



NOT A MOMMA'S BOY
SEE PAGE 13

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE ADJUSTING THE YAW ISSUE

LIFESTYLE



LET THERE BE LIGHTS

Local skatepark lit for the first time
STORY BY IRENE MANAHAN PAGE 8

Gabriel Shea Hacker news@smdp.com

You gonna eat the rest of that?

Law would make leaving food for homeless illegal

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

REED PARK After leaving a community meeting at the Miles Playhouse, Julie Rusk saw a woman remove a half-eaten salmon from the trunk of her car with the intent of leaving it on the grass in hopes that some of the homeless might enjoy it.

While donating is always encouraged, the city's human services manager had to tell the woman that what she was doing was wrong, and could soon be illegal.

"Really, she was just trying to find a direct way to help people and not throw out food," Rusk said. "I understand that desire to not want to be wasteful and to help people too, but leaving it at the park is really not the best way to have food stored safely and distributed to people."

People looking to lend a helping hand, as well as clean out their pantry and closet, continue to drop off food and clothing at local parks, especially Reed Park. Sometimes, large amounts of leftovers from professionally-catered events have been left as well, creating a health risk, officials said.

To protect public health and aesthetics, while guarding against rodents and other infestations, the City Council is considering banning the practice of leaving food, clothing or other property unattended.

"We feel like we have a very established network of service providers where people can make donations and those who need help can get more than just a meal for today, but can access a comprehensive set of services that will help them tomorrow," Rusk said.

If approved, the ordinance would become effective 30 days after adoption. Violation of the ordinance would be a

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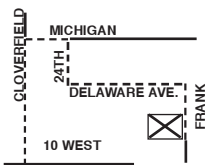
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Calendar

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



'PURE'

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.

"Pure" by Daniel Francisco is currently on display at KULTURAS.
For more information, call (310) 450-8707.

May Mischief

2601 Main St., 4:30 p.m. — 5:15 p.m.

Ocean Park Library offers storytelling and a puppet show for children.

'Buyers, Is This the Right Time to Buy?'

11828 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Nourmand & Associates Realtors and Philip Tirone of United Pacific Mortgage and author of "7 Steps to a 720 Credit Score," present a free seminar covering the state of the real estate market, the mortgage process and how to decipher the conflicting media coverage. The seminar is free, but participants must R.S.V.P. as seating is limited. To sign up, call (310) 300-3329 or e-mail Team@LewisandMahoney.com.

Sustainable Works Green Living Workshop

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Sustainable Works' Green Living Workshop is a six-week course designed to help residents learn about important environmental issues, save valuable resources, lower utility bills and protect household health. Cost is a suggested donation of \$25 for the full six weeks; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. To reserve your space today, call Anna Cummins at (310) 458-8716, ext. 1 or e-mail her at Cumminsanna@smc.edu.

Write-Away

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., noon — 3 p.m.

Inspiration, guidance, direction and support for writers. For further information, visit www.writeawaywritinggroup.com.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

For more information on this family-friendly theatre experience, call the Playhouse box office at (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Free Asthma screening

4650 Lincoln Blvd., Marina del Rey, 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Los Angeles-area allergists will offer free screenings for people who are experiencing breathing problems, such as chronic coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath. Screenings will be available at Centinela Freeman Hospital in Marina del Rey. A list of screening sites, information about asthma and online self-tests called the LQ Test and Kids' Asthma Check are available at www.acaai.org.

Single parents networking party at Spitfire Grill

3300 Airport Ave., 7 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Meet Westside single parents while helping schools. Purchase online tickets and receive more information by visiting www.westsidesingleparents.com. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door, includes food, refreshments and speed networking games.

Wildlife Wendy & her tropical birds

5309 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, 7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.

The West L.A. Bird Club presents Wildlife Wendy. Wendy and her parrots have appeared in movies and TV shows. Admission is \$5; children under 12 are free. Entrance is in rear of the American Legion in Culver City. For more information and upcoming speakers and events, visit www.westlabirdclub.com.

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

CORRECTION

In the May 7 article "A greener place to park and play," it should have stated that the parking lot that will be partially converted into a park during days when use is light is located at 2030 Barnard Way. In addition, the surface that will be planted there will be real grass, not artificial.

Residents may be getting the boot

Renters would be displaced if plan for center goes forward

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

NORTH OF MONTANA A dark shadow has been cast over a normally sunny garden apartment complex just a few yards from the Palisades bluff at news that its tenants will be booted out in the coming months.

The residents of the 28-unit complex at 130-142 San Vicente Blvd. received eviction notices last month under the Ellis Act, a state law that awards property owners the right to evict all tenants so long as the units are not re-rented for at least five years following the evictions.

The owners of the building — Or Khaim Hashalom, an alleged non-profit organization — submitted the 120-day eviction notices as part of its plans to demolish the 58-year-old complex and erect a structure that would accommodate housing for Jewish refugees persecuted in the Middle East.

The timing of the notices came as a shock to the residents of the complex, considering the City Council had scheduled a public hearing tonight on an appeal of the Landmarks Commission's designation of the property in November 2006, which would stave off the wrecking ball for perpetuity.

The appeal was filed by Or Khaim Hashalom on Nov. 17, 2006 — four days after the designation was unanimously implemented.

"What are these people doing?" said Risa Freeman, a tenant of the building. "Why now?"

The hearing has been postponed to an undetermined date because Council will not have a quorum present. Council members Pam O'Connor, Bob Holbrook and Herb Katz will not be in attendance and Council member Ken Genser will recuse himself from the hearing because he lives in the complex.

City staff is recommending the City Council deny the appeal.

Originally known as the Teriton Apartments, in honor of the original



File photo

WALKING PAPERS: The tenants of 130-142 San Vicente Blvd. received eviction notices last month from their Landmark garden apartment complex.

owner's daughters — Teri and Toni — the complex was designed and constructed in 1949 by architect Sanford Kent. The two- and three-story building is considered to be a vernacular modern style garden apartment.

The building was identified on the city's Historic Resources Inventory three times, the first coming in 1983.

The Landmarks Commission originally found the building met five of the six criteria in qualifying for historic preservation, specifically pointing out the building's pin-wheel shape, which was found in several of Kent's works, including a now demolished building at 222 San Vicente Blvd. Kent was also found to have been an architect of local distinction — another one of the six criteria.

The building was also noted for its garden apartment layout, an architectural style popular following World War II.

The appellant does not believe the property is eligible for landmarks status, and believes the Landmarks Commission acted illegally in its designation.

Properties owned by non profit religious organizations are exempt from landmark status according to state law, said Rosario Perry, a real estate lawyer representing Or Khaim Hashalom. The appellant also claims the designation cannot be approved without preparing an environmental assessment.

However, an environmental impact report is not required in a landmark design-

SEE BOOT PAGE 10



DE TRIPPERS

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

The Oaxaca Dance Ensemble performs 'Danza de la Pluma' (Dance of the Feather) at Virginia Avenue Park during the Cinco de Mayo festival on Sunday.

Keeping the creative juices flowing at writers' group

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

ONCE UPON A TIME Being creative can be frustrating, if not downright intimidating. More than one writer has needed some poking and prodding to put pen to paper.

At the Write Away Writing Group, which meets every Tuesday at the Fairview Library, members don't have to go very far to find inspiration. It's provided for them in the form of a writing prompt.

Last Tuesday, the word was "nightmare." As soon as the word was released, the tight-knit group of aspiring writers lowered their heads and began jotting down their thoughts.

For the last five years, dedicated members have been gathering each week to encourage one another and provide constructive criticism. Screenwriters and novelists have come and gone, as have those who write poems and books for children.

All come to get inspired and share tips on how to be successful in a business that can be cruel.

"The incentive for me is that it forces me to write," said Laurel Shapiro, who specializes in fantasy writing. Shapiro is currently working on a book about a woman who finds the men she dates suddenly turn up dead. "I can't show up without anything to

SEE PROSE PAGE 8

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*Even teeth who choose
to grow a mustache
deserve a place in the sun.*

RICHARD BROUWER is a 'neutral observer' living on the edge in The Netherlands.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop pointing fingers, Rosendahl Editor:

This is in reply to Bill Rosendahl's whiny letter of Friday, May 4 ("City's bite worse than its bark"), where he complains that the meanies in Santa Monica won't let the people in his district (West LA) use the new off-leash dog park at the Santa Monica airport. What he fails to mention is that right across Bundy there is a facility that consists of vegetable gardens and baseball fields that are owned by the city of Los Angeles.

If (Rosendahl's) so interested in offering dog run facilities for his constituents, I suggest he get them built in his district and quit blaming Santa Monica for what we have and won't let him use. He's the city councilman, (he can) make it happen.

Barry Barker
Santa Monica

Living the SM dream (nightmare?) Editor:

Where else in the world will police arrest people for doing sit-ups and stretches on a grassy median, but ignore the homeless passed out on sidewalks? Where else are non-resident dogs treated like criminals in city parks, but the local school board packs classrooms with students from surrounding districts? What other city's leaders are mesmerized by the affordable-housing-at-all-costs mantra, but squashes a for-profit builder's attempt to develop low-income apartments?

Only in Santa Monica: Eight square miles of socialist hypocrisy and precious little common sense.

Mark Shepherd
Santa Monica



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Human is as human does or so it seems

MEN ARE STUPID. SO ARE WOMEN. Basically humanity is one giant mass of fools who find reasons to divide themselves, create cliques, create as much distance between themselves and "others" as possible ... and the means we use to do so are positively inane.

For example, we use the differences in skin color to create "pride" in our races. Whether it is Black Pride or White Supremacy or Hispanic Machismo, various groups of humans use their genetic similarity to band together as "one" — against all the "others" — and frankly, it is stupid.

Take for example the latest kerfuffle over Don Imus. Here is an old white man trying to be cool and hip, and failing miserably. His stock in trade is as a curmudgeon, and in trying to be something he's not, he ends up insulting Black America, using language that is heard across the radio spectrum and in films and TV daily. But he's a white guy using language that is "reserved" for black rap artists and actors.

Then there is the great she-devil, Ann Coulter, she of the far right who would sell out the U.S. Constitution in order to keep our freedoms. I'm not sure how that would work, but those on the fringes of the Republican Right seem to think it is a good idea, so therefore, I'm duty bound to dislike it. Coulter can get away with calling a presidential hopeful — Sen. John Edwards — a "faggot" because, well, I don't know why. It doesn't make sense to me why she is allowed to use such language, but Imus can't use the language he did, which frankly, doesn't seem all that much more insulting.

If there really was a Velvet Mafia, as the Christian Right would have us believe, it seems to me that the homosexual community, whatever that is, would be up in arms over the use of such a pejorative statement by one national figure, about another national figure. The deafening silence on the matter leads me to believe that there isn't the Gay Mafia that the fundamentalists like to rail against.

Religious leaders always need something to push against, they must have an enemy to fight, so that they can rally their followers and keep the money flowing. Historically, the differences between Sunni and Shia are a matter of interpretation. The initial difference resulted from a dispute over who

should be the leader of Islam after Mohammed.

Thousands, if not millions, have died over a difference in interpretation of a succession plan. This is surely not any God's will, it is humans being stupid.

But we excel at that. Take for example the turf wars of our national gangs. Here there are groups of young men killing themselves over perceptions of "their" turf.

All parts of society have their turf wars though. The middle class does it with their belief that they are superior to the poor, because they can live in suburban enclaves of gated communities and send their kids to American Girl birthday parties.

The upper class, or should I say the monied class, believes they are superior because they can buy homes that far exceed their needs and drive cars that cost what some homes do.

Republicans want to claim the moral high ground against the Democrats. The Libertarians want to claim superiority over both because their plan "is better."

All of this infighting among humans comes at a tremendous cost, not just in terms of the loss of human life, but at the opportunities to understand each other. To make real connections and expand our lives.

We get so caught up on the details that we lose the ability to enjoy the experience. I find I'm frequently unsure of myself in conversations because I don't want to offend. I'm not sure if it's OK to call someone black, Asian, Muslim, Catholic or Jewish. I don't see why it is sometimes acceptable to acknowledge someone's heritage or race, and at other times, uncomfortable.

Why is it so hard for us to accept that there are differences and to just talk about them? To confront honestly the facts about what is real, today, seems to me to be fastest way to break down the walls between us, and yet, it seems that when we do that we are opening ourselves up to accusations of bigotry and racism.

It is a shame that we are so easily hurt. We need to remember that first and foremost, we are human ... except for Ann Coulter, and maybe Don Imus.

DAVID PISARRA is a business development lawyer in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

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Guest Commentary

Alex Epstein

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nobody seems to lend support to our troops

SUPPORTERS AND OPPONENTS OF President Bush's Iraq War are clashing in a furious debate over who truly supports our troops. The president's critics say they are supporting our troops by setting a timetable to bring them home from an "unnecessary" war. Supporters of the Iraq war say they support our troops by supporting their "vital" mission in Iraq.

In fact, neither liberals nor conservatives truly support the brave men and women who risk their lives to defend America. For both, "support our troops" is a cheap, undeserved claim to patriotism — one that obscures their unwillingness to do what is truly necessary to protect America and its soldiers.

Granted, almost everyone wants to give our troops the resources they need to do their jobs: the best weapons, armor, provisions, and training available — as well as praise, gratitude and encouragement. But for our government to truly support our troops, it must do far more than help them do their jobs; it must give them the right jobs to do — the jobs that will effectively defend America while minimizing the risk to their lives. Our government must place soldiers' lives at risk only when American freedom is threatened, and during war it must give them the objectives and tactics that will defeat the enemy as quickly as possible.

The conservatives' Iraq war does not meet this standard. It could have — if the war had been undertaken as a step in defeating the anti-American, terrorist-sponsoring regimes of the Middle East and thus rendering the region non-threatening. Instead, President Bush made the war's primary focus the welfare of Iraqis — above all, their "freedom" to elect whatever regime they wished, no matter how anti-American. Further sacrificing Americans to Iraqis, Bush and his subordinates imposed crippling "rules of engagement" (also supported by liberals) that place the lives of civilians in enemy territory above our soldiers. Our hamstrung troops in Iraq have not been allowed to smash a militarily puny insurgency; instead, they have been forced to suffer an endless series of deaths by an undefeated enemy, while Islamic totalitarians worldwide rejoice in our defeat.

One does not support our troops by sending them to fight wars of self-sacrifice and then thanking their corpses. The conservatives' call to "stay the course" in Iraq — or to add 20,000 troops to that course — is harmful to America and its troops because

the mission has been conceived and conducted in defiance of American interests.

If the conservatives do not support our troops, then do the liberals? Absolutely not.

Observe that while liberals criticize the Iraq war for killing our troops, they propose no alternative policy that would protect America against Islamic totalitarianism and its state supporters, including the militant, terrorist theocracy of Iran.

Liberals' only policy proposal is that we not take military action in Iraq or in any other country beyond Afghanistan. Why? Because they believe that America has no right to defy the "international community" or "impose its will on the rest of the world" — i.e., to aggressively pursue its self-defense.

They, like the conservatives, advocate self-sacrifice in foreign policy. Denying our right to an all-out military defense, liberals say we must engage committed enemies like Iran with endless "diplomacy," i.e., bribery, appeasement and inaction.

One does not support our troops by keeping them home when their and our freedom requires military action. Our soldiers did not join the military to sit on their hands while Iran prepares for nuclear jihad.

If liberals were truly concerned with our troops in Iraq and the freedom our soldiers should be fighting for, they would call for our soldiers to smash the insurgency and move on to defeat our other enemies. Instead, they call for a self-effacing retreat from Iraq, followed by further kowtowing to the anti-Americans at the United Nations — actions that would greatly embolden the Islamic totalitarians.

Liberals oppose the Iraq war and other wars, not because they truly value our soldiers, but because they — like the conservatives — oppose our soldiers mounting an uncompromising, self-assertive defense of America.

But such a defense is required to defeat the threat of Islamic totalitarianism. We must adopt a foreign policy of self-interest and commit to defend ourselves using our full, unmatched military might.

Do not let the conservatives or liberals pose as defenders of America or its military. Demand that they start truly protecting America and its soldiers — or be scorned as traitors to both.

ALEX EPSTEIN is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.



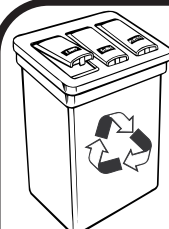
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The Q-Line

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Sharing our parks with L.A. dogs

The new Airport Park recently opened amid considerable fanfare, but there seems to be one thing ruining the afterglow. The dog park portion of the facility is open to just Santa Monica's canines, angering some nearby L.A. residents.

This week's Q-Line question asks:

Should the dog park be open to all or just to local residents?

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



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Dear Dorie

Dorie Meek

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tips for mommy on her very special day

Dear Readers,

Mother's day is just around the corner and every year I receive dozens of comments and/or letters regarding this holiday from Moms with young children. Many of you acknowledge good intentions but disappointing events – the beautiful hotel brunch interrupted by a toddler temper tantrum that was so loud you ended up sitting in the ladies lounge for 45 minutes, or the family camping trip planned for you, your spouse, your older children... and the infant that fed every two hours in the tent. Some of you admit that you really just wanted some time off and you ended up cleaning the kitchen war zone after the breakfast in bed, and finally, most of you ended up feeling a little sad or angry that you didn't even get to take a nap.

After ten years in early childhood development, I gently encourage you to ask yourself a few questions before repeating this Sunday's train wreck. 1) When you need to re-charge your emotional batteries, do you need to be alone or with people? 2) How much control do you need over this day (aka do you really want to be surprised or do you want to plan it yourself)? 3) What triggers should your partner do anything and everything to avoid?

So, if you answer these questions honestly and, most importantly, communicate the answers to your partner, you're on your way to a wonderful celebration of the most important role in your life. Have a happy Mother's Day!

Dorie

Mothers grow flowers and love

BY DEAN FOSDICK

Associated Press Writer

Two very special women who enriched Terri Pellitteri's life are gone now, but she's looking forward to sharing time with them again while she works in her garden on Mother's Day.

"I do a little gardening and spend some spiritual time with them (late mother and mother-in-law)," said Pellitteri, an occupational therapist at a Madison, Wis. "I ask for their guidance on a variety of things, often things that extend beyond the horticultural. But I really connect with them through the garden."

Her father was an avid gardener but mostly from the need to feed a large family. He used equipment to get things done, taking something of a distant approach, she said. By contrast, her mother seemed to enjoy getting her hands dirty.

"My sense was that my mother would have gardened even if we did not need the produce for survival. While she attended to many different kinds of fruits and vegetables, she brought flowers into the garden, something that was there simply for beauty. Having her hands in the dirt seemed important to the process.

"She understood the therapeutic use of gardening."

Pellitteri is not alone in cherishing a connection with gardens that she credits to her mother's influence.

Statistics are lacking, but it's generally conceded most people are taught how to garden by their mothers, said Charlie Nardozzi, senior horticulturist with the National Gardening Association in South Burlington, Vt.

"I don't have any research to confirm that, but I'd guess if you asked most gardeners, it was the female in the family who passed down the knowledge."

This may explain why so many families on Mother's Day enjoy strolling together to gaze at emerging flowerbeds or inhaling the fragrance of early blooming lilacs.

Aside from the immediate sensual gratification, plants are welcome Mother's Day gifts. You can ensure valued multigenerational memories by planting a family tree or holiday ornamental, Nardozzi said.

"...I've given my mother miniature roses, daylilies, Liliun lilies and small shrubs for Mother's Day. What's really nice is that you then can spend some time planting it with your Mom, too.

Remember to pack the right stuff in diaper bag

BY MELISSA RAYWORTH

Associated Press Writer

It's called a "diaper bag," but maybe it should be known as the "worry bag."

After all, moms and dads fill these ever-expanding totes with just about every remedy known to baby. Who wants to be caught unprepared during a diaper-related disaster or sudden temper tantrum?

And that goes double on a "relaxing" summer vacation or outing.

"Because we're so on-the-go, our diaper bags function as a portable changing table, portable food court and entertainment center," says Sandra Gordon, who recently reviewed a slew of new baby products as co-author of Consumer Reports' recent "Best Baby Products" book.

But over-packing, especially in summer heat, can turn a day with baby into an unplanned workout.

"Kids are like golf," says Scott Adler, managing editor of babycenter.com. "If there's something new that tells you it will improve your game, you'll probably buy it." That doesn't mean you have to tote it everywhere, however.

"The key to packing a smart diaper bag is stick to the basics," he says. "You don't want to overload. Schlepping a kid is enough."

To pack light but still keep your bases covered, look for products that are compact and do double or triple duty. Here's a run-down of some worth considering and their approximate prices:

KEEPING CLEAN

The Sunshine Kids Change 'N' Go Bag (\$12.99) is a large cushioned changing pad with zippered mesh pockets to hold wipes, creams and diapers. It fits inside a standard diaper bag, but also serves as a self-contained bag for short outings.

Mustela's Facial Cleansing Cloths come in small pop-up packages. Softly scented, they're sturdy enough for the diaper area, but gentle enough for baby's face and mom's. Use sparingly: At \$6.50 for 25, they're pricier than standard baby wipes.

Munchkin's Diaper Duck (\$4.99) holds a refillable supply of plastic bags tightly wound inside. The bags are good for disposal of used diapers, while the duck is (hopefully) good for amusing baby during the change.

For after-change cleanup (or quick wash-ups anytime), Purell hand sanitizer now comes in fragrances (Ocean Mist and Spring

Bloom) that mask its chemical smell, making kids less likely to balk at using it (\$1.79 for 2 oz.).

Consider adding Kalencom's On the Go Potty to your travel lineup as your child grows. This folding frame seat with disposable liners fits in a large diaper bag, though you may prefer to stow it in a car or stroller (\$9.99).

BECAUSE WE'RE SO ON-THE-GO, OUR DIAPER BAGS FUNCTION AS A PORTABLE CHANGING TABLE, PORTABLE FOOD COURT AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER."

Sandra Gordon

co-author of Consumer Reports' recent "Best Baby Products" book

DINING OUT

Gordon recommends a cooler bag from Playtex called Fridge-to-Go (\$16.99 for the double-sized tote): "You can pack it and put the whole bag in the freezer, instead of just having ice packs," she says. It's useful for chilling (and storing) teething toys or pacifiers, as well as bottles, food and drinks.

For mess-free eating, include a few Pampers Pocket Bibsters (disposable, absorbent bibs with leak-proof liners, \$3.99 for 16) and a Write-On Wrap-Around Placemat new this year from Classy Kid's "Green and Clean" line (\$9.99 for 20 waterproof mats made from environmentally friendly chalk). Each pack of placemats comes with four "CrayAngles" (angular crayons that won't roll off a table) to keep kids busy.

SUN, FUN AND SAFETY

For children older than six months, Gordon suggests Banana Boat's Baby Sunblock Tear-Free Spray Lotion, SPF 50 (\$9.99 for 8 oz.). It works for the whole family and stands in for hand lotion.

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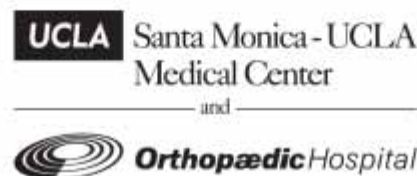
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Judge decides Golay isn't going anywhere

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LA Any hopes Helen Golay had of having her murder case thrown out of court have been dashed, at least for now.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Curtis Rappe denied a motion to dismiss the case against the former Santa Monica landlord last Friday at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

The 76-year-old Golay is charged with capital murder along with her alleged accomplice — 74-year-old Olga Rutterschmidt, of Hollywood. The women allegedly cashed in on millions of dollars worth of life insurance payouts after befriending two homeless men, whom they later killed.

Golay's defense attorney, Roger Jon Diamond, filed the motion on April 3 on the grounds that his client was denied sufficient rest during the preliminary hearings held in March.

He alleges that Golay was denied her right to due process as outlined under the United States and California constitutions, and her right to a fair preliminary hearing under the California Penal Code.

Diamond plans to file a petition to the Court of Appeal within the week. If the Court of Appeal doesn't hear the case, Diamond said he will file a petition to the state Supreme Court.

"I've been practicing for 40 years and nothing surprises me," Diamond said on Monday of the judge's decision. "I'm always prepared to go to the next level."

The hearing on Friday was one of the few times Diamond had stood before a judge in this case without Golay at his side. Judge David Wesley had waived Golay from appearing at the hearing earlier last week.

The waiver might have caused some confusion that forced the judge to reschedule a hearing for a separate motion to dismiss for Rutterschmidt, whose attorney, Public Defender Michael Sklar, filed a motion to dismiss based on insufficient evidence a few weeks ago.

Rutterschmidt was not called out of her prison cell in Lynwood for the hearing on Friday, possibly due to confusion created by

Diamond's request to waive his client's presence, Sklar said on Monday. The hearing has been rescheduled for May 18 — exactly one year to the date when Golay and Rutterschmidt were arrested on federal mail fraud charges.

The current sequence of events in the Golay case reminds Diamond of another case he handled two years ago.

In a felony case out of San Bernardino, Diamond said he had filed a pretrial motion to dismiss that was denied by the magistrate. He subsequently filed a 995 motion, which was also denied, and petitioned to the Court of Appeal, which decided not to hear the case.

The Supreme Court eventually ordered the Court of Appeal to hear the case and it ruled 2-1 to dismiss the case. The District Attorney appealed to the State Supreme Court, which upheld the Appellate Court's ruling, 4-3.

I'VE BEEN PRACTICING FOR 40 YEARS AND NOTHING SURPRISES ME."

Roger Jon Diamond
Defense attorney for Helen Golay

"I just went through a process that kept getting conflicting rulings from judges on the same issue," Diamond said.

Golay and Rutterschmidt are charged with the murders of Paul Vados and Kenneth McDavid, who were killed in separate, yet similar, hit-and-run incidents in 1999 and 2005, respectively.

Investigators believe the elderly duo befriended the two men when they were still homeless, setting them up in apartments and gaining their trust. The women then allegedly convinced Vados and McDavid to sign them onto their life insurance policies before they were killed.

All parties are expected to meet back in court on May 23 for a pre-trial hearing.

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Santa Monica

Pier continues to jam through May 20

The Sunday Concert Series, a fun, free event for the community for more than a decade, enters the second half of the spring season featuring a lineup of local favorites in jazz, rock and blues. All concerts run from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and are held, weather permitting, on the pier parking deck in the Central Plaza through May 20.

May 13 — Tom Nolan

May 20 — Westside Crew

For more information, call (310) 458-8901 or visit www.santamonicipier.org

DAILY PRESS

Los Angeles

Legislation nails parents who don't pay child support

Seeking to crack down on hundreds of LA County's most heinous child support payment evaders, Supervisor Don Knabe has introduced a motion to create a partnership between the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department (CSSD) and the Office of the District Attorney.

The primary goal of this program would be to increase enforcement against uncooperative parents who are the most delinquent in their child support payments.

"Far too many families are struggling to pay their bills because this specific group of parents are choosing to evade or ignore their responsibilities," said Knabe. "Our goal here is to create a program that tracks down these uncooperative parents and forces them to pay their child support obligations."

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South of Wilshire	=	\$ 924,889	\$ 657,526
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,417,645	\$ 606,993
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,689,500	\$ 970,793

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Kick and push after dusk

BY IRENE MANAHAN
Special to the Daily Press

MID-CITY The grinding and shredding continues even after the sun sets at the Cove Skatepark, which staged a celebration over the weekend to mark the installation of lights.

For many skaters, the illumination was a long time coming. The Cove, located on Olympic Boulevard at 14th Street, was often criticized by skaters following its much ballyhooed 2005 opening. Taking safety into consideration, the park would regularly close around dusk. Depending on the season, the park's gates could have been locked as early as 5 p.m. Since the lights were switched on, the Cove has routinely hosted a flurry of activity until 10 p.m.

On Saturday, a ceremony marked the park's official late night hours, but the first night sessions really kicked off on Friday, April 13, according to Rick Boisdeau, park staff.

"Everyone was really happy about the lights. We've all been waiting," Boisdeau said.

Skaters at the park all seem to agree the lights are a great thing.

"It's about time," said professional skateboarder Eric Tuma, 34. "The installation of these lights was long overdue."

A cake, games, raffles and skating were all part of the weekend celebration.

"The ceremony was pretty fun," said 14-year-old skater

Jason Landau, who took home a new skateboard from winning the raffle. "This gives me something to do at night, and now I can skate without little kids being here."

The new lights and hours also allow skaters to make better use of their time.

"It's become especially convenient for older skaters who come after work. Instead of rushing to get to the park before it closes, they can come at their leisure," said Boisdeau.



IT'S ABOUT TIME. THE INSTALLATION OF THESE LIGHTS WAS LONG OVERDUE."

Eric Tuma, Professional skateboarder

Tuma, who is sponsored by Santa Monica Airlines and DVS Shoe Co., agrees that the late hours best suit working adults.

"It's convenient for people who work during the day," said Tuma, who skates at a park at least a few days a week. "Probably half of the members here are adults, so since the park opened, we've needed these lights to do our thing."

The two-year wait was due primarily to locating the finances. The lights were paid for by the city, and once the budget allowed for their installation, the city planted them

within months.

"I heard that private investors wanted to install lights before the park even opened," said Tuma, who suspects the city was trying to see if the park was worth the money before they invested in the lights.

But over the years, the park has far exceeded expectations, especially in terms of its high enrollment and popularity among Santa Monica skaters.

news@smdp.com



V FOR VICTORY

Alexandra Blacker, 19, (front) holds a Pilates pose during the annual St. Jude's fundraiser 'Pilates Day in the Park' on May 5, 2007. The event was hosted by Power Pilates. Money raised during the event went to benefit the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS IS CURRENTLY **LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS AND INTERNS** TO HELP US AUGMENT OUR **ENTERTAINMENT COVERAGE**. EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD IS GREAT, BUT WE'LL TALK TO ANYONE WITH **A FRESH VOICE AND A WILLINGNESS TO WRITE ORIGINAL AND, AHM, ENTERTAINING COPY**. GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

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Group for writers gives some much needed inspiration

FROM PROSE PAGE 3

read."Members got a kick out of Shapiro's short story about "Viagra Falls," which ultimately became Niagara Falls when a group of women blew up the tainted waters because they could no longer take their men's insatiable sexual appetites.

"You really don't know what people are going to come up with from one week to the next," said Sandra Smith, a retired nurse who is currently working on a non-fiction piece for the New York Times and has hopes of writing her own column. "You get so many ideas from other people's writing and suggestions."

For three hours, the group sits in a back room of the library and performs various writing exercises. Following each one, members are encouraged to read their work — ranging from light to very dark — aloud for others to critique. One person's story can lead to discussions about pacing, or appropriateness, character development versus story development, and the importance of being descriptive — showing the reader instead of merely telling them.

"The criticism is very important," said Dan Anzel, a freelance writer who has been published in the Los Angeles Times. "I started a short story and within the first two pages, I had five comments that really helped. It's excellent and has really improved my stories."

Stories presented Tuesday ranged from a tale about a land made of diamonds and platinum to a bank robbery gone bad in Dallas to an obnoxious boyfriend who tries to pressure his girlfriend into having an abortion.

Most of those who participate in the group are retired or disabled and are, therefore, able to commit three hours each week to the cause, while others float in and out. There have been writers from China, Ireland, Australia and Africa.

"Perhaps a lot of people who walk through here have their hands in different baskets," said Mary Phillips. "I'm retired, so I have the time, but really, it's about one's dedication."

After sharing some of their work, members threw out five words to include in this week's writing prompt. They included "moonlight," "flexible," "dancing," "radical" and "lizard."

The writing group is free and open to the public. Those looking to test their creative skills can find out more by contacting the Fairview Library at (310) 450-0443.

kevinh@smdp.com

Working together to quell traffic woes

(Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.)

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Looking to ease traffic congestion downtown, the City Council is expected to spend more than \$4 million tonight on a synchronization system that will eventually link all 170 traffic signals citywide.

Scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2008, Phase 2 of the Advanced Traffic Management System will include modifications and upgrades to 11 traffic signals throughout downtown and five outside of the district, including required mitigation measures for the Public Safety Facility, the Civic Center Parking Structure and the Main Library.

Lincoln Boulevard from downtown to the southern city limit would also be included. Phase 1, which was completed in June 2006, focused on Fourth Street in downtown, according to a city staff report.

Phase 3 will cover three major arterials — Wilshire, Santa Monica and Pico boulevards. Design of Phase 3 will be initiated next year and construction is anticipated to commence during the 2008-09 fiscal year.

Phase 4 will target the Office District, Mid-City, Ocean Park Boulevard and Main Street/Neilson Way. If finances permit, construction would begin in 2009.

The final phase will cover the outlying areas such as San Vicente Boulevard and streets to the north.

A fiber optic cable located underground

will be the primary conduit for communication between the signals and a traffic management center.

Future phases will include some wireless communication where possible. While most of the signals will need only minor modifications, 26 will require major upgrades to be brought into the system.

To pay for some of the upgrades, the City Hall will receive a \$4.7 million grant from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. That money will go towards improvements on current or future Rapid bus corridors.

TANKS A LOT

Also on the council's consent agenda is a request by city staff to modify an existing contract to provide additional improvements to underground storage tanks at various city-owned or operated facilities, including various fire stations.

The modification is not to exceed \$8,872, according to a city staff report.

City Hall owns and operates 17 underground tanks at eight locations within the city. Since the contract with Fleming Environmental, Inc., was executed on Sept. 11, 2006, the Environmental Programs Division and the contractor identified enhancements to the monitoring equipment proposed for Fire Stations No. 1, No. 2 and No. 5.

"These improvements, while not mandated, will provide better fueling and avoid potential repair and or replacement in the future," the report states.

kevinh@smdp.com

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Downtown

You can say that again

In her new exhibit, "Unaffected Language – A Conversation Between the Artist and the Materials," artist m. Rheuban presents her latest works as two series to effectively demonstrate that she is not committed to a single style. Although they are stylistically diverse, the two speak a common language.

The larger pieces in the "Unaffected" series are works on paper. Each is a history of surfaces with a surprisingly sensuous tactile quality. The application of the media to create each layer is a demanding process. It requires that each layer be treated as a finished piece before the next layer is begun. The work includes various types of materials including paint, thread, ribbon, plastic, tape and graphite to name a few.

"Unaffected Language" runs through June 10 at the ArtHouse Gallery, 416 Broadway. Gallery hours are Wednesdays through Sundays, from noon – 6 p.m.

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Leaving donations at city parks disputed

FROM FOOD PAGE 1

misdemeanor. Signs would be posted to notify the public of the law.

The move seems to be an extension of an ordinance passed in 2002 requiring groups to get permits before holding public feedings. The controversial ordinance, which has been embraced by local businesses and drawn fire from charities, was passed by the council in response to the large groups of people that regularly receive free food from charity groups at Palisades Park and in front of City Hall. It requires organizers to obtain permits from the Los Angeles County Health Department and City Hall for gatherings of more than 150 people, and gives police the ability to break up and cite distributors if they lack the proper permits.

Homeless rights activists say the law steps on the constitutional rights of charities and other organizations by giving City Hall unilateral power to block feedings in public parks. Santa Monica/Venice Food Not Bombs, a non-profit organization, challenged the ordinance in a federal court. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in August of last year that the law is constitutional.

Peggy Lee Kennedy, a volunteer with Food Not Bombs, said the latest ordinance is “penalizing people who want to help.”

“I find that a little bit shocking,” Kennedy said. “It just seems like such a waste of energy, which could be better spent on solutions to homelessness. We should be working with



File photo

NO MORE: Homeless people will no longer be left food and other donations at city parks if a law being considered is approved. The city currently hands out this flyer (right) to possible donors.

these people [who drop off food], not penalize them.”

Moira LaMountain, co-founder of HOPE (Helping Other People Eat), a non-profit that distributes food every Wednesday and Thursday at a facility on Colorado Avenue, takes both sides of the issue into consideration and believes City Hall is doing what is necessary to ensure public safety.

“Personally, I wouldn’t be comfortable

using food left on the side of the road,” LaMountain said. “I don’t feel that it should be a crime. I guess one would just expect common sense.”

HOPE, along with Hand to Hand, recently moved their public feedings indoors after City Hall agreed to provide a space next to the OPCC Access Center.

John Maceri, executive director of OPCC, said it is always difficult to regulate dona-



Photo courtesy of City of Santa Monica
tions and in doing so, not discourage people from giving.

But he understands the need. He too finds donated food sitting on the doorstep of the Access Center and he has to throw it away.

“The intent is good, but this is a situation where unintended consequences can have a very negative effect,” Maceri said.

Instead of dropping food off, people should contact agencies like OPCC, the Westside Food Bank or local churches where there are refrigerators to store the food properly.

“Nobody wants to waste food,” Maceri said, “but leaving it in a public place just isn’t the best way to go about it.”

kevinh@smdp.com

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

San Vicente apartment owners plan mass evictions

FROM BOOT PAGE 3

nation, said city Senior Planner Elizabeth Bar-El.

If the City Council upholds the appeal, it could derail the dreams of the non profit to build 38 to 40 units, including a temple for worship and a possible day care center for the refugees. Or Khaim Hashalom purchased the property in April 2006, believing

the building was just large enough to accommodate housing and a synagogue.

“It was a beautiful location, which we thought was helpful for people to come here and live,” Perry said on Monday.

TENANTS DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN

It’s been a tough year for Freeman, who moved into the complex in August of last year after she was “Ellised” out of another

apartment just a few blocks away on Ocean Avenue. Her former apartment building has been vacant since.

In searching for her new apartment, Freeman said she was wary of any future Ellis evictions. It was one of the reasons why she chose the San Vicente apartment after being reassured by the owner that the building would stay for at least two years, but most likely five.

Eight months later, an eviction notice was left at her door.

“I can’t believe I’m in this position again,” Freeman said as she stood in her apartment on Monday; an apartment still filled with unpacked boxes from Freeman’s move.

Just a few doors down, Susan La Bassiere has called her apartment home for more than two years. Calling the eviction notices “immoral,” La Bassiere is one of the residents who question whether Or Khaim Hashalom is a legitimate non-profit organization, calling its representative rabbi a “renter rabbi.”

Since the new owners came to town, the tenants have been upset at the level of service, with claims of stoves not working, rude customer service and rent checks being lost.

The people who live here say Or Khaim Hashalom’s plans will not only destroy the building, but it will destroy a tight-knit community filled with residents who have lived here for decades. One of the tenants has lived in the Teriton Apartments since she was a young child.

Across from where Freeman lives, a young child comes to water Freeman’s plants on occasion. Another neighbor’s child, who lives upstairs, used to greet Freeman’s old Chow mixed breed dog, which used to spend its days resting on the stairs outside. When the dog died a few months ago, the child would call out to his old friend on his way up to the apartment, wondering why the dog

had vanished.

A retired journalist, Kit Snedaker has lived around the world, including Japan. The Teriton Apartments is the only place that’s ever felt like home.

At 86, Snedaker, who has lived in the Teriton Apartments since the late 1970s, will actually have up to a year to find a new place to live. The Ellis eviction notice gives tenants with disabilities and senior citizens an entire year to relocate.

“We sent a letter to those people indicating we’re more than happy to help them relocate,” Perry said. “We will call other housing providers in the city and see if we can get them comfortably relocated to an area where they’ll be happy to live and also can afford.”

The apartment complex has been the perfect place to live for Snedaker. The clean air has helped keep her breathing problems under control and looking out her garden facing window and seeing the neighbors, Snedaker always feels comfort and security.

With the final City Council decision still up in the air, the residents are already considering searching for another apartment. La Bassiere hopes to stay in Santa Monica while Snedaker, who is living on Social Security checks, is still assessing her options, which could include senior housing.

Getting booted out twice in less than a year, Freeman isn’t so sure she wants to stay in Santa Monica, where it will be difficult to find an affordable apartment that will allow her to keep her new dog.

“I don’t want to be kicked out again,” she said.

melodyh@smdp.com

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ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Take charge and handle a matter directly. Use your innate abilities and skills. Zero in and listen to your sixth sense. Understand what you are asking from someone else, as well as yourself. Tonight: Don't push too hard, but enjoy every moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Take a stand rather than have a situation tumble even more out of control. Someone close could be difficult. Rethink a relationship with this person. For your own good, don't have the expectation that others will change. Tonight: Make it OK to work late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Togetherness earmarks a theme that you might want to consider. Sometimes you are so much in the whirlwind of living that you can barely stop and take time for the many people in your life. Unexpected developments might trip you up. Tonight: Talk to a trusted pal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Others want to run the show. Look at it this way: You have one less responsibility to shoulder. Unexpected developments might encourage you to veer in a totally different direction. Realize when you must stop. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Easy does it. Know when you have had enough or need to go in another direction. Emphasize your responsibilities, but don't allow yourself to be overwhelmed. Understanding encourages new choices and possibly a revised attitude. Tonight: Visit with those you see every day but might take for granted.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You are lively and full of fun. Realize when you need to say "enough." Sometimes pressure forces people to be reactive. Could that be what you are seeing right now? Head in a new direction. Make positive choices. Tonight: Let the kid in you romp.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision. Your security and well-being might be more involved than you are aware of. You might want to try another approach with a volatile associate. How you feel might change. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your creativity soars, and you wonder what to do and when. Laugh and relax in the company of someone who is amusing and charming. In this mode, creativity bubbles forth. You have answers. Brainstorm. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to try something very different. You want to break patterns while others want to maintain the status quo. Perhaps the twain shall never meet. Listen to what someone shares. Think positively. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Investigate possibilities rather than make events occur – you know the difference. You know what needs to happen financially. Remain more in control. Your financial wisdom comes into play. Tonight: Buy that special item!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Make it OK to be slow or sluggish. You will unfurl your high energy and spirit. Build security, and honor a need for more of it in your life. Discuss an investment at length. Dig in with experts before even thinking about giving the green light. Tonight: Be the force that triggers events.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Use the morning for key matters. Use the afternoon for mulling over some facts or quiet work. You will flourish in a private, quiet setting. If you can take a long walk, it will recharge your batteries. Tonight: Play it close to the vest.

Born Today
Actor, singer Ricky Nelson (1940)
Singer Toni Tennille (1943),
Author Peter Benchley (1940)



Happy Birthday!
How you approach various situations might be of unusual interest to others. This year, you set a precedent with your perspective and novel approach. Friends prove to be unpredictable, and surprises seem to be woven into events. For a sign that likes the tried-and-true, you will learn to flex. Your public image and professional and personal statuses skyrocket. If you are single, you will meet people with ease. Opt for the different, more exciting person than your normal type, which hasn't worked. If you are attached, learning not to trigger will make a big difference. Remember how much you care!

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Extremely sorry Pennington busted for drunk driving

TY PENNINGTON, host of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," apologized to his fans and co-workers Monday after he was arrested for investigation of drunken driving.

"I made an error in judgment," Pennington said in a statement released

through his publicist, Stan Rosenfield.

"We all make mistakes, however this is about accountability. Under no circumstances should anyone consume alcohol while driving. I could have jeopardized the lives of others and I am grateful there was

no accident or harm done to anyone," the reality TV host said.

Pennington was arrested on a misdemeanor charge shortly after 12:30 a.m. Saturday by the Police Department's West Traffic Division, according to inmate information posted

on the county Sheriff's Department Web site.

Pennington was released two hours later after posting \$5,000 bail and was due back in court June 4, according to the Web site.

"This was my wake-up call," Pennington said. "I

also want to apologize to my fans, ABC Television and my design team for my lapse in judgment and the embarrassment I have caused."

Police officials said Monday they had no further information.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

L.A. judge suspends Hasselhoff's child visitation rights after video

A judge on Monday suspended **DAVID HASSELHOFF'S** visitation rights with his two teenage daughters after last week's surfacing of a videotape showing the recovering alcoholic apparently intoxicated in his Las Vegas home.

"This videotape changes the landscape, it just does," Superior Court Judge Mark Juhas said.

The judge set a May 21 hearing to determine if the tape is authentic and who was responsible for its release. His visitation order will remain in effect until then.

Hasselhoff, 54, did not attend the hearing, but his former wife Pamela Bach

was there.

Portions of the video were aired last week on syndicated entertainment shows. The video shows Hasselhoff, wearing only blue jeans, lying on a floor and clumsily eating a hamburger while one of his daughters videotapes him and reproves him about his drinking.

Hasselhoff said in a statement last week that he's a recovering alcoholic and the tape was made to show him what he can be like under the influence of alcohol.

"I have learned from it and I am back on my

game," he said then.

A message left Monday for Hasselhoff's attorney, Melvin Goldsman, was not immediately returned.

Attorney Debra Opri, who represents Bach, said her client was upset about the release of the tape and stunned by her former husband's behavior in front of their daughter.

"She's devastated the videotape was put out in the press," Opri said. "When a mother hears this from her daughter, what does she think? 'I haven't protected my daughters.'"

The syndicated entertainment shows said the

tape was made about three months ago by Hasselhoff's 16-year-old daughter, Taylor-Ann, in his home in Las Vegas, where the former "Baywatch" star had been appearing in a stage version of "The Producers."

On the tape, a girl's voice is heard saying: "Dad, you need to promise me you're not gonna get alcohol tonight, OK?"

In addition to Taylor-Ann, they have a 14-year-old daughter.

The couple share joint custody of the girls, Opri said.

AP

HEADING WEST

DAVID BECKHAM AND HIS WIFE, VICTORIA, are moving to Beverly Hills this summer.

Beckham, 32, and his 33-year-old wife – the former Posh Spice of the Spice Girls – have purchased a home in Beverly Hills, Beckham spokesman Jeff Raymond confirmed Monday. They plan to move in July.

"I can only confirm they bought a home there," Raymond said.

Raymond wouldn't give any details about the house or confirm a Los Angeles Times report that the couple paid \$22 million for a 13,000-square-foot house.

AP

Mirren turns down invitation to visit UK's Buckingham Palace

The queen won't be meeting "The Queen" just yet.

HELEN MIRREN, who won an Academy Award earlier this year for playing Queen Elizabeth II, has turned down an invitation to dinner at Buckingham Palace, a British newspaper reported.

The Mail on Sunday said Mirren had been invited to dine with the queen last week, but sent her regrets because she is filming "National Treasure: Book of Secrets" in the United States.

"The palace very kindly extended an invitation to dinner last Tuesday, May 1," Mirren said in a statement

quoted by the newspaper.

"But, unfortunately, I was filming in South Dakota and unable to change my schedule. I am very sad not to have been able to attend."

Representatives of Mirren and the queen could not immediately be reached for comment Monday.

Mirren won the best actress prize at February's Oscars for her performance in "The Queen," set in the aftermath of the 1997 death of Princess Diana.

The 61-year-old actress saluted the queen in her acceptance speech for maintaining "her dignity,

her sense of duty and her hairstyle" for more than 50 years.

"She's had her feet planted firmly on the ground, her hat on her head, her handbag on her arm and she's weathered many, many storms. ... If it wasn't for her, I most certainly wouldn't be here. Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the queen," Mirren said, holding her Oscar aloft.

Buckingham Palace said after the awards that it was "looking at a number of options" for a visit by Mirren, director Stephen Frears and writer Peter Morgan.

AP

HE'S NO MOMMA'S BOY

USHER'S mother has been his manager since he was a teen, but now the superstar says he wants her to be just "mom."

The Grammy winner confirmed Monday that Jonnetta Patton is no longer in charge of his career, but denied the break was due to any rift.

"She and I are on great terms and support each other in our life's endeavors.

"We are both very happy but are now working in different areas of the business," he said in a statement to The Associated Press.

"This is great for me because it means I now get to have my mother strictly as my mother with no added pressure."

Usher said he believed that by ending his professional relationship with his mother, it would bring them closer.

"At this time in my life, I am simply more interested in building the strength of my family. And in order to do that, I feel it's best to separate my business life from my personal life," he said.

This is the second major change this year for Usher, 28. In March, he announced his engagement to his long-time girlfriend, stylist Tameka Foster.

"She has no aspirations of becoming my manager or any other artist's manager."

AP

MOVIEGUIDE

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AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
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The Condemned (R)
5:00, 10:05
The Hoax (R)
1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55
In the Land of Women (PG-13)
2:30, 7:45
Spider-Man 3 (PG-13)
1:00, 4:05, 7:15, 10:20
Year of the Dog (PG-13)
2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Blades of Glory (Pg-13)
12:25, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:15
Disturbia (PG-13)
1:15, 4:05, 7:05, 9:45
The Invisible (PG-13)
12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:30
Next (PG-13)
12:30, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20
Spider-Man 3 (PG-13)
1:30, 2:05, 2:50, 4:50, 6:10, 8:10, 9:25

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Black Book (Zwartboek) (R)
1:00, 4:30, 8:00
Hot Fuzz (R)
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

LAEMMIE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Away From Her (R)
1:25, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
Jindabyne (R)
12:45, 3:45, 7:10, 9:55
The Lives of Others (Das Leben der Anderen) (R)
1:10, 4:20, 8:00
Waitress (PG-13)
1:10, 4:20, 8:00

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Civic Duty (R)
11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10
Fracture (R)
11:10a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20
Lucky You (R)
1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00
Meet the Robinsons in Disney Digital (G)
11:00a.m., 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30
The Namesake (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
Shooter (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

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Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

THE BIGGEST DEBATES IN SPORTS TODAY
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BASEBALL WHO'S HITTING MORE HOMERS THIS YEAR? ALEX RODRIGUEZ OR ALBERT PUJOLS?
GOLF WHO'S A BETTER SCRAMBLER? TIGER WOODS OR PHIL MICKELSON?
FOOTBALL SHOULD TOM BRADY GO BACK TO BRIDGET MOYNAHAN OR STICK WITH GISELLE?

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

AFTER READING "THE SECRET," I VISUALIZED MYSELF HAVING A BOYFRIEND, AND THERE HE WAS, GORGEOUS TAD.
YOU SHOULD TRY IT INSTEAD OF CONSTANTLY COMPLAINING ABOUT BEING ALONE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
VISUALIZING YOU DISAPPEARING.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

RAIN.
AT LEAST THE FLOWERS ARE LOVING IT.
RAIN.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

HI, LIZ! READY TO GO?
JON! UM....
LIKE THE SUIT? YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE LOOKS I'VE BEEN GETTING!
I... AH...
JUST LIKE THAT ONE!

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

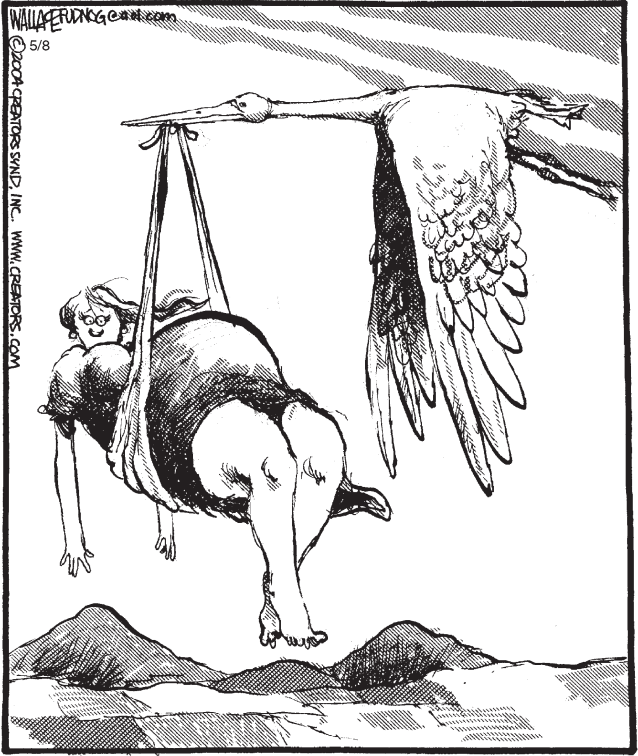
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MYSTERY PHOTO

Fabian Lewkowicz fabian@smdp.com

Harriet Mandell is the winner of the most recent Mystery Photo contest, being the first to identify that this shot was captured at the Chabad Jewish Community Center on Washington Boulevard. Mandell has won a prize from the Daily Press.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 T-shirt choice
- 6 Like a judge
- 11 Notions
- 12 Game setting
- 13 In the first place
- 15 Capote-based play
- 16 St.'s kin
- 17 Adjective for the Beatles
- 18 Capitol worker
- 20 Before today
- 21 Fathers, e.g.
- 22 "Pinocchio" goldfish
- 23 Arborio and basmati
- 26 Increase
- 27 Neighbor of Turkey
- 28 City vehicle
- 29 Poker prize
- 30 Slow movers
- 34 Die roll
- 35 Hostel
- 36 Cut drastically
- 37 As an example
- 40 Thin mattress

DOWN

- 41 Stomach woe
- 42 Un-feeling
- 43 Banana parts
- 1 Elevates
- 2 Love to pieces
- 3 Summer show
- 4 Balloon fill
- 5 Fancy homes
- 6 Less common
- 7 Table scrap
- 8 Bison-cow hybrid
- 9 Angers

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

Yesterday's answer

- 10 1981 submarine movie
- 14 Stratford river
- 19 Church reply
- 22 Price
- 23 Swindles
- 24 Resolve
- 25 Satisfy
- 26 Reduced to ashes
- 28 Bakery buys
- 30 Like cheap speakers
- 31 Jousting need
- 32 Do well
- 33 Prophetic ones
- 38 Charged atom
- 39 Beer's kin

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

5-8

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MEGA MILLIONS
4 9 20 45 55
Meganumber: 34
Jackpot: \$96M

Super LOTTO
1 16 18 34 38
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: \$9M

Fantasy 5
6 19 22 28 38

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 1 3 8
EVENING: 4 3 0

DAILY DERRY
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 07 Eureka!
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:47.10

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The Scandia Family Fun Center, which operates a super thrill ride (168 feet high, spinning at 60 miles an hour, pulling 3.5 g's) called the Screamer, in Sacramento, Calif., decided in March that because of neighborhood residents' noise complaints, riders would be prohibited from screaming (and subject to ejection from the park).

■ The latest National Assessment of Educational Progress, released in February, revealed that 12th graders' reading ability is at an all-time low, yet their grades for English class are at an all-time high (averaging 2.82 on a 4.0 scale, up from 2.52 15 years ago). Also, Washington state legislators, faced with 10th graders' declining achievement test scores in math and science, are poised to just eliminate the tests altogether (while retaining those for reading and writing, which do not show declines), according to a March Seattle Times report. (Some math and science would still be tested, but only right after math and science classes, when memories are fresher and, presumably, scores would be higher.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1450 Jack Cade's Rebellion: Kentishmen revolt against King Henry VI.
- 1821 Greek War of Independence: The Greeks defeat the Turks in Gravia.
- 1861 American Civil War: Richmond, Virginia, is named the capital of the Confederate States of America.
- 1886 Pharmacist Dr. John Styth Pemberton invents a carbonated beverage that would later be named "Coca-Cola."
- 1898 The first games of the Italian Football League are played.
- 1914 Paramount Pictures is formed.
- 1933 Mohandas Gandhi begins a 21-day fast in protest of British oppression in India.
- 1945 Hundreds of Algerian civilians are killed by French Army soldiers in the Sétif massacre.
- 1972 Vietnam War - U.S. President Richard M. Nixon announces his order to place mines in major North Vietnamese ports in order to stem the flow of weapons and other goods to that nation.

WORD UP!

pastiche \pas-TEESH; pahs-\, *noun*: 1. A work of art that imitates the style of some previous work. 2. A musical, literary, or artistic composition consisting of selections from various works. 3. A hodge-podge; an incongruous combination of different styles and ingredients.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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

Santa Monica Daily Press

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APR 7.0%

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APR 7.24%

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APR 7.1%

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APR 7.24%

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APR 8%

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* As of February 21, 2007

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Notices

TS# 047-12471 Order # 30055706 Loan # 0016676827 Notice of Trustee's Sale YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/21/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor(s): Roger W Valentine an unmarried man Recorded: 05/28/2004 as Instrument No. 041378848 in book, page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California; Date of Sale: 5/15/2007 at 11:30 AM Place of Sale: At the front entrance to the Pomona Superior Courts Building, 350 West Mission Blvd., Pomona, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$767,363.62 The purported property address is: 605 Ocean Park Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90405 Legal Description As more fully described in said Deed of Trust Assessors Parcel No. 4287-005-039 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Date: 4/24/2007 LandAmerica Default Services Heidi Smith, Post Office Box 5899 6 Executive Circle Irvine, CA 92616 (949) 885-4500 Sale Line: 714-573-1965 Reinstatement Line: 949-885-4496 This office is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. P288030 4/24, 5/1, 05/08/2007

Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HERMAN G LOAIZA, JR

Case No. BP103739

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of HERMAN G LOAIZA, JR

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Sharon Gavin in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Sharon Gavin be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on June 6, 2007 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should ap-pear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a per-son interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and ap-praisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
STEPHEN M LOWE ESQ SBN 45534
JARED A BARRY ESQ SBN 221988
FREEMAN FREEMAN AND SMILEY LLP
3415 S SEPULVEDA BLVD
STE 1200
LOS ANGELES CA 90034
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN773005 LOAIZA May 1,2,8, 2007

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ELLIOTT KEITH ANDREWS

Case No. BP104180

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ELLIOTT KEITH ANDREWS

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Karen Green in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Karen Green be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on May 29, 2007 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located

Notices

at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should ap-pear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a per-son interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and ap-praisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
GRETA S CURTIS ESQ
SBN 175248

LAW OFFICES OF

GRETA S CURTIS

3701 WILSHIRE BLVD STE 1025

LOS ANGELES CA 90010

Santa Monica Daily Press

CN773149 ANDREWS May 1,2,8, 2007

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

PAUL FEJER

CASE NO. BP103463

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of PAUL FEJER.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by KARL J. POLLACK in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KARL J. POLLACK be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 05/30/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
ANDREW FRIEDMAN, ESQ.
124 N. LA BREA AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

Notices

5/8, 5/9, 5/15/07

CNS-1129652#

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Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



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Prem. Sound, Leather
(I6793A) \$21,991
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'05 Infiniti G35 Coupe
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White, V6 3.5L, Automatic, Air
Bags, Leather (I6896A)
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'02 Oldsmobile Alero GL
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Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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Blk/Tan, only 58k mi, (X0034916)
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'01 Maxima GLE \$15,900
Silver/Blk
(GS71119A)
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'02 Altima \$15,900
Wht/Gry, 50k Mi
(L16255A)
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Slvr/Gry, Go Green
(IS71209A)
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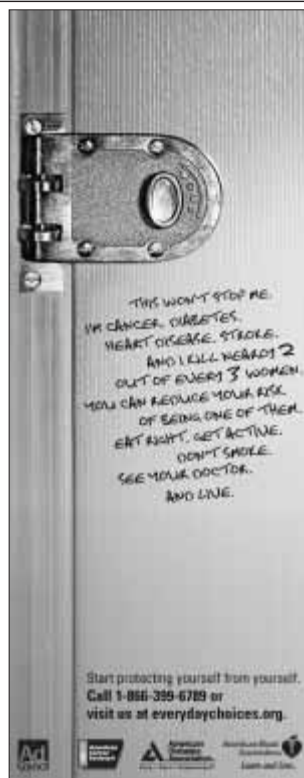
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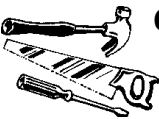
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