

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

**MEGA MILLIONS**
7 15 24 43 44
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$80M

**SUPER LOTTO**
5 6 42 44 45
Meganumber: 15
Jackpot: \$25M

**Fantasy 5**
5 11 12 27 31

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

**DAILY DERBY**
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1.44.87

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

**NEWS OF THE WEIRD**
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Because of unexpectedly large crowds visiting the new Hong Kong Disneyland in January, park officials limited admissions for the first eight days, provoking some mothers who had traveled from all over China to show their frustration by trying to climb in, after first tossing their children, including toddlers, over the fence.

■ Elizabeth Bragg, 23, was convicted in January in Huntington, Ind., when her 4-year-old stepdaughter suffered a car injury. According to the prosecutor, Bragg, intending to punish the girl for misbehaving, told her other kids to "hang on" but then unfastened the belt in the misbehaving girl's car seat, and slammed on the brakes several times, causing the girl to bang her head.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 131st day of 2006.
There are 234 days left in the year.

Twenty-five years ago, on May 11, 1981, legendary reggae artist Bob Marley died in a Miami hospital at age 36.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No idea is so antiquated that it was not once modern. No idea is so modern that it will not someday be antiquated."

ELLEN GLASGOW

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LOCAL

Woman attacked in city parking garage

By Daily Press staff

DOWNTOWN — Police are still looking for a man who attempted to kidnap and sexually assault a woman who was waiting for the elevator in a parking garage earlier this week.

On May 9, at approximately 10:55 p.m., a female by herself was accosted on level six of parking structure No. 5, located at 1440 Fourth St., near Broadway, police said. The woman was waiting in the area of the elevator when the suspect approached her from behind, placed his hand across her face and wrapped his other arm around her waist. As the suspect attempted to drag the woman toward an adjacent stairwell, she began resisting and screaming.

The suspect fled the scene on foot, police said.

The suspect is described as a

See ASSAULT, page 9

These spots reserved

City snatching up space to create more parking downtown

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Looking to solve the city's parking woes, the City Council earlier this week approved

an ambitious, 10-year program to significantly increase the number of parking spaces downtown.

If fully implemented, the Downtown Parking Program — estimated to cost \$93 million — would

increase the number of parking spaces by 1,712, the majority of which would come from the construction of two new parking structures in the vicinity of Fifth Street and the Civic Center, according to a city staff report.

The program, which will also include seismic retrofitting and upgrades to existing structures, will be completed in phases, with the council reserving the right to decrease the number of parking spaces created to fit the correlating need downtown. Before any phase of the program begins, city staff will be required to go before the council for approval, at which time the public will have opportunities to weigh in on the proposals.

The program is expected to be financed through revenue bonds

See PARKING, page 8



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II/Daily Press

TRADING SPACES: A car waits for admission to a full-to-capacity city parking lot.

Sit, Ubu, sit! Good dog!



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

'Johnny the Dog Watcher,' 69, pet-sits a pack of dogs while their owners shop at the Farmers' Market on Main Street over the weekend. No pets are allowed inside the market, where Johnny has been dog-sitting for more than a year.

Steeper costs signal delays in Bus project

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

COLORADO AVE. — The price tag for expanding the Big Blue Bus headquarters here has skyrocketed by \$60 million in the last two years, forcing city officials to delay building a new administrative building and underground parking, according to city officials.

The cost of the expansion originally was estimated to be \$80.4 million, with \$59.6 million of that covering construction costs. That was supposed to cover the creation of a new maintenance facility to handle longer buses, and administrative building with underground parking for employees at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Seventh Street, now home to the OPCC access center, a drop-in center for homeless people. The access center is set to be relocated to a site adjacent to the project.

See BIG BLUE, page 11

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HOROSCOPES

Could be late, Aquarius

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll Have:

★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average ★★★★★-So-so ★★★★★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Work as a team, listening to a child or someone who often serves as a muse. Ideas blossom when you both relax and give up being judgmental. Just don't get yourself into an extravagant situation. Tonight: Go for togetherness.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Listen to your instincts surrounding an emotional personal matter. Check out a piece of real estate. You have many ideas that others could find stimulating. Personal interactions are starred. Tonight: Easy does it.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Focus on what you need and want from your daily life. Too much scattered energy could cause way too many problems. Lighten up. You might find that the scenario doesn't happen like you anticipate. Tonight: Get some physical exercise.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by all that is going on around you. Realize when enough is enough. Romance blooms, and you have a new beginning because of your creativity and emotions. A new friendship could blossom. Tonight: Ever playful.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might need time to cool your jets, but as relaxed as you may get, someone seems to find you every time he or she needs help with this project or that situation. Others really want advice and need your time and attention. Tonight: Happy at home.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to reorganize or do something differently. Seek out more information as you design your new path. You might realize just how many options and possibilities you really have. Time is an asset. Tonight: Hang out with favorite people, at a favorite place.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Expenses could go overboard. Think positively about your options. You might be surprised by other solutions. A partner or associate is full of information or suggestions. Be open to different situations. Tonight: Your treat.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Others keep making suggestions, especially if a situation might need renewal or another approach. You could get much more done than you thought possible. You've got what it takes, no matter what crosses your path. Tonight: Your wish is another's command.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Take your time with others, as many could be babbling endlessly. You have a lot to share. Make sure you make time to return calls and schedule an appointment or two. You have to take care of yourself too! Tonight: Vanish while you can.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Someone might rain on your parade as you are hopping down the victory path. Could this person be jealous? Though you don't want to lose your pace, you might want to stop and clear the air. This person might be able to get past his or her stuff. Tonight: Where the gang is.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might want to rethink your direction. You might not have as much control as you would like. Responsibilities tumble on you. You have tons of suggestions. Others might not be able to hear them. Tonight: Could be late.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Don't sit down and rethink a statement. Find that person and talk! You might want to be more sensitive to others. Develop new ways of processing information. The more open you become, the more dynamic your life will become. Tonight: Think "vacation."



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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

So nice, he took Twilight honors twice

By Daily Press staff

More than 106 entries were received, more than 2,000 people voted, and now Jeff Verges has been declared the winner of the Twilight Dance Series Poster Contest for the second year in a row.

This year's design features a surfer cruising towards shore, presumably to see his favorite bands hit the stage at the Twilight Dance Series. Soon it will be seen all over town as the cornerstone of the 22nd Annual Twilight Dance Series advertising and marketing campaign.

Verges is a local artist, illustrator and colorist who lives near the pier and has participated in many community art events. He won a competition for the 2004 Carnevale Venice Beach poster design and the 2005 Twilight Dance Series Poster Contest. He will receive \$750 and a VIP package for the 2006 season of the Twilight Dance Series.

Mothers can touch the sky for free

By Daily Press staff

Pacific Park, celebrating its 10th year, will soar to heights of more than 130 feet above the Pacific Ocean to honor mothers by offering them a free ride on the Pacific Wheel Ferris wheel on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

To enjoy the free ride, a mother must go to the Pacific Wheel entrance and notify the attraction's operator, and Pacific Park will provide a complimentary ride for the guest.

"We really enjoy this time of year at Pacific Park," says Jeff Klocke, director of marketing and sales. "It's a time when our staff and employees can say thank you to all mothers on their special day. And a free ride on the Pacific Wheel provides us with such an opportunity."

Pacific Park is nationally known as the premier amusement park to unveil the world's first solar-powered Ferris wheel, the Pacific Wheel in 1998. When the sun is shining, the system operates with more than 71,000-kilowatt hours of renewable photovoltaic (PV) power from the sun's rays, and on cloudy days the Pacific Wheel is powered from conventional energy sources. The nine-story Pacific Wheel was recently selected "Best Solar System" in the Reader's Digest Best in America 2006 issue.

Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier, LA's only admission free amusement park, offers 12 amusement rides, 21 midway games and an oceanfront food plaza.

Church 108, Poetry Fest 8

By Daily Press staff

Churchgoers and poets can rejoice together as the Church in Ocean Park celebrates its 108th birthday and hosts its Eighth Annual Poetry Fest.

Michelle Daugherty and Michael C. Ford will read their poetry, followed by open mic readings starting at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 13 at 235 Hill St. in Santa Monica.

To attend, one must donate 108 of anything. This could include \$1.08, \$10.80, \$108, 108 buttons or whatever interested parties can offer. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

The Poetry Fest is wheelchair accessible and in the path of the Big Blue Bus No. 1, 2 and 8, and MTA Bus No. 33.

SMC getting digital

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica College Design Technology Department has announced "Digifest '06," a festival showcasing the work of students in raised animation, digital video, graphic design, game and web design programs.

The event will be held Friday, May 12 at the SMC Academy of Entertainment and Technology, 1660 Stewart St. The event is free, as is parking.

Screenings of animation films are scheduled for 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the academy's screening room (room 235). An exhibit of graphic, game and web design work will

See BRIEFS, page 5



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 12" - 18"	LIFT HOURS 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM	RUNS OPEN 50	LIFTS OPEN 7/28
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CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

MOUNTAIN HIGH
CLOSED

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH 12" - 18"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	RUNS OPEN 20	LIFTS OPEN 3/4
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CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

SNOW SUMMIT
CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 59°

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)
TODAY IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL STILL SEE A SMALL TO MODERATE DOSE OF NW WITH DECLINING SW. WEST-FACING BREAKS ARE LOOKING AT WAIST HIGH SURF AS ARE SOUTH FACING BREAKS.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SW CREEPS IN SATURDAY, BUT BETTER ON SUNDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

SATURDAY				
LOW TIDE	5:20AM	-1.17FT	4:27PM	1.87FT
HIGH TIDE	11:49AM	3.67FT	10:46PM	6.18FT
SUNDAY				
LOW TIDE	6:10AM	-0.93FT	5:01PM	2.31FT
HIGH TIDE	12:52PM	3.33FT	11:24PM	5.77FT
MONDAY				
LOW TIDE	1:35AM	1.47FT	1:17PM	0.88FT
HIGH TIDE	7:14AM	3.85FT	7:46PM	4.79FT
TUESDAY				
LOW TIDE	2:09AM	0.92FT	1:41PM	1.09FT
HIGH TIDE	7:59AM	3.84FT	8:04PM	5.11FT
WEDNESDAY				
LOW TIDE	2:42AM	0.41FT	2:05PM	1.31FT
HIGH TIDE	8:41AM	3.80FT	8:25PM	5.41FT
THURSDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:14AM	-0.03FT	2:29PM	1.54FT
HIGH TIDE	9:22AM	3.74FT	8:47PM	5.67FT
FRIDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:48AM	-0.40FT	2:54PM	1.77FT
HIGH TIDE	10:04AM	3.65FT	9:13PM	5.87FT

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Pssst, do you want to sign a marijuana petition?

Santa Monicans have been asked that question in recent weeks, as the Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy is gathering signatures in the hopes of placing a measure on the November ballot that would make the drug's criminal enforcement a low priority.

Top police officials have already come out in opposition to the measure.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know: **Do you feel laws against personal marijuana use should be strictly enforced, or should police focus their attention elsewhere?**

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition.



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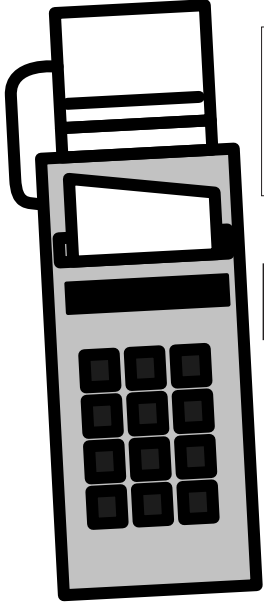
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maybe answer to home ownership lies in a baguette
Editor:

So Lloyd Garver is impressed with the way France sets limits on necessities (SMDP, May 6, page 4). Lloyd wants our government to put limits on the price of oil.

Well, if there is anything more important than oil for our cars, it's housing for our residents. I am still renting because I can't afford the price for even a condo in Santa Monica.

So, let's have the government make everyone in Santa Monica who has made \$200,000 to \$500,000 on their houses in the last five years limit their profits to, say, \$100,000. Certainly those homeowners who think \$3 oil is obscene should be happy with a return of \$100,000 profit on a house they were also able to live in for free these past five years.

Certainly people against big oil will be sympathetic and sell me their house for a more reasonable price than the market is saying it's worth because they aren't greedy. Right?

Since housing is more important than transportation and Santa Monican homeowners are more compassionate than Big Oil people ... let's start by getting the overpriced housing thing settled first. Once I move in to Lloyd's old house, I will certainly devote most of my time to getting him oil for under \$3.

Eric Cooper
Santa Monica

Israelites do it the old-fashioned way ... they earn it
Editor:

In response to Daniel Stevens' letter entitled "Nichols is full of it" (SMDP, May 8, page 4), I am compelled to reflect the truth behind both sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. There's nothing I hate more than a one-sided wannabe journalist, and it seems that both Nichols and Stevens fit the bill to an extent.

First, lets keep the Holocaust out of it, what's done is done. As far as Mr. Stevens' father believing in his own superiority complex resulting from his Judaism, most people have a complex of one kind or another whether it's legitimate or not. The fact remains that Jews are among the most generous, giving and grateful people around, and in most cases well educated and aware life's more precious elements. Anyone who holds these qualities against them is living in a vacuum.

Mr. Stevens mentioned that seven Palestinians die for each Israeli in this ongoing conflict. He further writes that radical Jews have been on a mission to overtake Palestinian territories militarily since Israel's inception in 1948. Are you dumb or just sniffing too much glue? Who instigated the Six Day War? Who instigated the Yom Kippur War? Who provides training camps for militants on suicide missions? Who's after who here? Mr. Stevens, do you know that every kibbutz and town on the Israeli side of the Syrian and Jordanian borders have hundreds of bomb shelters? Can you guess why this is, and can you guess who is usually provoking such attacks? And for the record, Israel took control of the Golan Heights and the West Bank following Palestinian attacks.

Lets talk about Iran and Israel now. Cliff Nichols is suggesting that nuclear weapons at the hands of a nation that lives by terroristic values is a danger to everyone, especially the Jews and Israel (SMDP, May 3, page 4). Why does the U.S. leave Israel alone when it comes to their stockpile of such weapons? Because Israel shares the same western mentality that the use of such weapons is an absolute last case scenario, unlike the suicidal Islamic Fundamentalists that value martyrdom above all else.

When you are a small nation of 7 million people surrounded by enemies — fundamentalist, enemies — the world community would tend to leave you alone. Israel simply wants peace. Jews simply want peace. Would Israel ever consider bombing or hurting people based on religious or geographical beliefs? We already know that Iran would, and I can unequivocally assure you that Israel would not. The way Mr. Stevens depicts the "targeted killings" on Israel's part is a false analogy. Israel only targets leaders within Hamas, Hezbollah, Al Aksa Brigade, etc., usually in response to a prior attack on its own people. The Israeli army also has been known to level the homes of families related to a suicide bomber in hopes of deterring these acts. Is Israel completely innocent? Are its Jewish occupants completely innocent? No. No one can possibly be completely innocent in such an ongoing debacle, but Israel is definitely the less guilty by virtue of the fact that all they are trying to attain is ongoing peace rather than the destruction of its neighbors. The neighboring Palestinians have one common denominator, and that is to drive every last Israeli Jew into the ocean.

This isn't about the Holocaust as much as affirmative action isn't about slavery. But when Iran's president denies the Holocaust or starts challenging some of the facts surrounding the Holocaust, it sends a strong message. The only other group of people that I know of which has challenged the Holocaust are the white supremacists. That's not the sort of company any normal, equalitarian person would like to keep. Daniel Stevens complains of how the media is "... Israeli-Centric with little, if any Arab points of view ..." That sure is strange considering there are more Muslims on earth today than any other religion. Could it be that the world is sick and tired of their "woe is us" stance they take? Or maybe the media just doesn't care about the Arabs/Palestinians the same way they don't care about the welfare of the Western World? Gosh Mr. Stevens, what a well thought out letter you wrote.

There have been plenty of fundamentalist Jews that have bombed mosques and other Palestinian locations, but those acts are far outweighed by numbers of terrorist killings aimed at the Jews. Remember, Israel only wants peace. The Palestinians want the Jews and Israel to die, yet they rely on Israel's economy to support 80 percent of the Palestinian workforce. Where does it end? Why are there people floating around this country thinking the Palestinians are getting a bad rap? Anything they get has been rightfully earned.

Ron Prosky
Santa Monica

GUEST COMMENTARY BY ALEX EPSTEIN

That's the price of
a barrel — get over it

Oil companies have
earned every penny
of their profits

With the recent increase in gasoline prices, politicians and pundits are once again condemning oil companies for their high profits. Much of these profits are an undeserved "windfall," they claim, which should be "given back" to society via a proposed multi-billion-dollar tax. As Representative Dennis Kucinich and others say, they seek "to tax only excess profits, leaving ... reasonable profits unaffected." Such taxation is justified because the recent low supply and high demand that led to higher profits, explains economist Dean Baker, "is kind of (the oil companies') good luck. They didn't do anything to earn it."

But America's oil companies have earned every penny of their profits. To characterize any portion of them as an unearned "windfall" — like manna dropped from heaven — is a vicious smear. It is to evade what is truly responsible for their profits this and every quarter: The great value they create and the tremendous thought, effort, and risk-taking that goes into creating it.

Virtually forgotten in the condemnation of oil profits is that the great — and growing — global demand for oil reflects its great value. Producers and consumers have been willing to pay \$70 a barrel for oil because it is worth that much to us. Oil is used by us to get quickly from point A to point B by car, train, or jet. It is used by efficient factories overseas to produce the ever-cheaper goods we get at Wal-Mart. In the event of a natural disaster, it allows us to drive to a safer place or to generate power to begin a recovery.

The critics of oil profits take all the benefits of free-flowing oil for granted — with not a word of acknowledgment to those who sell it to them at agreeable prices. They treat oil production as an effortless, risk-less task that requires little more of oil executives than shuffling paper and watching their coffers fill up with mega-profits.

But the continuous mass-production of oil, under all economic conditions, is a tremendous achievement. Oil companies invest billions on new exploration projects. They construct skyscraper-high oil rigs to extract oil from the ocean floor. They develop new technologies like 3-D seismic surveys or new extraction methods to get hundreds of billions of barrels of oil

from sand deposits in Canada.

And to profit, they must do all of these things efficiently, while assuming a great amount of risk: The uncertain nature of oil exploration and research and development; the need to deal with unstable foreign governments; the new and shifting government regulations on exploration and refining; the machinations of the OPEC cartel of dictatorships.

Critics emphasize the fact that the oil companies' profits this quarter are partially due to factors that they did not anticipate or control — such as the massive increase in demand from China and India. But every business venture involves factors that its leaders do not and cannot anticipate or control — factors that can affect it positively or negatively. These factors are part of the risk that businesses assume. Since they undertake the risk, they deserve any losses or rewards that result. In the 1990s, the oil companies had no right to a bailout when oil unexpectedly fell below \$10 a barrel. Likewise, we now have no right to seize their profits when oil unexpectedly rises to over \$70 a barrel.

To earn a profit does not mean to be fully responsible for every factor that went into it. It is to take the action necessary to create a product or service — to develop the skills, to invest the time, money, and effort — and to assume the risk that others will value one's product or service, and that one will not be driven out of business by a superior competitor, a new invention, etc.

This principle applies equally to employees as to business owners. Did the many former "nerds" who made hundreds of thousands at Microsoft and elsewhere not deserve their money — should they be forced to "give" it to society or other people — because they had no idea that cultivating programming skills would be so profitable? No — they chose to develop those skills, they staked their livelihoods on them, and their high salaries rightfully belong to them.

Given the value oil companies create and the effort and risk involved, to call their profits a "windfall" is an intellectual crime. A "windfall profits" tax would punish producers for working hard, taking risks, and succeeding. Nothing could be more un-American than that. Let us drop the "windfall" smear, and congratulate the oil industry for a job well-done.

(Alex Epstein is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. The institute promotes the ideas of Ayn Rand, best-selling author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead.")

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STATE



Schwarzenegger vows to fight offshore drilling

By staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON — A House panel voiced approval Wednesday to lift the ban on offshore drilling along California's coastline, putting Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on the defensive.

"The action taken by Congress today is irresponsible and totally unacceptable," he said. "As Governor of California, I will do everything in my power to fight the federal government on this issue and prevent any new offshore drilling.

"Our ocean, beaches, and coastline is critical to the entire state and every single Californian. I am unwilling to put our environment at risk for the sake of new energy exploration on California's coast."

The House Appropriations Committee passed the proposal to develop natural gas in restricted areas of coastal waters, voting to remove from an Interior Department bill a long-standing moratorium on drilling on most of the country's Outer Continental Shelf.

It was a victory for Rep. John Peterson, R-Pa., who has campaigned to open offshore waters to natural gas development. But the action does not affect a presidential moratorium, in effect until 2012, that bars offshore oil and gas drilling in virtually all coastal waters outside the central and western Gulf of Mexico.

"I hope the White House gets the message," said Peterson. He said he expects "another big fight" over the moratorium issue when the spending bill gets to the floor. The Senate also has in the past rejected lifting the moratorium and President Bush has opposed lifting the existing Outer Continental Shelf drilling bans.

Peterson contended the country needs the offshore gas reserves to ease the tight supplies that have seen the cost of the fuel quadruple in recent years. "We have major industries who will not remain in America if we don't make natural gas affordable," he said.

Opponents of lifting the moratorium said if the offshore gas is made available, industry also will want to go after oil in areas now protected against drilling. Such development would harm states' tourist and recreational economies and carry substantial environmental risks.

Gov. Schwarzenegger said there are other

"I am unwilling to put our environment at risk for the sake of new energy exploration on California's coast."

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR, CALIFORNIA

alternatives that must be considered.

"I recognize that California and the nation suffer from high energy prices, but we must focus on reducing our demand and diversifying our energy portfolio rather than destroying our coastal areas," he said. "To reduce our dependence on petroleum fuels, we must diversify our sources of energy. In California, we are aggressively promoting the use of renewable energy by pioneering advances in hydrogen technology, solar power and biofuels. I have also called for California's utilities to acquire 20 percent of their power from renewable sources by 2010 and 33 percent by 2020."

There has been growing interest in lifting the drilling bans, especially for natural gas, outside the central and western Gulf to ease tight natural gas supplies.

The Interior Department recently said that in its next five-year development plan it will offer leases in an area now off limits in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, but those leases for a region known as Area 181, are not under either the congressional or presidential moratoria.

Over the years, Congress repeatedly has included in its Interior appropriations bills language putting most U.S. coastal waters off limits to oil and gas companies. Presidential directives by President George H.W. Bush, President Clinton and the current President Bush have reinforced the bans.

Congressional delegations from Florida and a number of other coastal states have vowed to fight for continuation of the moratoria, arguing that oil and gas development could threaten their recreational and tourist industries because of a possible spill and the need for coastal support facilities.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in room 204 and 203 at the academy. Two-dimensional animation work will be displayed in the academy's lobby gallery.

"We're excited to showcase the incredible work of our students in design technology," said Bill Lancaster, department chair. "Because we work so closely with the design and entertainment community, we are able to train our students in the latest techniques using state-of-the-art technology. Our students go on to careers with such companies as DreamWorks, Digital Domain, Rhythm & Hues, Sony Computer Entertainment, Sony Computer Entertainment and Warner Bros."

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Survival of the fit

Lost hikers buoyed by missing man's supplies

BY ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Two lost hikers who survived three nights in rugged terrain were rescued after they scavenged supplies from the campsite of another hiker who vanished last year and is presumed dead.

The pair found a backpack containing clothing and matches in the deserted campsite of John Donovan, almost a year to the day after he disappeared in the San Jacinto Mountains.

Donovan's abandoned gear "gave us the means to get out," hiker Gina Allen said Wednesday in a telephone interview.

Allen, 24, and Brandon Day, 28, of Dallas, were in Southern California for a financial convention. They got lost Saturday west of Palm Springs after wandering off a trail during what was supposed to be a day hike.

At first, they were not too worried because they could hear voices.

"I still felt we were relatively close," Day said, recalling that he thought the trail would "be around this next boulder."

Prepared only for a brief hike, they wore light jackets and tennis shoes and had no food, spare clothing or cell phone. With night closing in, they took shelter in a small cave and spent the night sleepless, cold and hungry.

In the morning, they struggled to follow a stream downhill through boulder-strewn terrain. That night, they were frequently awakened by their own shivering.

But they kept going, with "the mantra from night one: 'We're going to get out of here. We're not going to die. It's not our time,'" Day said.

The third day was the worst for Allen, who was getting weaker.

"The very worst thoughts went through our mind, that we might be stuck here. I prayed a lot," she said.

On Monday, they discovered a campsite in a dead-end gorge. There was a foam sleeping mat, a poncho thrown into some branches for shade, a backpack, disposable

razor, spoon and tennis shoes.

Day and Allen were elated, thinking someone there could help them find the way out. But something was wrong. The gear was wet. A radio and flashlight were corroded. They realized the place was deserted.

"I could just feel myself struck down," Allen said.

They found identification showing the camper was Donovan, 60, a retired social worker from Virginia. They learned later that he was an experienced hiker who had been following the 2,650-mile Pacific Crest Trail, from Southern California to the Canadian border, when he vanished May 2, 2005 in icy weather.

His journal, in the form of notes written on sketch paper and on the back of maps, depicted a man without hope of rescue, Day said.

"His last journal entry was one year ago to the day that we found it, which was very eerie," Day said. "Nobody knew where he was, nobody knew to come looking for him, so he was preparing for the end. We were looking at the words of a man who was passing."

They found salvation in his backpack: some food, a warm sweater for Allen, dry socks for Day and matches. They lit a small signal fire and spotted a helicopter in the distance, but the crew did not see them.

On Tuesday morning, they came to a large culvert choked with dried-out vines and other foliage. Day struck another match.

"The whole acre or two caught fire, created a really big smoke signal" that finally alerted a helicopter crew, he said.

They were examined at a hospital and had only blisters and bruises.

"We feel great. We're thankful. We feel like we've been given a second chance," Day said by telephone from his Palm Desert hotel room.

Authorities planned to search the area over the weekend for signs of Donovan.

Day wants Donovan's relatives to know that his demise helped save them. "With tragedy comes rebirth," he said. "We have a real special thanks for that person."

Wanted: Johnnys-on-the-spot

By The Associated Press

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST — The U.S. Forest Service is in urgent need of volunteers willing to look for smoke.

The Angeles National Forest has about 40 regular lookout volunteers and another 20 who work occasionally.

Forest Service archeologist Mike McIntire said he could use twice that many.

The shortage means lookouts — small cabins perched on steel towers — are staffed

only on weekends and remain empty on some weekdays.

Officials said the lookouts are less necessary now than in the past because of the growing number of visitors taking cell phones into the forest.

But cell phone coverage is undependable in the forest, so spotters are still necessary, said Pam Morey, who has volunteered for 12 years.

"After working all day in the city, it's a place to go and relax and enjoy what God created — nature," she said.

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STATE BRIEFS

Carpet cleaners’ deaths prompt probe

By The Associated Press

MOORPARK — Workers safety officials have opened an investigation into the deaths from carbon monoxide fumes of two carpet cleaners, officials said.

The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration will talk to owners and employees of Coast and Valley Carpet Care to determine whether the employees were given all the safety information they needed, OSHA spokesman Dean Fryer said Tuesday.

“We’re in the very early stages of the investigation, but we need to see if there were proper procedures in place,” Fryer said.

Coast and Valley Carpet Care representatives could not be reached for comment because the company has an unlisted phone number.

Victor Manuel Monroy Cortez, 20, and Jose Luis Monroy Cortez, 25, were hired to clean carpets at a home Friday night to prepare it for an open house.

Investigators said the cleaners, who were cousins, were using a gasoline-powered carpet-cleaning device mounted to a van they drove into an attached garage.

A woman hired to finish cleaning the unit found the two on the living room floor the next morning. The two men died from asphyxiation by inhaling exhaust fumes and carbon monoxide, Senior Deputy Medical Examiner Craig Stevens said.

Absentee voters had tough decisions

By The Associated Press

TORRANCE — County election officials sent nearly 8,000 ballots with inaccurate instructions to city voters.

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder’s Office said there were typographical errors on absentee ballots instructing voters to choose one City Council candidate when there are three seats open in the June 6 election.

The wording should have instructed voters to select no more than three candidates, officials said.

“It was our fault that this occurred,” registrar-recorder’s office spokeswoman Marcia Ventura said.

Officials last week sent out letters alerting absentee voters of the error and telling them to expect corrected ballots. It was unclear how much it would cost to reprint the ballots. City Clerk Sue Herbers said no voters would be disenfranchised because of the mistake, and safeguards should prevent any miscounts.

Home on the range doesn’t make for happy trails

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A lawsuit has been filed claiming a housing developer blocked an established walking path in the Santa Monica Mountains.

The lawsuit is the latest skirmish in an ongoing series of conflicts pitting hikers and mountain-bikers against developers and homeowners as more houses go up in the mountain range. Many homeowners and developers have said they’re willing to provide access to well-established trails. But they’ve often disagreed with trail users on which paths are established and how much access to give.

In the most recent lawsuit, filed this week, the Center for Law in the Public Interest and two other groups demanded public access to a path near Mount Saint Mary’s College that they are calling the “Mount St. Mary’s Trail.”

The suit says the trail is an established footway in use since at least the 1950s.

“We have declarations from 20 people or more who have been using the trail back to 1950,” said Robert Garcia, an attorney with the law center. “We have a declaration from a nun at Mount St. Mary’s.”

Representatives for housing developer Castle & Cooke disputed that the pathway is part of the recognized network of trails through the mountains.

“There is no official trail,” Castle & Cooke project manager Frans Bigelow said. “The trail they are calling the Mount St. Mary’s Trail is a fire road.”

He said the road was closed in 1978 when the area was used as a landfill, not in August, as the lawsuit alleges.

Developers feeling deserted

By The Associated Press

RIVERSIDE — County supervisors approved a conservation plan that would designate over a million acres in the Coachella Valley as protected habitat, while making it easier for developers to build in unprotected areas.

Several desert cities would have to sign off on the plan that was approved Tuesday by the Board of Supervisors.

Some cities have balked at the proposal because they have development plans for areas that would be put aside for conservation. The plan uses developer mitigation fees and landfill dumping surcharges to fund habitat set aside for 27 desert species.

For the health of the county

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — County supervisors voted to appoint interim health director Dr. Bruce A Chernof as chief of the public health system.

Tuesday’s vote makes Chernof, who has served as acting chief since December, the official head of the country’s second-largest public health system.

“It’s a challenge,” he said. “But it’s worth it.”

Chernof said improving patient care at Martin Luther King Jr./Drew Medical Center is a priority. Lapses in care at the facility have left patients dead and led to decertification of some services.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF MITIGATED
NEGATIVE DECLARATION

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act, the California Department of Fish and Game is providing Public Notice of the completion of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for a proposed project to enhance the capability of streams to produce anadromous salmonids by maintaining, restoring and improving stream habitat essential to salmonid production.

Project Location: Various streams in Del Norte, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Mendocino, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Trinity and Ventura counties.

Description of Project: This project will use grant funds approved by the California Legislature to initiate activities that are designed to restore salmon and steelhead habitat in coastal streams and watersheds that historically produced large populations of salmon and steelhead. Activities will improve spawning success for adult salmon and steelhead as well as increase survival for eggs, embryos, rearing juveniles and downstream migrants. Bank stabilization treatments will reduce sediment yield to streams. Upslope road decommissioning or repair will also help address these widespread problems. The replacement of barrier culverts with bridges or natural stream bottom culverts will allow adult and juvenile salmonids access to additional spawning and rearing habitat. The installation of instream structures will recruit and sort spawning gravel for adult salmon and steelhead, and create summer rearing pools and over-wintering habitat for juveniles.

The Negative Declaration is available for review at the Department of Fish and Game, 830 S Street, Sacramento; the Northern California-North Coast Region Office, 1455 Sandy Prairie Ct., Suite J, Fortuna; the Central Coast Region Office, 7329 Silverado Trail, Yountville; or the South Coast Office, Los Alamitos Office, 4665 Lampson Ave., Los Alamitos. Additional copies are available for review at the following locations: Department of Fish and Game, Eureka Office, 619 Second Street, Eureka; Department of Fish and Game, Yreka Fish Habitat Improvement Shop, 1625 Main Street, Yreka; Department of Fish and Game, Monterey Office, 20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Monterey and Department of Fish and Game, Santa Barbara office, 1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9, Santa Barbara. Written comments are requested on or before June 6, 2006. For additional information contact Mr. Gary Flosi, Senior Biologist Supervisor, at (707) 725-1072, Mr. Bob Coey, Senior Biologist Supervisor, at (707) 944-5582, or Ms. Mary Larson, Senior Biologist Specialist, at (562) 342-7186.



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II/Daily Press

“FULL” is an all-too-familiar sign at downtown parking lots.

Council can tailor plan to suit needs

PARKING, from page 1

paid for by increased parking fees and downtown property assessments.

The lack of parking has long been a thorn in the side of City Hall, with residents, merchants and weekend shoppers all complaining about traffic-jammed streets loaded with desperate drivers hunting for places to park. In recent surveys conducted by City Hall, residents ranked parking as the third most important issue facing Santa Monica.

“Two-thirds of residents visit downtown once a week and they feel parking is a major problem, and for employees as well,” said John Warfel, a member of the City Hall-sanctioned Downtown Parking Task Force, which was established in December 2000 and for two years studied what would be the appropriate number of spaces to meet demand.

With a goal of maintaining the current ratios of 2.1 spaces per 1,000 square feet of downtown development, the task force’s recommendation of 1,712 spaces was made to accommodate an anticipated 500,000 square feet of future commercial development.

The program was modeled after a “Park Once, Pedestrian First” model to encourage visitors to drive as little as possible. To ensure the plan’s success, the parking task force recommended City Hall create a tram system to easily transport drivers from their destinations of choice back to their cars.

The council postponed approval of the program in February after some council members expressed concern over the large number of spaces that would be created. Others felt it was necessary to wait for Councilman Ken Genser to return to the dais before a vote was made. Genser was recovering from a kidney transplant at the time of discussion.

Genser was present during this week’s debate and voted for the program because of the flexibility it offered the council, which will review the program every two years to assess progress and make adjustments based on future conditions, such as development, driving habits and mass transit construction, such as the Exposition Light Rail line.

“This plan would spread traffic around instead of it now being concentrated on Second and Fourth streets, where



COUNCIL COUNTDOWN

The following is a summation of what went on in the Santa Monica City Council chambers during the council’s meeting May 9, including a timeline, notable public comments and excerpts taken.

- 5:45 p.m.
Mayor Bob Holbrook calls the City Council to order. All members are present, except Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Shriver, who arrived late, and Councilmember Pam O’Connor, who was out of town. Council approves the consent agenda.
- 6:02 p.m.
Council moves into closed session.
- 7:30 p.m.
Council returns from closed session. There is no action to report. Council adopts a law modifying zoning requirements in residential areas.
- 7:36 p.m.
Council begins discussion regarding a law allowing auto dealers to receive an incentive for constructing roof-top parking at local dealerships. The law also allows for the use of parking lots in residential areas to be used for inventory storage if the dealer is in compliance with the original operating permit.
- 8:25 p.m.
Public comment ends. Council approves changes to zoning laws regulating auto dealers.
- 9:10 p.m.
Council begins discussion of new standards for development downtown, including requirements for off-street parking for mixed-use developments that offer commercial space.
- 10:16 p.m.
Public comment ends. Council approves changes to zoning laws regulating downtown development, including ground floor heights, street fronts, landscaping, and instituted requirements for pedestrian-oriented uses on corners in downtown on Sixth and Seventh streets.
- 10:19 p.m.
Council approves of the first reading of a law allowing the City Manager to approve workers compensation claims in excess of \$15,000.
- 10:21 p.m.
Council hears testimony from the public regarding a law requiring a retention period for grocery store workers when their place of employment goes through a change in ownership. Council votes unanimously to approve the law, which must come back for a second reading.
- 10:32 p.m.
Council holds a public hearing and approves an action plan for the upcoming fiscal year for the use of federal grants. The plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Staff is expected to receive Community Development Block Grant Funds and Home Investment Partnership Act funds in the amount of \$3.3 million for fiscal year 2006-07. Those funds are earmarked for tenant rental assistance, affordable housing and capital improvement projects, including a new homeless services center at 505 Olympic Blvd.
- 10:35 p.m.
Council hears from city staff regarding the expansion of the Big Blue Bus headquarters. Council approves an \$8 million design-build contract with Morley Construction to proceed with the construction of a new maintenance facility and surface parking for employees. A guaranteed price of \$5.57 million was also approved for the construction of the new OPCC access center on the site.
- 11:17 p.m.
Council hears discussion and approves the Downtown Parking Program, which allows for the construction of 1,712 parking spaces downtown.
- 11:51 p.m.
Council hears testimony on the need for drafting a law regulating the use of Segways in the city, particularly the Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Pier. Council instructs staff to investigate, including conducting interviews with the Police Department for their input, and return with recommendations.
- 12:19 a.m.
Council approves a request from Councilmembers O’Connor and Bloom to spend \$5,000 so that the city can be a sponsor of the Local Government’s Commission’s 6th annual New Partners Conference in Los Angeles. Council also votes to oppose a state Assembly bill that Bloom said would preempt local cable franchising authority, related local fee and tax authority, undermines public access and dilutes consumer protections. Council approves an expenditure of \$15,000 to help pay for a fireworks show at Santa Monica College and directs staff to include that expenditure in next year’s budget. At the request of Mayor Holbrook, the council asks staff to look into programs provided by other cities that provide housing incentives for employees to live within the city limits, and make recommendations for incentives here.
- 12:43 a.m.
Council hears comments from the public on items not found on the agenda.
- 12:52 a.m.
Council closes the meeting. The next regularly scheduled council meeting will be held May 23 at City Hall.

parking is now,” Genser said. “My view is the plan will change in the future based on need, environmental concerns and so on. That will happen. But we need to adopt this now because ... we need to buy the land (for new structures) quickly because we’re not making any more of it and it’s all being bought up.

“Unless we move quickly ... we won’t have the ability to buy those parcels. If we don’t decide to put structures there, the land could be sold for some profit or for some other use.”

Councilman Kevin McKeown, the lone member of the council to vote against the program, said he was not comfortable with approving spaces based on the future development downtown of 500,000 square feet. McKeown said residents have continually expressed their strong opposition to any major development in the area, and by approving the program, the council is saying it’s not listening to the public’s concerns.

McKeown feels the council should have waited until the city’s General Plan is completed some time this summer before making a decision.

Public outreach is underway to help draft the goals and objectives of the General Plan’s Land Use Element and Zoning Ordinance, which are a set of laws dictating the future of development in the city.

“Bringing more cars to downtown is not the direction we should be going,” McKeown said. “I will not be able to vote ... based on 500,000 square feet of future development.”

BY THE NUMBERS

Time spent on the top three issues facing Santa Monicans, based on city surveys:

- Homelessness: 2 minutes
- Traffic: 20 minutes
- Parking: 2 hours, 49 minutes
- Public Comments: 1 hour and 33 minutes
- City Council/staff discussions: 4 hours and 29 minutes



LET’S TALK CHIT

“Chits” (Public addressing City Council)

“It hurts me to think that a person who has a good job, who wants to make a living, can’t these days. It’s a sorry day when you have a job that you can’t make a living at. That day is today. That day was yesterday.”

Gayle Gonzalez, a Santa Monica resident who must travel to Hawthorne for work after her former grocery store in Westchester closed. She supports the City Council’s move to approve a law requiring grocery workers to be retained for at least 90 days after the store is sold.

“I kind of feel like a tobacco executive telling you not to smoke, because we’re here selling cars and telling our employees not to drive to work.”

Mark Harding of Santa Monica Toyota on the dealership’s efforts to get employees to ride mass transit or carpool as a way to cut down on traffic in neighboring residential areas and to save scarce parking spaces for customers and inventory.

QUOTE OF NOTE

“Didn’t you look into it?”

Councilman Herb Katz, who grilled staff from Planning and Community Development after not receiving answers to several of his questions regarding new zoning laws regulating auto dealers.

“Bringing more cars to downtown is not the direction we should be going. I will not be able to vote ... based on 500,000 square feet of future development.”

KEVIN MCKEOWN
COUNCILMAN

McKeown pushed for approval of the “environmentally superior” option, which would create only 712 additional spaces by tearing down and rebuilding three five-story structures to replace Nos. 1, 3 and 6, which are considered “short structures” because they are smaller than the others in the city.

This 712-space alternative does not include any new structures.

“I think we need more parking spaces to help the merchants, to provide some relief,” said McKeown. “But in my heart, I don’t think we need 1,712.”

The first phase of the program will be retrofitting structures Nos. 2 and 4. City staff is currently working on the design phase of that project.



Resort town drinking draws in teen crowd

BY DAN ELLIOTT

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — Resort towns across the West are struggling with underage drinking, worried that their kids are so swept up in the party atmosphere that they don't heed warnings about the dangers of alcohol.

In Jackson, Wyo., teens say alcohol is a staple at parties. In Steamboat Springs, one study found a disturbingly high number of high schoolers engaged in binge drinking. Taos County, N.M., home to three winter resorts, is ranked in the state's top five when it comes to teen drinking.

Social workers and educators in those communities say the drink-and-be-merry environment rubs off on children, and national experts say there is reason to be concerned.

"Kids tend to pattern their actions after the adults they see in their community," said Dr. Jacqueline Miller, a medical epidemiologist with the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "We show kids one thing and we tell them another."

Experts say they're unaware of any national research focusing on underage drinking in resort towns, which tend to be small and isolated.

A 2004 survey by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration showed alcohol abuse among people 12 years of age and older is worse in big cities than in small ones. But principals, counselors and activists in resort towns say they have plenty of statistics and anecdotal evidence to show the problem they face is a big one.

In Steamboat Springs, a 2004 survey found that nearly three-quarters of the town's high school students who responded had drunk alcohol in the previous 30 days — and more than half had done binge drinking in that period, said Sandy Visnack, director of the Grand Futures Prevention Coalition, a substance abuse prevention group.

Nearly 80 percent of Steamboat High School students participated in the survey, conducted by physician Dan Smilkstein and the school district, Visnack said.

The survey also found the average age when students began to drink was 13.7.

"When you start talking about statistics like these to people, their mouths drop open," she said.

Visnack said public drinking is widespread in Steamboat Springs, which lures visitors to northwest Colorado with skiing, trail rides, music, rodeos and other attractions.

"Most of our community events, summer concerts, bike races, involve selling or serving alcohol to adults," she said. "We do have a lot of over-serving and over-consumption that really sends a message to our young people that alcohol is necessary to have a good time."

Jackson, a playground for skiers, anglers, hikers and wildlife watchers, has what Jackson Hole Middle School principal Jean

ON THE NET

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
<http://www.samhsa.gov>
www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k6/StateUnderageDrinking/underageDrinking.cfm

CDC
www.cdc.gov/alcohol/index.htm

Grand Futures Coalition
www.grandfutures.org

Coldsmith calls an "apres-ski mentality."

"Any of the events that we have, there's always alcohol there," said Coldsmith, who heads the Teton County At-Risk Committee. "You think about Bode Miller and some of his comments recently, that's an example of it, but we see it here in the community. We see it frequently."

Miller, an Olympic and World Cup skier, caused a furor when he told a television interviewer in January he had skied drunk and wouldn't rule out trying it again. He apologized later.

Jake Franks, 18, said alcohol is standard at teen parties in Jackson.

"I've never heard of a sober party here," said Franks, who says he broke his own drinking habit six months ago. "That's what makes it a party. That's what kids want to do."

In Taos, N.M., signs for brewery-sponsored events abound, said Carlos Miera, executive director of Taos/Colfax Community Services. He said studies show Taos County is ranked sixth in New Mexico for binge drinking among high schoolers and fifth for high schoolers who drink and drive.

Activists are hustling to attack the problem. Jackson was galvanized by an alcohol-related car wreck that killed a teen, Coldsmith said. According to Visnack, Steamboat was energized in part by a routine police check that found an alarming number of liquor stores sold to underage buyers.

Groups in Taos are trying to reduce the number of outdoor liquor ads. Steamboat Springs is holding forums to alert parents to the problem and working with liquor stores to crack down on illegal sales. In Jackson, schools are re-examining their policies, police are working with parents to crack down on teen drinking in homes, and groups are reviewing research on approaches tried in other places.

"A lot of education, a lot of awareness, a lot of initiative," Coldsmith said.

All are working to change what health experts call a "community norm" that seems to say frequent drinking is acceptable, even expected.

"That's what we're really focused on, and that's not a two-year change, that's a 10-year change," Coldsmith said. She likened it to the campaign to make seat-belt use commonplace.

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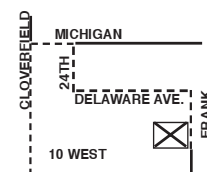
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Police seek help finding suspect

ASSAULT, from page 1

medium complexioned Hispanic male in his 20's, 5 feet, 5 inches tall and 160 pounds, having black hair worn slicked or gelled back. The suspect was last seen wearing a tan long-sleeved shirt and black pants.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the sex crimes unit of the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander's office at (310) 458-8426. Callers who wish to remain anonymous also may call the We-Tip national hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463).

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For more information, come tour the AQUA towers at 388 and 488 Ocean Boulevard and visit www.AQUALB.COM or call 562.495.1655.



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Set within the urban fabric of Downtown Long Beach, Broadway and Maine residents will enjoy a pedestrian friendly lifestyle with ease of access to work, shopping, dining and entertainment. Diverse amenities include a podium level pool oasis, state of the art exercise facilities, meditation gardens, and enchanting plant and water treatments.

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For more information, visit www.broadwayandmaine.com or 562-481-3877.



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expansive lobby with vintage opulence. An enticing array of loft floor plans are available for urban loft floor plans are available for urban sophisticates who desire a rare opportunity to live in downtown Long Beach. Urban loft development is new and exciting, and appeals to those who love city vitality with all its cultural advantages. 1,500 to 2,970 square feet. Priced from the mid \$600,000's to \$1.5 million.

For more information, visit www.templelofts.com or call 562.432.1689.



WEST OCEAN

400 West Ocean Blvd.

Units: 246 (for-sale)
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Come see two luxury residential towers in one towering new urban community rising like no other. With just two, four, or six residences per floor and a total of six floor plans, West Ocean is designed to give you maximum living space with incredible views of the city and sea. Tower I is sold out, but Tower II currently has units available for sale.

The Community Features a graciously impressive lobby with 24/7 concierge, state of the art fitness facility, resort-style pool & spa, outdoor barbeque & dining area with fireplace, screening room, wine storage and guest suite. Residence Features include granite countertops throughout, maple Cabinetry, Kitchenaid/Whirlpool stainless steel appliance

packages and Kohler plumbing fixtures. Prices start in the low \$500,000s.

For more information, visit online at www.intracorpcompanies.com or call 562.436.2326.

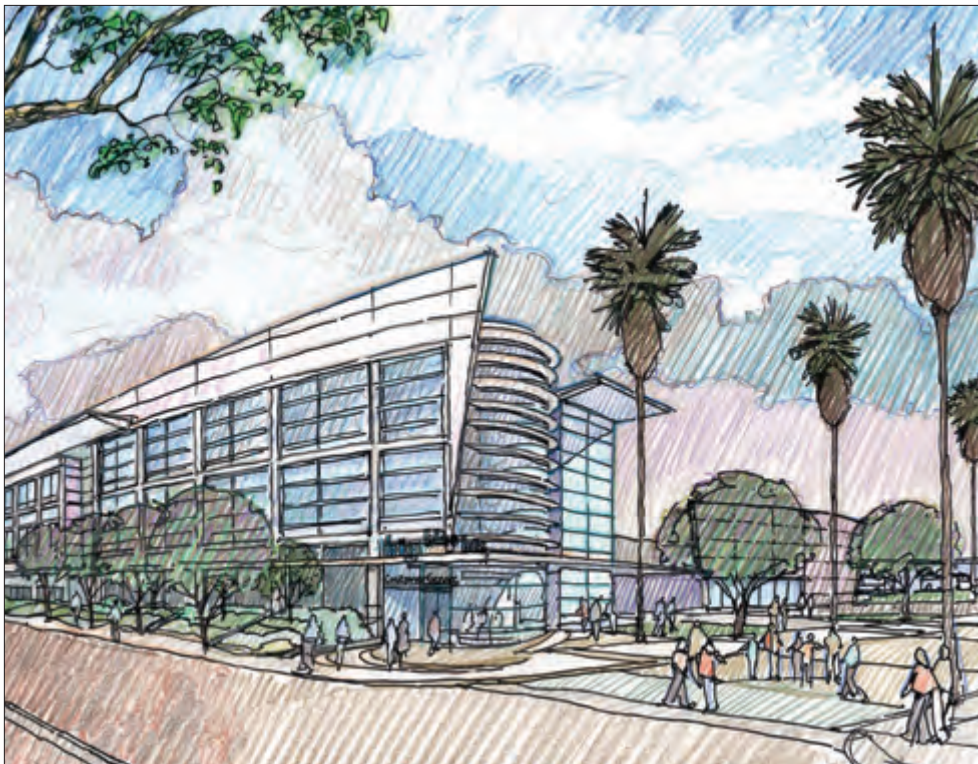


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LOCAL



Rendering Courtesy

Costs for the expansion and redesign of the Big Blue Bus headquarters, at Colorado Avenue and Seventh Street, have increased close to \$60 million in the past two years.

Council vows to find funding for building

BIG BLUE, from page 1

cent SAMOSHEL, a homeless shelter located on the south side of the bus yard.

The most recent estimate for the project puts the price tag at \$140.2 million, with \$95 million in construction costs. Assistant City Manager Gordon Anderson said City Hall is about \$50 million short. As a result, plans will move forward with the design of the new maintenance facility, which is crucial to operations, but the administrative building and parking would be postponed until funds are made available.

Still, the City Council on Tuesday reaffirmed its commitment to finding money for the administration building, making note of the effort in designing a facility that would make that section of the street more aesthetically pleasing.

The OPCC access center relocation is estimated to cost \$5.7 million, an increase of \$2.7 million, according to a city staff report.

The bus fuel and wash facility has already been completed as part of the expansion.

Much of the increase is due to dramatic fluctuations in the price for materials such as steel. In the last two years, construction demands and costs have increased worldwide at a rate of more than 30 percent annually, industry observers said.

"In addition to increasing material and labor costs, the uncertainty in the steel and cement markets is driving pricing," said Karl F. Almstead, vice president of Turner Corp., a Dallas-based construction trade organization that has conducted quarterly forecasts on construction costs for the last 50 years. "Although construction activity appears to be increasing, the overall competitive envi-

ronment is counteracting some of the pricing pressure."

The dramatic increase in fuel costs, as well as petroleum-based products, also has contributed to the hike along with competition for those materials from China, which is experiencing a boom in development, according to Associated Builders and Contractors, a national trade organization.

The most recent estimate for the project puts the price tag at \$140.2M, with \$95M in construction costs.

According to Anderson, the Big Blue Bus expansion was delayed for several years because it was difficult to find an appropriate location for OPCC given the lack of available sites in Santa Monica. Some design changes also contributed to the delay, further increasing the cost of the project.

To handle the escalating costs, the City Council voted to approve a design contract with Morley Construction and the architectural firm Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum (HOK) to develop an alternative expansion plan that would preserve the original concept, but be less costly. That effort is expected to be completed by the end of the year, at which time complete design documents and at least 50 percent of construction plans will be prepared.

The expansion is in its initial phase and construction for the new OPCC access center is expected to begin in July and last about a year.

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MIND YOUR BUSINESS

BY KIRK G. AGUER

When considering individual stocks for your portfolio, a company's size is one of the key ways of categorizing potential investments. Generally, companies issuing common stock fall into one of three size groups: large-cap, mid-cap or small-cap, based on the total stock market value of the company that underlies the stock. This is commonly referred to as "market capitalization."

Large-cap stocks usually refer to companies with total

market capitalization of more than \$5 billion. Large-cap companies tend to be well-established, well-known household names and are likely to be stocks listed on the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 stock indexes.

Mid-cap stocks typically refer to companies with market capitalizations of between \$1.5 billion and \$5 billion. Mid-cap companies tend to be those that are beginning to mature but are still in the growing stages.

The small-cap designation is usually assigned to companies with market capitalizations of less than \$1.5 billion. Small-cap stocks usually represent new businesses and young companies that are often still in their start-up phases.

Investments in the common stock of small and mid-sized companies may provide the potential for greater growth opportunities but generally involve greater risks than those typically associated with the common stock of larger com-

panies, because smaller companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, among other things. Of course, these categories may overlap and the designations should be used only as general guidelines on the size and status of companies that have issued stock. Your financial advisor can help you determine which combination of stocks is suitable for you, based on your particular circumstances, individual financial situation and investment goals.

(To reach Kirk Aguer, financial advisor at Morgan Stanley, call him at his Santa Monica office at (310) 319-2500.)

College grads will face harsh realities

Book advises the ill-prepared

By Daily Press staff

This spring, 1.4 million new college graduates will be flooding into the job market after receiving their diplomas. The good news is that it is the strongest job market we have experienced in five years. The bad news is that many of those graduates will be unprepared to begin building their careers successfully.

"Career counselors on campus don't necessarily give graduates the tools they need to build rewarding careers," said Wendy Adams, a career coach. "Some predict that we will have the most unskilled, unprepared workforce in professional history. If the individuals entering into our workforce do not feel personally empowered and equipped for success, both they and the organizations they support will suffer."

Adams, with co-author and husband Gene Pometto, penned the recently released book, "The Coach Compass, Navigation Tools for Career and Life Success." She makes the point that recent grads need to formulate some kind of strategy before embarking on their careers.

"Grads should have a detailed career plan in place," Adams said. "While much of the advice for graduates focuses on landing that first job, unfortunately not enough of it focuses on building a satisfying career."

Her book provides sound strategies that could potentially set today's graduates on a rewarding career course by breaking down the career life cycle into 12 potential positions. It gives abundant examples of how each of these positions can be comfortably navigated in positive, growth-promoting ways, and conversely, how the lack of self-knowledge and motivation when overcoming obstacles may eventually lead to apathy, stagnation and disappointment.

"It's important for recent grads to realize that a job is not a career and should not be viewed as such," Adams said. "A common mistake is that graduates focus too much on the job, while overlooking the essential elements that could lead to a more fulfilling career. Focus on the whole and not just one of the parts. You can really choose how successful you want to be, by clearly defining who you are, what you do and what you want. It's not what happens to you, it's what you make happen."

Adams advises graduates to pursue a career that makes the best use of their talents and passions. "As you ponder the next big step in your career, weigh it in terms of how it satisfies you both personally and financially," she said. "The most meaningful work is work that allows a person to express his or her authentic self."

She offers some suggestions for recent graduates:

- Decide what you want out of your career and draw up a plan "on paper."
- Articulate and map out what you have to offer potential employers.
- Use your personal connections with professors, business associates, and even your parents' friends in order to promote your value and expand your reach.
- Continually emphasize your potential.

To the question "How successful do you want to be?" Adams and Pometto say: "You decide."

The future is literally in the hands of our graduating students and it will be up to them to decide where they want to go. "While parents, peers, teachers and mentors may have had to opportunity to encourage you to develop to certain preferences, skills and interests, you are ultimately the one that will need to address the barriers that prevent success from happening," Adams said.

ON THE NET

www.coachcompass.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Santa Monican joins JFS

By Daily Press staff

Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS) has announced that Santa Monica resident David Marks, executive vice president and head of U.S. Corporate Banking for Wells Fargo, has joined its board of directors.

In 2004, Wells Fargo received the first Anita and Stanley Hirsh Award, presented annually by JFS to an individual, organization, or corporation that has made a significant, ongoing contribution of service and/or financial support to JFS. The award was named in memory of long-time JFS supporter Stanley Hirsh.

Marks leads more than 400 Wells Fargo team members who focus on generating ideas that improve Wells Fargo's relationships with large corporations across the U. S. He is responsible for Wells Fargo's nine corporate banking offices in the U.S., its financial institutions division, and the California government, education and labor division. In addition, Marks' responsibilities include Wells Fargo Shareowner Services, a provider of stock transfer and related services to public companies and their shareholders.

Marks was born in Minneapolis. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Carleton College.

For more than 151 years, JFS has provided social services to individuals and families in need, regardless of age, ethnicity, religion or ability to pay. JFS counsels families in crisis, supports the elderly, houses the homeless, feeds the hungry, assists people with disabilities and works with victims of violence.

Site unseen? Plug back into it

By Daily Press staff

For many small, not-for-profit organizations, having a Web site is not just a perk, it's a necessary tool to providing services, resources, and information to the communities they serve.

While most organizations have Web sites, they are usually basic at best, and at worst, ineffective because of their high costs to develop and maintain. That's why student and faculty volunteers at The Art Institutes, a system of 32 schools throughout North America, including The Art Institute of California-Los Angeles in Santa Monica are dedicating this year's National Web Raising event to helping charities boost the impact, appearance and effectiveness of their Web sites.

The Art Institutes' fifth annual National Web Raising event takes place on Saturday, May 13, with live Web site launches in cities across the U.S. Since its inception, the National Web Raising effort has created hundreds of Web sites for not-for-profit organizations providing services in the arts, the environment, social programs and education.

Interactive media design students and faculty volunteers at The Art Institute of California-Los Angeles work for months with charity organizations to learn as much as possible about what the agency does and what it wants its Web site to accomplish.

The National Web Raising links students to community leaders and groups that create solutions to local issues.

"As they volunteer their services, the students become part of the solution," said Jan McWilliams, academic chair of the interactive media design department at The Art Institute of California-Los Angeles. "This is as important to their futures as developing their professional skills."

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All in a day’s work

Seizing opportunity no one else notices defines entrepreneur

BY FRANCINE PARNES
Associated Press Writer

To measure up to his official title of “marketing guru” at an Internet company, Mark Hughes hatched and rejected a lot of gimmicks before finally deciding that the business, Half.com, should pay the town of Halfway, Ore., \$100,000 to rename itself Half.com for a year. The national publicity was enormous.

Cameron Johnson of Blacksburg, Va., started his first Internet company at age 9, selling greeting cards. Next, he bought his sister’s Beanie Baby collection for \$100, resold it on eBay for \$1,000, then expanded, and by age 12 had made \$50,000. As a high school freshman, he sold ads on the Internet, pulling in as much as \$15,000 a day.

Sig Anderman came out of retirement in Sonoma County, Calif., when his “eureka” moment told him that somebody should figure out how to provide mortgage brokers instant Internet access to all documents that comprise a closing. He talked up the idea to a venture capitalist and created a company called Ellie Mae. In 2004, his Web site made Inc. magazine’s list of America’s 500 fastest-growing private companies.

Seizing opportunities that no one else seems to notice is a defining trait — if not the core trait — of the American entrepreneur, according to Brent Bowers, who ferreted out the stories of such business swashbucklers for his new book,

CAREER BRIEFS When you, umm, really want a job

By The Associated Press

It’s not just, you know, what you say that matters in a job interview. It’s also, like, how you say it..

The use of slang and phrases such as “like” and “umm” can make job candidates appear uneducated or immature, says Mary Michael Hawkins, director of the career center at the University of Denver. “It shows that they are not as prepared as they should be,” she says.

College students’ habitual use of the word “like,” for instance, is something campus career service professionals are trying to address, says Brenda Fabian, director of the Center for Career Services at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa.

“Recent graduates and current students are penalized (by prospective employers) for using the word ‘like.’ Many of them don’t even know they’re using it since it’s a part of their everyday language,” she says.

Doug Hamilton, director of career counseling at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Ala., suggests mentally placing a period at the end of a sentence to “remind the speaker not to add unneeded phrases.”

He urges students to listen to newscasters. “When I ask them why they think news anchors sound so professional, my point is that they never use these types of words — ‘like’ or ‘you know’ — to fill in between their lines, or to begin their sentences.”

Other slang to stay away from when interviewing for a job, according to the experts?

“To tell you the truth.” “Whatever.” “Dude.”

Manners matter, even when alone

By The Associated Press

Many business travelers dread the prospect of eating alone in a restaurant. But there’s no reason to be a prisoner to room service. Venture out with the following tips from business trainers Pachter & Associates:

Stand up for yourself. “If you are seated in a bad location, you can say, ‘I’d like a seat a little farther from the door,’” the company advises in a recent newsletter.

Respect other people’s space. Try not to eavesdrop and don’t interrupt, although it may be appropriate to make a comment if you’ve made eye contact. Then back off, unless the other party continues the conversation with you.

Remember that the restaurant is not your office. It’s OK to read, but don’t fumble with papers or talk loudly on the phone.

Observe table manners, even if nobody else is at your table.

“That vigor is a magnet. It pulls in so many immigrants eager to leave behind not only poverty, but also bureaucracy, corruption, overregulation and sometimes downright hostility to their entrepreneurial ambition.”

BRENT BOWERS
AUTHOR

‘THE EIGHT PATTERNS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ENTREPRENEURS’

“If at First You Don’t Succeed: The Eight Patterns of Highly Effective Entrepreneurs” (Currency/Doubleday).

“One surprising thing is that many of the products and services that entrepreneurs come up with seem like treasures that are hidden in plain sight,” Bowers said in an interview.

Bowers covered entrepreneurs during a stint as small-business editor of The New York Times, and before that as a reporter and editor for the Wall Street Journal. He often wondered what set them apart, so he interviewed three dozen entrepreneurs over the course of a year. Next, drawing on the expertise of business consultants, academics and venture capitalists, he boiled down his research to 30 traits common to highly effective entrepreneurs, then identified eight patterns that he considered most salient.

Besides seizing opportunities, they include: a desire to run your own show, innovative behavior since childhood, flexibility, doggedness, self-confidence, pragmatism and the ability to “fail upward.”

“In most of the world, failure is seen as a disgrace,” says Bowers. “But in the United States, nobody holds it against you. Some entrepreneurs almost brag about their bloopers. As one of the experts I talked to told me, they consider making a mess of things practically a badge of honor so long as they take stock of what went wrong and learn from it.”

Judith Cone, vice president of entrepreneurship at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, a \$1.7 billion organization in Kansas City, Mo., that does research on entrepreneurial activity, agrees with Bowers’ conclusions.

“His book takes the mystery out of being an entrepreneur and reveals it for what it is: being a leader who understands customers and markets, believes in the product or service, is dedicated, puts in hard work, is stubborn, resilient and lucky,” Cone says.

It’s important to understand entrepreneurs, Bowers says, because “America’s culture is deeply and vigorously entrepreneurial.

“That vigor is a magnet. It pulls in so many immigrants eager to leave behind not only poverty, but also bureaucracy, corruption, overregulation and sometimes downright hostility to their entrepreneurial ambition. And besides attracting hardworking, hustling people to our shores, American entrepreneurialism gives us an edge in the competition for global markets.”

There are nearly 24 million entrepreneurs in the United States, the author says. “That’s 11 percent of the adult population. No other country scores that high.”

Small businesses account for more than half of America’s gross domestic product, he says, adding that hundreds of American colleges and universities now offer courses in entrepreneurship, up from just 16 in 1970.

Among other stories he cites:

■ Kevin Plank winged it in the athletic clothing market by filling an order in four days for a garment he’d never previously made. A football team needed thermal undershirts for a Saturday game. On Tuesday, Plank grabbed elastic fabric; on Wednesday, his contractor manufactured the shirts; on Thursday, they were shipped; on Friday, they arrived. Plank later launched Under Armour Performance Apparel in the basement of his grandmother’s house in Washington, D.C. It became a \$240 million company with 450 employees.

■ James Poss, the “princeling of tinkers,” hunkered down in his basement from age 8, assembling and disassembling toys, appliances and whatever else. He rigged crossbows and battery-powered fans, and mixed and matched parts from rocket kits. His curiosity led him to found Seahorse Power Company, which makes solar-powered trash compactors.

Spelling the boomers

BY MEG RICHARDS
Associated Press Writer

If you want to see the future, check out the classifieds.

The help-wanted section of your local paper offers a snapshot of today’s labor market, and a glimpse of the hot jobs of tomorrow. As the baby boomers — born between 1946 and 1964 — amble into retirement, employers will be racing to fill the positions they vacate, and to provide for the needs of America’s fast-graying population.

Over the next decade, the greatest need for higher skilled workers will be in health care, education, accounting and computer services, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Those trends can already be seen in today’s job market, said Steve Pogorzelski, group president, international, for Monster Worldwide, operator of the job search site Monster.com.

“Over the next three years, there are three areas we’ll see in high demand: accounting and auditing, health care and Internet technology,” Pogorzelski said. Right now, “it doesn’t seem the occupational trends can keep up with demand.”

The demand for accounting and auditing is driven mostly by two things: corporate compliance with tougher financial regulations, and baby boomers’ demand for retirement services, he said.

Despite worries that outsourcing would reduce the number of U.S.-based technology jobs, there continues to be strong growth in that field as well, according to the Monster employment index, which measures online job postings and availability on 1,500 Web sites each month. Demand is greatest for workers in databases, security, privacy and new media, Pogorzelski said.

Many government jobs — from postal employees to police officers — are dominated by baby boomers, who will start turning 65 in 2011. Shortages are also projected among transportation workers, from airline pilots to truck drivers, and among some of the traditional skilled trade professions, such as plumbers, carpenters and mechanics.

Roughly half the auto technicians working in the nation’s repair shops will be eligible for retirement in the next decade, according to the bureau. There’s already a shortfall of people to replace those leaving the field, said Tony Molla, spokesman for the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence, the industry’s certification organization.

Wages for the job, which has become increasingly technical as cars include more electronic parts, range from about \$25,000 at entry level to more than \$100,000 for the highest-skilled master technicians.

“Vehicles are being built better and require less repair, so we’ve been getting by with a shrinking work force,” Molla said. “But the number of cars in this country keeps increasing. There is definitely going to be more demand for automotive technicians when these large numbers start retiring.”

Health care, projected to be the fastest-growing area in the next decade, is also seeing skill shortages in many positions, including registered nurses, respiratory therapists and occupational therapists. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a growing need for lower-skilled health care jobs, including assistant nurses, home health aides and other technicians, who may assume duties once performed by more highly paid workers as employers try to cut health-care costs.

Overall, the bureau projects growth of 30.3 percent in the health care profession through 2014, or 4.7 million new jobs. That means one out of every five new jobs will be in health care. The numbers “are almost hard to comprehend,” said Dennis V. Damp, author of “Health Care Job Explosion,” first published in 1995 and appearing in its fourth edition in May.

In addition to filling vacancies left by retiring boomers, Damp said the need for more medical workers is due to advances in technology, the rise of obesity-related problems and the needs of an aging population. The number of Americans over age 65 is expected to grow to 40.2 million by 2010, and to 71.5 million by 2030.

“Older Americans spend more than twice that of all others on medical services,” Damp said.



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Iran's president labels concerns over nuclear proliferation 'a big lie'

BY CHRIS BRUMMITT
Associated Press Writer

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Iran's president on Wednesday dismissed Western concerns over its nuclear program as "a big lie," a day after key U.N. Security Council members agreed to present Tehran with a choice of incentives or sanctions in deciding whether to suspend uranium enrichment.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told reporters in Indonesia's capital that Iran will "absolutely not back out" of defending its right to pursue new technology, accusing the United States and other Western nations of monopolizing the nuclear technology market to secure profits while engaging in non-peaceful proliferation.

"They pretend that they are concerned about the nature of the nuclear program of the Islamic republic of Iran," he said after meeting with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. "This is a big lie."

"Today the people of Iran are not just defending their own rights, but also those of other nations," he said. "They (the United States and other Western powers) want to prevent other countries from reaching the pinnacle of science and technology."

At a meeting Tuesday, representatives of the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France as well as Germany agreed to tell Iran the possible consequences of its refusal to halt its enrichment program and the benefits if it abandons it.

The move will delay a U.S.-backed draft U.N. resolution that could lead to sanctions and possible military action if Iran does not suspend uranium enrichment.

The Chinese and Russians have balked at the British, French and U.S. efforts to put the resolution under Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter. Such a move would declare Iran a threat to international peace and security and set the stage for further measures if Tehran refuses to comply. Those measures could range from breaking diplomatic relations to economic sanctions and military action.

Representatives from the three European countries that had been spearheading negotiations with Iran — Britain, France and Germany — will now spend the next few days preparing a package of incentives and sanctions, a European official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because there has been no official announcement.

The official said the package is likely to include issues related to energy security and civilian nuclear power. The package will be presented to European Union foreign ministers on the sidelines of an EU meeting in Brussels on Monday, and if approved will be presented to the Iranian government, the official said.

The United States accuses Iran of seeking to develop nuclear weapons, a charge Tehran denies, saying it aims only to generate energy.



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By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — J.K. Rowling, Stephen King and John Irving will read selections from their own works during two benefit performances at Radio City Music Hall this summer.

It will be Rowling's first visit to the U.S. since 2000. The Harry Potter creator is a resident of Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Stephen pretended to be in suspense about my answer, but frankly, this was easily one of the most enticing propositions ever put to me in an envelope," Rowling said in a statement.

King, author of "Carrie" and other horror tales, came up with the idea for the benefit. He called it "a dream come true for me."

"It's a chance for me to read with two great writers while supporting two very deserving organizations at the same time," he said in a statement.

"An Evening With Harry, Carrie & Garp" will be held Aug. 1-2.

The performances will benefit the Haven Foundation, which helps performing artists whose accidents or illnesses have left them uninsured and unable to work, and Doctors Without Borders, a humanitarian group that delivers emergency aid in more than 70 countries.

Irving, author of "The World According to Garp" and a close friend of King's, said he looked forward to meeting Rowling. He credited her with "introducing an entire generation of readers to long, complicated, plotted novels."

Tickets go on sale Friday.

The benefit performances are being sponsored by Scholastic and Simon & Schuster/CBS Corp.

LONDON — Mick Jagger's former wife, Jerry Hall, was at the opening of a hot line for people abused when they were children, saying she had spent part of her own childhood in fear of her father.

"My father was a war hero, and he had a lot of rages and he was quite violent, and I do know the trauma of being a child and living in fear," Hall said Wednesday at the opening of the National Association

for People Abused in Childhood's hot line.

"He has passed away, but I forgive him," the actress-model said.

The 49-year-old Texan became involved with the hot line through friends and her previous work with children's charities.

The hot line will be staffed by volunteers. It is aimed at helping adults who experienced abuse or neglect as a child.

MEXICO CITY — Jane Fonda and Salma Hayek are pressuring the Mexican government to end violence against women in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez, where more than 300 women have been murdered over the past 12 years.

The actresses spoke Monday ahead of a Tuesday evening performance of "The Vagina Monologues." They were joined at a news conference by the play's author, Eve Ensler.

"It's really an embarrassment," Hayek, 39, said of Mexican authorities' inability to catch those responsible for the Ciudad Juarez killings and end the violence against women there. "In 10 years, it's not possible to secure this area?"

The Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, native said she has taken time off from her film career to promote women's rights. She vowed to continue her fight until justice is done in Ciudad Juarez.

Mexican officials say 340 women have been slain over the last 12 years in Ciudad Juarez, a city of about 1.3 million across from El Paso, Texas. But human rights groups say the number of women killed is much higher.

Fonda said she also believes U.S. corporations had some responsibility in Ciudad Juarez, where they benefit from low factory wages. Citizens cannot afford sufficient street lighting and guards to create a safe environment, the 68-year-old actress said.

All proceeds from Fonda and Hayek's performance were to benefit organizations aiding women and girls in Ciudad Juarez.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — Ashley Judd, whose screen credits include roles in "De-Lovely"

and "Kiss the Girls," said campaigning on behalf of AIDS awareness has changed her life.

The 38-year-old actress, who is world ambassador for the Washington-based YouthAIDS group, met in Honduras with Vice President Elvin Santos, first lady Xiomara Castro, AIDS patients, activists and other political leaders.

"I always dreamed about having this kind of life," Judd told reporters Monday. "This work changed my life."

She was in Honduras as part of a weeklong visit to Central America.

"I have dedicated myself completely to helping others, and this activity has given my life meaning, in helping humanity," she said.

Earlier in her tour, Judd met with AIDS patients in Guatemala and also visited Nicaragua.

YouthAIDS promotes sexual abstinence as the only 100 percent-safe way to prevent AIDS, as well as monogamy and correct condom use.

At least 6,000 deaths have been attributed to AIDS in Honduras, which has about 15,000 confirmed cases. Authorities and activists estimate as many as 65,000 people in the country are HIV-positive.

HONG KONG — Forbes.com has named Jackie Chan one of 10 generous celebrities, placing the Hong Kong action film star among the ranks of Bono, Oprah Winfrey and Angelina Jolie.

In a report Tuesday, the Web site said that Chan, who set up the Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation, gave \$64,000 to UNICEF to help tsunami victims in Asia in December 2004, and recently donated \$100,000 to Chrysalis, a Los Angeles-based charity for the homeless.

Besides Chan, Bono, Winfrey and Jolie, the other generous celebrities identified by Forbes.com are Nicolas Cage, Sandra Bullock, Steven Spielberg, Celine Dion, Paul McCartney and California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The 10 celebrities were not ranked.

Chan announced on his Web site this week that filming of the third installment in his "Rush Hour" action comedy film series will begin in late summer. The movie will be shot in Paris, New York City and Los Angeles.

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006

Broadway Loews Cineplex
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

Akeelah and the Bee (PG)
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40

Hoot (PG)
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50

Inside Man (R)
1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55

RV (PG)
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10

Scary Movie 4 (PG-13)
1:25, 3:35, 5:40, 7:55, 10:15

Silent Hill (R)
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

Stick It (PG-13)
12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Hard Candy (R)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

Ice Age: The Meltdown (PG)
11:40am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

La Mujer de Mi Hermano (R)
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20

Lucky Number Slevin (R)
11:30am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30

Take the Lead (PG-13)
12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 9:50

V for Vendetta (R)
12:40, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00

AMC7 Santa Monica
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Akeelah and the Bee (PG)
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

Inside Man (R)
1:10, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50

RV (PG)
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10

Scary Movie 4 (PG-13)
1:20, 3:35, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

Silent Hill (R)
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

Stick It (PG-13)
12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

The Wild (G)
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 9:40

Nuwilshire Theatre
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

The Notorious Bettie Page (R)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Thank You for Smoking (R)
11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50

Laemmle 4-Plex Theatre
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Friends With Money (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Kinky Boots (PG-13)
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:45

Water (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

Information: calendar@smdp.com

MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant arrived in New Amsterdam to become governor.

In 1858, Minnesota became the 32nd state of the Union.

In 1904, surrealist artist Salvador Dali was born in Figueras, Spain.

In 1910, Glacier National Park in Montana was established.

In 1943, during World War II, U.S. forces landed on the Aleutian island of Attu, which was held by the Japanese; the Americans took the island 19 days later.

In 1944, Allied forces launched a major offensive against German lines in Italy.

In 1946, the first CARE packages arrived in Europe, at Le Havre, France.

In 1949, Israel was admitted to the United Nations as the world body's 59th member.



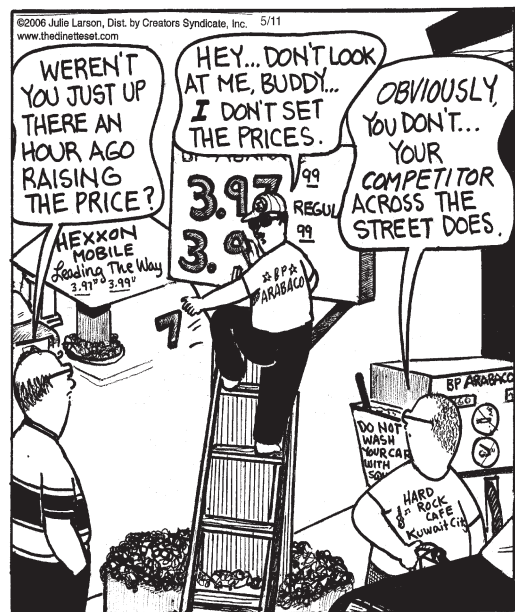
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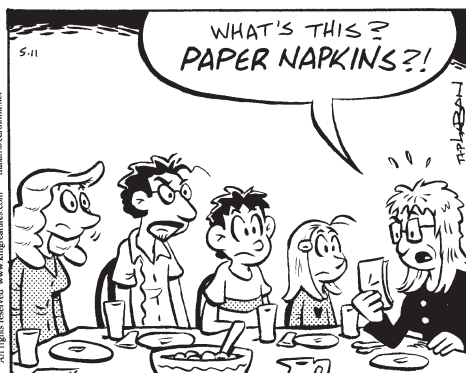
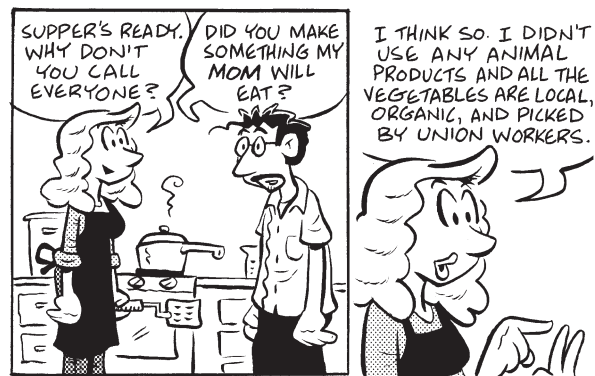


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson

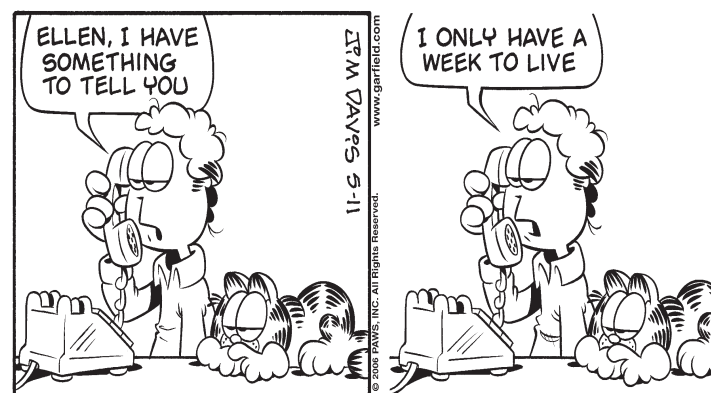
By Russ Wallace



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By Jim Davis



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44 Time separator

DOWN

1 Pilgrim's goal
6 Garment
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Yesterday's answer

5	Straddling	18	China's Chou —	33	Egyptian symbol for life
6	Like taffy	20	Narrow escape	34	"There — joy in Mudville"
7	Eye part	21	Deep sleeps	35	Timid
8	Strange	22	Erupts	36	— degree
9	Before today	24	Canyon carrier	37	Bus. abbr.
10	London's —	25	High deg.	39	Zodiac cat
16	Solvent ingredient	27	Kind of torch	40	Peak: Abbr.
17	Chopped up	31	Uneasy state		

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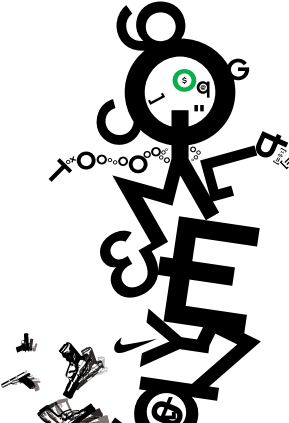
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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF:
LESLIE HYDE
CASE NO. SP006732
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors,
contingent creditors, and persons
who may otherwise be interested in
the WILL or estate, or both of LES-
LIE HYDE.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been
filed by BRUCE CHARNAS in the
Superior Court of California,
County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE re-
quests that BRUCE CHARNAS be
appointed as personal representa-
tive to administer the estate of the
decedent.
THE PETITION requests the deced-
ent's WILL and codicils, if any, be
admitted to probate. The WILL and
any codicils are available for exami-
nation in the file kept by the court.
A HEARING on the petition will be
held on 07/07/06 at 9:15AM in Dept.
A located at 1725 Main St., Santa
Monica, CA 90401
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of
the petition, you should appear at
the hearing and state your objec-
tions 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 per-
sonal 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 inter-
ested in the estate, you may file with
the court a Request for Special No-
tice (form DE-154) of the filing of an
inventory and appraisal of estate as-
sets 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.
Petitioner In Pro Per
BRUCE CHARNAS
139 BAYVIEW DRIVE
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901
5/11, 5/12, 5/18/06
CNS-965679#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF
JAMES PATTERSON ERVINE
Case No. BP098089
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of JAMES PATTERSON ER-
VINE
A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Donald M.

Notices

Ervine in the Superior Court of Cali-
fornia, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Ada
P.Sands be appointed as personal
repre-sentative to administer the es-
tate of the decedent.
THE PETITION re-
quests authority to administer the
estate under the Independent Ad-
ministra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on May 30, 2006 at
8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 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 objec-
tions with the court before the hear-
ing. Your appearance may be in
person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDI-
TOR 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 Re-
quest 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:
SANFORD M EHRMANN ESQ
SBN 26708
9606 SANTA MONICA BLVD
3RD FL
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90210-4420
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN751368 ERVINE May 4,5,11, 2006

PRIORITY A AND B CATCH BASIN
RETROFIT
IN CITIES TRIBUTARY TO THE SANTA
MONICA BAY
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Sealed Bids will be received by the
County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Works, Construction Division, for
the installation of trash excluders in exist-
ing storm drain catch basins and other ap-
purtenant work under Project ID No.
FCC0001003, Priority A and B Catch Bas-
in Retrofit in Cities Tributary to the Santa
Monica Bay, in the Cities of Inglewood,
Santa Monica, West Hollywood, El Se-
gundo, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan
Beach, and Rancho Palos Verdes.

The Bids must be submitted at the Cas-
hier's Office, located on the Mezzanine
level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alham-
bra, California 91803-1331, before 11
a.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2006. The
Bids will then be publicly opened and read
in Conference Room A or at the location
posted in the main lobby.

The Work shall be done in accordance
with the Plans and Specifications on file
and open for inspection at the County
Board of Supervisors Executive Office and
the Department of Public Works. The
Work is estimated to cost between
\$1,000,000 and \$1,200,000 and shall be
completed in 100 working days. The
Work requires a Class A, C42, or C61
(D34) contractor's license. Prebid ques-
tions regarding the Plans and Specifica-
tions should be directed to Mr. Richard
Weyermuller at (626) 458-7870.

The Bids must be submitted on the Pro-
posals forms included in the Bidder's pack-
age of the Contract Documents, which
may be purchased for \$14, if picked up at
the aforementioned Cashier's Office, (626)
458-6959, Monday through Thursday be-
tween 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., or for \$17, if
mailed, which includes postage and hand-
ling.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a certi-
fied check, cashier's check, or surety bond
payable to Los Angeles County in an
amount equal to at least 10 percent of the
Bid to guarantee that the Bidder will enter
into the Contract if it is so awarded.

All persons performing the Work shall be
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Notices

Wage Determination made by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the California Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are available at the Department of Public Works.

The Bid must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, and civil/criminal legal actions as provided for on the forms included as part of the Proposal. Failure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the Bidder is nonresponsive and/or not responsible.

The Contract, if awarded, will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder; however, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A responsible Bidder is a Bidder who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfactorily perform the Contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors.

The successful Bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the Contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the Contract or initiation of debarment proceedings.

The successful Bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond, payment bond, liability insurance, and workers' compensation insurance with the Contract.

As provided for in Section 22300 of the California Public Contract Code, the Contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the Contract or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent.

Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such Bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code.

Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves.

The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

Dated April 18, 2006.

Sachi Hamai
Executive Officer
of the Board of Supervisors
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN752055 00673 May 8,9,10,11,12, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOSE GAETA aka JOE GAETA PEREZ

Case No. SP006722
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JOSE GAETA aka JOE GAETA PEREZ

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Rosa Gaeta Singrin and Teresa Gaeta Fernan-dez in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Rosa Gaeta Singrin and Teresa Gaeta Fernan-dez 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 9, 2006 at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should

Notices

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 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:
MARK F VON ESCH ESQ
SBN101452
VON ESCH & VON ESCH
810 E COMMONWEALTH AVE
FULLERTON CA 92831
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN753691 16924 May 4,5,11, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARY ELIZABETH BREHONEY CASE NO. BP098183

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by FRED SZKOLNIK in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that FRED SZKOLNIK 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 06/05/06 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 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
JILL BROUSARD, ESQ.
13305 PENN ST., #100
WHITTIER, CA 90602
5/10, 5/11, 5/17/06
CNS-964647#
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