

FREE

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2004

Volume 3, Issue 149

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTO

FANTASY 5
4, 18, 19, 31, 32

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 1, 6, 7

Evening picks: 8, 1, 9

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 01 GOLD RUSH

2nd Place: 10 SOLID GOLD

3rd Place: 12 LUCKY CHARMS

Race Time: 1:45.78



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
by Chuck Shepard

■ Troy D. Nunes, 37, became the latest burglar to die at his crime scene. He broke into a Hollywood Video store in Quincy, Mass., in March by tossing a brick through a window, but a shard of glass remained protruding, and as Nunes was leaving, he accidentally slashed his right femoral artery and died of blood loss just down the street. Another clumsy burglar is still alive (and was arrested in Columbus, Ohio), despite apparently habitually cutting himself at crime scenes.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Death is just a decent rumor to the young."

— Andy Rooney



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Living affordably in SM is a waiting game

Waitlist for affordable housing reaches into the thousands

BY LAUREN BONIFACIO

Special to the Daily Press

More than 1,000 people last month looked to City Hall to find an affordable apartment. But if history repeats itself, they may be waiting a while.

Within two weeks, hundreds of people from Santa Monica, Los Angeles, Venice and other surrounding cities signed on to a waiting list that was recently opened by the city's Housing and Redevelopment Division. After City Hall closed the list to the public on April 17, the list had grown to 1,700 people.

"The list is open to anyone who

applies and meets our income criteria," said Steve Goldmaker, an administrative analyst in the housing division who oversees the waiting list. Applicants qualify if their household incomes are less than the median income in LA County — \$55,100 for a family of four. The income limit varied with household size.

But getting on the list is the easy part.

City Hall last opened the list in 1999. Five years later, only 300 of

the original applicants have yet to find affordable apartments.

"I don't know anyone that affordable housing has worked for," said Pat Hendricks, who added she is skeptical of the process but is hopeful she will find an affordable place to live now that she put her name on the list. "I guess even if just a handful get into the housing, it's a good thing."

The problem is in City Hall's limited housing inventory. The waiting list feeds into about 600 afford-

able housing units — many of them already occupied — in privately owned developments throughout the city. Housing officials couldn't provide details on how frequently apartments become available.

By comparison, the Community Corp. of Santa Monica — a non-profit group that manages 78 buildings throughout the city — has nearly twice as many units as City Hall. But its waitlist has 3,000 people and only 1,182 units. About 100 apartments become vacant each year.

And while some people might think affordable housing is only available to large households earning very low wages, most of City Hall's housing inventory is reserved for smaller households with moderate incomes. Nearly three-fourths of the apartments are

See HOUSING, page 6

Mural, mural on the wall, city has 14 in all



City's urban art needs help

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

They range from the surreal to the educational to the modern and mechanical. And keeping them sharp can cost City Hall hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Graffiti, exhaust, moisture, time — a variety of forces work against Santa Monica's collection of 14 public murals, the first of which was painted in 1939.

Artists, officials and members of the public will meet tonight at the Ken Edwards Center to discuss which of the murals most need attention, and in what form. Refurbishing and protecting a large mural can cost \$100,000 or more, officials said.

Conservators recently deemed the 1980 mural in Joslyn Park, "Ocean Park Historical Postcards," as in "poor" condition. Four other murals, including two at Ocean Park Boulevard and Fourth Street, and one in Marine Park are considered in "fair" condition. The remaining 11 Santa Monica murals were ranked as "good" or "excellent" in condition.

The money to care for — and create — the large artworks comes from City Hall's "Percent for Arts" fund, which this year totals just \$63,700. One percent of all general fund capital improvement projects is dedicated for art projects.

City Hall officials sometimes will let that funding accrue, so they can afford to pay for a new mural, said Hamp Simmons, City Hall's

cultural affairs coordinator. Such was the case with "Building Sea," a \$100,000 mural to be painted at the expanded Virginia Avenue Park.

"It's going to be huge," Simmons said. "It's going to be 17 feet tall, by 80 feet long and it's being painted by a mural team called, 'East Los Streetscapers' and the two individual artists that make that (team are) David Botello and Wayne Healy ... It will be on a building facing Pico Boulevard."

Mural projects are awarded to artists through competition. A panel — made up of three to five artists and community members — reviews submissions and narrows down the field of candidates. Finalists are then interviewed and the panel makes a recommendation, which is forwarded on to City Hall's Public Art Committee and the Arts Commission, Simmons said.

Art Mortimer, 62, has painted two of the public murals in Santa Monica. "Ocean Park Historical Postcards" in Joslyn Park and the 1998 "Santa Monica Beach," on the side of parking structure No. 1, at 1234 Fourth St. Mortimer first painted a mural in 1971, when he painted a portrait of his then-girlfriend Daphne on the side of his Ocean Park apartment.

"I did a few back then," he said. "This was back when murals were first getting started in the Los Angeles area and artists were just going outside and doing their art on the side of the buildings, as opposed to on a canvas in a studio. I thought it was pretty cool."

"Just about any mural is an improvement

See MURALS, page 5



Photos courtesy

Murals adorn many different walls throughout Santa Monica, including these on Olympic Boulevard (top); at the city yards (middle); and on Stewart Street (bottom).

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Happy Birthday, Barbara Tenzer!

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★-Dynamic

★★★★-Positive

★★★-Average

★★-So-so

★-Difficult

☾

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Feelings abound. Though the issue might appear to be money, look to the crux of the situation. Perhaps more is involved, such as power, control or security. An honest assessment helps you head down a new path. Tonight: Do something physical just for yourself.

☾

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Others seek you out, though you might feel uneasy with the contact. Relationships go through changes, allowing greater understanding and deeper connections. Confusion surrounds work. Reboot and recharge romance and creativity. Tonight: Allow others first choice or call.

☾

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Work through problems at the office, and express a willingness to flex. A home office, as impossible as it might have seemed, becomes a reality if you so desire. Increased enjoyment around the home front and your personal life starts developing. Tonight: Get a massage or choose another stress-buster.

☾

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Situations and interactions tug on your creativity, not only today but also in the near future. Embody this thought: There are no problems, only solutions. Invariably, others will open up. Expect to hear from someone you haven't heard from in a while. Tonight: Play the night away.

☾

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Tension builds among different facets of your life. Confusion runs amok, even with those you have had a clear understanding with. Realize that you might not find the answers immediately. You will greet greater affluence in the next few weeks and months. Tonight: Skip on home.

☾

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might want to try to say what you mean and mean what you say. Others test the foundations of your ideas. Expect to be swamped by an erratic and possibly overwhelming associate. Think before you leap into action. Tonight: Find like souls.

☼

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might have been skidding into the red financially, and events clearly point in this direction if you aren't careful the next few days, weeks and months. What you do know is that you have the wherewithal to solve these problems. Tonight: Your treat.

☼

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You have what it takes, but don't be surprised by others' challenges and statements. Emphasize long-term goals. Ultimately, you'll come out ahead. Pressure builds in different areas of your life. Don't keep trying to work with a crippled idea. Tonight: It's your call.

☼

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★ Play ostrich if you feel the need to be alone. Whatever your intuition or sixth sense says could be causing you more than your share of problems. Assume a wait-and-see attitude. You gain greater clarity about work, a boss or an authority figure. Tonight: Do your own thing.

☼

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Invariably, you have the ability to move past a problem and take a stand. Don't be surprised by the obstacles someone tosses into your path. Your ability to see the big picture is enhanced. Share information. Tonight: Think "summer vacation."

☼

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ While someone might have caused you more problems than you are comfortable with, you are not ready to toss him or her out of your life. Be honest about the pressures that surround you. Take off your rose-colored glasses. Tonight: Accept another's gesture.

☼

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Finding experts, brainstorming and removing the net around your thinking allows you more opportunity to find solutions. A new friend appears on the horizon who might want to share a lot more with you. Are you ready? Tonight: Let your mind wander while listening to some good music.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday

Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913

1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

John Wood wood@smdp.com

CHILD DEVELOPMENT COLUMNIST

Margie Altman margiealtman@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Georgia Chudoba georgia@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alejandro C. Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Heather Rich heather@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Kitty Seeger kitty@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Mike Aviles mike@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan glenn@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL

Samohi sports teams fall off during spring season

Local Sports

THE HOT CORNER

By Jonathan Lee

As the spring sports season comes to an end at Santa Monica High School, one should acknowledge the immense sacrifices many athletes at Samohi make.

In the midst of academic pressures of school and various other extracurricular activities, athletes somehow find time for practice and away games that sometimes take hours to travel back and forth.

Many of the teams have not compiled records as impressive as those of past seasons. However, the records are not indicative of the effort that the teams have put forth.

■ Perhaps the only team that can be considered most successful this season is the softball team. With a 7-3 record in league play and a 17-6 record overall, the girls are two games ahead with three games left in the season. Led by the consistent hitting of seniors **Rosa Ordaz** and **Amara Russell**, the girls boast one of the most efficient offensive units in the Ocean League. On April 28, the team traveled to Hawthorne and promptly romped to a 15-0 victory. Two days later, guided by freshman **Hanna**

Rose Peters, the team pulled off a 4-2 win against a competitive South Torrance team. The girls hope that a win at Torrance on May 5 will be a precursor of success before the playoffs start in late May.

■ With losses in four of their last five games, the baseball team is hoping to end the season on a high note. The Vikings will face Peninsula on May 5 and May 7, and West Torrance on May 11 and May 13. With senior pitchers **Kyle Johnson** and **Tim Livingston** leading the way, the team is confident that it can improve its record to 11-13-1.

■ As returning Bay League Champions, the track and field team faced high expectations coming into the season. Despite the abundance of talented individual performances, the boys and girls are still fighting an uphill battle against Bay League powerhouses Peninsula and Mira Costa. Seniors **Tim McGrath**, and sophomores **Andres Rosenthal** and **Stephan Yang** lead the jumps. Senior **Kevin Hornesby** broke the school record for the discus. Bay League preliminaries take place today at Mira Costa, and qualifiers will advance to the finals on May 7.

(Jonathan Lee is a sports editor at The Samohi and enjoys being Homecoming Duke, writing, playing sports and hanging out with his homeboys and homegirls. He can be reached at jleebroadcast@yahoo.com)

surf report

Look for a mix of slowly fading WNW swell and holding/slowly fading SSW swell today. Northern LA spots see surf in the waist- to chest-high range at many spots, with some occasional shoulder- to head-high sets at standout S/combo breaks. The north half of the South Bay will work the mix of swells for waist- to shoulder-high waves, with some occasional plus sets at standout combo breaks. Breaks in the south half of the South Bay see the NW swell for knee- to waist-high waves. Expect generally light winds in the morning but building 8-15kt W winds for the afternoon.

Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

Today the water is:

63°

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	1:42	1.0	1:42	0.3	7:32	4.5	8:03	5.2
SUNDAY	2:21	0.3	2:12	0.4	8:20	4.5	8:28	5.7
MONDAY	3:01	-0.4	2:44	0.7	9:09	4.5	8:58	6.1
TUESDAY	3:44	-0.1	3:17	1.1	9:59	4.3	9:31	6.4
WEDNESDAY	4:30	-1.3	3:51	1.5	10:52	4.1	10:08	6.5
THURSDAY	5:20	-1.4	4:29	1.9	11:52	3.7	10:49	6.4
FRIDAY	6:16	-1.3	5:12	2.3	1:02	3.5	11:37	6.1

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The QLine

The Santa Monica City Council is considering raising the bed tax on hotel users. The tax hike would have to be voted on by Santa Monica citizens this November.

Santa Monica's bed tax is lower than in many surrounding cities, and some think keeping it low will allow Santa Monica to remain competitive. Others think if it's raised slightly, it will bring in needed revenue and that money can be

used to fund local schools.

So, this week, Q-line wants know, "Will you support a bed tax increase? Why or why not?"

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



Mystery Photo: Obey Giant

No one has been able to guess last week's mystery photo. Here's a hint: It isn't in an indoor mall, baby. The first person to accurately describe where this photo was taken will win two free movie tickets to Loews Cineplex Broadway on the Promenade. E-mail answers to sack@smdp.com. Here's another hint: The photo is closer to the prize than you think.

Mystery Photo: Greed is Good

For the past two weeks, no one has been able to accurately describe where this photo was taken. While there are many "greed" signs throughout Santa Monica, this one is on San Vicente Boulevard and 26th Street. Check out the upcoming weekend edition of the Santa Monica Daily Press for the next mystery photo and your chance to win free movie tickets.

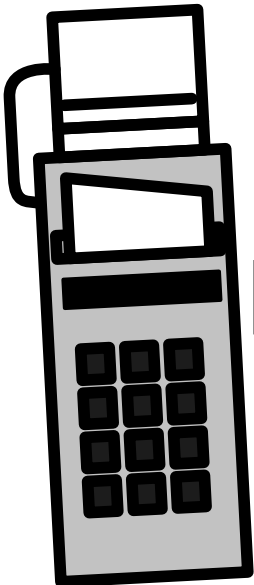


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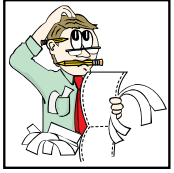
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OPINION

The absurdity and stupidity of living in 'La La Land'



DOSE OF REALITY

By Matthew Glasser

When I was offered the opportunity to write a weekly column for this paper, a lot of thoughts crossed my mind. Could I think of enough interesting topics to write about? Absolutely. Would I offend people with my opinions? I hope so. Will being a columnist help me meet girls? Probably not. But since two out of three isn't bad, I've decided to accept the challenge and write any way.

What can you expect from this column? Well, I am going to challenge the status quo, tip the sacred cows, and expose the absurdity of politics and business as usual. I'm not a liberal or a conservative. I am a pragmatist who is on an anti-stupidity campaign. Beware: I don't care if you're a Democrat, Republican, Green, or Independent. If you are contributing to the problems of our community, I am going to point it out. There's a new, news sheriff in town.

As I sat down to write this first column, I

started thinking about my experiences in Santa Monica and Los Angeles. I grew up in La La Land and have seen a lot of stupidity.

For example, my first experience with rent control was when I worked on a statewide political campaign. We were celebrating our overwhelming defeat at a restaurant in Santa Monica when I realized that it was way past my bedtime. Not wanting to drive back to the San Fernando Valley, I asked if anyone would let me stay with them in Santa Monica. Not one, not two, but three people offered me a spare apartment to use. I asked, "Is it common for people to have spare apartments in Santa Monica?" Thanks to the great legacy of rent control, these folks were able to keep an extra unit just in case they needed it.

Think this is an isolated example? Ask your Rent Control Board members why they passed a special regulation to deal with this very issue. Clearly it's a problem and I'm amazed it only took three decades to do something about it. I am all in favor of affordable housing, but has rent control really resulted in sustainable, high-quality, affordable housing?

Of course you can't think about living in LA without traffic congestion coming to mind. While I enjoy watching work crews add trees to the mediums of Wilshire Boulevard as much as the next guy, do they have to do it in the middle of the day?

This week I was trying to go from Sherman Oaks to Van Nuys and it took 30 minutes to go less than 10 miles. Why? Despite being rush hour, CALTRANS decided to close the on-ramp to the freeway. The DWP decided it would be a good time to do maintenance and close two lanes of Van Nuys Boulevard, and another work crew closed a major portion of an interchange for no particular reason. I think they were having breakfast. You can't really blame them for wanting some peace and quite while eating.

Traffic has gone from a nuisance to "I am going to go insane and crash my car into the person in front of me" problem. I have some ideas about how we can fix the problem and I'll share them with you next week. But until then, I'll give you a little preview. Get rid of carpool lanes, hire the "Mouse House" to build monorails along the 101 and 405 (of course you'd have to listen to "It's a Small World After All" all the way to work, but at least no traffic), and stop doing construction during the day.

Finally, as a single person in Los Angeles, I have taken my share of dates to the Third Street Promenade. It used to be a great date place, with its abundance of restaurants and shops. I could satisfy the needs of the most finicky female. But recently, the Promenade has become home to the battle of the bands — battle of

the bad bands. And I thought the pale, white guy on American Idol was bad. Now when I go down to the Promenade, I can't hear a word coming out of my date's mouth. Although, I have to admit, that's not always such a bad thing. But I digress.

My real problem is that I can't even hear myself think. And I like myself too much for that to happen. With each band trying to outplay the next one two feet away, noise at the Promenade has become a major problem. There used to be a city official in charge of monitoring the street performers. He left and hasn't been replaced. There also are noise ordinances in place but they are rarely enforced. I guess quality of life isn't a big issue for the Santa Monica politicians.

I have lots more to say but alas, I am out of room for this week. I promise to keep sharing my opinions with you if you tell me what you think. I love e-mail so let me know what you agree with, disagree with, and downright despise. You can even be an anti-stupidity deputy and point out the absurdities you see around town. Want to vent about something? Just let me know and I'll look into it.

See you next week.

(Matthew can be reached at media-matthew@yahoo.com).

Women deserve to go topless just as much as men



LEGAL VIEWS AND NEWS

By David Pizarra

Santa Monica — land of the "progressives" — home to the "open minded," sanctuary for the "spiritually enlightened." I believe that. I also believe that we have a City Council that is doing everything in its power to destroy the tourism trade, the business climate and to turn back time to 1920.

Why on what basis do I make such an incendiary claim? It's simple. It keeps the City Council in power to have a business community that is disorganized and disenfranchised, which results in the voting electorate, by default, being the residents. The residents are broken down into two main groups: Apartment dwellers and homeowners.

The apartment dwellers are neatly organized by Santa Monicans for Renters Rights. The homeowners are not organized enough to be a force, which means that the business community is being ruled by the renters. The council does the bidding of the SMRR community, and they want an ostensibly "liberal," "left leaning," "humanistic" appearing council, which has no real benefit to the community. But it sounds good.

On what basis do I contend that the City Council wants to destroy tourism? The following factors:

■ Encouragement of the homeless to populate and enjoy the city that they don't pay for.

■ A smoking ban that directly targets the groups most likely to be affected, tourists at the beach.

■ A sexually discriminating law regarding nudity.

It is true. Santa Monica sexually discriminates in an inherently unfair way. You've seen it almost everyday, and you'll see it everyday this summer at the beach.

Our own police force will likely enforce it with great zeal this summer. It is a law that is stupid in its purpose, inane in the reasoning behind it and should be abolished. I would heartily support a proposition, a referendum, or even a City Council member's motion to reconsider it.

The law is the Santa Monica municipal code on topless women.

A woman is not allowed to do what a man is. A man can walk around town shirtless. He can wash his car without a shirt on, he can tan at the beach. He can walk his dog or play ball with his kids. He can have flabby, floppy pectorals, and no one says a thing. He can proudly display a hairy and obese chest lawfully. His "areolas," commonly called nipples, are fair game for all the world to visually enjoy.

But not a woman's.

This is sexist. It is discrimination. And the City Council should do something about it. The law reads:

"(a) It shall be unlawful for any female to expose the areolas of her breasts ... on public beaches, public streets, public parks, or other public property within the

city. The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons 10 years of age or younger. Moreover, this section does not prohibit women from breastfeeding infants on any public property. (b) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a period not to exceed six months or both."

To be clear, given the wackiness factor of our City Council, I am not advocating that the men of the city be required to wear a shirt at all times. I like the ability to go shirtless and I like the fact that so many others do too.

I want the women of our fair city to be able to comfortably enjoy the same rights, privileges and benefits of our society as I have.

The women of this city should be allowed to go shirtless any where a man can. That means the parks, the beaches, strolling down the street on a sunny Tuesday morning. They should be allowed to enjoy the warmth of the sun on their breasts as much as a man can.

Frankly, and in all seriousness, I think this is a much more important issue in terms of equal rights than the endless lip service to "protecting the rights of the homeless" that goes on at most of the City Council meetings.

These people are all about the headline. Let them make a real headline with something that will not only enhance the quality of life for the residents, but make Santa Monica the No. 1 tourist spot in California

within weeks.

Seriously, does anyone doubt that this would be a tremendous boon for our economy? The Europeans would finally have a place in America where they could relax comfortably on the beach topless. The Japanese businessmen (a traditionally voyeuristic group) would swamp the local hotels. And the number of young men we would be attracting is certainly a factor.

I'd be willing to bet a steak dinner that we would have a tremendous increase in our tourism rates if we went topless.

I know some people are going to say, "It's immoral." Hogwash. Show me anywhere in the Bible where it says that men, but not women, can go shirtless. "It'll be the end of society" others will cry. It doesn't seem to have hurt France, Italy or Spain. Well maybe France, but they have other issues.

The publicity we would garner would be worth millions, perhaps billions of dollars. For once, we could use our "wacky factor" to our advantage.

If I was on the City Council, I'd be pushing for this law to be amended. There is nothing inherently different about a man's areola versus a woman's. They should be treated the same under the law. This is not likely to be taken up by City Council members. They have more important things to do, like get re-elected.

(David Pizarra is a partner in the law firm of Pizarra & Grist, he can be reached at (310) 664-9969 or by e-mail at dpizarra@pizarra.com. He welcomes your comments and questions).

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LOCAL



New mural will be painted at Virginia Avenue Park

MURALS, from page 1

over a blank wall ... Murals really are an excellent way, as an artist, to reach people in the Los Angeles area, because so many people drive around in their cars. They don't walk and go into galleries, things like that."

Tonight's meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Hosted by the Public Art Committee, the meeting is touted as an opportunity to learn about the public murals, hear a report on their conditions, and provide input on treatment, repair and protection measures. The murals needing attention will be ranked and prioritized. In June, the issue will go before the Arts Commission.

The group will consider various techniques for preserving the murals — including intense cleaning, refurbishing and applying what's called a "sacrificial wax coating," because it covers the mural and can be washed off to remove graffiti, Simmons said.

Though repainting a mural is sometimes less expensive than other methods, Simmons said it's not always used — especially with historic murals.

"You're never going to get the same thing," Simmons said. "No artist can repaint something exactly as he painted it before."



Photos courtesy
Public art reaches the parking garages throughout Santa Monica. From top, clockwise: Murals in the No. 9, No. 6, and No. 1 parking structures. Artists have been painting murals in the city for the past six decades.

Santa Monica's 14 public murals, by year painted:

- **1939:** STANTON MACDONALD WRIGHT *"Recreation," Terrazzo Mural* (Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.)
- **1939:** STANTON MACDONALD WRIGHT *"Colonial Spanish," Terrazzo Mural* (Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St.)
- **1978:** DANIEL ALONZO *"Children's Mural,"* (Marine Park Center, 1406 Marine St.)
- **1980:** ART MORTIMER *"Ocean Park Historical Postcards,"* (Joslyn Park, Kensington Street at Beverly Ave.)
- **1980:** ANN ELIZABETH THIERMANN, ASSISTED BY SENIORS ROB AND DOROTHY HUNN *"Our Santa Monica Heritage,"* (Joslyn Hall, Christine Emerson Reed Park, 801 Wilshire Blvd.)
- **1983:** DANIEL ALONZO *"Whale of a Mural,"* (Ocean Park Boulevard at Fourth Street.)
- **1983:** ANN ELIZABETH THIERMANN *"History of the Pico Neighborhood,"* (Stewart Street at Virginia Avenue.)
- **1984:** FRANK ROMERO, ASSISTED BY LEO LIMÓN *"Santa Monica Pier Circa 1930,"* (Parking Structure No. 6, 1431 Second St.)
- **1985:** DAVID GORDON *"Unbridled,"* (Ocean Park Boulevard at Fourth Street)
- **1987:** GILBERT LUJAN *"Another Magical Sunset at Santa Monica Beach,"* (Parking Structure Three, 1320 Fourth St.)
- **1993:** DAÑIEL GALVEZ *"Para Los Niños/For The Children,"* (Santa Monica Police Activities League, 1601 Olympic Blvd.)
- **1996:** EVA COCKCROFT *"Recycle, Renew, Repair, Restore,"* (Santa Monica City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave.)
- **1998:** ART MORTIMER *"Santa Monica Beach,"* (Parking Structure No. 1, 1234 Fourth St.)
- **2003:** PETER SHIRE *"Garage Your Desires,"* (Parking Structure No. 9, 1136 Fourth St.)



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Check Out the Question of the Week on Page 3 and let us hear what you have to say

The Q Line



LOCAL

Applicants for affordable housing are predominately residents of Santa Monica

HOUSING, from page 1

earmarked for moderate-income applicants. About 60 percent of the units are studios and one-bedroom apartments, while only 3 percent of the apartments have three bedrooms.

At CCSM, smaller apartments become available more often because it's easier for single people to increase their incomes and get back on their feet, said Joan Ling, executive director.

Low-income households, then, may be getting the short end of the stick. While about 43 percent of applicants at City Hall have low incomes, slightly more than 25 percent of the apartments have rent levels that can accommodate them.

By the housing division's definitions — which are based partly from LA County standards set by the state — a family of four qualifies as low income if their total income is less than \$33,850 annually. Moderate income households earn between \$33,850 and \$55,100 for a family of four.

Despite the disproportionate number of units for moderate-income households, the image of a large, low-income family packed into a tiny apartment is still a reality, Ling said.

"They live in overcrowded conditions," Ling said. "The worst part is that if you make very little money and you pay 50 to 60 percent of your gross income in rent, your base is so low ... that you just have problems making ends meet."

Hendricks said Santa Monica's high rent prices are pushing residents and workers like her out of the city. Hendricks is a housing coordinator at Turning Point, an Ocean Park-based transitional housing facility for homeless men and women.

"The average working person ... can't afford to live here," Hendricks said. "People are commuting from Lancaster, from Northridge. And it's not like they're commuting for some \$40,000, \$50,000, \$60,000 job either, they're commuting for just pennies."

When she starts looking for a home to purchase, Hendricks will not be looking in Santa Monica, she said.

But for many people all over Southern California, applying for Santa Monica's affordable housing waiting list is a chance

to live at the "center of a lot of good things," said Christina Perez, associate planner at Willdan, the city of Industry-based company Santa Monica hired to process the applications.

With about 600 applications, current Santa Monica residents were the most represented on the list. But almost as many Los Angelenos applied. Applicants also came from Venice, West Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley.

People applied for various reasons, Perez said. Some were retirees, students or former residents of Santa Monica who wanted to move back. A large number of applicants called because they were being pushed out of their current situations by the planned LAX expansion and because of canceled Section 8 housing vouchers — Federal government subsidies for extremely low-income households, Perez said.

While affordable housing in Santa Monica is created by developer fees and redevelopment money, some city officials say it's not enough.

"It's certainly not enough. But we're doing everything we can do," said City Councilman Ken Genser. "For a city of our size, the inventory of affordable housing we have is pretty remarkable, but it's nowhere near what we need. We're doing everything we can do — everything we know about."

For some applicants, affordable housing in Santa Monica is their only option.

"I don't have anywhere else to go," said Ana Ortiz, 21, a Santa Monica College student who said she needs an affordable apartment so she can live in the city with her children.

Apartments on the open market were too expensive, said Sonya Yankoviet, 80, who lives with her husband and her daughter's family in LA. A retirement home would cost more than \$2,000 per month for a small bedroom, Yankoviet said.

"When we were younger, it had been much easier," Yankoviet said. "We could go out, we could go to the ocean."

Now that she and her husband are sick, and without health insurance, Yankoviet said she will wait as long she needs to for an affordable unit.

"Even if it will be 10 years we will wait," Yankoviet said. "We must be lucky."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Isherwood profiled at bookstore

By Daily Press staff

Two authors today will relive the life of a famous author who made his life here for decades.

Chris Freeman presents a reading and a talk "Making Fun Out of It: Rethinking The World in the Evening and Isherwood's 'Lost Years,'" on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 1201 Third Street Promenade. The program is co-sponsored by the Santa Monica Public Library and Barnes & Noble. The event is free and open to the public.

Co-editor — with James J. Berg — of two anthologies on the life and work of author Christopher Isherwood, Freeman is associate professor of English at Saint John's University in Minnesota where he teaches literature, film and linguistics. Freeman and Berg's "The Isherwood Century: Essays on the Life and Work on Christopher Isherwood" was awarded the prestigious "Lambda Literary Award for Gay Studies."

Freeman's focus on Isherwood's 1954 novel, "The World in the Evening," continues the exploration of the British-American author's literary production in America during the centennial celebration of Isherwood in 2004. Isherwood lived more than four decades in the Santa Monica Canyon area until his death in 1986.

STATE



Schwarzenegger tributes Jewish Holocaust victims

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger paid tribute Sunday to the millions of Jews killed in the Holocaust and helped dedicate a planned museum of tolerance during a whirlwind visit to Jerusalem.

In an emotional speech at the museum site, Schwarzenegger said that in a world of violence and suicide attacks, the museum would stand as a "candle to guide us."

"The world should know we are not building a bunker. We're building something that breathes with life, just as God breathed life into us," Schwarzenegger said. "We look past the suicide bombers, the terrorists, past the blood. ... We look ahead to the time people can live side by side."

Schwarzenegger's speech came just minutes after Palestinian gunmen ambushed and killed a pregnant Jewish settler and her four young daughters. Israel retaliated with an airstrike on a Gaza radio station affiliated with the militant Hamas group, lightly injuring seven Palestinians, and with another strike on a car full of militants in the West Bank city of Nablus.

Schwarzenegger later laid a wreath at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial during a ceremony at which he also rekindled the memorial's symbolic eternal flame. Wearing a yarmulke, he bowed his head and stood in silence for several minutes.

The memorial is a vault-like chamber with the ashes of Holocaust victims buried beneath its marble floor.

But if the day's focus was on tolerance and the Holocaust, it was also, for Israelis, equally a celebration of all things Schwarzenegger. California's governor was cheered at every stop along the way, whether by office workers in government buildings or the crowd at the museum ceremony.

Many people wore Schwarzenegger T-shirts and some shirtless men had scrawled "We Love Arnold" on their chests.

Jonathan Stern, a sergeant in the Israeli army, even took a leave from his job so he could catch a glimpse of the movie star-turned-politician.

"We've got a lot of stars in Hollywood, but nobody measures up to that," he said. "People love him. He's the best. The Terminator."

At the museum event, the governor did encounter a couple of hecklers protesting Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Hey Schwarzenegger, there's no tolerance in occupation," one of them shouted.

Earlier in the day, Schwarzenegger met with senior Israel government officials, including Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who welcomed him to Israel. He also wished the prime minister good luck in a Likud Party vote on his plan to withdraw Israel from the Gaza Strip, though media polls released later in the day indicated that it had been rejected.

On Monday, Schwarzenegger was scheduled to visit Jordan's King Abdullah II, a personal friend who has visited the governor at his home in Los Angeles.

The stop in Jordan was arranged after

"We look past the suicide bombers, the terrorists, past the blood. ... We look ahead to the time people can live side by side."

— **ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**
California Governor

an Associated Press story on Friday in which Arab-Americans in Southern California criticized the governor's trip because it did not include a meeting with Arabs.

"As you know, you always will find criticism no matter what you do," Schwarzenegger said of the complaints.

Sabiha Kahn, a spokeswoman for the California branch of the Washington, D.C.-based Council on American-Islamic Relations, called Schwarzenegger's newly planned Jordan visit "a good step in the right direction," but urged the governor Sunday to also visit the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I know he is more than willing to learn about all sides and he should show that by visiting the Palestinian-occupied territory," she said. "There is a conflict and he is only meeting with the Israeli side."

Also on Monday, the governor will visit Germany to address U.S. troops at Ramstein Air Base, visit wounded soldiers at the Army's Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and meet with military personnel from California.

During his speech Sunday at the site of the proposed museum, Schwarzenegger recounted being born in Austria, a country where he said "intolerance and ignorance led to atrocities and heartaches."

"I want to do whatever I can to promote tolerance around the world," he said.

The governor's father was a member of the Nazi party, and he has always sought to distance himself from that part of his background, first visiting Israel in the 1970s. His speech Sunday included some of his most extensive and impassioned public remarks on tolerance and the Holocaust since his election in November.

The museum, scheduled to open in 2007, is being built by the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, a human rights advocacy group to which Schwarzenegger has contributed \$1 million over the years.

Speakers at the ceremony repeatedly praised Schwarzenegger and his advocacy on behalf of tolerance and Israel. Vice Premier Ehud Olmert called him "a great friend of the Jewish people."

The governor got one of his loudest cheers at the end of his speech when he uttered the Hebrew saying, "Am Yisrael chai" or "The people of Israel live," gave the crowd a thumbs-up sign, and added his signature movie line, "I'll be back."



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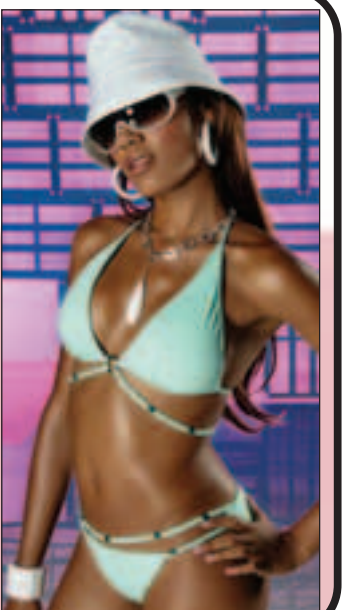
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by JENNIFER LOPEZ



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STATE

Officials in LA rallying to save military bases

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

EL SEGUNDO — When former Mayor Mike Gordon discusses saving his city's Air Force base, he doesn't dwell on the thousands of jobs at risk or the potential blow to the local economy.

Gordon, who stepped down last week to run for state assembly, knows that hundreds of other cities will be making those same arguments as the Pentagon decides which of the nation's military bases to put on the chopping block next year.

Instead Gordon and other Los Angeles Air Force Base boosters, who visit Washington, D.C., on Tuesday to press their case, have developed a sophisticated argument tailored to the Pentagon's stated criteria of military value.

But Gordon and his team are competing with some 425 military installations nationwide — including 61 others in California — as the Pentagon seeks to shrink its base capacity by 25 percent. And they and other communities are doing much of the work themselves, because deficit-strapped California has budgeted no money for the effort even as other states are spending millions.

"Everyone's going to make the case that closing my base is going to hurt my city, so we like to make the statement that we believe that the mission of the military is best served here at the Los Angeles Air Force Base by the fact that what we contribute to that mission is so substantial," said Gordon, who served six years as the city's mayor.

The base, which sits in an industrial area near the airport and looks like little more than a drab office complex, houses the Space and Missile Systems Center, which designs and procures the military's satellite systems.

"As a regional alliance group, I think we have to be perceived as probably one of the best-organized, best-funded in the nation," Gordon added. "But as a state of 62 bases, I think you have to look at states like Colorado, New Mexico, Alabama, Oklahoma, Massachusetts and say they've done a better job."

Four earlier rounds of base closures, from 1988 to 1995, hit California disproportionately hard — in large part, people who were involved say, because the state did not put up a fight. Of 91 bases closed nationwide, California lost 29, from March Air Force Base and El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in the south to Fort Ord Army Base and Mather Air Force Base in the north.

"There was no unified effort," said former Clinton White House aide Leon Panetta, who from 1976-1993 represented the congressional district that was home to Fort Ord. "We basically fought our own battle, as did other communities, and you pay a price for that."

This time around, Panetta and others are encouraged by comments Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has made about keeping bases open, including in his State of the State address.

Schwarzenegger also has successfully prodded the state's sometimes fractious congressional delegation to work together on the issue. Jim Spagnole, who heads the state's Office of Military Base Retention and Reuse, insists California will compete well, even though Schwarzenegger, faced

with a huge budget deficit, devoted no money to the effort in his January budget plan.

"The truth of the matter is that California's relationship with the Department of Defense really transcends dollars," Spagnole said. "We've got the right climate. We've got the large footprints for training and operations areas. It's inescapable that we present the best opportunity for DOD to conduct cost-efficient training and operational activities anywhere in the country."

But while California's effort to protect its bases is running on a \$180,000 line item from former Gov. Gray Davis' last budget, Georgia plans to spend \$6 million, Ohio \$2.5 million and Oklahoma \$1.5 million, to name just a few states.

That's left it to local communities to shoulder much of the burden. While there is no list of threatened bases and Pentagon officials refuse to comment on which ones may be at risk, so many bases are expected to be closed or consolidated that few communities that house them feel safe.

Community efforts are under way around numerous California installations, including the Defense Language Institute near Monterey, the Naval Air Weapons Station in China Lake, Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento and the many facilities in San Diego, including the Marine Corps Recruit Depot.

The campaign to save Los Angeles Air Force Base is among the most advanced. The base has been threatened with closure in years past, and bases that perform just one function that does not necessarily rely on being in a specific geographic area are thought to be particularly at risk.

Other communities have sought over the years to lure away the base's Space and Missile Systems Center, which does about \$10 billion in contract work each year designing and procuring the military's satellite and space systems, including some classified missions. Colorado Springs, Colo., already has begun a lobbying effort.

The task of the Los Angeles Air Force Base Regional Alliance is to convince policy-makers that the base's function can't be performed as well anywhere else, because of its reliance on Southern California's defense contractors and the brainpower nurtured by the region's universities and space sciences community. These attributes would not follow the base if it moved, alliance members argue.

The alliance, made up of dozens of local business owners, elected officials and others, has hired four lobbying and public relations firms in Sacramento, Washington and Los Angeles. It hopes to raise \$1 million to \$1.5 million from local governments and donations.

In perhaps the most impressive feat, the city of El Segundo donated land that was part of the base to neighboring Hawthorne, which rezoned it for housing. Profits from the development and additional tax revenue are paying for a \$115 million modernization of the aging base that's now under way — without the federal government spending a penny.

"We've already met the first challenge, modernization. We are meeting the second challenge now in demonstrating that the intellectual capital is here, and the loss of that intellectual capital would be substantial," Gordon said.

NATIONAL



Climate change accelerates along the Arctic Coast

BY RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Yes, shore ice is thinner, winter arrives later and spring comes sooner along Alaska's Arctic coast. But that doesn't add up to evidence of a warmer world for Charles Hopson, an Inupiat Eskimo whaling captain from Barrow.

"Everybody's talking about global warming. Where the hell is it? It's cold up here," the 60-year-old subsistence hunter said on a late March day when frigid winds pushed temperatures in the nation's northernmost town to 50 degrees below zero.

Hopson, who has spent his life noting weather conditions, considers global warming an unproven theory, possibly linked to natural factors such as the El Nino pattern of shifts in tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures.

Others believe industrial fallout is behind the accelerated pace of climate changes in the past four decades, including the shrinking of polar ice estimated as much as 40 percent.

But while debating the cause, no one disputes that climate change is occurring. And it is watched with special interest in the Arctic, where effects of warming appear first and with greatest intensity, in part because as snow and ice melt, the terrain quits reflecting sunshine and begins absorbing heat.

Some scientists believe changes happening in the Arctic now foreshadow changes to come in the Lower 48.

Here, temperature averages have inched up, buckling roads and shifting some supports on the 800-mile trans-Alaska oil pipeline. Alaska glaciers have drastically retreated, contributing 10 percent to 20 percent of the measurable rise in world sea levels. The year-around icepack is getting smaller, which could profoundly affect ocean circulation systems, plankton populations and other ecological conditions.

But are those deviations due to a modern cause or are they part of an ancient norm?

"We've seen a lot of change and we're trying to work through the chain of causality," said Richard Moritz, who heads the University of Washington's Polar Science Center in Seattle. "We have respected scientists who have no doubt it's man-caused. Others say the jury is still out on how much is man-caused and how much is natural variability."

A group of international researchers is exploring that issue in the Arctic.

The Western Arctic Shelf-Basin Interactions program is focusing on the Chukchi and Beaufort seas, an area surrounding Alaska that participants say is a bellwether of significant climate changes. The \$25 million venture, funded in part by the National Science Foundation, is doing field research, including spring, summer and fall cruises aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy, a

"We have respected scientists who have no doubt it's man-caused. Others say the jury is still out on how much is man-caused and how much is natural variability."

— RICHARD MORITZ
Polar Science Center,
University of Washington

research vessel and icebreaker.

Scientists are studying marine carbon, temperatures, salinity, minerals, light transmission, plant and animal life, bacteria, currents, salinity and other conditions throughout the Arctic seas, hoping to assess climate change and its impacts.

"When the ice is pulled back, that changes the carbon cycle and brine formation, with an ultimate impact on the downstream ocean circulation," said chief researcher Jackie Grebmeier, a University of Tennessee biological oceanographer. "Another concern is the effects on local subsistence hunters. Plankton goes where the water goes and animals capable of moving follow them."

Eugene Brower, a 56-year-old Inupiat from Barrow, said animals that haul out on ice such as walrus and seals are drifting farther north as the polar icepack recedes. Brower says he must travel up to 25 miles from shore to find his prey these days — twice the distance of past years.

His observations are backed by NASA satellite surveys that show summer Arctic sea ice has shrunk about 10 percent per decade since 1980, and the winter icepack has also declined significantly. The NASA study found the permanent ice cover dropped to record lows in 2002 and 2003. Scientists say that without large ice masses, which reflect the sun's rays into the atmosphere, the earth absorbs more heat, contributing to further warming.

And with more open water, shorelines are increasingly vulnerable to powerful fall storms. Erosion is great in some northern coastal villages, including Shishmaref and Kivalina, threatening homes and turning sandy beaches into rocky fields.

"We've got some huge waves out there," Brower said. "Around here, some people are talking about moving buildings that are close to shore."

Changes vary from region to region, said scientist John Walsh of the International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

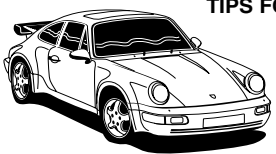
Overall, temperatures have increased by an average of 2 to 4 degrees over the last several decades. Studies show the North Slope and Alaska's Interior have warmed by as much as 7 degrees in spring, while the western coast in fall shows the least change. Spring arrives about a week earlier in the Interior, but the region has actually cooled by 1 or 2 degrees in the fall, an example of natural variability, Walsh said.

"I've a view that humans are contributing to the warming but that other factors are involved as well, such as shifts in wind and ocean currents," he said. "There seems to be a consensus emerging that warming is definitely there and humans definitely contribute to it, but that there are also contributing factors that are not human caused."

There was a similar warming trend in the 1920s and 1930s, with the most noticeable effect on the Arctic, which saw temperature averages rise between 2 and 4 degrees, Walsh said. The global average rise, however, was much smaller, only a few tenths of a degree. The latest warming followed after a cooling in the 1940s that lasted to the mid 1960s.

"In the last few decades there's been a global increase as high as a full degree," Walsh said. "That's what has people thinking there's more going on than just natural variability."

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Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy

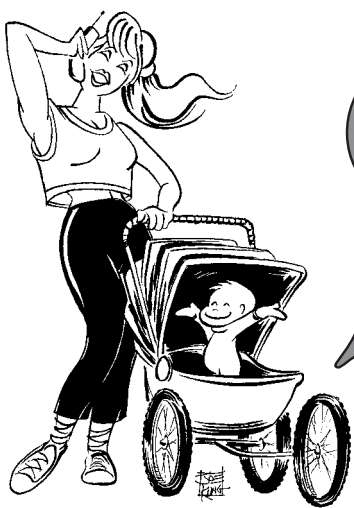
The Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy is seeking donations. Situated in a courtyard garden visible to the community, the fountain will be a respite for those seeking faith, peace and hope amongst the challenges of the world.

The fountain is a tribute to the love and joy that graced Kristi's life and the community which gave so generously during the search for Kristi prior to finding her body in the Hollywood hills.

Donations to the Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy may be sent to:

St. Augustine By-The-Sea Episcopal Church
1227 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401
Re: Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy





Santa Monica

A weekly look at events and programs for

To buy or not to buy, that is the question

How Much Is Enough?

By Connie Dawson, P.h.D.

Sara and her dad took a shortcut through the department store on the way back from Sara's dance lesson. Sara spied a doll display. Her eyes fell on a doll she "needed." Dad said, "No. I'm not buying any more dolls. You don't play with the ones you have."

That answer was not the one Sara wanted. She was undeterred. More whining and more pressure. Dad relented and bought the doll. There was no joy on his face.

Dad's vague (or not so vague) resentment is a huge clue that he could use a way to think about when to buy and when not to buy.

How does a parent, or anyone, for that matter, decide where to draw the line? When one of the parties agrees to something and then harbors a resentment. That feeling signals, "Stop. Hold it. There's a problem here." That is the place to draw the line.

What's too much?

What if Sara's dad had a framework to use when deciding what was good for his daughter. Think about this one:

If Sara has too little of something, she doesn't have what she needs for survival or for growth.

If Sara has enough things, nurture and structure, she has what she needs to grow and thrive. "Enough" is a condition of sufficiency.

If Sara has enough, she can joyfully experience abundance, which is more than enough. Abundance is a breakthrough from enough. Abundance is having more than enough now and then. Once in a while.

If Sara experiences abundance on a chronic basis, she has too much. This is overindulgence.

What's wrong with having too much?

Having too much all of the time means not having the chance to experience the joy and celebration of occasional abundance. Being chronically overindulged with too much results in joylessness and the perception that whatever it is, it's never enough. When a person has too much of anything, all becomes as nothing.

Chronic too much is not good for kids. It may look good and even feel good at the time, but it has long-term negative consequences. The adults overindulged as children who were subjects in the studies of an overindulgence research project revealed that not knowing what is enough was a big reason for the pain and difficulties they had had and were having.

What's the difference

between abundance and too much? Overindulgence is immersion in having too much all the time — including having someone over-function for you when you are capable of functioning for yourself, and being excused from doing chores, from complying with rules, from learning skills and from being a contributing and cooperative family or group member.

Dad decides what's best

Sticking with the domains of enough and abundance can help dad know what is in Sara's best interests — and his own. When dad sticks with a "no" for the sake of his child, dad gets to have a smile in his heart, even when Sara has a frown on her face.

We know how annoying some children can be in order to get what they want. Bless their hearts. It's perfectly OK that they ask. And it's perfectly OK that they have a disappointed look when they're told, "Honey, you have enough dolls."

Will children escalate annoying behaviors to get what they want even though they may think it's what they need? Probably. If a parent has decided what is enough, rest assured the "yes" and the "no" will be based on what is good for the child. Resist pressures with good humor and a stalwart heart.

(Connie Dawson, Jean Illsley Clarke and David Bredehoft are co-authors of "How Much Is Enough? Everything You Need to Know to Steer Clear of Overindulgence and Raise Likable, Responsible, and Respectful Children." Connie can be reached at cdawson@whidbey.com. To read more about overindulgence, go to www.overindulgence.info).

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CALENDAR OF MOMMY EVENTS:

SPECIAL EVENTS

CINCO DE MAYO & JAPANESE CHILDREN'S DAY PROGRAM 3:30 p.m., Montana Library, 1704 Montana Ave., ages 5 and up.

MAY MISCHIEF! – a puppet show with Mr. Jesse, 3:30 p.m. Ocean Park Library, 2601 Main St., ages 3-7. Tickets are free but must be picked up today after 12 noon.

TAP DANCING at the YMCA – begins today, May 4th thru July 6th. Every Tuesday 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.; ages 8-12. Call 393-2721 for more info.

The **YMCA** is also currently accepting reservations for the following programs: Memorial Day Family Camp at Big Bear Lake – May 29- 31
Summer Keyboarding Kamp – ages 7-11. A one-week program, 4 sessions offered.

These YMCA programs are available to members and non-members. Contact Audrey Meyer, program director, at 393-2721, ext. 107 for more info.

SESAME STREET LIVE – OUT of this WORLD (sesamestreetlive.com)
Kodak Theatre – Hollywood – May 14 – 16, group discounts call 866-LA-GROUP
Long Beach Terrace Theatre – May 20-23, group discounts call 909-988-9859
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza – May 27 – 30, group discounts call 805-522-8010
Tickets went on sale March 29th, available thru Ticketmaster – 213-480-3232

SUMMER COMMUNITY CLASSES offered by the City of Santa Monica
The city provides children of all ages with a variety of recreation enrichment activities including camps, sports, dancing, crafts and yoga. For details pick-up a brochure at Joslyn or Reed Park, or call 458-2239.

THURSDAY

Storytelling

Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Main Library – Reed Park
Toddler Storytime at Reed Park; 10:00 a.m.; for 2 year olds.

Preschool Story Time at Reed Park; 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Toddler Story Time – 10:30 a.m.; April 29 – June 3; for ages 2 – 3.

La Hora Del Cuento – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Toddler Story Time – 10:15 a.m., April 15 – May 20; for 2 year olds.

Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m.; for 3-5 year olds.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Lap Time – 9:20 & 10:20 a.m., May 6 – June 10. 6-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant and Family Support Program.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; Pre-natal yoga – 7- 8:15 p.m.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Mommy Care – 11870 Santa Monica Blvd, at the Dance Factory, West LA, 310-394-6711. Pregnancy Exercise – 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.; Post Partum Exercise – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista – meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call 310-390-2529 for info. (next meeting May 14)

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., \$15.

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; (infants only) – 1 – 2 p.m.. Pre-natal yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ocean Oasis Day Spa, 1333 Ocean Avenue, 458-8190. Pre/Post Natal Yoga/Gentle Flow – 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.; Yoga for Fitness – noon – 1 p.m Private sessions available; call Kate Thomas, RN – 408-1717

Prenatal Breath and Movement – a Continuum Movement and Yoga-based program designed to support women through various sound and movement explorations that celebrate pregnancy and labor as powerful rites of passage. 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

With Deborah Raout at the Continuum Studio, 1629 18th St., #7. For more info call 625-3739, www.openskymovement.com. \$108 for a six-week session.

SUNDAY

Concerts on the Pier – every Sunday thru May 30 – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., FREE! Live music, on the parking deck, weather permitting.

Snowwhite, a brand new musical for kids of all ages, at the Santa Monica Playhouse Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. April 3 – May 30, \$12 adults, \$10 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 1 for reservations, www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

Main Street Farmer's Market – 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., corner of Main St. and Ocean Park Blvd. Pony rides, live music, lots of vendors and great family socializing.

Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Magicipolis – 2 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$15. Call 310-451-2241 for info.



MONDAY

Storytelling

Main Library – Lap Time at Joslyn Park, 9:30 a.m., Jan. 5 – June 4 (no class May 31). Ages 0-24 months with adult in conjunction with the Infant and Family Support program of SMMUSD.

“Family Connections” – 10:00 a.m., immediately following Lap Time – a series of discussions related to early childhood development and growth. Children welcome, free.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main Street, 310-392-3804.

“Spanish for Little Ones”, 11:15 a.m., April 19 – May 24 (no class April 5 & 12). Rhymes, songs and very simple stories in Spanish for ages 2-5 with adult.

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Toddler Story Time – 10am – 310-260-9110

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15

Yoga Garden, - Restorative yoga for pre/postnatal – 6:30 p.m., 310-450-0133. www.yogagardenstudios.com

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; (infants only) – 1 – 2 p.m.. Pre-natal yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ocean Oasis Day Spa, 1333 Ocean Avenue, 458-8190. Pre/Post Natal Yoga/Gentle Flow – 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.; Yoga for Fitness – noon – 1 p.m. Private sessions available; call Kate Thomas, RN – 408-1717

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TUESDAY

MOVIES FOR MOMS SPONSORED BY:

“Jersey Girl” showing May 4. 11:00 a.m., Loews Broadway, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. www.reelmoms.urbanbaby.com Stars Ben Affleck, Liv Tyler and George Carlin. Directed by Kevin Smith. Romance-comedy; rated PG-13.

Storytelling

Main Library

Toddler Storytime at Reed Park; 10:00 & 10:30 a.m. Stories for two year olds with adult.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Cuentos Para Pequenos – 10:00 a.m., April 27 – June 1. Six-week series in Spanish for 24 – 36 month olds with adult.

Lap Time – 11:00 a.m., April 27 – June 1. Six-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant and Family Support Programs.

Twilight Story Time -7pm – an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m., all ages. Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Toddler Storytime, 10:00 and 10:30, April 13 – May 18. Music, rhymes and stories for 24-36 month olds with adult.

Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis Themes change weekly; for ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com

Barnes and Noble at the Grove Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Cinco de Mayo & Japanese Children's Day Program, 3:30 p.m., Montana Library. **May Mischief!** – a puppet show with Mr. Jesse, 3:30 p.m. Ocean Park Library.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Thursdays 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Itsy-Bitsy Yoga at Ocean Oasis Day Spa, 1333 Ocean Ave. Tots (crawling to 24 months) – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.; Babies (6 wks. to pre-crawling) – 11:30 – 12:30 a.m. On-going 6-week series; \$120. Pre-register at 458-8190; visit www.khefri.net for more info or contact khefri@earthlink.net.

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; Pre-natal yoga – 7- 8:15 p.m.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Mommy Care – 11870 Santa Monica Blvd, at the Dance Factory, West LA, 310-394-6711. Pregnancy Exercise – 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.; Post Partum Exercise – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; (infants only) – 1 – 2 p.m.. Pre-natal yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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Prenatal Breath and Movement – a Continuum Movement and Yoga-based program designed to support women through various sound and movement explorations that celebrate pregnancy and labor as powerful rites of passage. 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

With Deborah Raout at the Continuum Studio, 1629 18th St., #7. For more info call 625-3739, www.openskymovement.com. \$108 for a six-week session.

WEDNESDAY

Storytelling

The Walking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Preschool Story Time – 10:30 a.m., April 28 – June 2; six-week series for 3-5 year olds with adult.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Lap Time – 10:00 & 10:30 a.m., April 14 – May 19; for children ages 0-2.

Toddler Story Time – 11:15 a.m., April 14 – May 19; for 2 year olds.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. –392-3804.

Preschool Twilight Story Time – 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 2 pm – ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144

Border's, Westwood – 11am – 310-

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Baby (Venice) – 310-306-9381 – Mommy & Me (ages 0-5 years) – 10 – 11 a.m.; (infants only) – 1 – 2 p.m.. Pre-natal yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Other

Puppetolio – 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

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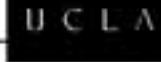
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NATIONAL

Crossings surge in spite of Border Patrol crackdown

BY LUKE TURF
Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — Rodolfo Lopez vows that no number of planes, helicopters, trucks, sensors or Border Patrol agents will stop him from sneaking into the United States.

Neither will fear of death.

Despite the U.S. Border Patrol's plan for its boldest attempt yet to seal the Arizona-Mexico border, Lopez was looking for a smuggler in April. He knows that by June 1, more obstacles will stand in his way.

"I heard it's hard (to cross) on television," said the 21-year-old from Sinaloa. "They've got all they can to (expletive) stop us from crossing."

Arizona Border Control, the government's name for the crackdown, will be in place by June 1. But already border agents have captured more than twice as many illegal immigrants as they had by this time last year.

One of the most hyped aspects of the latest border crackdown — unmanned aerial vehicles — won't be operational until close to June 1. Tests are planned in the meantime.

In addition to helicopters, the unmanned aerial vehicles and other gadgetry, the agency anticipates a new facili-

ty in the desert to detain illegal immigrants in shaded areas and provide humanitarian assistance, said David Aguilar, chief of the Border Patrol's Tucson sector.

Lopez and others like him are undeterred, and smugglers may be taking note.

"There is a sense of urgency (among smugglers), if you will," Aguilar said, "because of the tempo of this operation, the increased resources and the increased density of enforcement focus on that border."

Michael J. Garcia, assistant secretary for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, echoed that. Agency investigators are seeing desperate attempts by smugglers to get illegal immigrants into the country before the crackdown begins, he said.

"The criminal organizations aren't going to be idle," Garcia said. "Our challenge is to anticipate how they're going to react."

Border Patrol agents working in the Tucson sector are apprehending about 2,038 people a day halfway into this fiscal year, said Border Patrol spokesman Andy Adame. That's almost double the average of a year ago.

When the initiative came to light, the agency saw an upsurge in apprehensions "literally overnight," Adame said. The

pressure has shifted traffic to other areas along the U.S.-Mexico border, including Yuma and New Mexico, he said.

Yuma agents have apprehended more than 43,000 migrants halfway through this fiscal year, said Yuma sector Border Patrol spokesman Joe Brigman. Yuma agents apprehended fewer than 57,000 in all of the previous year.

In New Mexico and west Texas, apprehensions are up 13 percent, sector spokesman Doug Mosier said.

Since the fiscal year began Oct. 1, agents in the El Paso sector, which oversees all of New Mexico, have apprehended almost 54,000 people, up from fewer than 47,500 in the same period a year ago, Mosier said.

Part of the initiative is an increased presence in the deadly West Desert, a 121-mile stretch from the Yuma County line to Sasabe, where Lopez planned to cross. The message the Border Patrol is trying to get across is that it's too tough to cross the remote area without getting caught. The goals are to cut border crossings and save lives, Aguilar said.

The upswing in apprehensions is not caused by any single factor, Aguilar said.

"There's a lot of things coming together that are causing this upsurge," he said.

Among the factors contributing to the increased apprehensions, Aguilar said, are

the typical seasonal increase, a continued drought devastating Mexican crops and the efficiency and effectiveness of resources under Arizona Border Control, including greater collaboration with other law enforcement agencies.

Aguilar said as resources are applied, apprehension rates go up.

"Once the resources start overwhelming the smugglers' efforts, that's when we see a decline (in apprehensions)," Aguilar said. "It's the displacement of the smugglers' effort that shows the efficiency."

Lopez gets dusty walking the unpaved streets of Sasabe. He said he's more curious about the United States than he is in need of money, but the money he hopes to make is also an incentive.

Before he goes, he'll likely get a lecture from Grupo Beta, the Mexican police given the task of protecting migrants.

Carlos Zozaya Moreno, an attorney for the agency, said he counted 56,057 people crossing through Sasabe in March. He's aware of the increased vigilance on the north side of the line.

But it won't stop the immigrants, he said.

"It doesn't matter; they keep trying," Zozaya said. "The migrants are affected by more vigilance, but it doesn't matter to them. They keep trying until they're hurt."

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Supreme Court declines to hear case on water diversion for fish

BY NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press Writer

SPOKANE, Wash. — The U.S. Supreme Court declined Monday to hear an appeal of a lower court decision that the government can close irrigation ditches crossing U.S. Forest Service land to provide additional water to help endangered fish runs.

The Supreme Court without comment let stand a decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that was a setback for the Early Winters Ditch Co., Okanogan County and four irrigators.

"We consider this a great victory for protecting wild salmon," said Michael Mayer, a lawyer for the environmental group Earthjustice in Seattle.

Irrigators argued that the Forest Service did not have the right under the Endangered Species Act to deny

long-standing water rights to farmers. They claimed the state, and not the federal government, had the authority to set in-stream flow requirements for fish.

The courts disagreed.

U.S. District Judge Robert Whaley of Spokane in his original decision sided with the Forest Service, which denied the use of irrigation ditches running through the Okanogan National Forest to take water from area rivers.

Whaley ruled that flow rates are set so the Forest Service complies with the Endangered Species Act, which is carried out by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His decision was upheld by the 9th Circuit.

The 250-subscriber Methow Valley Irrigation District draws water from the Methow and Twisp rivers in

north-central Washington. The federal government contended that operations by the district were killing protected salmon and steelhead.

The dispute arose in 1990, when a state-commissioned study found that the district's ditches, dug in 1919, were inefficient, delivering one gallon of water to fields for every eight withdrawn from the Twisp.

The Yakama Indian Nation sued the state in 1991 for allowing the district to waste water. That led to a proposal to switch to a system of wells and pressurized pipes.

The district initially agreed to the plan, then backed away, saying it would be too costly to operate and would unfairly restrict its water use.

The fisheries service sued the irrigation district in May 2000, seeking to force it to replace the ditches with pressurized pipes and groundwater pumps.

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NATIONAL



The latest in must-see TV for felons in Oregon

BY ANDREW KRAMER
Associated Press Writer

SALEM, Ore. — Convicted felon Nicholas Krahmer kicks back on a bunk and enjoys one of the latest perks of prison life: A spanking new flat-screen TV that's still the envy of many viewers on the outside.

The tiny 7-inch set resembles flat-screen models installed in cars or on airplane seats. But it beats the alternative, he says — a night in the recreation room with about 150 other inmates who are prone to brawls over what to watch and where to sit.

Oregon's in-cell television policy springs from years of frustration in finding incentives for good behavior among prisoners serving mandatory sentences.

Krahmer bought the \$300 television with money he earned working in prison, where he is paid a few dollars a day for computer drafting. Inmates also must have clean discipline records to qualify for the flat-screens.

"I've worked for it. I've stayed clear of any sort of nonsense in the institution," said Krahmer, 27, who is serving 70 months at Oregon State Correctional Institution, outside Salem, for assault with a knife.

"I've never seen an episode of 'Survivor.' I'm eager to watch that. I want to see what my family watches."

Randy Geer, administrator of the prisons' non-cash incentive programs, said that as far as he knows, Oregon is the only state where felons have flat-screen TVs in their cells. The 25 inmates who have bought the high-tech TVs get the same basic cable that's piped into the prison's common TV room.

Before the flat-screen program began in Krahmer's prison last month, Oregon was already one of 16 states in the country to allow in-cell televisions.

But most inmates in the state's 12 medium and maximum security prisons did not benefit: Only one of those prisons allowed personal TVs, and they were of the tradi-

tional tube variety, not flat-screens.

While allowing inmates to enjoy the latest high-tech gadgetry may seem odd, prison officials stress the flat-screens — which the state plans to introduce soon in all 12 of its higher security prisons — were selected for practical reasons.

Bulky tube televisions pose dangers, such as parts that could be used as a weapon, and hollow spaces that could serve as a hiding place for contraband, Geer said.

Flat-screen TVs used at the Oregon prison are made of clear plastic — so inmates cannot hide contraband inside.

Managers also considered cramped prison cells and decided the sleek, flat-screen models made sense.

"It was really the best solution," Geer said. "It is not a luxury item."

Before implementing the policy, Oregon officials questioned prison directors about television policy in all 50 states. Some states have decided to prohibit TVs in cells because the traditional tube models are too bulky. If a prisoner is sent to disciplinary confinement, the prison must store his or her belongings.

"Try finding space for 1,000 13-inch televisions," Geer said.

Steve Doell, president of the Oregon chapter of Crime Victims United, opposes television in prison for anything other than educational programming and to ease the work of correctional staff in disciplining inmates.

"If I were in charge, I would make sure they watch the Learning Channel, Discovery and C-Span," he said. "There's lots of movies and entertainment that show violence and sexual behavior."

Rank and file officers, however, are nearly as happy as the inmates.

"It's cut down on the number of inmates that come out in the evening to watch TV," said Julian Ruiz, a corrections officer who operates electronic door locks and monitors a cell block. "The more people you get down here in the evening, the more problems."

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First-time applicants may:

- Call (310) 450-8338, ext. 269 to request an application to be sent in May
- Print out the application from our website at: smmusd.org (Click Senior Exemption, then Application for Senior Exemption)

Completed & signed applications must be returned, along with required proofs of age & property ownership, to: Santa Monica-Malibu USD, 1651 16th St./Santa Monica, CA 90404-3891, ATTN: Dawn. Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2004.

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INTERNATIONAL

Sharon says he will not resign after stinging defeat

BY KARIN LAUB
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Monday he will rework his plan for pulling out of Gaza and four West Bank settlements in an effort to salvage the proposal following its resounding defeat in a ruling party referendum.

Sharon told a meeting of lawmakers from his Likud Party that he would submit the new version to the government and the parliament for approval, according to officials who attended the meeting.

“I want to say in the clearest fashion there will be another plan that I will come up with,” Sharon said, according to the officials. “I will come up with a plan that will get wider support.”

With a turnout of only half the 193,000 Likud members, 60 percent voted against the “disengagement plan,” leaving Sharon politically weakened and scrambling for an alternative. “Crushing defeat,” read a headline in the Maariv daily.

Sharon said Monday that he “respects” the outcome of the vote but would not drop the idea of a withdrawal. He defended his plan as the best way to get security for Israelis in the absence of peace moves.

He also said it would diffuse international pressure on Israel for greater concessions and help Israel escape the demographic problem that Palestinians will soon outnumber Jews in the area including the West Bank, Gaza and Israel.

“The question is should Israel lead or be led, does time work in our favor or against us, and if what we are proposing could be accepted in the world,” Sharon was quoted as saying at the meeting. “I intend to present a plan to the government and the (parliament) that will push forward Israel’s positions”

Sunday’s voting was marred by violence. Palestinian gunmen killed a pregnant Gaza settler and her four daughters, ages two to 11, in an ambush on her car as she was en route from Gaza to Israel. Israel killed four Palestinian militants in the West Bank and destroyed a Hamas-affiliated radio station in Gaza in missile strikes.

Support for the plan lagged in the polls for several days, but analysts said the Gaza shooting attack and the low turnout gave a further boost to opponents.

The disengagement plan envisions an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, home to 7,500 settlers, and the evacuation of four small West Bank settlements by the end of 2005, along with the completion of a West Bank separation barrier.

“I intend to present a plan to the government and the (parliament) that will push forward Israel’s positions.”

— ARIEL SHARON
Israeli Prime Minister

The Bush administration said it would consult with Sharon on what to do next. “The president welcomed Prime Minister Sharon’s plan to withdraw settlements from Gaza and a part of the West Bank as a courageous and important step toward peace,” White House spokesman Scott McClellan said.

Palestinian leaders, who have dismissed Sharon’s unilateral plan as an attempt to tighten Israel’s hold over large parts of the West Bank, played down Sunday’s vote as an internal Israeli matter.

Ordinary Palestinians didn’t pay much attention. “If he (Sharon) had won, do you really think the war would end and tomorrow we would have peace?” said Khalil Abu Ali, 48, a restaurant owner in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

Early Monday, a 16-year-old Palestinian boy from Beit Lahia in Gaza died from Israeli gunshot wounds suffered on Saturday, hospital officials said. The boy, Khaled Abu Olba, was shot after entering a military zone, residents said. Also, 17-year-old Ahmad al-Khawaldi died in Gaza after he was shot in the head last month while throwing stones at Israeli soldiers.

Sharon’s party allies warned that Likud was increasingly becoming less appealing to moderate Israeli voters and could get hurt in the next election. Opinion polls have shown a majority of Israelis support the withdrawal plan.

Justice Minister Yosef Lapid of the centrist Shinui Party noted that the number of voters in the referendum amounted to roughly 1 percent of the Israeli population. “They shouldn’t decide the fate of the country,” he told Israel Radio.

Vice Premier Ehud Olmert, a Sharon confidant, said disengagement is inevitable and the prime minister is determined to move forward.

Opponents celebrated their victory. Likud members

chose “a no-compromise fight against terrorism” over “loyalty to the prime minister,” Cabinet minister Natan Sharansky said.

The low turnout might help Sharon undermine the legitimacy of the result, analysts said. The referendum was not legally binding.

The referendum originally was conceived as a way to force hard-line ministers, including Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, to support Sharon. With the party opposed, it is unlikely Sharon would get a majority in his Cabinet.

The prime minister could rearrange his Cabinet by bringing in the moderate Labor Party. Labor has said it would join only if the attorney general clears Sharon in two corruption probes. The rulings are expected in coming weeks.

Sharon also could opt for early elections, three years ahead of schedule. Or he could hold a national referendum, which would require special legislation that could take months to move through parliament.

The vote also might strain Sharon’s relations with President Bush. Last month, the president went out of his way to help Sharon, endorsing the disengagement plan and giving the Israeli leader unprecedented assurances that in a final peace deal, Israel would not have to withdraw from all of the West Bank.

Palestinian Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat demanded Sunday that Bush withdraw his guarantees.

In the Israeli settlements in Gaza, elation was mixed with mourning for 34-year-old Tali Hatuel and her four young daughters.

Hatuel’s husband, David, wept in front of the five graves during the funeral Sunday in the Israeli coastal city of Ashkelon. “I am all alone, there is no one left,” he said.

On Monday, Israeli settlers in Gaza began work on a new neighborhood in the Gaza settlement of Neve Dekalim. Settlers said the expansion was a response to Sharon’s plan and the shooting attack.

Israeli troops also demolished 22 homes in Gaza, 14 near the site of the shooting. The demolitions left 75 people homeless, residents said.

Islamic Jihad and the Popular Resistance Committees, another militant group, said they killed the family to avenge the assassination of Hamas leaders by Israel last month.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, four Palestinian militants from the Al Aqsa Martyrs’ Brigades were killed in an Israeli missile strike. Some 10,000 Palestinians marched in a funeral procession for the men on Monday.

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WORLD BRIEFLY

Mexico, Cuba relations sour

By The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The Mexican government, accusing Cuba of meddling in its internal affairs, gave the ambassador of the communist-run island his walking papers and said it will call its own ambassador home immediately.

The surprise action, jointly announced late Sunday by Foreign Secretary Luis Ernesto Derbez and Interior Secretary Santiago Creel, stopped short of cutting off diplomatic relations altogether.

Cuban officials had no immediate reaction, but the Mexican government's decision underscored the extent to which relations have deteriorated since President Vicente Fox took office in 2000.

Derbez and Creel said three incidents led Mexico to its decision: recent remarks President Fidel Castro made regarding Mexico's recent human rights votes against Cuba; comments by Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque about an ongoing political scandal in Mexico; and unauthorized activities carried out by visiting Cuban Communist Party members who failed to notify Mexican officials of their presence.

"We want to make clear that Mexico does not and will not tolerate, under any premise or circumstances, the attempt of any foreign government to influence our domestic or foreign policy decisions," Derbez said.

Kerry launches \$25M ad campaign

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John Kerry is launching new television commercials about his biography and platform this week in a \$25 million, monthlong advertising campaign that includes forays into two Republican-leaning states.

The Massachusetts senator is spending significantly more money to run ads in May than the \$17 million he put into commercials in the two months since gaining a lock on the Democratic presidential nomination.

Kerry has been airing moderate levels of ads on local broadcast channels in select media markets in 17 battleground states. But starting later this week, he will run new 60-second ads in all media markets in those states,

plus in Louisiana and Colorado, according to Democratic sources familiar with the buy.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two new ads — one that focuses on aspects of Kerry's life such as his Vietnam service and another that talks primarily about his top issues — also will run on national cable television networks.

President Bush won Louisiana and Colorado in 2000, but Kerry advisers believe the Democrat has a shot at grabbing the nine electoral votes available in each of the two states this year.

NY taxi fares rise 26 percent

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Get ready to pay more to ride in one of the city's storied yellow cabs.

Taxi fares rose 26 percent Monday, an increase that has some New Yorkers thinking twice about whether they'll be hailing rides when they could take a subway or bus.

The hike was meant to compensate for increased cost-of-living for drivers and the cost of installing new technologies that would let dispatchers track cabs electronically and allow riders to pay with credit cards.

Last month, the city's Taxi and Limousine Commission approved an increase in the base rate for entering a cab to \$2.50 from \$2. The price for traveling every fifth of a mile will rise to 40 cents from 30 cents. City bus and subway rides cost \$2.

Passengers will also pay a \$1 surcharge to ride in cabs between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. — an incentive to lure more taxi drivers onto city streets during the afternoon rush. The commission also raised the flat rate for a taxi traveling to Manhattan from John F. Kennedy International Airport to \$45 from \$35. The fare increases were the first in eight years.

Extra minutes to be sold in bulk

By The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Sprint Corp. is launching a new plan to address wireless customers' criticisms about how much they're charged for extra time they spend on

cell phones.

The plan, introduced Monday, allows customers who exceed their 300 so-called "anytime minutes" to pay \$2.50 for additional 25- to 50-minute blocks.

Currently, many wireless customers sign one- or two-year contracts in which they pay a set amount each month to receive a block of anytime minutes and unlimited — or nearly unlimited — night and weekend minutes. But customers who use up their anytime minutes may be charged up to 50 cents a minute for additional time; Sprint customers pay up to 40 cents a minute for more time.

Under Sprint's new plan, customers pay \$35 and get 300 anytime minutes, plus unlimited night and weekend minutes. Customers who use extra anytime minutes will pay \$2.50 for 25-minute blocks, until they reach about 650 minutes. Then, that \$2.50 will buy them 50-minute blocks — or about 5 cents a minute for those who use up the entire block. Once customers have used 1,250 minutes, they must pay 7 cents a minute for more time.

Bush barnstorming like it's October

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Election Day is six months off, but President Bush is campaigning with the urgency of a politician in the home stretch, barnstorming across the battlegrounds of Michigan and Ohio by bus Monday and Tuesday.

Bush heads a convoy of about eight buses — red, white and mostly blue — trolling a voter-rich triangle along Michigan's southern flank Monday. The buses are emblazoned with the words "Yes, America Can" — a slogan meant to project optimism to a region demoralized by the disappearance of millions of manufacturing jobs.

Accompanied by his wife, Laura, Bush begins his day at a town-hall session in Niles, in Michigan's southwest corner; cuts north to Kalamazoo for a speech; then rolls east to the Detroit suburb of Sterling Heights for an evening rally.

Tuesday, Stage Two of Bush's bus tour runs north-to-south down through Ohio. It starts in the Toledo suburb of Maumee and ends in Cincinnati.

On Friday, the president embarks on a similar bus tour through Iowa and Wisconsin.

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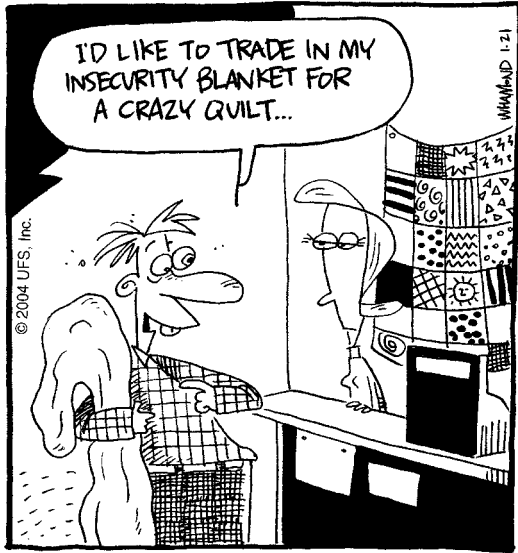
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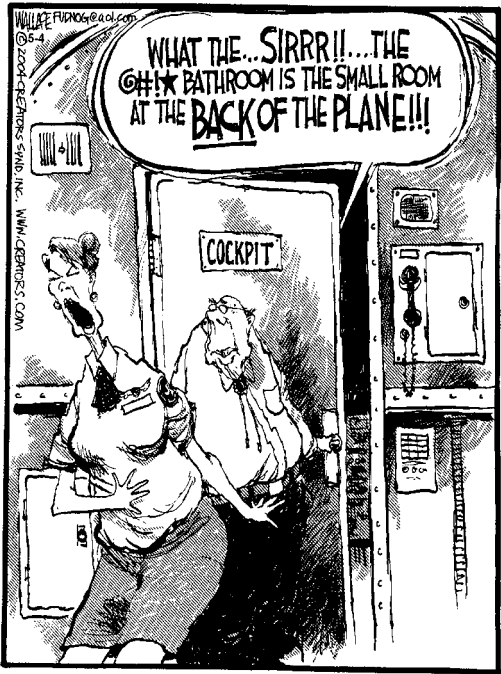
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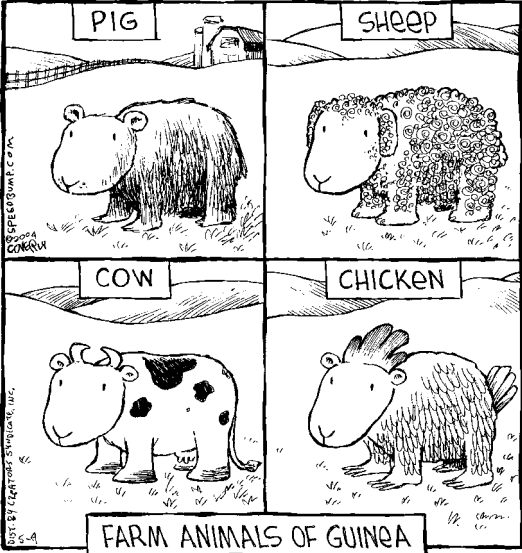
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 - 11 In the know
 - 12 Wide-mouthed in surprise
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Yesterday's answer

- 25 Garden resident
- 26 Young fellow
- 30 Baseball's Lyle
- 31 Flowery, perhaps
- 33 Harvest goddess
- 34 "Dancing Queen" group
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5-4

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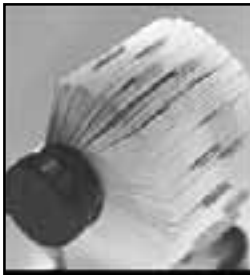
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Billy Joel’s smashed grill to be auctioned for charity

By The Associated Press

■ WEST BABYLON, N.Y. — Proving the adage yet again that one man’s trash is another’s treasure, a radio station has collected the smashed front grill from Billy Joel’s car wreck last month and is auctioning it off for charity.

Joel suffered minor injuries when he lost control of his vintage 1967 Citroen on a rain-slicked road near his Long Island home on April 25 and slammed into a house. The singer-songwriter received a small cut on his left ring finger but refused medical attention. The wreck was the third in two years for Joel. Last year he was hospitalized after smashing his car into a tree along a highway on far eastern Long Island, and he escaped serious injury in a crash in East Hampton in June 2002.

WBLI morning show co-host Steve Harper said Monday that the grill is being offered on eBay, where it will remain until 12:45 p.m. Thursday.

The station’s “Slam the Stunt Man,” collected the debris off the street at the crash site, Harper said. A Nassau County police spokesman said Joel has not asked for the grill back, so there’s no legal reason the station can’t sell it.

A spokeswoman for Joel didn’t immediately return a call for comment.

Proceeds will go to Long Island charities, although Harper said station officials are still discussing the exact beneficiaries.

■ NEW YORK — Rudy and Theo would be proud: Claire Huxtable, matriarch of “The Cosby Show” clan, was named best TV mom in a new poll released just in time for Mother’s Day.

Played by Phylicia Rashad, Claire Huxtable was the witty, tough mother of five who also worked as a lawyer. Rashad played alongside Bill Cosby’s Cliff Huxtable for 8 years, until the NBC sitcom ended in 1992.

The 55-year-old actress, who’s starring in the Broadway production of “A Raisin in the Sun” with

Sean Combs, also was named “TV mom closest to your own mom in spirit.”

Opinion Research Corporation conducted the poll from April 8-11. Results were based on 720 adults who have a living mother or mother-in-law. The margin of error was plus or minus four points.

Mrs. Cunningham of “Happy Days,” played by Marion Ross, was second, followed by Marge Simpson of “The Simpsons,” who’s voiced by Julie Kavner.

■ WASHINGTON — If Tony Soprano and Paulie Cicero, the don from “GoodFellas,” put contracts out on each other, who’d get whacked first?

“Paulie is much more lethal,” the actor who played him, Paul Sorvino, told AP Radio. “Jimmy (Gandolfini, who plays Tony) does a wonderful job, but in terms of the way the characters are set up, Paulie is much more Machiavellian, Paulie is much more of a ponderer and a thinker. He does very little by impulse and that’s a much more dangerous person.”

Sorvino, who now spends much of his time painting and sculpting, recently sold some of his pieces in Washington to benefit The Paul Sorvino Asthma Foundation.

“GoodFellas,” from 1990, “is certainly a great movie and I’m proud to be in it, but it’s only one small section of what I am and it’s completely antithetical to my personality,” Sorvino said. “It’s nothing like me as a human being.”

Any chance of him turning up on “The Sopranos”?

“I don’t think they can afford me,” the 65-year-old actor said. “I’ve done it on the big screen. What would I play, a visiting don?”

■ DUBUQUE, Iowa — Tony Danza is frank about why he left his native Brooklyn to attend the University of Dubuque.

“It was the school that accepted me,” said Danza, a 1972 graduate. “I had the possibility of a wrestling scholarship.”

The 53-year-old actor, best known for his TV roles in

“Taxi” and “Who’s the Boss?” will return to his alma mater Saturday to receive an honorary doctorate in humane letters.

“I just wish my parents could be here to see it,” said Danza. Instead he’ll bring his wife and three kids, including son his 33-year-old son, Mark, who was born in Dubuque.

He’ll also perform his musical variety show “Tony Danza Live!” Friday at Five Flags Theater, with proceeds benefiting the University of Dubuque music program.

■ RENO, Nev. — Donald Trump will assume the role of apprentice himself when he puts his frailties on display in an atmosphere many find more intimidating than the corporate board room — the golf course.

Trump, comedian Jimmy Fallon and actors Kurt Russell and Luke Wilson are among the first-time players entered to play July 16-18 at the American Century celebrity golf tournament on the shores of Lake Tahoe, officials for NBC Sports told The Associated Press on Sunday.

“The pressure will be on and I’ll have to perform,” Trump said in a statement he issued through his New York office. “It’s a tournament that has both big names and serious competition.”

Tourney regulars Michael Jordan, John Elway, Mario Lemieux and Mark McGwire will return to the Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course for the 54-hole event with a \$500,000 purse.

Other newcomers include NFL quarterbacks Peyton Manning, Trent Green, Carson Palmer and David Carr, along with singer Nick Lachey and talk-show host Carson Daly, tourney officials said.

Trump’s caddy might hear Trump’s famous line — “you’re fired!” from his hit television show “The Apprentice” — if the real estate tycoon loses too many balls on the 7,445-yard course. But don’t count on it.

“A lot of people don’t realize this, but he is a very, very good golfer,” said Jon Miller, senior vice president for programming for NBC Sports.

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