Average Day" is an emotionally charged play extraordinarily well acted, monumental in its passion, and mind-boggling in its intensity. You won't come away singing its theme song, but you will be left with admiration and wonderment for a play that is beyond awesome.

"On an Average Day," produced by VS. Theatre Company, will run for five weeks only, Thursdays through Sundays through March 22 at the Elephant Theatre Lab, 6324 Santa Monica Blvd, just west of Vine Street, in Los Angeles. Tickets may be reserved by calling (323) 860-3283.

news@smdp.com

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

1685 Main Street, LC-08CA-001, Zoning: CC (Civic Center) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness Application 08CA-001, at 1685 Main Street, for design approval of modifications including construction of a one-story mechanical room to be located on the southeast corner of City Hall and in-kind window replacements on a courtyard elevation of City Hall, a designated City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the property. Applicant: City of Santa Monica. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

When: Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:00 pm

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica



Questions/Comments

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Roxanne Tanemori, Associate Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Ms. Tanemori by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at roxanne.tanemori@smgov.net.

More Information

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol

Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Do you have business briefs?
Submit news releases to:
editor@smdp.com or fax (310) 576-9913



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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 56°

SWELL FORECAST (8-11 FT)

Today the WNW should peak with size running a couple feet overhead at breaks able to work a 280-degree angle. The southern hemi should remain with at least chest high waves for south facing breaks. With the WNW wrap though, south facing breaks can expect chest to head high sets. Today should see the return of the onshore flow, but, so far, winds are looking rather mild. Air temps should drop a bit as well.

LONG RAANGE SYANOPSIS

SOUTHERN HEMI SWELLS ON TAP NEXT WEEK...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

February 12, 2008

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

QUICK STATS

(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 2

Number of wet days -- 12

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 14

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 28

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Carillas Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (encastilla)	A+	C	Will Rogers State Beach at Del Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	D	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachasa and Las Aliso creeks	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Teneccal Canyon drain	A+	F
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantunaga)	F	F
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	D
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd., (private)	A+	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Rosarito Canyon Creek mouth	F	F	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain	B	D
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	C	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St., (in front of the restaurants)	A+	F
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	C	Ocean Park Beach at Ashburn Ave. drain	A+	A
Selkirk Canyon at San Blas County Beach	A+	B	Venice City Beach, at the Raze Ave. storm drain	A+	D
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	B	F	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	B
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	B	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	B	A+
Sunbinder Beach at Malibu Canyon fence	A+	D	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A
Sunbinder Beach (beach location)- daily	F	D	Venice Beach- projection of Topaz St.	A+	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- flagguard tower	A	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	C	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballena Creek mouth	B	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	B	B	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunes County Beach	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	D
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	C	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	D	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	ns	F			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	F			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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

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

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

NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS

Photo courtesy A&E

‘Mindfreak’

The charismatic Criss Angel, shares an ability with his idol Houdini to draw in his audience with a wide array of tricks, illusions, and feats of daring. The world’s only five-time/back-to-back Magician of the Year is featured in 20 episodes with daredevil performances all live and unstaged including being steamrolled on a bed of broken glass and escaping from an out-of-control transport van filled with 100 pounds of explosives. (A&E)

‘Lust, Caution’

Like what he did with Annie Proulx’s similarly brief story, “Brokeback Mountain,” Ang Lee directs a fine adaptation of an Eileen Chang short story. A passionate espionage thriller set in WWII-era Shanghai, in which a young woman, Wang Jiazhi, gets swept up in a dangerous game of emotional intrigue with a powerful political figure, Mr. Yee. Supplements include a feature entitled: Tiles of Deception, Lurid Affections. The film is available in R and NC-17 versions. (Universal)

‘Into the Wild’ Collector’s Edition

Inspired by the true story of Christopher McCandless (Emile Hirsch), a young man abandons his life of comfort to pursue the freedom of life on the road. It is a quest that takes him across North America and ultimately to the challenge of his life in the Alaskan wilderness. A second disc contains supplements behind the story, characters and experiences of the film. (Paramount)

‘Margot at the Wedding’

Nicole Kidman and Jennifer Jason Leigh provide a quirky look as neurotic sisters who have reunited when Nicole arrives and meets Jennifer’s groom-to-be (Jack Black). A raw psycho-sociological examination of sibling relationships, the picture is written and directed by Oscar-winner Noah Baumbach (“The Squid and the Whale”). Bonus material includes a conversation between husband and wife/director and star Baumbach and Leigh. (Paramount)

‘Newhart’ The Complete First Season

After a four-year break from television comedy, Bob Newhart made a triumphant return in 1982. Nominated for 25 Emmys during its eight-year run on CBS, the hit series has Newhart trading in his psychiatrist couch and the Windy City for the comfort of a small inn in rural Vermont that he runs with his wife. (Fox)

‘Dresden’

The most-watched German television production of all-time, this mini-series is a tale of love with a German nurse (Felicitas Woll) and a British pilot (John Light) set against the backdrop of the Dresden bombings (one of WWII’s most controversial events.) Presented in two-parts with English and German (with English subtitles) dialogue, bonus features include archival footage from the actual bombings and an extended making-of documentary. (Koch)

‘Pioneers of Television’

An informative and engrossing four-part look at the personalities who shaped an industry, the documentary is divided into four-parts: Late Night, Sitcoms, Game Shows, and Variety. It chronicles such iconic shows and performers as Johnny Carson, “I Love Lucy,” Ed Sullivan, and “Laugh-In.” A who’s who of television greats are interviewed: Andy Griffith, Milton Berle, Mary Tyler Moore, and Jay Leno among many others. (Paramount/PBS)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local retail store.

Work tackles problems with oil

FROM BOOK REVIEW PAGE 12

get through the body's filtration system and end up in our lungs. Air pollution can cause cancer, asthma and other diseases. Cars spew out carbon dioxide. Diesel engines put out more carbon dioxide than our automobiles. Airplane fuel and jet fuel adds to the pollution.

Also, ozone is one of the products of car exhaust. Ozone hurts trees, plants, lungs and farm crops. Trees filter some of it out. Our oceans filter some of it, too. But our lungs don't filter it out at all.

"The Geneva Protocol of 1991 acknowledges that the oil industry could equip each method of oil transportation with technologies that would reduce emissions and leaks by 80 percent."

This and much more is explored in this thought provoking work.

The EPA has stated that greenhouse gases pose a threat to the nation's welfare and want to rein in emissions from vehicles, factories, power plants and other industrial polluters. There is no turning back but Tamminen gives us some much-needed solutions in this

book. He projects the future to 2025 and looks back. He postulates what future generations might tell us depending on what route we ultimately take. That of reduced fuel usage or that of our current cycle of use that has created much of the environmental chaos that exists today.

It is good news to realize since the publication of this book, things have started to improve for the better. There is a movement toward biodiesel and other kinds of biofuels using farm products such as corn and soy. The problem with this is that the more farm products we use the higher our grocery prices go because of the increase in demand.

This book should be read and pondered. There may still be time to enact positive change. It will be decades of reform necessary before we return to what we had before the industrial age began and if we are to save our environment for future generations we must do something - now.

Comments and concerns can be sent to smdp_review@yahoo.com.

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Company is an option, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Take a risk and reach out for a friend who can be opinionated yet caring. Tonight: Try a new spot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Creativity emerges when working with a boss and a key associate. Go with nebulous. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ A boss or authority figure could take an action that might stun you. Tonight: Sort through your different invitations.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ News could cause you to revamp and take another look at what you thought were givens. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Allow your imagination to punctuate your conversations and projects. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You have a set group of precepts that you might not choose to veer away from. Tonight: Happily head home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Easy works with others. In fact, if you can stay light in a conversation you'll get better results. Tonight: Join a friend for munchies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Expenses could add up a lot faster than you might like. Be willing to loosen up and try another approach or a different style. Tonight: Ever playful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You are in the thick of the action, like it or not. Tonight: Know that the world is your oyster, and act like it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Discomfort comes with an unexpected realization or event. Tonight: Hide out. Company is an option!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You have unusual wit and allure. Others seem to come toward you. Tonight: In the whirl of living. Find a friend to celebrate TGIF with.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Responsibilities weigh on you. Much might be going on behind the scenes or in your Tonight: Could be late.

Happy Birthday

Zero in on what you want this year. Know that your intuition is right-on, especially concerning authority figures. Sometimes you push others too hard, which has a negative impact. Juggle work with your personal life, understanding your individual priorities. If you are single, you'll enter a new phase where life presents many new people. In expanding your immediate circle, you'll discover a new potential sweetie. Make sure he or she is emotionally available. If you are attached, spending plenty of one-on-one time with your partner will add to the strength of your bond. SAGITTARIUS often adds to your tension level.

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

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com> (c) 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

current life, leisure & the arts
Friday just got a whole lot more entertaining

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading to alleviate rent controlled boot legged units from certain development standards, to clarify a section of the Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance regarding Alcohol Conditional Use Permits, and to allow landscaping and portable furniture in the public ROW.

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

Public hearings will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed ordinance amendments:

1. Modification of the City of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.18.075 amending the text of the City of Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance in order to waive certain development standards to allow for legalization of rental units which were built or created without permits and registered with the Rent Control Board;
2. Modification of the City of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.18.020 amending the text of the City of Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance in order to clarify that a business establishments with an alcohol CUP must obtain a new alcohol CUP if the establishment ceases operating for a period in excess of one year, except for premises in the CM (Main Street Commercial) District, in which case the time period shall be six months;
3. Modification of the City of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.02.340 amending the text of the City of Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance in order to authorize the placement of furniture, portable landscaping, and cigarette disposal receptacles within the public right-of-way and the display of merchandise in private vestibules.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, March 11, 2008 AT 6:45 PM
LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
RE: TA 08-001, 08-002, 08-003
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Travis Page at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at travis.page@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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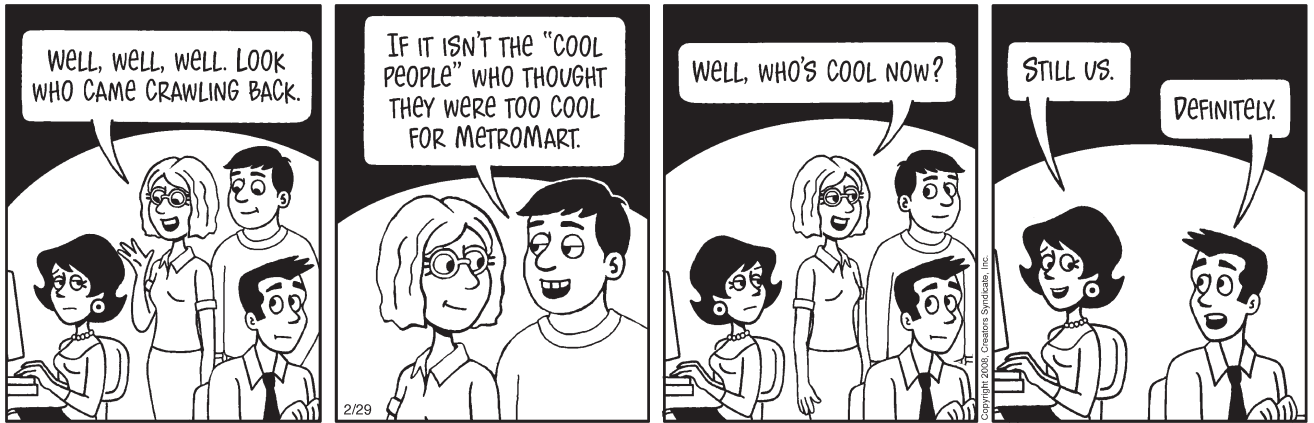
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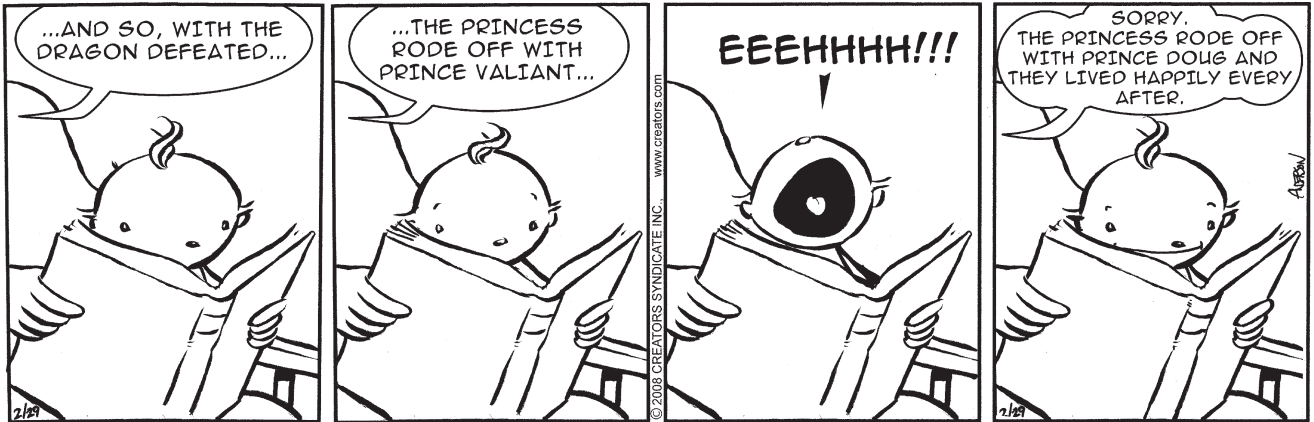
The Other Coast



Garfield



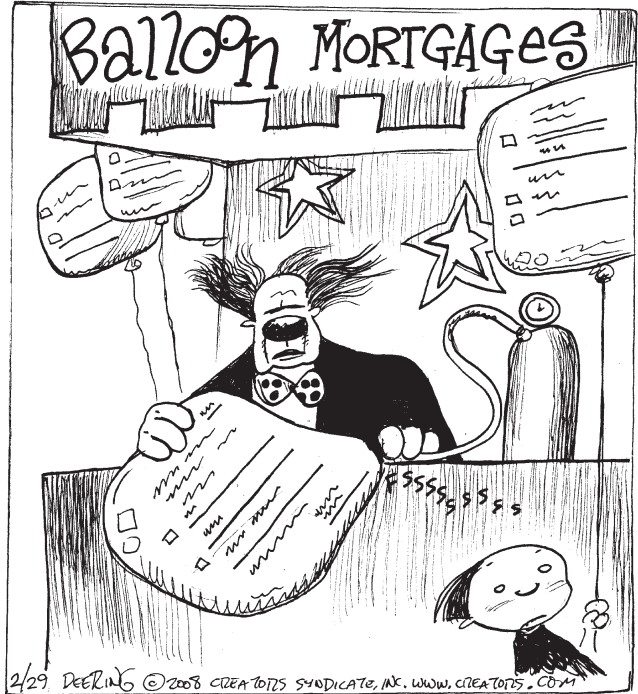
Dog eat Doug



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



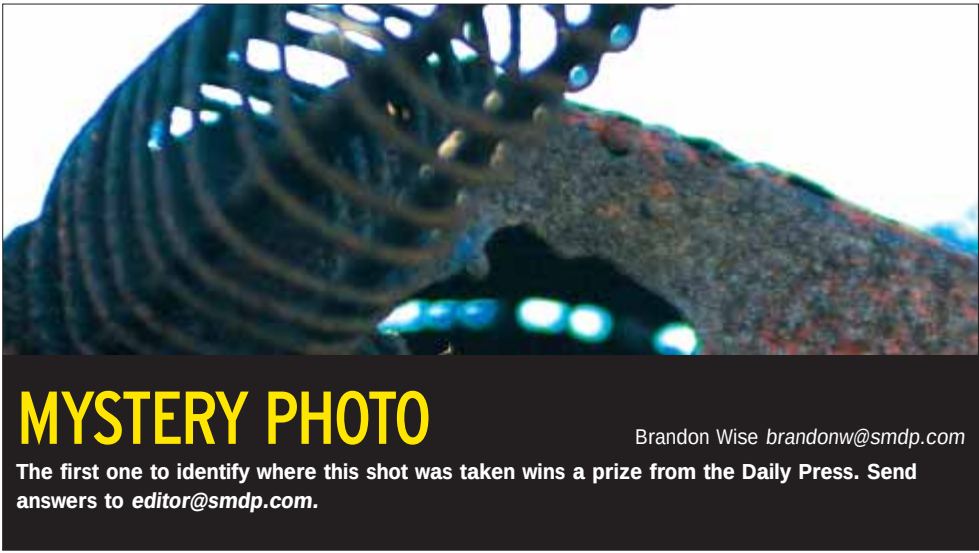
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CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Meet John Doe" director
 - 6 Push away
 - 11 Audibly
 - 12 Thinning layer
 - 13 Sighted
 - 14 Entertainer Fanny
 - 15 Grenade part
 - 16 Franklin's wife
 - 18 Busy worker
 - 19 Coifs
 - 20 Essay
 - 21 Take it easy
 - 23 Like Thor and Odin
 - 25 Galley item
 - 27 "The Matrix" hero
 - 28 Gift — (talker's forte)
 - 30 Does in
 - 33 Old hand
 - 34 Mariner
 - 36 Pillbox, e.g.
 - 37 Pilot's employer
 - 39 Mine matter
 - 40 Western contest
- 41** Camp craft
- 43** Drug-free
- 44** Love affair
- 45** Grazing groups
- 46** Components

DOWN

- 1 One of the Magi
- 2 Like edelweiss
- 3 Meeting concerns
- 4 Bemoan
- 5 Totted up
- 6 Actor Paul
- 7 Pound of poetry
- 8 They may lead to duels
- 9 Cry from the crowd
- 10 Distrustful
- 17 First name in horror
- 22 Luggage ID
- 24 Old auto

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

Yesterday's answer

- 26 Parcels out
- 28 Jim Palmer, once
- 29 Prohibit
- 31 "Wild!"
- 32 Takes the helm
- 33 Dry up
- 35 Summary
- 38 Go ahead
- 42 Doc's org.

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						46				

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Fantasy 5 4 12 18 23 29

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 9 1 8
EVENING: 2 6 3

DAILY DERRY 1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.41.39

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Energetic Perverts:** (1) Elementary school principal John Stelmack, 60, was arrested in Bartow, Fla., in December and accused by prosecutors of innocently photographing young girls but then using a computer software program to place their heads on photos of nude women (which may not even be illegal, according to a 2002 U.S. Supreme Court decision). (2) Kazuo Oshitani, 48, was arrested in Osaka, Japan, in December as the one who draped perhaps more than 170 items of women's underwear over objects in his neighborhood (and who possessed at least 200 more such items in his home). He was charged with littering.

■ A prize-winning paper from a Hebrew University researcher, seeking to explain the paucity of rapes by Israeli soldiers of Palestinian women, concluded that the soldiers were merely using a "strategy" of non-rape, according to a December report on Arutz Sheva. Such a hands-off policy "strengthens the ethnic boundaries," wrote Ms. Tal Nitzan, seemingly suggesting that Israeli soldiers primarily feared increasing the Palestinian population. Nowhere, critics pointed out, did Nitzan suggest that rape is rare because Israeli culture condemns it.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1504 Christopher Columbus uses his knowledge of a lunar eclipse that night to convince Native Americans to provide him with supplies.

1712 February 29 is followed by February 30 in Sweden, in a move to abolish the Swedish calendar for a return to the Old style.

1940 For her role as Mammy in "Gone with the Wind," Hattie McDaniel becomes the first African American to win an Academy Award.

1940 In a ceremony held in Berkeley, California, because of the war, physicist Ernest Lawrence receives his 1939 Nobel Prize in Physics from the Sweden's Consul General in San Francisco.

1956 U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower announces to the nation that he is running for a second term.

1972 Hank Aaron becomes the first player in the history of Major League Baseball to sign a \$200,000 contract.

1984 Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announces he will retire as soon as the Liberals can elect another leader.

WORD UP!

fallible \FAL-uh-bul\, *adjective*: 1. Liable to make a mistake. 2. Liable to be inaccurate or erroneous.

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080110401 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as RENEGADE MEDIA, 5460 WHITE OAK F307, ENCINO, CA. 91316, PO BOX 11522, BURBANK, CA. 91510. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JAMES VAUGHN, 5460 WHITE OAK F307, ENCINO, CA. 91316 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein. /s/: JAMES VAUGHN This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 1/18/2008. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 2/15/2008, 2/22/2008, 2/29/2008, 3/7/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080199559 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DIA SALON AND SPA A/H/ON 3033098, 1006 BROADWAY, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401, LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : RILETTE, 1006 BROADWAY, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein. /s/: RILETTE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WESTON HARTLEY

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 2/1/2008. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 2/29/2008, 3/7/2008, 3/14/2008, 3/21/2008

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