



IN THE STARTING LINEUP?
SEE PAGE 14

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE WATER ISSUE

Keeping it green

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY When it comes to sustainability and environmentally-friendly practices, a tenet shared by its members/customers, the Co-Opportunity grocery store leads by example.

The member-owned grocery store is among 14 businesses in Santa Monica that have a Green Business Certification (GBC), a program that accredits establishments for incorporating sustainable practices in their operation.

The program, operated by a collaborative that includes nonprofit group Sustainable Works, the Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and City Hall, was launched in the fall of 2006 with a group of businesses that participated in the pilot phase. Among those first group of businesses are the Ambrose Hotel, Euphoria Loves Rawvolution, Library Alehouse, Gladstein Neandross & Associates, Patagonia and Co-Op.

"We are trying to be as environmentally friendly and as proactive in changing the current conditions in the environ-

SEE GREEN PAGE 11



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

GOING GREEN: Erranja Tillman, a Co-Opportunity employee, organizes vegetables at the store's large produce section on Friday. Co-Opportunity, a member-owned organic grocer on Broadway, is among 14 businesses that have received Green Business Certification for exercising sustainable practices in its daily operation. Among the environmentally-sound measures adopted by the business is using green cleaning products in its bathrooms and encouraging employees to use alternative forms of transportation.



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

HISTORY BUFF: Anna Sklar, author of 'Black Acres,' tried to create a text that was both suspenseful and historically correct.

COMMUNITY PROFILES | ANNA SKLAR

Author explores love of Los Angeles

BY NATALIE EDWARDS
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN There are two simultaneous trajectories to the life of Santa Monica resident and author Anna Sklar, one geographical arch that jumps across cities within Los Angeles, and another personal love for the demands of reporting that bridged jobs.

Now settled in her favorite Los Angeles enclave and retired from the nine-to-five routine, Sklar has combined both in the soon to be published non-fiction account of the history of the Los Angeles sewer system, "Black Acres: An Intimate History of the Los Angeles Sewers." It is a history that parallels the rise of the city and delves into what made Los Angeles possible — water.

The text touches upon turn-of-the-century suicidal city engineers overwhelmed by the political nature of the day, the razing of the San Fernando Valley, the dumping of sewage into the ocean and subsequent closures from pollution, bond measures that promised treatment and delivered screening, and the building of pipes that directed sewage into deep sea pockets of sludge that Sklar called "the black hole of cal-cutta."

"Black Acres" also traces recent developments, such as the more promising growth of progressive environmental organizations in the past two decades, like Santa Monica nonprofit Heal the Bay, that rallied for and succeeded in persuading local governments to stop sewage dumping and implement more aggressive sewage

treatment.

While sections of "Black Acres" cover the same ground as "Chinatown," Sklar admitted that her text may not maintain the same level of intrigue as the film noir classic. Both focus on a turbulent time in Southern California history: The early 20th century struggles between bureaucrats and engineers amidst underground deals, biased newspaper reports, and public outcry. But where "Chinatown" benefited from compositing different historical events, dramatic cinematography, and fictionalization, "Black Acres" maintains the suspense of historicity derived from conducting hundreds of interviews and scouring archives.

Still, Sklar admitted, "... nothing

SEE CP PAGE 10

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Calendar

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Kulturas anniversary

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.

Transplant second-hand bookstore, Kulturas, is celebrating its first whole year in Santa Monica by having "rolling sales" around different sections of the store. Check out their "sort-of-vintage" clothing corner and the current artist exhibit. For further information, call (310) 450-8707.

'Lose Weight for Good'

1328 22nd St., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Saint John's Health Center presents "Los Weight for Good," a comprehensive program for healthy weight management.

No food to purchase, no shakes to drink - just a sound approach to lasting lifestyle solutions. Instructed by a dietitian, cost for the 13-week series is \$300. Flexible access to the Santa Monica Spectrum Health Club and Santa Monica curves is available to those without a current gym membership. Classes fill up quickly so call today - (310) 829-8453!

Tango with Tango

1416 Electric Ave., Venice, 8:30 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Learn Argentine Tango with Makela Tango at the Electric Lodge. No partner necessary. For more information, visit www.makelatango.com.

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. — 11 a.m.

The Ocean Park Branch Library brings back their music and story program for toddlers aged 24 — 36 months. Registration and an accompanying adult are required.

For more information or to make a reservation, call (310) 392-3804.

Wild Wild West Side Crime Bus Tour

9341 Venice Blvd., Culver City, Noon — 5 p.m.

In this new true crime tour spotlighting some of the weirdest, most horrific and downright unbelievable crimes of historic West Los Angeles, you'll thrill and shudder to tales of teenage girl gangs, wicked wives, evil spirits, cults, creeps and assorted maniacs. Seats are \$55 per person; 15 percent off for KCRW members.

Visit www.esotouric.com for more details.

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.



AP probe finds drugs in water

BY JEFF DONN, MARTHA MENDOZA AND JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press Writers

A vast array of pharmaceuticals — including antibiotics, anti-convulsants, mood stabilizers and sex hormones — have been found in the drinking water supplies of at least 41 million Americans, an Associated Press investigation shows.

To be sure, the concentrations of these pharmaceuticals are tiny, measured in quantities of parts per billion or trillion, far below the levels of a medical dose. Also, utilities insist their water is safe.

But the presence of so many prescription drugs — and over-the-counter medicines like acetaminophen and ibuprofen — in so much of our drinking water is heightening worries among scientists of long-term consequences to human health.

In the course of a five-month inquiry, the AP discovered that drugs have been detected in the drinking water supplies of 24 major metropolitan areas — from Southern California to Northern New Jersey, from Detroit to Louisville, Ky.

Water providers rarely disclose results of pharmaceutical screenings, unless pressed, the AP found. For example, the head of a group representing major California suppliers said the public “doesn’t know how to interpret the information” and might be unduly alarmed.

How do the drugs get into the water?

People take pills. Their bodies absorb some of the medication, but the rest of it passes through and is flushed down the toilet. The wastewater is treated before it is discharged into reservoirs, rivers or lakes. Then, some of the water is cleansed again at drinking water treatment plants and piped to consumers. But most treatments do not remove all drug residue.

And while researchers do not yet understand the exact risks from decades of persistent exposure to random combinations of low levels of pharmaceuticals, recent studies — which have gone virtually unnoticed by the general public — have found alarming effects on human cells and wildlife.

“We recognize it is a growing concern and

SEE DRUGS PAGE 8

Creating an incentive

Prize Capital joins SM-based X-PRIZE in creating contest

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN Prize Capital, LLC this week announced the planning phase for a \$10 million “Biofuels Prize” in coordination with the Santa Monica-based X PRIZE Foundation to spur the creation of a new technology that is energy and cost-efficient, sustainable, versatile, easy to scale and decentralized.

Lee Stein, founder and chairman of Prize Capital, introduced the prize planning phase at the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC). The new mechanism for generating innovation and financing for energy and the environment is the first of several Earth 2.0SM programs planned by Prize Capital.

“Current biofuel technology is not fully sustainable, competes with food crops and doesn’t work on a decentralized small scale for local communities,” Stein said. “Instead, the Biofuels Prize will spur the creation of new small-scale production systems that can be placed in villages and towns anywhere in the world where non-food crops can be grown and converted to biofuels.”

“Innovation can come from all corners of the world but people need capital and motivation, which is at the heart of the Prize Capital model and the Biofuels Prize.”

Stein said traditional funding mechanisms are not designed to empower the vast numbers of people in developing countries who just might have solutions, but are often not in a position to express their opinions to the outside world.

“Our prize, capital and partnerships approach aims to catalyze innovation and provide the capital to bring it to the world,” Stein said. “We believe the Biofuels Prize will benefit the environment, the economy,

SEE PRIZE PAGE 9



THE DOCTOR IS IN

Ariel King, 3, of Santa Monica talks to the Cat in the Hat (Janie Harding, president of the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica) during the Super Seuss-a-bration held at the Santa Monica Public Library on Saturday. The event, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica, celebrated the world of Dr. Seuss and featured a screening of the movie ‘The Cat In The Hat,’ and Seuss-themed arts and crafts.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Calling out council candidates

Editor:

My first encounter with the City of Malibu was in my former capacity as Director, Public Affairs and Government Relations for the Malibu Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC). The reception MMRC and I personally received from then city leaders and city staff was hostile despite an enthusiastic response from local press.

The Malibu MRC was established by Dr. Victor Dorodny and was the only privately established unit in California operating under the authority of the California Governor through the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) and under the direction of the U.S. Surgeon General.

By working together with area healthcare professionals, mass media, Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD), Los Angeles County Fire Department, MMRC sought to provide an efficient way for medical, public health, and citizen volunteers to offer their skills and expertise during local crises and throughout the year.

Since May, 2004 with the support and recognition by the U.S. Surgeon General, MMRC attempted to cooperate with the City of Malibu to integrate MMRCs programs and services into the fragmented and insufficient emergency capabilities in Malibu.

Unfortunately, for the residents of Malibu, hundreds of thousands of visitors and students at Pepperdine University, former City Manager Katie Lichtig under the direction of then Mayor Sharon Barovsky and the City Attorney single handedly undermined discussions between the MMRC and the City of Malibu and caused MMRC to lose its State and Federal funding.

Lack of involvement by State Senator Sheila Kuehl, former Assemblymember Fran Pavley, Ms. Carol Meyer, former Director, Los Angeles County EMS Agency, Los Angeles County Fire Department leadership further contributed to the demise of MMRC resulting in its decertification in April, 2005.

Public safety and health services policy matters raised by Sheriff Baca and Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky have not been properly addressed or vetted.

In the past, Captain Thomas G. Martin from the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department, Lost Hills Station despite being approached by MMRC leadership concerning Malibu's emergency preparedness and response capabilities, and specifically in regard to possible conversion of the abandoned Sheriff station into a regional training/operational emergency response hub did not respond to MMRCs numerous requests for support and cooperation.

Given the lack of adequate health and emergency services in Malibu leading to constant violations of the "golden hour" standard of care:

I ask and urge all incoming members of the Malibu City Council to work with Sheriff Lee Baca, the County of L.A. to reestablish both the Sheriff station and an emergency clinic/response center on the current site. Dorodny remains ready, able, and willing to offer his expertise free of charge on a public safety/ health services strategy to benefit the residents of Malibu. He can be reached by e-mail at Dorodny@medscape.com.

I also ask, recommend, and urge that incoming city leaders and Mayor Pro Tempore Pamela Conley Ulich create an Office of Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for the City of Malibu on a volunteer basis and that Dorodny be considered for such appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this critical and urgent public policy matter.

Robert Donin, MPA

Former Director, Public Affairs and Government Relations
Malibu Medical Reserve Corps



Bill Bauer

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Action plan leaves things to be desired

LAST WEEK, I WROTE THAT THE CITY'S new "Action plan to address homelessness in Santa Monica" was a step in the right direction, but incomplete.

It targets the most vulnerable on our streets for services, especially housing, and makes services more responsive to client needs. The plan hinges on finding housing for 110 individuals on its "most vulnerable" list to start. With little affordable housing available, only a few persons each year will be housed leaving many hundreds waiting on the streets while even more "homeless" arrive. The same is true with services: Too many homeless, limited space in effective programs.

Encouraging transients to go back home and connect with family, friends and local services has been very successful. It's what privately funded, West Coast Care has been doing here over the last 18 months. Based on a theory that the longer persons are homeless here, the harder it is to get them back into productive society, helping them "go home" solves many problems. Cost of services are not on our dime and they're getting help in a caring environment with a better chance of success most likely where affordable housing is available and other costs are a fraction of what they are here.

But, the city's new action plan relies on serving people here, expanded outreach, more intensive case management and increased expenditures (currently budgeted at \$2.8-million) for each individual in services. For example, the city's one year old "homeless court" with its special \$458,000 funding from L.A. County has adjudicated 92 individuals to date at a cost of \$4,978 per person which includes some services, case management and evaluations.

While the city's new plan is good for those desiring help, it falls short with those who eschew services. With many of our most familiar hard core "street people" refusing assistance, under the current legal system it's almost impossible to get chronically homeless and mentally compromised individuals into hospitals, programs or even housing if they don't want to go.

Once someone enters the "continuum of care" service stream, they often don't get the assistance they need or meet with an indifferent service agency staff. City human services manager, Julie Rusk, told City Council, "Because of barriers to get into services, it [The West Los Angeles Veteran's Administration] is a place where many homeless vets say they don't want to go." Her comment caught the attention of councilman, Bobby Shriver, who has worked hard to open housing at the V.A. for homeless vets.

Expenditures for public relations is part of

the new plan. City Council OK'd \$100,000 for "phase one" of a public relations campaign from GMMB, a large, national, political lobbying and PR firm to discourage us from giving money to panhandlers. More money will be committed for additional phases.

This money could be better spent. And, the proposed campaign puts the shoe on the wrong foot — making residents and visitors alike the "bad guys" while allowing panhandlers free rein. Unfortunately, I don't think it's going to work unless GMMB posts "greeters" around every public space, 24/7, with instructions to all entering to not "feed the bears."

The council also directed staff to prepare an ordinance to prohibit seeking donations from benches on the Third Street Promenade. Once again, City Hall takes baby steps when it should leap forward.

I had lunch with a couple of friends a few weeks ago at Fatburger on Third Street. For nearly an hour, we watched a middle-aged woman on a shiny, red, electric scooter "work" the promenade by approaching everyone and asking for handouts. So, what about walkers or persons on scooters or wheelchairs soliciting donations? How about those sitting on curbs or walls who ask for spare change? I know there are constitutional rights here, but the city should find a legal way to restrict panhandling, period.

I personally get a kick out of stories about Times Square in New York City and how this same "action plan" formula reduced the number of homeless there. When I was in New York just after 9/11, I talked to many law enforcement and public safety personnel about the scarcity of vagrants and panhandlers in Times Square and other high-tourism areas.

I was told how the Times Square Business Improvement District (BID) security detail aggressively discouraged vagrants and transients in Times Square and environs. Whether by sheer presence or subtle intimidation, BID security (with backup from the New York Police Department) were effective. Perhaps here, a "non-sworn" Santa Monica Police detail similar to the department's Park Rangers could discourage panhandlers and those exhibiting antisocial behavior from the Bayside area.

I suspect the city's action plan will evolve because we all know finding housing is only a part of a complete program that must substantially reduce the number of transients in our community while helping those who are in real need — and do it in a cost-efficient and timely manner.

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Gods made in our image: Politicians as entertainers

WE HAVE ENTERED A NEW AGE OF political discourse in which Americans are content to think in sound bites and elect a president based on who can deliver the best campaign slogans and punch lines. But the campaign rhetoric of the leading presidential contenders tells us absolutely nothing about what the candidates can actually deliver: "Believe," "Can Do," "Ready to Lead on Day One."

The candidates may very well hold substantive positions on critical issues of the day. Yet what we hear are 30-second platitudes, and all we see are airbrushed images and smiling faces. Between the incessant campaign commercials and televised debates, America is being treated to a tightly crafted entertainment spectacle that gives credence to Ronald Reagan's assertion that "Politics is just like show business." And the politicians have become the entertainers.

The candidates understand this. That's why television, and television advertising in particular, has become such a favored medium for politicians. Television has altered the nature of political power, the means of political discourse and the way in which Americans think about and relate to their government. And television in general is driven by commercials.

People, it must be remembered, make their gods in their own image. Television politics has added a new wrinkle. "Those who would be gods refashion themselves into images the viewers would have them to be," notes Postman.

Yet very little happens in front of the camera that is not pre-planned, strategized and intended to manipulate the viewer's response. Much like toothpaste, politicians have become products for consumption. Driven by market research, political ads are designed to sell you what you desire, as opposed to actually giving any in-depth information about the candidates themselves. This is an invaluable tool for politicians who can gear their message toward what the voter wants, rather than what the nation needs. In this way, television politics does not attempt to convey who might be best at being president but rather who has the best slogans and can get the best ratings.

There is no such thing as a 60-second solution to the world's problems. And there's no way to decide on the best candidate for the White House by watching a heavily scripted debate. Unfortunately, television

advertising and our entertainment culture have adapted us to commercial-style content. As a result, Americans are fast losing the ability to think for themselves, let alone think analytically or contextually.

When I was coming of age in the 1960s, Americans had more than a rudimentary understanding of their government and its philosophical underpinnings. The Constitution meant something, as did the freedoms enshrined in it. The Constitution was composed at a time when most free people had access to their communities through leaflets, newspapers or the spoken word. They were literate and eager to share their political ideas with each other in forms and content over which they, as citizens, had control.

Two of the greatest prophetic thinkers of the twentieth century were George Orwell and Aldous Huxley. Contrary to common belief, Huxley and Orwell did not prophesy the same thing.

Orwell warned in his novel 1984 of an authoritarian government run by Big Brother that would oppress the people. In Huxley's vision of the future, no Big Brother would be required to rule the people. People in Huxley's vision would come to love their oppression and to adore the very technologies that were destroying them. While Orwell feared that books would be banned, Huxley feared, as Postman recognizes, "that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one." While Orwell feared those who would deprive us of information, Huxley feared those who would give us so much information that we would be reduced to "passivity and egoism. Orwell feared that the truth would be concealed from us. Huxley feared the truth would be drowned in a sea of irrelevance."

Huxley remarks in *Brave New World* Revisited that civil libertarians, who oppose tyranny, "failed to take into account man's almost infinite appetite for distractions." While the government in 1984 controlled people by inflicting pain, in *Brave New World*, they are controlled by inflicting pleasure. "In short," as Postman notes, "Orwell feared that what we hate will ruin us. Huxley feared that what we love will ruin us."

Constitutional attorney and author **JOHN W. WHITEHEAD** is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org.



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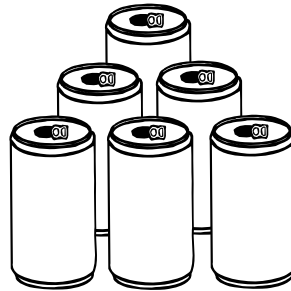
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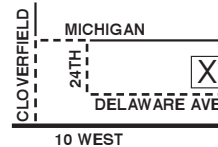
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Yvonne Szafran — Conservator, J. Paul Getty Museum
Ho Nguen — Director of Operations,
Santa Monica Historical Society Museum



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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

"Know Before You Go" is a weekly update on construction projects throughout Santa Monica. Here is a run-down of this week's construction projects initiated by City Hall



Annenberg Community Beach Club at Santa Monica State Beach (415 Pacific Coast Hwy.)

Beach Parking Lot 10 will be closed for rehabilitation Feb. 7 through May 20. Beach patrons are advised to ride a bike or park in Lot 9 north. The self pay machine in Lot 9 allows payment for either all-day or two-hour parking. Flag persons will be in the area to ensure safe conditions and limit disruption to Pacific Coast Highway.

Annual Tree Trimming Project

City trees will be trimmed at the following locations this winter: 24th Street (San Vicente Boulevard to Montana Avenue), 14th Street (San Vicente to Montana), Fourth Street (Montana to Wilshire Boulevard), 24th Street (Idaho Avenue to Wilshire Boulevard), Cedar Street (Seventh Street to Lincoln Boulevard), 28th Street (Pico Blvd to Ocean Park Boulevard), Centinela Avenue (Santa Monica Boulevard to Nebraska Street), Georgina Avenue (Ocean Avenue to 14th Street), Ashland Avenue (Lincoln Boulevard to 14th Street), Georgina Avenue (14th Street to 17th Street), Carlyle Avenue (Ninth Street to 14th Street), Sixth Street (Idaho Avenue to Wilshire Boulevard), Douglas Park, and 14th Street (Pico to Ocean Park boulevards). There will be minimal lane closures from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mondays thru Fridays. The annual tree trimming schedule is subject to change without notice due to inclement weather, emergencies, community events, budget conditions, street repairs or other public improvements. Residences and businesses will be notified in advance of tree trimming operations, blocks will also be posted with no parking signs.

Back On the Beach Café (445 Pacific Coast Hwy.)

Flag persons will be in the area to ensure safe conditions and limit disruption to traffic flow on PCH on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Beach Parking Lot 10 will be closed for rehabilitation Feb. 7 through May 20. Beach patrons are advised ride a bike or park in Lot 9 north. The self-pay machine in Lot 9 allows payment for either all-day or two-hour parking.

Big Blue Bus Campus Expansion (1620 Sixth St.)

No public parking at the eastside of Sixth Street (South of Colorado Avenue). Mar. 3, 2008 to Aug. 25, 2009: No parking along, and no pedestrian access to west sidewalk of Seventh Street, between Colorado and Olympic boulevards. Jan. 21, 2009 to Apr. 21, 2009: No parking along, and no pedestrian access to south sidewalk of Colorado between Sixth and Seventh streets.

Colorado Ocean Relief Sewer Project

Traffic from the I-10 Freeway will be directed to avoid Colorado Avenue by either using Pico Boulevard or East-West streets North of Colorado. Project is scheduled for completion in May 2009. Detours are as follows:

- Westbound Colorado Avenue will be closed at Second Street.
- Eastbound Colorado Avenue will be reduced to one lane between Ocean Avenue and Second Street.
- Southbound Second Street will be closed at Colorado Avenue.
- Pedestrian access to businesses and through the work area will be maintained.

Marine Street Utility Undergrounding

Relocation and undergrounding of electric, phone, and cable facilities on Marine Street, between Lincoln Boulevard and Prospect Court. Parking limitations will be posted daily and detours may be announced as necessary.

Second/Fourth streets Streetscape Improvement Project

West parking lane and west sidewalk work along the west side of Second Street from Santa Monica Boulevard to Colorado Avenue. Daily pedestrian detours will be set up, access to businesses will be maintained, traffic will not be impacted.

Traffic Signal Upgrade

Fiber optic infrastructure installation and traffic signal modifications will continue in the following locations: 1) Main Street from Pico Boulevard to City Hall. 2) Colorado Avenue from Main to Lincoln Boulevard. 3) Lincoln from Pico to the I-10 Freeway. 4) Broadway from Fifth to Seventh streets. 5) Santa Monica Boulevard from Sixth Street to Lincoln. Work hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Traffic lane closures and sidewalk closures should be anticipated at these locations.

Wilshire Storm Water Diversion Structure

Construction for the installation of the diversion facility on Ocean Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard has been completed. Traffic lanes have been restored to normal operation. Park restoration work will be complete February 2008.

Bitch! Whine! Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 5.

Santa Monica Daily Press



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Water makes U.S. troops in Iraq sick

BY LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Dozens of U.S. troops in Iraq fell sick at bases using "unmonitored and potentially unsafe" water supplied by the military and a contractor once owned by Vice President Dick Cheney's former company, the Pentagon's internal watchdog says.

A report obtained by The Associated Press said soldiers experienced skin abscesses, cellulitis, skin infections, diarrhea and other illnesses after using discolored, smelly water for personal hygiene and laundry at five U.S. military sites in Iraq.

The Defense Department's inspector general's report, which could be released as early as Monday, found water quality problems between March 2004 and February 2006 at three sites run by contractor KBR Inc., and between January 2004 and December 2006 at two military-operated locations.

It was impossible to link the dirty water definitively to all the illnesses, according to the report. But it said KBR's water quality "was not maintained in accordance with field water sanitary standards" and the military-run sites "were not performing all required quality control tests."

The report said KBR took corrective steps and was providing adequate water quality by November 2006. But military units at the two sites they controlled were still failing to perform required quality control tests and maintain appropriate records by that time.

"Therefore, water suppliers exposed U.S. forces to unmonitored and potentially unsafe water," at the military sites by late 2006, the report said.

The problems did not extend to troops' drinking water, but rather to water used for washing, bathing, shaving and cleaning. Water used for hygiene and laundry must meet minimum safety standards under military regulations because of the potential for harmful exposure through the eyes, nose, mouth, cuts and wounds.

The KBR sites were Camp Ar Ramadi, Camp Q-West and Camp Victory. The military sites were Logistics Support Area Anaconda and Camp Ali.

The inspector general's study confirmed AP reports on the contaminated water in early 2006 and provided additional details on the scope of the problem at the Iraq bases. In January that year, interviews and internal company documents disclosed the problems at Ar Ramadi and showed that KBR employees could not get the company to inform base residents.

Halliburton Co., then KBR's parent company, disputed the allegations even though they were made by its own employees and documented in company e-mails. In March 2006, the AP obtained an internal Halliburton report that, in one instance, the company missed contamination that could have caused "mass sickness or death" at Ar Ramadi.

The report said the event at Ar Ramadi could have been prevented if KBR's reverse osmosis units on the site had been assembled, instead of relying on the military's water production facilities.

Halliburton is the oil services conglomerate that Cheney once led. Congressional Democrats long have complained that KBR has benefited from its former ties to Cheney.

KBR, responding to the inspector general's report, said its water treatment "has met or exceeded all applicable military and contract standards." The company took excep-

tion to many of the inspector general's assertions. "KBR's commitment to the safety of all of its employees remains unwavering," the company said in a statement to the AP.

KBR provided water treatment to U.S. troops under a large-scale defense contract that also included housing and food to soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Djibouti and Georgia.

The military has "taken the appropriate measures to correct the problem and ensure we provide the appropriate oversight of the system," said Navy Capt. James Graybeal of the U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. troops in the Middle East.

I THINK IT'S OUTRAGEOUS THAT KBR TRIED TO DENY THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT TURNED OUT THAT THERE WERE DOZENS OF U.S. TROOPS REPORTING WATER-RELATED ILLNESSES."

Sen. Byron Dorgan
D-North Dakota

North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan, who has led Democratic inquiries into contracting abuses in Iraq, said the inspector general has backed up what those earlier hearings uncovered. "KBR was not doing its job" and U.S. forces had water that did not meet Army standards, Dorgan said.

"I think it's outrageous that KBR tried to deny that there was a problem, especially when it turned out that there were dozens of U.S. troops reporting water-related illnesses," he said.

The inspector general investigated the 2006 reports at Dorgan's request.

The inspector general's report said some troops noticed problems with the water. Between October 2004 and May 2005, troops at Camp Ar Ramadi said bathwater was discolored and had an unusual odor. The report said KBR failed to treat the non-potable water and monitor water quality during the same period.

At Camp Q-West, KBR inappropriately delivered chlorinated wastewater for showers and latrines without informing military preventive medicine officials, the report said. "KBR did not monitor or record the quality of water at point-of-use containers before April 2006, even though the ... contract required the company to do so," the report added.

Medical records for troops at Camp Q-West indicated 38 cases of illnesses commonly attributed to problem water. These include skin abscesses, cellulitis, skin infections and diarrhea. Doctors diagnosed 24 of the cases in January and February 2006, the same period when medical officials warned of a rise in bacterial infections at the base.

In addition, military medical records — tied to no particular base in Iraq — showed 26 cases of food and waterborne diseases, including hepatitis, giardiasis and typhoid fever.

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Drugs found in the water supply

FROM DRUGS PAGE 3

we're taking it very seriously," said Benjamin H. Grumbles, assistant administrator for water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Members of the AP National Investigative Team reviewed hundreds of scientific reports, analyzed federal drinking water databases, visited environmental study sites and treatment plants and interviewed more than 230 officials, academics and scientists. They also surveyed the nation's 50 largest cities and a dozen other major water providers, as well as smaller community water providers in all 50 states.

Here are some of the key test results obtained by the AP:

■ Officials in Philadelphia said testing there discovered 56 pharmaceuticals or byproducts in treated drinking water, including medicines for pain, infection, high cholesterol, asthma, epilepsy, mental illness and heart problems. Sixty-three pharmaceuticals or byproducts were found in the city's watersheds.

■ Anti-epileptic and anti-anxiety medications were detected in a portion of the treated drinking water for 18.5 million people in Southern California.

■ Researchers at the U.S. Geological Survey analyzed a Passaic Valley Water Commission drinking water treatment plant, which serves 850,000 people in Northern New Jersey, and found a metabolized angina medicine and the mood-stabilizing carbamazepine in drinking water.

■ A sex hormone was detected in San Francisco's drinking water.

■ The drinking water for Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas tested positive for six pharmaceuticals.

■ Three medications, including an antibiotic, were found in drinking water supplied to Tucson, Ariz.

The situation is undoubtedly worse than suggested by the positive test results in the major population centers documented by the AP.

The federal government doesn't require any testing and hasn't set safety limits for drugs in water. Of the 62 major water providers contacted, the drinking water for only 28 was tested. Among the 34 that haven't: Houston, Chicago, Miami, Baltimore, Phoenix, Boston and New York City's Department of Environmental Protection, which delivers water to 9 million people.

Some providers screen only for one or two pharmaceuticals, leaving open the possibility that others are present.

The AP's investigation also indicates that watersheds, the natural sources of most of the nation's water supply, also are contaminated. Tests were conducted in the watersheds of 35 of the 62 major providers surveyed by the AP, and pharmaceuticals were detected in 28.

Yet officials in six of those 28 metropolitan areas said they did not go on to test their drinking water — Fairfax, Va.; Montgomery County in Maryland; Omaha, Neb.; Oklahoma City; Santa Clara, Calif., and New York City.

The New York state health department and the USGS tested the source of the city's water, upstate. They found trace concentrations of heart medicine, infection fighters, estrogen, anti-convulsants, a mood stabilizer and a tranquilizer.

City water officials declined repeated requests for an interview. In a statement, they insisted that "New York City's drinking water continues to meet all federal and state regulations regarding drinking water quality in the watershed and the distribution sys-

tem" — regulations that do not address trace pharmaceuticals.

In several cases, officials at municipal or regional water providers told the AP that pharmaceuticals had not been detected, but the AP obtained the results of tests conducted by independent researchers that showed otherwise. For example, water department officials in New Orleans said their water had not been tested for pharmaceuticals, but a Tulane University researcher and his students have published a study that found the pain reliever naproxen, the sex hormone estrone and the anti-cholesterol drug byproduct clofibric acid in treated drinking water.

Of the 28 major metropolitan areas where tests were performed on drinking water supplies, only Albuquerque; Austin, Texas; and Virginia Beach, Va.; said tests were negative. The drinking water in Dallas has been tested, but officials are awaiting results. Arlington, Texas, acknowledged that traces of a pharmaceutical were detected in

seven different sites.

In the United States, the problem isn't confined to surface waters. Pharmaceuticals also permeate aquifers deep underground, source of 40 percent of the nation's water supply. Federal scientists who drew water in 24 states from aquifers near contaminant sources such as landfills and animal feed lots found minuscule levels of hormones, antibiotics and other drugs.

Perhaps it's because Americans have been taking drugs — and flushing them unmetabolized or unused — in growing amounts. Over the past five years, the number of U.S. prescriptions rose 12 percent to a record 3.7 billion, while nonprescription drug purchases held steady around 3.3 billion, according to IMS Health and The Nielsen Co.

"People think that if they take a medication, their body absorbs it and it disappears, but of course that's not the case," said EPA scientist Christian Daughton, one of the first to draw attention to the issue of pharmaceu-

IT BRINGS A QUESTION TO PEOPLE'S MINDS THAT IF THE FISH WERE AFFECTED ... MIGHT THERE BE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM FOR HUMANS?"

Vickie Wilson, EPA research biologist

ticals in water in the United States.

Some drugs, including widely used cholesterol fighters, tranquilizers and anti-epileptic medications, resist modern drinking water and wastewater treatment processes. Plus, the EPA says there are no sewage treatment systems specifically engineered to remove pharmaceuticals.

One technology, reverse osmosis, removes virtually all pharmaceutical contaminants but is very expensive for large-scale use and leaves several gallons of polluted water for every one that is made drinkable.

Another issue: There's evidence that adding chlorine, a common process in conventional drinking water treatment plants, makes some pharmaceuticals more toxic.

Human waste isn't the only source of contamination. Cattle, for example, are given ear implants that provide a slow release of trenbolone, an anabolic steroid used by some bodybuilders, which causes cattle to bulk up. But not all the trenbolone circulating in a steer is metabolized. A German study showed 10 percent of the steroid passed right through the animals.

Water sampled downstream of a Nebraska feedlot had steroid levels four times as high as the water taken upstream. Male fathead minnows living in that downstream area had low testosterone levels and small heads.

Other veterinary drugs also play a role. Pets are now treated for arthritis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, allergies, dementia, and even obesity — sometimes with the same drugs as humans. The inflation-adjusted value of veterinary drugs rose by 8 percent, to \$5.2 billion, over the past five years, according to an analysis of data from the Animal Health Institute.

Ask the pharmaceutical industry whether the contamination of water supplies is a problem, and officials will tell you no. "Based on what we now know, I would say we find there's little or no risk from pharmaceuticals in the environment to human health," said microbiologist Thomas White, a consultant for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

But at a conference last summer, Mary Buzby — director of environmental technology for drug maker Merck & Co. Inc. — said: "There's no doubt about it, pharmaceuticals are being detected in the environment and there is genuine concern that these compounds, in the small concentrations that they're at, could be causing impacts to human health or to aquatic organisms."

Recent laboratory research has found that small amounts of medication have affected human embryonic kidney cells, human blood cells and human breast cancer cells. The cancer cells proliferated too quickly; the kidney cells grew too slowly; and the blood cells showed biological activity associated with inflammation.

Also, pharmaceuticals in waterways are damaging wildlife across the nation and around the globe, research shows. Notably, male fish are being feminized, creating egg yolk proteins, a process usually restricted to females. Pharmaceuticals also are affecting sentinel species at the foundation of the pyramid of life — such as earth worms in the wild and zooplankton in the laboratory, studies show.

Some scientists stress that the research is extremely limited, and there are too many unknowns. They say, though, that the documented health problems in wildlife are disconcerting.

"It brings a question to people's minds that if the fish were affected ... might there be a potential problem for humans?" EPA research biologist Vickie Wilson told the AP. "It could be that the fish are just exquisitely sensitive because of their physiology or something. We haven't gotten far enough along."

With limited research funds, said Shane Snyder, research and development project manager at the Southern Nevada Water Authority, a greater emphasis should be put on studying the effects of drugs in water.

"I think it's a shame that so much money is going into monitoring to figure out if these things are out there, and so little is being spent on human health," said Snyder. "They need to just accept that these things are everywhere — every chemical and pharmaceutical could be there. It's time for the EPA to step up to the plate and make a statement about the need to study effects, both human and environmental."

To the degree that the EPA is focused on the issue, it appears to be looking at detection. Grumbles acknowledged that just late last year the agency developed three new methods to "detect and quantify pharmaceuticals" in wastewater. "We realize that we have a limited amount of data on the concentrations," he said. "We're going to be able to learn a lot more."

While Grumbles said the EPA had analyzed 287 pharmaceuticals for possible inclusion on a draft list of candidates for regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act, he said only one, nitroglycerin, was on the list. Nitroglycerin can be used as a drug for heart problems, but the key reason it's being considered is its widespread use in making explosives.

So much is unknown. Many independent scientists are skeptical that trace concentrations will ultimately prove to be harmful to humans. Confidence about human safety is based largely on studies that poison lab animals with much higher amounts.

There's growing concern in the scientific community, meanwhile, that certain drugs — or combinations of drugs — may harm humans over decades because water, unlike most specific foods, is consumed in sizable amounts every day.

Lawyers awarded millions in lawsuit

BY JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The owner of a Santa Monica-based air charter service was ordered to pay attorney Mark Geragos and an associate several million dollars for ordering the secret videotaping of Michael Jackson and the lawyers as they flew with the pop star to his surrender on molestation charges in 2003, according to court papers obtained last week.

Superior Court Judge Soussan G. Bruguera ordered XtraJet owner Jeffrey Borer and his company to pay Geragos at least \$10 million and possibly up to \$18 million in compensatory and punitive damages, depending on how the ruling is interpreted. Geragos' colleague Pat Harris was awarded between \$1.25 million and \$2.25 million in damages.

The ruling dispute centers on whether both the company and Borer are separately

responsible for punitive damages, or just Borer. Geragos' legal team claims the former. Borer's attorney, Lloyd Kirschbaum, claims the latter.

"In any case, any award against XtraJet is irrelevant because the company is bankrupt," said Kirschbaum.

A court spokeswoman wasn't immediately able to clarify.

"Defendant Borer was the mastermind behind a scheme to desecrate and exploit sacred attorney-client communications for personal profit," Bruguera wrote in the 21-page judgment filed Friday.

Geragos' and Harris' attorney Brian J. Kabateck said he was pleased with the decision.

"This is an important day for lawyers who generally represent celebrities and high profile people," he said.

Kirschbaum said his Borer will appeal. He contended the attorney-client relationship could not have been breached because the video recording did not have sound.

Large prize expected to spur biofuel technology

FROM PRIZE PAGE 3

investors, entrepreneurs and innovators everywhere."

The \$10 million prize purse will be awarded to the team that wins a series of challenges designed to test efficiency, scalability and sustainability of new biofuel liquid transport technology. To finance the Biofuels Prize and other prizes, Prize Capital will be creating a series of investment funds to provide capital for select contestants. For investors, this reduces the risk of having to seek out suitable investment candidates.

The power of prizes to induce new development is well proven. History is replete with examples. Pilot Charles Lindbergh crossed the Atlantic Ocean to win a prize and his success launched the multi-billion dollar aviation industry. More recently, the Ansari X PRIZE, a competition created by the X PRIZE Foundation, resulted in the first private manned rocket ship to reach outer space, a feat previously considered impossible. The achievement is launching space tourism and advancing the use of small space craft for other military and civilian uses.

"We are very pleased to be the planning partner with Prize Capital," Jesse Berst, executive director of energy and environment at the X PRIZE Foundation. "Prizes are inducements to drive innovators toward specific results. The Biofuels Prize will have clearly defined outcomes determined by Prize Capital and the X PRIZE Foundation, with further input from outside experts and advisors. We look forward to leveraging prizes, capital and innovation to help solve environmental challenges worldwide and help reverse global environmental decline."

Michael Eckhart, president of the American Council on Renewable Energy, said he was pleased that Prize Capital had chosen to announce the planning phase of their prize at WIREC.

"The renewable energy industry is poised to generate remarkable breakthroughs in how we deliver and use energy. New tech-

nology development needs investment to create successful products that can be used anywhere in the world," Eckert said. "The Biofuels Prize is a wonderful vision to inspire entrepreneurial spirit and innovation around the world."

The Prize Capital mechanism is also a key part of the Earth Fund, a newly created partnership of the Global Environment Facility and IFC to support market-based solutions for environmental problems in the developing world.

INNOVATION CAN COME FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE WORLD BUT PEOPLE NEED CAPITAL AND MOTIVATION, WHICH IS AT THE HEART OF THE PRIZE CAPITAL MODEL AND THE BIOFUELS PRIZE."

Lee Stein
Founder and chairman of Prize Capital

The Biofuels Prize's potential impact on fuel prices could be significant. Capacity can be added rapidly with the decentralized and small scale approach. This is the ultimate grassroots approach to reversing global environmental decline while creating economic benefits down to the village level, Stein said.

"There are no boundaries or borders on innovation," Stein added. "We want the world involved in the search for breakthroughs in the biofuels industry."

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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

A LOVE FOR HISTORY: Santa Monica resident Anna Sklar's latest work is titled 'Black Acres.' It explores the history of Los Angeles' sewer system, a topic that captured her imagination.

Telling a messy story

FROM CP PAGE 1

could really match Chinatown."

Sklar became interested in the project in 1994 while working as a public information director for the City of Los Angeles. It was the 100 year anniversary of the first city-wide sewer system, a cheaply built redwood pipeline that deteriorated within five years, and Sklar had been asked by an engineer to research the history for the purpose of a possible report or documentary. What began as a professional task quickly shifted into a per-

sonal endeavor. Sklar had received both a bachelors and masters degree in history at UCLA and her curiosity was piqued by the project.

"I was particularly interested in the early years. How did they come up with the sewer system? I came up with some odd things. But then I had to make a living, so I put it aside," Sklar said.

It wasn't until two years after she had abandoned the book that, prompted by the suggestion of a City archivist, Sklar applied for and received a grant from the Los

COMMUNITY PROFILES | ANNA SKLAR

Angeles Historical Society.

It was a choice affair that channeled both Sklar's loyalty to Los Angeles and her investigative streak. Born in the Bronx, Sklar grew up in Los Angeles strongly influenced by her immigrant and union activist father. As a youth, Sklar attended hootenannies and developed an interest in progressive politics that drove her education. After working for the city for a year, unhappy with her post and feeling that something amiss, Sklar picked up a pen.

Sklar's career as a writer has always been, to use her own word, "paripatetic." She had published book reviews in the L.A. Times with the aid of a professor who also happened to be the newspaper's book editor, had written newsletters for the mayoral campaign of Tom Bradley, and had worked as an assistant to novelist Irving Wallace, but it was the Pentagon Paper Trials of 1971 that established her burgeoning career as a reporter.

"The first day of the trial," Sklar said, "I basically snuck inside. It was January of 1973 and I told the publishing editor of the L.A. Free Press that I would like to cover it. He said, 'Why don't you try writing something?' I spent the first five days writing a story and it just flowed. It was about the bizarre nature of the trial and it was the easiest thing I think I've ever done."

Sklar followed her stint at the L.A. Free Press with stretches as a reporter for Earth News Radio, a nationally syndicated program, and NPR. For Earth News Radio, Sklar interviewed everybody from Ronald Reagan to Herbie Hancock; and for NPR, Sklar single-handedly covered the entire West Coast, driving hundreds of miles along the coast-

line, editing her own tapes, and sending them to Washington D.C. because NPR at the time didn't have a Los Angeles bureau.

With two children at home, Sklar admitted, "There were times when I was exhausted but it was really exciting. Then it got to be that there was really too much. They wanted me to come back to D.C. and I didn't want to leave my family. I didn't want to uproot them."

**"... NOTHING
COULD REALLY
MATCH CHINATOWN."**

Anna Sklar
Author

Before settling into a career working for the city, Sklar published a text entitled "Runaway Wives" on the 1970s phenomenon of women leaving their husbands in droves and settling in communities in the North- and Southwest; and while a Public Relations Director, Sklar compensated for the bureaucratic atmosphere of the workplace by making educational documentaries. The informational videos allowed her the opportunity, like "Black Acres," to explore her overarching interests.

"I've always had a love for the history of Los Angeles," said Sklar. "Especially the 1920s and the progressive movement, the attempt to create a more liberal community in Los Angeles."

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STOCKING: Erranja Tillman, a Co-Opportunity employee, stocks the store's large produce section.

Being green part of a day's work at local grocery store

FROM GREEN PAGE 1

ment," Co-Op General Manager Bruce Palma said on Friday.

Businesses striving for green status must fulfill a list of criteria of sustainable measures that vary with the type of business. The GBC offers certification for three types of businesses — office and retail; grocers and restaurants; and hotels and motels.

Certification comes with a fee, depending on the size of the operation, ranging from as little as \$150 for a small motel to as much as \$500 for a large grocer.

With the completion of the GBC comes the benefits of marketing as all program participants receive a decal that can be stuck on to a window, attracting the Westside's eco-savvy clientele.

For the Co-Op, receiving certification wasn't a stretch since making a positive impact on the environment is part of its mission.

The business was founded in 1974 and is the only natural cooperative grocer in the Los Angeles area. Located on Broadway and 16th Street, the grocery store is owned by its 9,000 active members.

"Being that we're in the Los Angeles (area), we're working as hard as we can to find as much local produce as we can," Palma said. "Local can mean produce in Ojai that is sent to our distributor in Downtown (L.A.)."

"We try whenever we can to get closest to the store geographically because that is what our customers want as well," Palma added.

Among the grocery store's sustainable practices includes using environmentally-safe cleaning products in the public and employee restrooms, which are equipped with recycled toilet paper and paper towels.

The practices extend to its power usage, using low-mercury fluorescent lamps to illuminate the store and saving energy through automatic dimmers. The Co-Op also encourages its businesses to cut down on emissions, offering a ride-share incentive program where it awards \$25 cash prizes every month to six winning employees who ride the bus, carpool, bike or walk to work. Ride-sharing is one of the items on the GBC checklist for businesses.

Situated in the grocery store are two battery recycling bins standing approximately three feet high, six inches wide. Each bin can hold up to 100 recycled batteries and the bins fill up every day, Palma said.

The Co-Op has also incorporated the green business lifestyle into its furniture, recently replacing its old office desks and chairs with furnishings produced by a company that is certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a certification awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council.

There are more sustainable practices in store for the Co-Op's future as the grocery store is planning to participate in a pilot program with City Hall where it will use its food waste, including fruit pulp and spoiled produce, and transform it into energy at the Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa del Rey, Palma said.

The grocer is also about to eliminate plastic bags starting April 1, jumping ahead of an anticipated ordinance that will ban single-use plastic bags from all retailers in the city.

"We're being proactive in bringing in more reusable bags as an alternative for shoppers to purchase and use over and over again," Palma said.

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Earth Talk

By the editors of E Magazine

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Good for the hands, bad for the stomach

Dear EarthTalk:

My pediatrician swears by those gel hand sanitizers for lowering the risk of my family getting sick during cold and flu season. But I've also heard that these products can be dangerous to kids if ingested. Are there any safer alternatives that work just as well?

Jason Blalock
Oakland, CA

A 2005 STUDY BY THE CHILDREN'S Hospital in Boston compared illness rates across a study group of 292 families—half of them got hand sanitizers while the other half were given literature advising them of the benefits of frequent hand washing. The findings revealed that those families who used hand sanitizers experienced a 59 percent reduction in gastrointestinal illnesses and that the increased use of sanitizers correlated to a decreased spread of contagions in general.

Another study conducted at Colorado State University yielded similar conclusions, that alcohol-based hand sanitizers were as much as twice as effective as either regular soap or antibacterial soap at reducing germs on human hands. A Purdue University study, however, concluded that while alco-

hol-based hand sanitizers may kill more germs than plain or triclosan-based soaps, they do not prevent more infections that make people sick. Instead they may kill the human body's own beneficial bacteria by stripping the skin of its outer layer of oil.

The down side of the gel/alcohol products is their danger as poison, especially for young children who may ingest the gel by licking it off their hands or eating it directly out of dispensers. Purell and Germ-X, two of the leading brands, each contain 62 percent ethyl alcohol. While this alcohol is what gives the products their germ-busting power, it also puts kids at risk of alcohol poisoning. A few squirts of the hand sanitizer—which is equivalent to 124 proof booze—is enough to make a kid's blood alcohol level .10, which is the equivalent of being legally drunk in most states.

So what's a concerned parent to do? Unfortunately, the so-called greener alternatives out there aren't safe to swallow either. EO Hand Sanitizer, for example, though it uses organic lavender oil also contains alcohol to sanitize the skin surface, and would also be considered poison if a large enough amount was ingested. Similarly greener (but still not safe to eat) products are available from Avant and All Terrain.



Photo courtesy Flickr

DON'T EAT THAT: Although gel hand sanitizers have proven in tests to reduce gastrointestinal illnesses and the spread of contagions compared to ordinary soap and water, their high alcohol content can be poisonous to children who ingest them.

For now, soap and warm water—and constant nagging of your kids to wash their hands—may be the safest way to sanitize. Also, make sure that any hand sanitizer dispensers you may still use are kept out of the reach of little hands.

But who knows how we'll be sanitizing our hands in the future. Researchers at Arizona State University have found that certain types of natural clays pulled right from the ground are highly effective at killing bacteria. One type of green clay has been shown to do a number on E. coli, salmonella, staph

and other bacteria known to make people sick. But the research is still in its infancy, so don't expect to see moms pulling jars of clay out of their purses anytime soon.

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Sewage-based fertilizer questioned

BY JOHN HEILPRIN
AND KEVIN S. VINEYS
Associated Press Writers

AUGUSTA, Ga. It was a farm idea with a big payoff and supposedly no downside: ridding lakes and rivers of raw sewage and industrial pollution by converting it all into a free, nutrient-rich fertilizer. Then last week, a federal judge ordered the Agriculture Department to compensate a farmer whose land was poisoned by sludge from the waste treatment plant here. His cows had died by the hundreds.

The Associated Press also has learned that some of the same contaminants showed up in milk that regulators allowed a neighboring dairy farmer to market, even after some officials said they were warned about it.

In one case, according to test results provided to the AP, the level of thallium — an element once used as rat poison — found in the milk was 120 times the concentration allowed in drinking water by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The contaminated milk and the recent ruling by U.S. District Judge Anthony Alaimo raise new doubts about a 30-year government policy that encourages farmers to spread millions of tons of sewage sludge over thousands of acres each year as an alternative to commercial fertilizers.

The program is still in effect.

Alaimo ordered the government to compensate dairy farmer Andy McElmurray because 1,730 acres he wanted to plant in corn and cotton to feed his herd was poisoned. The sludge contained levels of

arsenic, toxic heavy metals and PCBs two to 2,500 times federal health standards.

Also, data endorsed by Agriculture and EPA officials about toxic heavy metals found in the free sludge provided by Augusta's sewage treatment plant was "unreliable, incomplete, and in some cases, fudged," Alaimo wrote.

EPA-commissioned research by the University of Georgia based on the Augusta data was included in a National Academy of Sciences report and served as a linchpin for the government's assertion that sludge didn't pose a health risk.

In his 45-page ruling, Alaimo said that along with using the questionable data, "senior EPA officials took extraordinary steps to quash scientific dissent, and any questioning of EPA's biosolids program."

Benjamin H. Grumbles, EPA's assistant administrator for water programs, said Thursday that the judge's order underscored the significance of what he called strong national standards on sludge rather than undercutting the giveaway program.

"This unfortunate instance of poor recordkeeping and biosolids sampling techniques on the part of one plant reiterates the importance of our national biosolids program," Grumbles said in a written response to AP questions about the ruling.

About 7 million tons of biosolids — the term that waste producers came up with for sludge in 1991 — are produced each year as a byproduct from 1,650 waste water treatment plants around the nation.

Slightly more than half is used on land as fertilizer; the rest is incinerated or burned in

landfills. Giving it away to farmers is cheaper than burning or burying it, and the government's policy has been to encourage the former.

Alaimo's decision was a bittersweet victory for McElmurray, whose silos and dairy barns sit mostly empty since his herd was wiped out. He contends the cows were done in by grazing on sludge-treated hay for more than a decade, beginning in 1979.

Interviewed before the ruling, McElmurray crossed his arms, scowling at the empty pastures and idle equipment where his prize-winning herds once grazed here in eastern Georgia. "This farm never would have looked like this if we hadn't used the city's sludge," he said angrily.

The city of Augusta recently settled a lawsuit with him over the dead cows for \$1.5 million. Another nearby dairy farmer, Bill Boyce, won a \$550,000 court judgment against the city on his claim that sludge was responsible for the deaths of more than 300 of his cows.

The deaths of McElmurray's and Boyce's cows in the 1990s and their suits against Augusta raised a red flag with officials at EPA, which since 1978 had been promoting the use of sludge as a fertilizer.

In 1999, the agency awarded a \$12,274 grant to the University of Georgia to study the problem. That research would result in a study published in 2003 in the Journal of Environmental Quality finding that the city's sludge was safe and that EPA's regulations were working.

Cities' sewage and industrial pollution had spewed untreated into lakes, rivers and

oceans until 1972, when Congress passed the landmark Clean Water Act.

Back then, cleaning up waterways was the first target of the newly created EPA. The agency oversaw a multibillion-dollar grant program that Congress set up to help cities and counties build wastewater treatment plants that would filter out pollutants.

Alaimo, citing data from an environmental engineer hired by McElmurray, found that the Augusta plant was sending out hundreds of truckloads of sludge daily with dangerously high levels of cadmium, molybdenum and chlordane.

The engineer, William Hall of Atlanta, had been a project manager at seven Superfund cleanup sites and had extensive experience with toxic chemicals and heavy metals. His tests found polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs in the Augusta sludge at levels 2,500 times higher than the EPA standard, thallium levels 25 times the legal limit, and arsenic levels twice the government's health standard.

William Miller, a University of Georgia soil scientist who co-authored the 2003 study commissioned by EPA, stands by the conclusions it drew on how much sludge had been applied to McElmurray's and Boyce's land and the composition of it.

But in a draft of the paper obtained by The Associated Press, he wrote a note by hand saying the authors should "fess up" that they didn't know those things.

"Now, we didn't really know exactly how much sludge and we didn't know the quality of sludge," Miller told the AP in an interview.

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3/13

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3/15

18TH ANNUAL LATINA/O YOUTH CONFERENCE

SMC's Latino Center invites Latino and Latina high school students to attend a day of workshops, guest lectures, food, entertainment, and more! Keynote speaker: Sal Castro, who helped organize the 1960s student walkouts at Roosevelt High School. For conference registration details, see www.smc.edu/latinaoyouthconference or call (310) 434-8520. • Sat, Mar 15 • 8 am-3 pm • Free • John Adams Middle School Auditorium (1625 16th St., Santa Monica)

3/16

ROSSETTI STRING QUARTET TO PERFORM

SMC's "Under the Radar" series presents the Rossetti String Quartet, praised as a "vital force among chamber music ensembles" and renowned for its sophisticated, sensual sound and compelling stage presence. • Sun, Mar 16 • 7 pm • Free (reservations required: 310 434-3859) • Second Space/SMC Performing Arts Center

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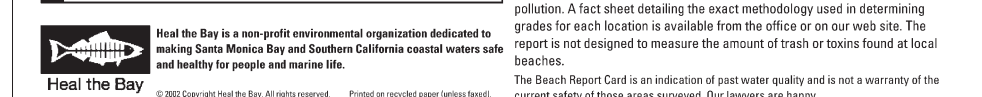
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“More than anything, the execution of his breaking pitches, he thinks that’ll be the most important thing once he gets into game activity,” Colon’s translator said.

Peace maker

Singer Juanes preaches unity on tour in States

JUANES kicked off the U.S. leg of his world tour at Madison Square Garden, bringing a message of peace and a giddy enthusiasm to be performing in “the temple of music.”

He opened Thursday night with his hit “A Dios le pido,” and kept the public on its feet with more than 20 songs, including “Mala gente,” “Fotografia,” “Volverte a ver” and the megahit “La camisa negra.”

The Colombia star showed his activist colors, preaching peace between his homeland and its neighbors amid a diplomatic crisis over a deadly Colombian cross-border raid into Ecuador last week that killed a senior Colombian rebel and 24 others.

“This night as a Colombian, I want to extend my right hand and embrace all my Ecuadorean brothers, I

want to extend my left hand and embrace all my Venezuelan brothers,” Juanes said. “Only we can come together under a single flag, the flag of peace.”

A hush fell over the stadium as Juanes led a tribute to land-mine victims, singing “Minas piedras” while two giant screens carried images of the victims of anti-personnel mines by photojournalist Gervasio Sanchez.

Leading a band of seven, guitar in hand, Juanes briefly lost his way while singing “Mentira” – but the crowd was forgiving.

“I forgot the lyrics and it’s my turn to improvise,” Juanes confessed to wave of applause.

Juanes is planning a free concert at the Colombian-Venezuela border, to foster peaceful resolution of the crisis embroiling both nations and Ecuador.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORALES WON'T FACE CHARGES

No criminal charges will be filed against “NYPD Blue” star **ESAI MORALES** over allegations that he raped his ex-girlfriend, a prosecutor’s office spokeswoman said Friday.

The Los Angeles County district attorney’s office rejected the case on Feb. 13, citing lack of evidence, spokeswoman Shiara M. Davila said.

“I’m happy that my client was vindicated,” Morales’ attorney, Richard Charnley, said Friday. “He was never questioned by the police, never taken into custody, there were never any charges brought against him.”

Morales’ former girlfriend, Elizabeth Mazzocchi, alleged that he raped her in April 2006. Morales has denied committing any crime, Charnley said. He also noted that Mazzocchi continued to live with Morales for months after the alleged rape.

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Don't lose sight, Cancer

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You sizzle like a firecracker this morning. Tonight: Pay bills or do your taxes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You move like a turtle this morning. You might even be looking at yourself wondering what is going on. Tonight: A bundle of energy – finally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Use the morning for key efforts. You'll greet success if you use timing. Tonight: Catch up on needed rest – while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Cruise into work. Do what you must this morning. Tonight: Don't lose sight of a goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Though you might want to stick to basics, your mind won't go along with plans. Tonight: In the game of life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Work with a partner who might be a tad insistent on having life flow his or her way! Tonight: In the game of life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others let you know in no uncertain terms that they want it their way. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Get errands done. By the afternoon, someone has a lot to share. Tonight: Say yes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your imagination goes in a whole different direction than your body! Tonight: Choose only relaxing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Move slowly on personal issues. You have waited for a while; steel yourself and wait longer. Tonight: Do what you want; forget what night of the week it is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You will be breezing around, a force hard to stop in the morning. Tonight: Mosey on home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Make sure you know where your funds are. Tonight: Hanging out is fun.

Happy Birthday

You often step up to the plate when others won't. It is difficult for you to say when you've had enough, as you don't like conflict or to hurt others' feelings. Follow your instincts when relating to the many odd and sometimes powerful people in your daily life. Communication excels this year. You'll also grow through education and/or a friendship with someone who thinks differently from you. You light up another's life just with your demeanor. You also learn to detach and not get quite so involved. If you are single, you will meet people with ease. Choosing the right person could take some dating. Look to the person you admire. If you are attached, consider a second honeymoon. TAURUS understands you.

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

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Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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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

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

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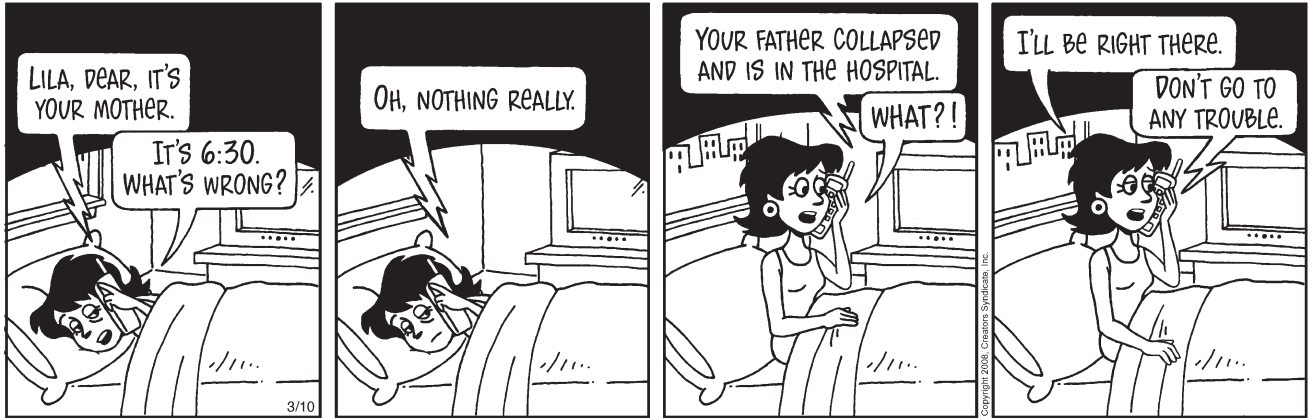
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



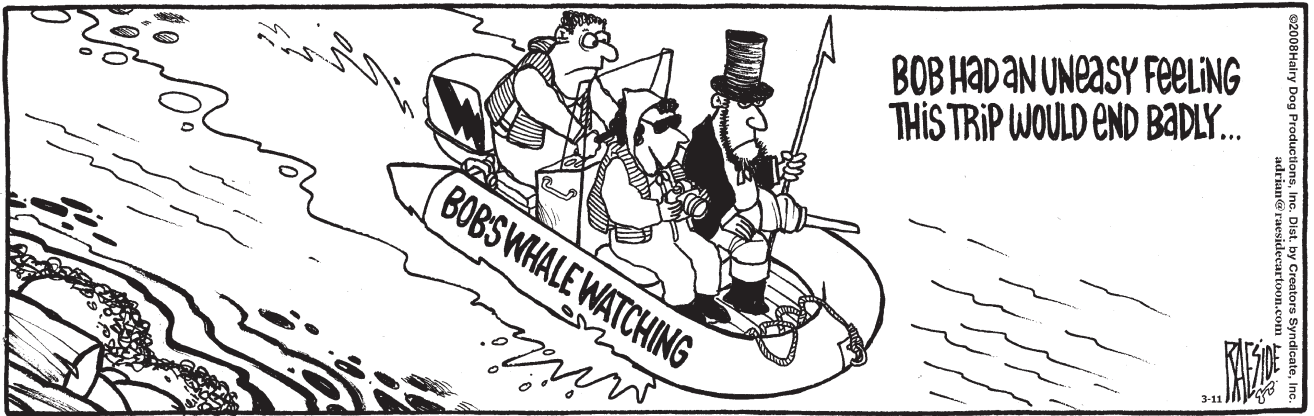
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



Garfield

By Jim Davis

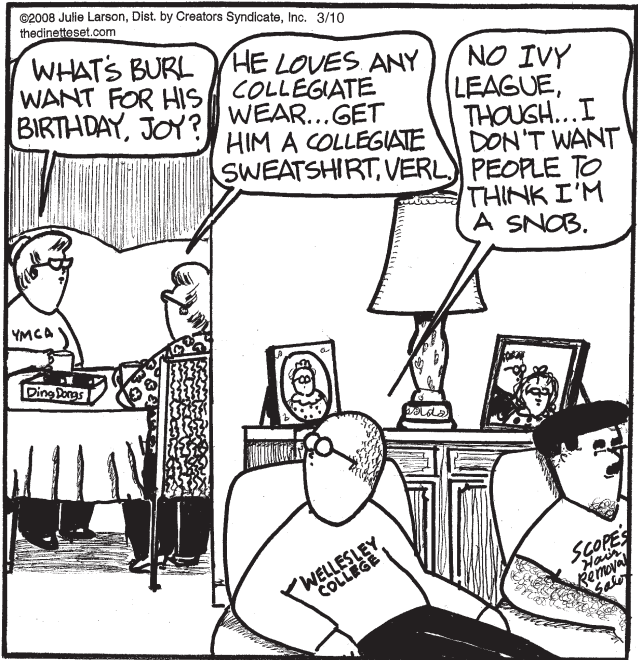


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

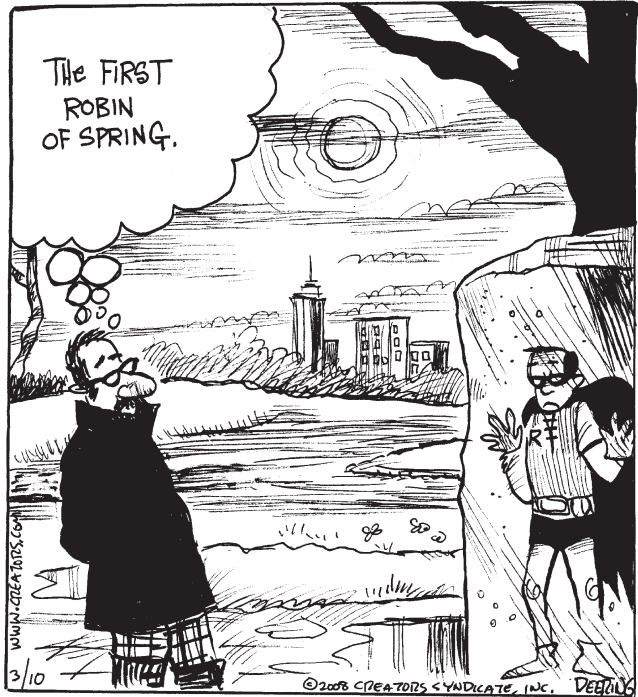


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



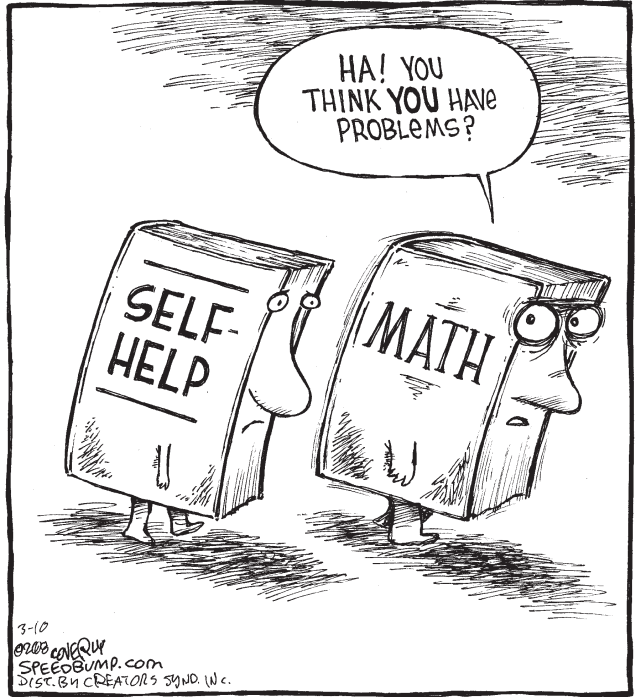
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 - 40 Depart
 - 42 Type a password, perhaps
- DOWN**
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 - 44 Tenant's fee
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 - 1 Most of a chess set
 - 2 Pointer
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Saturday's answer

- 12 Open footwear
- 17 Lock opener
- 20 Finish
- 21 Spud
- 24 Shrink in fear
- 25 First woman on the Supreme Court
- 26 Put in order
- 27 Secondary story line
- 29 Mermaid's home
- 31 Bouquet
- 32 Mirror sight
- 33 Opera stars
- 34 Blissful spots
- 39 Charged bit
- 41 Goof up

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	
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3-10

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS	7 15 30 33 56 Meganumber: 22 Jackpot: \$37M
Super LOTTO	4 10 20 34 47 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: \$11M
Fantasy 5	10 15 24 31 33
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 2 3 5 EVENING: 7 2 7
DAILY DERRY	1st: 09 Winning Spirit 2nd: 02 Lucky Star 3rd: 06 Whirl Win RACE TIME: 1.41.13

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The New Lucky Restaurant has been around since the 1950s in Ahmadabad, India, serving diners among the gravestones located at various points around the tables. No one is certain who was buried under the restaurant, according to a December Associated Press dispatch, but Indians aren't much spooked by the experience. Said a retired professor: "Graveyards in India are never scary places. We don't have a nice literature of horror stories, so we don't have much fear of ghosts." The restaurant's main concern is that waiters know the floor plan and don't trip over the ankle-high monuments.

■ It's the "holy grail" of beers, said a Boston pub manager, but, still, only 60,000 cases a year of Westvleteren are brewed because the Belgian Trappist monks with the centuries-old recipe refuse to expand their business (and even get on the phone to harass black-marketers). Westvleteren is sold only at the monastery gate, by appointment, with a two-case-a-month limit, at a price that's reasonable for retail beer, but anyone who gets it from a re-seller will pay 10 times that much. Producing more, said Brother Joris, to a Wall Street Journal reporter in November, "would interfere with our job of being a monk." Furthermore, said Brother Joris, referencing the Bible, "(I)f you can't have it, possibly you do not really need it."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1814 Napoleon I of France is defeated at the Battle of Laon in France.

1830 The KNIL also known as the Royal Netherlands East Indies Army is created.

1831 The French Foreign Legion is established by King Louis-Philippe to support his war in Algeria.

1848 The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is ratified by the United States Senate, ending the Mexican-American War.

1945 The Army Air Force fire-bombs Tokyo, and the resulting firestorm kills more than 100,000 people, mostly civilians.

1948 The Indian Union Muslim League is founded, by remnants of the old Muslim League.

1952 Fulgencio Batista leads a successful coup in Cuba.

1959 Tibet leads an unsuccessful uprising against ten years of Chinese occupation in Lhasa. Thousands massacred by the occupying Chinese army.

WORD UP!

gewgaw \G(Y)OO-gaw/, noun: A showy trifle; a trinket; a bauble.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Creative	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Personals
Employment	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Psychic
For Sale	Wanted	Roomates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Fitness	Tutoring

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Creative

TRAINED OPERA singer available to sing jolson songs, oldies. Available for all sorts of parties and occasions. There will be a sing-a-long! Gabe (310)392-6501

Employment

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APPT. SETTERS experienced in cold calling needed. Work P/T or F/T from home. scheduling to pick up clothing and household items for a blind charity. Potential \$400/week. Call Manny (310)753-4909

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Community Deli Assistants Go to www.coopportunity.com for more info or stop by the store at 1525 Broadway for an application.

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OCEAN HOUSE, an elegant senior living residence in Santa Monica, is looking for an ideal candidate for it's line cook position. Duties include participating in the daily menu production, preparing and coordinates daily breakfast, lunch and dinners from standardized recipes. Working line shifts daily to ensure speedy service. Ensuring kitchen equipment is clean, operable, and properly maintained on a daily basis. This is a full time position with benefits after 3 months, medical, dental, vision. 401(k) plan and meal plan as well. If you have a great attitude and enjoy working on a great team, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

CUSTOMER SERVICE FULL TIME-

\$15/hour+benefits. Telephone services company in WLA with free parking. Experienced preferred but will train quality applicants. Great language skills and reliability a must. Call 310-281-8888 for recorded details.

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MUSIC BOOKING agency sales. p/t flex. (310)998-8305 xt 88

Employment

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FRONT OFFICE receptionist wanted for a friendly and professional physical therapy office, full-time. We are seeking a bright self starter with strong multi-tasking organizational, computer, and people skills. Job description includes answering phones, scheduling appointments, verifying insurance benefits, ordering supplies, filing and clerical duties. Call (310)828-2188 or fax resume to (310)829-1379

GIVE OF YOURSELF volunteers wanted at the discovery shop. Help us contribute to the American cancer society by spending 4 hours per week assisting in our resale shop in Santa Monica. Contact Terry or Shaunna at (310)458-4490

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the Environmental Services Department. Looking for part time housekeepers/ floor techs. Hospitality Experience preferred. Call (310)829-8431 for interview.

LEXUS SANTA Monica, the premier member of Mike Sullivan's LA Car Guy family of dealerships, is recruiting 2 exceptional sales consultants. Amazing Opportunity for individuals who are extremely professional, poses Luxury Automotive Sales experience and who have career goals identified. Please fax Resume w/cover letter to 310-401-2906

LOOKING FOR A GREAT PART TIME JOB?

A leading Market Research Company is looking for Hosts/Hostesses for its Los Angeles Focus Group facilities located in Santa Monica. Must have previous experience in Hospitality, Hosting, Hotel or Wait Staff or in Market Research or related field. Interested applicants must be computer literate, responsible and flexible, well spoken and have previous experience with direct client interaction both in person and on the telephone. Job responsibilities include greeting clients, meal serving/clearing, audio & video recording as well as basic office and reception duties. Please email with "CSR Position" in subject line for consideration to mnorris@focuspointeglobal.com.

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LOOKING FOR graphic designer/production F/T in Santa Monica. Email resume to nikki@peprinting.com or fax to (310)314-6900 and please include salary requirements.

PETITIONERS WANTED

To gather signatures for registered voters to qualify ballot measures. You decide when/where to work. No experience nec. Up to \$200/day or more. 24 hr. hotline (310)281-7529 or Leave message (310)412-4888 (Special petition right now for Santa Monica residents to circulate)

Employment

MAGELLAN'S HAS been making travel safer, more comfortable and rewarding since 1989 by offering innovative, quality travel products and clothing. Voted the #1 travel store in Santa Barbara again in 2007, we're looking for individuals to join our team of travel gear experts. We are currently recruiting for the following positions: FT/PT RETAIL SALES Retail associates are responsible for providing exceptional service to our customers, ringing up sales and participating in visual merchandising, inventory, and all special store events. Weekend availability is required. Benefits for 30+ hrs/wk. Magellan's offers a fun and challenging work environment as well as competitive compensation, medical, dental & vision insurance and a 401K with employer match. Please forward your resume and cover letter to: Magellan's, 1006 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90401; Fax 805-564-8014; E-mail: HR@magellans.com



MANAGER

EL Segundo - immediate opening for an experienced manager to oversee entire operations of very busy, state-of-the-art carwash. Responsible for personnel, hiring, training, scheduling, customer service matters, inventory control; oversee equipment maintenance, multiple daily sales computer reports. This location has been profiled in multiple magazines and is considered one of the busiest car washes in the nation. It also serves as the training center for investors, customers, industry leaders, and all corporate personnel. Candidate must posses minimum of 5 yrs management exp, excellent computer skills, mechanical aptitude a plus. Weekend work required. F/T with benefits, Excellent Pay Fax to Maria 310 673-0276 or email to mariaa@nswash.com

PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME Driver. Must have own car, need to be familiar with L.A. have Ca. driver's license, English speaking. Can earn up to \$100/ a day. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

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SALES OF Cruise & Tour Pkgs 30 hrs/wk Flex sch. Base + Comm Pd. Tng. No cold calling 40 yr Natl tour Co. Near LAX New facility. Aaron 1 800 922 9000

Employment

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SEEKING AN experienced resident manager team for a 40 unit apt. bldg in Venice. Strong leasing and mgt. Skills needed, light maintenance skills required, compensation is a free one bdrm apt. plus monthly salary. Please fax resume to (310)306-4498 or email to supervisor2@jkwproperties.com

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PLEASE Visit our website for complete listings at: www.howardmanagement.com

LA 1523 Holt ave, unit 3, 2bdrm/1bath upper unit, \$1400. stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets, 9310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 9, 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, \$1400, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets. (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

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SEEKING GUEST house in SM, Pacific Palisades, Malibu/Venice area. Clean, quiet, non-smoking, responsible, working female. Excellent References Wendy (310)749-0787

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HIGH EXPOSURE ground floor retail space in Santa Monica. Approx. 600 sq.ft. with large storefront window. 15 ft exposed beam ceilings, exposed brick walls. Tenant is responsible for utilities (approx 250/mo). Available for move-in in 30 days. Available to view immediately. Sublease. The space is between Fred Segal and the Third Street Promenade. Next to independent retailers, Vans, Active, Benihana, Border Grille, two large parking structures. Term: through July 2011. Please call 310-922-4060 for more details.

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5'2" HOURGLASS Figure offers full-body sensual massage. Very private, very discreet. Incall/ Outcall special rate, Crystal (310) 339-6709.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: \$5.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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\$5.50 per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080298523 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as UR THE CHEF, 1875 CENTURY PARK EAST SUITE 700, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90067. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : REGINA OLDS, 27404 EVAN LANE APT. 203, SANTA CLARITA, CA. 91387 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/: REGINA OLDS

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 2/20/2008. 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 3/11/2008, 3/18/2008, 3/25/2008, 4/1/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 2008083851 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as J&J TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIR, INC., 1775 E. 43RD ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90058. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : J&J TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIR, INC. 1775 E. 43RD ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90058 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/: J&J TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIR, INC.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/5/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080375839 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DENZEL'S HOUSE OF SHELTER, DENZEL'S HOUSE OF SHELTER AND SOBERLIVING AND TRANSITIONAL HOME, 4824 W. 137TH PL. HAWTHORNE, CA 90250. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : RICHARD GOLDSTARR 4824 W. 137TH PL. HAWTHORNE, CA 90250 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/: RICHARD GOLDSTARR

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080383873 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as GIGI'S MEXICAN FOOD, 2378 W. WASHINGTON BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90018. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JORGE MELENDEZ 2378 W. WASHINGTON BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)3/1/2008. /s/: JORGE MELENDEZ

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/5/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080374357 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as GLAMOUR SHOTS, INC., GSI, 9425 TELEGRAPH RD. PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : GLAMOUR SHOTS, INC 9425 TELEGRAPH RD. PICO RIVERA, CA 90660 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)3/1/2008. /s/: GLAMOUR SHOTS, INC

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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

DBAS

and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080375487 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FIGHTING COUTURE, 21123 TRIGGER LN. DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : LASHAUNDRA SANTOS 21123 TRIGGER LN. DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765 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/: LASHAUNDRA SANTOS

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080376377 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as EDS PROPERTY SERVICES, 14162 FIRESTONE BLVD. SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : EDWARD J. SALAS 12723 ADAMS GARDEN GROVE, CA 92845 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/: EDWARD J. SALAS

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080375399 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ALLIWAN E-WASTE PICKUP, 968 HOLLY ST. INGLEWOOD, CA 90301. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : ALLEN A. GONSOLIN 968 HOLLY ST. INGLEWOOD, CA 90301 WANDA M. AUBERT 8744 DARTMOUTH ST. INGLEWOOD, CA 90303 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: ALLEN A. GONSOLIN

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080375351 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as GOLD STAR INVESTMENT GROUP, 1450 E. COMPTON BLVD. #177 COMPTON, CA 90221. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : SHALITA C. BLAKE 1450 E. COMPTON BLVD. #177 COMPTON, CA 90221 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/: SHALITA C. BLAKE

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080375892 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as EL OSO INSURANCE, MI SEGURO DE AUTO, EL AGUILA INSURANCE, 937 S. ALVARADO ST. #2F LOS ANGELES, CA 90006. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : WDF INSURANCE SERVICES, INC. 937 S. ALVARADO ST. #2F LOS ANGELES, CA 90006 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/:WDF INSURANCE SERVICES, INC

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008 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

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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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080376326 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DE LA HOYA X-TREME, 6737 BRIGHT AVE. #210 WHITTIER, CA 90601. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : DE LA HOYA PROMOTIONS INC 6737 BRIGHT AVE. #210 WHITTIER, CA 90601 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/: DE LA HOYA PROMOTIONS INC

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/4/2008 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080399412 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as WESTSIDE CREDIT CONNECTION, WESTDECREDITCONNECTION.COM, 1020 WILSHIRE BLVD. SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : WESTSIDE CREDIT SERVICES, LLC, 1020 WILSHIRE BLVD. SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401 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/: WESTSIDE CREDIT SERVICES, LLC, VICE PRESIDENT, LEILANI PASCAUL

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/7/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080399413 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BRAND AWAKENING, 140 HOLLISTER AVE. #2, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90405-3534. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : WILLIAM F. BLUME, 140 HOLLISTER AVENUE #2, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90405 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)4/13/2008. /s/: WILLIAM BLUME

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 4/13/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080247332 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as PORTER'S TRUCKING, 275 E. ADAMS LONG BEACH, CA 90805. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : RUFUS PORTER 275 E. ADAMS LONG BEACH, CA 90805 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)2/11/2008. /s/: RUFUS PORTER

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 2/11/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080384194 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BLUE ARROW TRUCKING, 6675 CARO ST. PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : PACIFIC PAVERS, INC. 6675 CARO ST. PARAMOUNT, CA 90723 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/: PACIFIC PAVERS, INC.

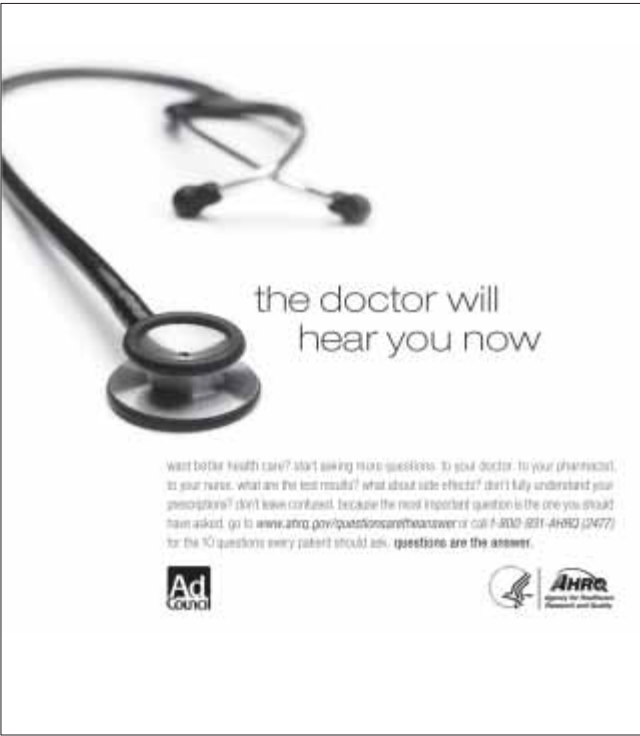
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080384828 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MILTON'S 99c & UP, 12802 PENN ST. WHITTIER, CA 90602. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JESUS A. VASQUEZ 10831 TELECHRON AVE. WHITTIER, CA 90605 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/: JESUS A. VASQUEZ

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/5/2008. 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 3/10/2008, 3/17/2008, 3/24/2008, 3/31/2008





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