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WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008

Volume 7 Issue 162



CALLING IT QUITS
SEE PAGE 13

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LIVE WIRE ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

RECREATIONAL SPENDING: **Karen Nagle pushes her sons Edward and Jacob on the swings at Memorial Park on Tuesday. The city's $521 million fiscal 2008-09 municipal budget includes a number of capital improvement projects including an expansion of the popular park.**

City reveals budget

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL While neighboring municipalities struggle to provide services as revenues dip due to a sluggish economy, City Hall plans to spend more money than it did last year, around $521 million, with roughly $22 million going toward capital improvement projects such as the expansion of Memorial Park.

City Manager Lamont Ewell on Tuesday evening presented the fiscal 2008-09 municipal budget to the City Council, a spending plan that is expected to balloon by 8.6 percent from the current year.

The council kicked off a two-night series of study sessions on the budget — department by department — analyzing an overall budget of $521 million, approximately $251 million of which comes from the general fund, which is used to pay for essential services such as public safety.

"We are recommending a very aggressive budget in a very sluggish economy," Ewell said on Tuesday during a meeting with the local media.

"This budget was guided by the City Council's identified priorities, with input from our residents, neighborhood groups, boards and commissions and other community members following fall and winter neighborhood meetings and various year-round opportunities for suggestions and comments," Ewell added.

SEE BUDGET PAGE 11

L.A. attorney: Counties can't pick and choose on gay marriage

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The city attorney said this week that county workers authorized to perform marriage ceremonies must be willing to conduct same-sex marriages under last week's landmark court ruling, regardless of their personal views on homosexuality.

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo said in similar letters to the Secretary of State and Los Angeles County Supervisors that any policy that would allow certain workers to conduct only marriages between a man and a woman would be inconsistent with Thursday's state Supreme Court decision that legalized gay marriage in California.

"The court ruled that the state's constitution guarantees the right to marry to all Californians," Delgadillo wrote.

"County clerks have no legal standing to grant county employees the authority or ability to choose which marriages they wish not to officiate at, based on their personal views or biases," he wrote. The court "has been crystal clear on this issue — same-sex couples must be afforded equal protection under the law."

In its 4-3 ruling, the high court struck down state laws against same-sex marriage. Those marriages could begin in about a month, the time it typically takes for the justices' opinions to become final, although legal and administrative snags could delay that timetable.

Last week, Los Angeles County acting registrar-recorder Dean Logan told the Los Angeles Times that supervisors in his department asked him to consider devising procedures for county workers who may be uncomfortable officiating same-sex marriages. "I would not expect that we would put

SEE MARRIAGE PAGE 12

Santa Monica man's death ruled a homicide

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY The death of a 49-year-old Santa Monica man found beaten and unconscious last week has been ruled a homicide.

Autopsy results confirmed on Tuesday that Preston Brumfield was killed as a result of blunt force trauma to the head, according to Craig Harvey with the Los Angeles County Coroner.

Brumfield was discovered the evening of May 11, lying on the sidewalk on the 1900 block of 20th Street. Santa Monica Police arrived on the scene and found Brumfield with injuries to his face.

He was transported to the UCLA Medical Center in Westwood where he died four days later.

Police are still seeking suspects and have no further information available.

Anyone who may have witnessed the attack is encouraged to call the SMPD at (310) 458-8451 or (310) 458-8427. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call the We-Tip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME.

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Santa Monica Daily Press

Pituitary Tumor Patient Support Group
2200 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
The Neuro-Endocrine Tumor Center sponsors a free bi-monthly pituitary tumor patient educational support group meeting at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. For more information: www.neuro-endo.org of www.hormones411.org.

Meet the artists
2903 Santa Monica Blvd., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Come out to meet artists Danielle Eubank, Katherine Kean and Anne M. Bray at TAG Gallery.

Kiwanis Club Meeting
Santa Monica YMCA, Noon — 1:30 p.m.
Come and join the Santa Monica Kiwanis Club — an organization made up of volunteers that provides community support through grants, volunteer hours and much more — for their weekly club luncheon at the Santa Monica YMCA. Members use these meetings to increase fundraising efforts and spread the word on support committees and community events. Special guest speakers will be attending the luncheon. For more information, call (310) 613-1249.

12 Steps For Everybody
16370 Bollinger Dr., Pacific Palisades, 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.
12 Steps for Everybody's one-hour 12-Step Writing Meeting hosts a more intensive practice to the traditional 12-Step program — reading literature, going to meetings, finding a sponsor and then working the 12 Steps. This program is for anyone who would like to join, or anyone with a habitual problem or illness. For more information, call (310) 454-5138, or e-mail info@12stepsforeverybody.org.

Say cheese
2612 Main St., 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
As studio photographer for MGM, Warner Brothers and Columbia, George Hurrell shot some of the world's most beautiful and intriguing personalities, creating the template for the Hollywood glamour portrait. His flawless photography was instrumental in shaping the images of stars such as Joan Crawford, James Cagney and Rita Hayworth. An exhibition at the California Heritage Museum entitled "Lights! Camera! Glamour! The Photography of George Hurrell" shows more than eighty iconic photographs ranging from Jean Harlow, and Clark Gable to Joan Collins and Arnold Schwarzenegger. For more information contact calmuseum@earthlink.net or (310) 392 8537.

Thursday, May 22, 2008

The Meathands have it
4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m.
The "Magic Meathands" perform an hour of fully improvised hilarity based on audience suggestions and participation. The show is presented by director Bill Johnson, in a great cafe that offers delicious coffee, food, drinks and comfortable couches. What sets this improv group apart is their personal connection with the audience and community, so their best material comes directly from the people around them. For information, call (310) 559-8868.

Laugh your chakras off
717 Broadway, 11 a.m.
Led by Kim Selbert, a certified laughter yoga leader, this class utilizes simple and fun laughter exercises to promote better health. Bet you didn't know that you could change your life through the simple act of laughing. This class takes place at Shakti's Elements in Downtown.

What's new this week
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad.

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

WORK IN PROGRESS: **Pacific Park has delayed the opening of the new Ferris wheel due to construction delays.**

SANTA MONICA PIER

Pacific Park puts Ferris wheel debut on hold

Construction delays have forced Pacific Park to postpone a dedication ceremony for its new, $1.5 million Ferris wheel.

The unveiling, including the Ferris wheel relighting and Special Olympics Southern California check presentation, will take place on Wednesday, May 28 at 8:30 p.m., representatives from the amusement park said Tuesday.

Following the lighting ceremony, all guests may ride the wheel for free from approximately 9:15 p.m. to midnight. Pacific Park will also provide free popcorn, cotton candy and live music.

"We look forward to sharing the all-new Ferris wheel relighting ceremony and dedication with the community," said Jeff Klocke, director of marketing and sales at Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier. "Everyone is encouraged to come to Pacific Park and join us for the festivities."

In addition, Pacific Park will present Special Olympics Southern California with a check for $65,000 from the proceeds of the eBay auction of the original Ferris wheel, which was removed earlier this month. An Oklahoma City real estate developer purchased the wheel.

The first lighting of the all-new Ferris wheel will be highlighted by a pyrotechnics show designed by Pyro Spectaculars by Souza who has created fireworks shows for numerous Super Bowls, Summer and Winter Olympic Games, the Statue of Liberty's 100th anniversary tribute and other theme parks including Disneyland, Disney World and Six Flags. Once illuminated, the Pacific Wheel will add sparkle to Santa Monica's coastline with 160,000 energy-efficient LED lights. The enhanced LED lighting will also provide 75 percent greater energy savings than the previous incandescent bulbs. With the adaptation of its solar-power application, the all-new Pacific Wheel will continue to be the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel. The new wheel, which was manufactured by Chance Morgan Inc. in Wichita, Kan., stands 130 feet above the Pacific Ocean, features 20 gondolas with a maximum six riders per car, accommodating up to 600 riders per hour.

DAILY PRESS

CITYWIDE

Leading ladies

Time is running out to nominate the extraordinary female leader in your life for the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women's 2008 Outstanding Woman Leader Award. Nominations are being accepted through May 31.

The "Outstanding Woman Leader" is an annual award presented by the commission to women who have demonstrated exceptional personal and/or professional dedication to improving the lives of women and girls in Santa Monica.

Past award recipients have included Mimi Lind, founder of the Safe Families Domestic Violence Intervention Program at Venice Family Clinic and former director of the Westside Domestic Violence Network; Susan McCarthy, former City Manager for Santa Monica; Toni Reinis, Executive Director of New Directions, a center providing services to homeless veterans; Kelly Snyder, Samohi student leader and founder of Schools for Schools; and Gloria Curiel, Guadalupe Castro, Maria Leon-Vazquez and Rita Morales, founders of the Latina Youth Conference.

Women of all ages are eligible. Nominees must meet the following criteria to be considered for the award:

- The candidate has gone above and beyond in her effort to provide outstanding service to the women and girls of Santa Monica;
- She has demonstrated commitment to women's issues;
- She has made a positive lasting impact on the community; and
- She has done work directly benefiting the women and girls of Santa Monica.

Applications are available at www.smgov.net/ccs/cosw/index.html. Award winners will be honored in late summer.

"The Commission is honored and excited to once again celebrate the important and often unrecognized work women are doing to serve the community and benefit the lives of other women and girls," said Andrea Lipton, chair of the commission, which works to enhance the status of women in the community.

The commission promotes these goals through investigation of, advocacy for and policy development regarding issues relevant to women and girls, and by creating leadership and career advancement opportunities for women and girls in the community.

DP

Judge rejects new trial in Jackson taping case

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A judge on Monday denied a new trial for a Santa Monica-based air charter service that was ordered to pay $20.25 million for secretly videotaping Michael Jackson and his lawyers as they flew to the pop star's surrender on molestation charges in 2003.

Superior Court Judge Soussan G. Bruguera rejected the motion by the now-defunct company XtraJet Inc. and its owner Jeffrey Borer.

In March, Bruguera ordered XtraJet to pay the $20.25 million to Jackson's lawyer, Mark Geragos, and his associate, Pat Harris, for invading their privacy in order to sell the video of Jackson to the media. The pop star was a plaintiff in the 2003 lawsuit, but later withdrew from the case.

Borer and his associate Arvel Jetter Reeves, the mechanic who installed cameras in the plane, pleaded guilty to conspiracy last year. Borer was sentenced to six months home detention so he could care for his ailing wife, while Reeves received an eight-month prison sentence.

Borer's lawyer, Lloyd Kirschbaum, said he would appeal the compensatory and punitive awards.

Kirschbaum said the judge ignored crucial evidence in favor of his client because she mistakenly believed that the tape included sound.

Without audio captured on the tape, Geragos and Harris could not claim a breach of the attorney-client privilege, Kirschbaum argued.

He also said the plaintiff won't be able to collect from XtraJet because the company is bankrupt.

"It's like trying to get money from Enron," Kirschbaum said.

Geragos' attorney, Brian Kabateck, praised the decision. He said Kirschbaum's motion raised the same issues the defense had argued unsuccessfully before.

Even if the tape, which is in the hands of the FBI, had no audio on it when obtained by authorities, the intention was to record conversations, said Kabateck.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Village will be a traffic nightmare

Editor:

Regarding the article in last Thursday's edition of the Santa Monica Daily Press, "The Village clears first hurdle," I was appalled to read that this project is, according to Melody Hanatani, "a long-anticipated mixed-use residential project in the Civic Center area."

This Village will have 324 residences and 20,000 square feet of commercial retail space. Richard Bloom stated that, "It's the kind of project that we're going to look back on many years from now and future generations are going to thank us ... ."

Oh boy. Let's see, 324 residences. That's one or two cars (i.e. 324 to 648 cars) crammed into an already bumper to bumper traffic situation. Plus 20,000 square feet of retail space. Hmmmm, how many vehicles will that put into the mix? This is in addition to the condos and apartment buildings going up on a steady basis.

Could this be the same City Council who voted down a Target store on Sixth Street because it would cause traffic problems? Could this be the same City Council who say they are trying to solve the horrendous traffic situation?

The future generations Richard Bloom speaks of will most likely have moved to a less congested area – like New York City.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

The pen is truly mightier

Editor:

To Kenny Mack,

Great article in the SMDP – "Lesson Learned," page 5, May 14. Please continue to focus your mighty pen against the district, the school administrators, the mute and impotent school board and the teachers union. You spoke for parents throughout the district who are frustrated, angry and disgusted. The Beltran incident is but one of many issues the SMMUSD hasn't got a handle on, and parent groups throughout the community are smoldering. Thanks for a targeted article.

Leslie Wizan
Santa Monica





Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Hiring a surrogate is no laughing matter

A COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE MOTHER'S Day, I occasioned upon the film, "Baby Mama."

This fractured fairy tale of natal surrogacy had poisoned me with so much estrogen that I found myself later that afternoon discussing teal colored bathroom accessories with a style consultant at West Elm. I definitely lost some points on my "Man Card."

The last film that similarly traumatized me was that other seminal chick flick, "Silence of the Lambs."

To recuperate, I repatriated to a local gun range, which displayed a looming Jumbo-tron that bristled with episodes of Bruce Willis' "Die Hard" man-thology. Safe in my church,

I placated my inner biker princess and restored my testosterone-depleted demeanor with gunpowder, cheap whiskey and veal.

Don't get me wrong, I found myself giggling like a girlie in the scenes of the Lamaze class depicted in "Baby Mama." The spectres of the late great comediennes, Gilda Radner and Madeleine Kahn, were raucously resurrected by Saturday Night Live alum, Siobhan Fallon, as the birthing teacher that reprised Radner and Kahn's infamous "Baba Wawa and Maweena Deetwick" shtick back when SNL used to be funny.

I played quarterback at the births of my kids, so the scenes were wholly relevant to my indoctrination to the warm and fuzzy approach of "natural childbirth."

I seem to recall, however, copious amounts of "natural" sweat, blood, phlegm and wholesale screaming in the delivery room on the "big day."

Despite the focus and intensity of our training, my then wife and I were both screeching for morphine during "transition."

Hers was for her labor pain. Me? I was all about "sharing the experience," so I was just going with the flow.

Despite the plethora of great scenes throughout this movie, the true ovarian oeuvre belongs to the intrauterine interplay between Tina Fey and Amy Poehler.

Tina Fey's over achieving corporate exec whose bio-Rolex has been put on "snooze" yet yearns for familial fulfillment through the fecund fallopian tubes of Poehler's trailer park doyenne was a comedic mugging worthy of anything done by Laurel and Hardy or Martin and Lewis, I haven't laughed this hard since Schwarzenegger said, "I'll be back."

The post partum subtext of this story, however, highlights our pathological imperative to replicate ourselves at the expense of the plenitude of children that are already here, who, abandoned in governmental public storage, await someone that they can call "Mom" and "Dad."

That this underlying narrative illustrates that one can harvest their very own "Mini-ME" for a $100,000 fee through a corporate baby farm quiescently begs the question: Who in the hell do you know that has "100 large" laying around the house to supplement a surrogate laying around the house in order to plump the baby bump,

Michael Jackson notwithstanding? It seems an expensive way to avoid the stretch marks. Why not bust out those ducats to the local orphanage for a wee baby bairn that is already spitting up Enfamil and playing in the used kitty litter instead?

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there were approximately 2.1 million children under the age of 18 that were available for adoption in the U.S.

IT'S A GIVEN THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF PLAINLY RETARDED, BUREAUCRATIC RULES CONCERNING ADOPTIONS THAT HINDER THE PROCESS IN THIS COUNTRY YET THERE ARE FOLKS OUT THERE WHO THINK THAT ADOPTING A STRAY DOG IS MORE WORTHWHILE THAN ADOPTING A HUMAN.

As of 2004, 1.6 million kids in that age range were adopted.

If you're fertility impaired then that means there's still a lot of kids in the flux for you to love, honor and cherish without having to bust out a wad of Benjamins to create a kidlet in your own divine image and likeness through turkey baster technology.

California has one of the highest rates of children languishing in state foster care hoping you are the change they've been waiting for.

It's a given that there are a lot of plainly retarded, bureaucratic rules concerning adoptions that hinder the process in this country yet there are folks out there who think that adopting a stray dog is more worthwhile than adopting a human.

They're all our children, aren't they? But then again it doesn't take a village to raise a dog, does it?

STEVE BREEN is an empty nester with two great kids and still the "best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com

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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A new kind of high

I DON'T DO DRUGS BECAUSE I HAVE AN addictive personality. I know this about myself, so I've always been immune to the sales tactics of conventional drug dealers. But flying isn't a drug in the conventional sense and Jonathon Conant of Trapeze School New York isn't a conventional drug dealer.

Still, I should have known something was up when I met him. He had the same knowing grin on his face when he shook my hand, smiled, and said, "you wanna fly?" with that look Harvey Keitel had on his face when he warned Robert DeNiro not to go with Jodi Foster in "Taxi Driver."

By itself, the TSNY rig is simple, yet formidable. Located on the south side of the Santa Monica Pier between the Playland arcade and the food court, it looks like four 30-foot-tall croquet wickets connected by a series of ropes, cables, and wires with a safety net suspended below. On one end is the 22-foot-high launch platform and there is a trapeze suspended from each of the two center wickets.

The nearest one, the white trapeze, is the one everyone swings from. The other one, the blue trapeze, is only for the professionals. It's so far away as to be practically in Malibu. You can fly on the white trapeze, but to reach the blue one, you have to soar. It mocked me. I still hear it laughing.

I was there with my friend Joey, a talented acrobat and silk dancer, who is friends with Jonathon and his team, Valerie and Dean. Once I signed the waiver and strapped on my safety belt, Jonathon walked me through the basics. "Dean's gonna be up there with you. Put your toes over the edge, hips out, bend your knees, then when he says 'hep,' you just give a little hop and you're flying." I was ready.

Just finishing her flight was a woman named Nancy visiting from Baton Rouge who told me it was the most fun she'd had during her stay in Santa Monica.

Unable to contain her smile, she said, "I can't wait to tell all my circus friends. They'll be so excited. Look at me, I'm shaking."

I know from experience that when a woman is still shaking and smiling afterwards, she's never going to forget what she just did.

The basic flight happens in three phases. Phase one, "hep" off the platform with your hands on the trapeze. Phase two, invert and hang upside-down from the trapeze by your knees.

Phase three, hands back on the trapeze and dismount. You can also take classes and learn to back-flip into your landing or even (and this is the part that haunts me) launch yourself off the white trapeze and "get caught" by someone hanging upside-down from the blue one.

Joey clipped the safety lines onto my belt and I climbed the two-and-a-quarter stories to the platform where I met Dean. "Hold on to the platform with your left hand and the trapeze in your right hand. Toes over the edge, hips out — I'm holding your safety belt. Put your left hand on the trapeze and bend your knees. When I say 'hep' give a little hop."

Staring out at the pier, the beach, and the sun setting in the late afternoon sky while dangling precariously from a platform 20 something feet above the ground, I realized that once I "hepped," I'd be on my own.

With a big exhale, I jumped. The drop was severe, but the rush was intense. In one big whoosh, the safety net below me almost instantly became the sky above me. For a split second,

I hung suspended in mid-air until gravity kicked in and pulled me back down. Before I knew what I was doing, I had pulled my legs up above my head and was hanging by my knees. As I swung, I arched my back and looked up and thought, "wow, there's the beach. How weird that it looks perfectly normal, despite the fact that I'm upside-down."

Before gravity kicked back in, I caught a glimpse of the blue trapeze. I flipped back over and dismounted safely, but I've been thinking about reaching that blue trapeze ever since.

As it turns out, it's not just me. Once you fly, all you want to do is climb back up the ladder and do it again. Nancy stayed to watch for a while, Joey had to be dragged away, and a woman named Thu from Redondo Beach who only flew so she could have a good story to tell at work on Monday is now planning to take the classes.

And just like them, I was still shaking afterward.

KENNY MACK is a writer and social commentator living in Santa Monica. He can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com

The Q Line

Where to eat?

There are oodles of quality dining options in Santa Monica. Whether it's hamburgers or haute cuisine, this city by the sea seems to have it all.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:
Where is your favorite place to eat in Santa Monica and why?

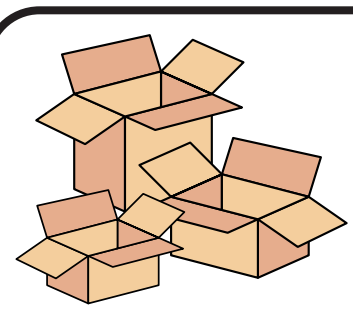
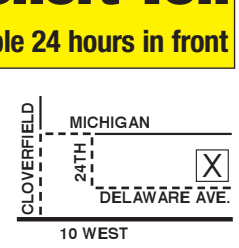
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Robot digger set to land at Martian pole

BY ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES Like a miner prospecting for gold, NASA hopes its latest robot to Mars hits pay dirt when it lands Sunday near the Red Planet's north pole to conduct a 90-day digging mission.

The three-legged Phoenix Mars lander fitted with a backhoe arm is zeroing in on the unexplored arctic region where a reservoir of ice is believed to lie beneath the Martian surface.

Phoenix lacks the tools to detect signs of alien life — either now or in the past. However, it will study whether the ice ever melted and look for traces of organic compounds in the permafrost to determine if life could have emerged at the site.

Before this robotic geologist can excavate the soil, it must first survive a nail-biting plunge through the Martian atmosphere. Despite the rousing success of NASA's twin Mars rovers, which landed in 2004, more than half of the world's attempts to land on the planet have failed.

"It's kind of like first-day jitters," said Ed Sedivy, program manager at Lockheed Martin Corp., which built Phoenix. "There's a lot of excitement, but there's also some nervousness."

Launched last summer from Cape Canaveral, Fla., Phoenix has traveled 422 million miles for Sunday's touchdown.

The spacecraft's main tool is an 8-foot aluminum-and-titanium robotic arm capable of digging trenches 2 feet deep. Once ice is exposed — believed to be anywhere from a few inches to a foot deep — the lander will use a powered drill bit at the end of the arm to break it up.

"It'll be a construction zone," said mission co-leader Ray Arvidson of Washington University in St. Louis. He predicts the ice will be "as hard as a sidewalk."

> **"ITS FEET WILL BE EMBEDDED WITH DRY ICE AND THE SUN WILL BE BELOW THE HORIZON."**
>
> **Ray Arvidson,**
> Washington University in St. Louis

The excavated soil and ice bits will then be brought aboard Phoenix's science lab. It will be baked in miniature ovens and the vapors analyzed for organic compounds, the chemical building blocks of life.

The last time NASA did tests for organics it was on a hunt for extraterrestrial life in 1976 with the twin Viking spacecraft. No conclusive signs of life were found.

On this mission, Phoenix will also probe whether the underground ice ever melted during a time when Mars was warmer and wetter. If Phoenix finds salt or sand deposits, it might be evidence of past flowing water.

Phoenix's landing target — a broad shallow valley in the high northern latitudes comparable to Greenland or northern Alaska on Earth — was chosen because if organic compounds existed, they're more likely to have been preserved in ice. Researchers do not expect to find water in its liquid form at the site because it's too cold.

"The polar region is a great preserver," said principal scientist Peter Smith of the University of Arizona, Tucson. "Just as in your kitchen you preserve your food in the freezer, so the planet preserves organic materials and the history of life ... inside of the ice."

On Sunday, Phoenix will punch through the Martian atmosphere at more than 12,000 mph. Over the next seven minutes, it will use the atmosphere's friction and a parachute to slow to 5 mph. Seconds before touchdown, Phoenix will fire its thrusters for what scientists hope will be a soft landing. If all goes well, ground controllers expect to hear a signal at 7:53 p.m. EDT.

Smith calls the entry the "seven minutes of terror."

"Try holding your breath for seven minutes," he said. "It's plenty of time to get very nervous."

The last time NASA tried a soft landing on Mars, it ended in disaster. In 1999, the Mars Polar Lander was angling for the south pole when it prematurely shut off its engine and tumbled to its death.

The loss, coupled with the earlier failure of the Mars Climate Orbiter during NASA's "faster, better, cheaper" era, forced the space agency to scrap another lander and restructure its Mars exploration program.

Phoenix, named after the mythological bird that rose from its own ashes, was cobbled together from the mothballed lander mission in the wake of the back-to-back failures.

Barry Goldstein, project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, said engineers extensively tested Phoenix's systems and instruments to minimize risk of failure.

"Since we inherited a lot of hardware, we spent a lot of effort in testing this vehicle and understanding how it works," Goldstein said.

If successful, Phoenix would join the twin rovers Spirit and Opportunity on the Martian surface. Together, the rovers have traveled more than 10 miles in their four years exploring opposite sides of the equator. They have uncovered geologic evidence that water once flowed at or near the surface of ancient Mars.

Unlike the six-wheeled rovers, Phoenix will stay in one spot. The cost of the mission is $420 million, excluding the $100 million NASA sunk into the canceled predecessor. Phoenix will communicate with Earth through the two NASA orbiters circling the planet.

Once on the ground, the 772-pound Phoenix will wait 15 minutes for the dust to settle before unfurling its solar panels. Then it will hoist its weather mast and beam back the first images of its surroundings. Over the next several sols, as days are known on Mars, it will check its instruments and stretch its robotic arm to scoop up the first soil sample. A Martian day is about 40 minutes longer than a day on Earth.

By around sol 10, Phoenix will dive into the digging phase that is expected to dominate the rest of the mission, excavating about two hours a day.

While scientists say there's a chance Phoenix could live a month or so beyond its 90-day mission to see late summer or fall, it won't survive as long as the rovers. That's because its solar panels won't produce enough power to keep it alive during the Martian winter.

Said Arvidson: "Its feet will be embedded with dry ice and the sun will be below the horizon."

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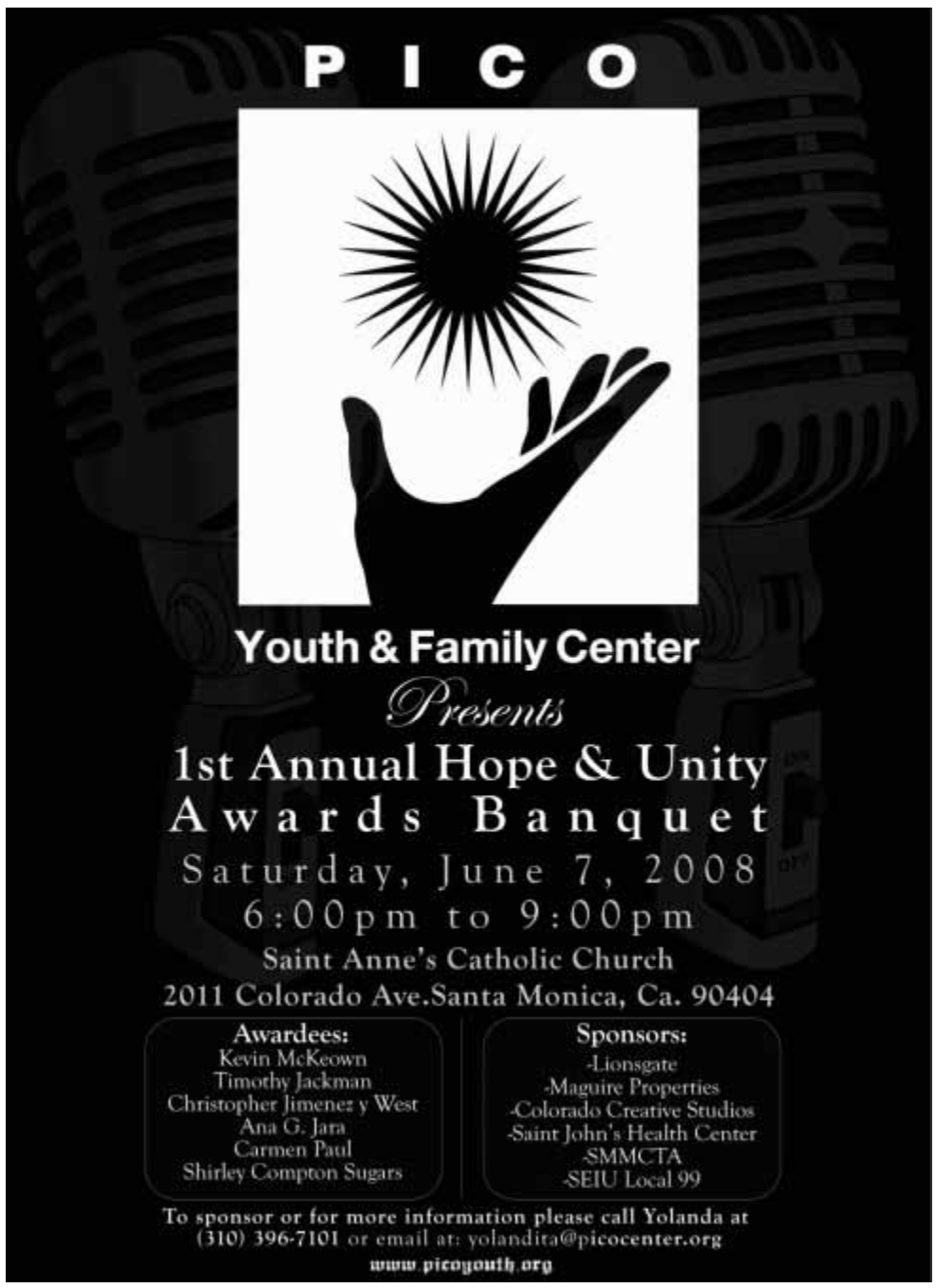
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Long Beach police shooting disputed by local residents

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

LONG BEACH East 67th Street is part of a tight-knit community where everyone seems to know everyone, neighbors look after each other's children and birthdays are often celebrated together.

It was a few yards from one such communal party Saturday that police shot and killed Roketi Mosesue, 46, an unarmed mentally ill man, leaving residents of this diverse cul-de-sac shocked and angry.

On Monday, several gave accounts differing sharply from the police version.

"He didn't try to aggressively do nothing," said neighbor Cranston Howard, 39, who was cooking burgers at the party a few houses down the street from where Mosesue was shot. "He was face down when they shot him."

Police say Mosesue was killed as he lay on a sidewalk after two officers, responding to calls about a man behaving violently and erratically, confronted him on the street.

Mosesue charged at the officers, who tried to control him with batons. When Mosesue tried to grab a baton from one officer, they used a Taser but the stun gun had no effect, Long Beach Police Department spokeswoman Nancy Pratt said. Mosesue then allegedly punched one officer in the face and both fell to the ground.

The other officer, fearing for his partner's safety and his own, shot Mosesue multiple times in the upper torso, Pratt said. He was pronounced dead soon after.

A dozen or so residents and family members, many with tears in their eyes and still reeling from the shooting, congregated around a makeshift memorial Monday. Candles flickered on a patch of dried blood and flowers were placed alongside.

Several people from this mainly Samoan and black neighborhood said they saw the shooting.

Mosesue's cousin Lorena Levi, 17, said she saw three police officers beating him with a baton and he put his hands up to protect himself from the blows. He did not try to grab the baton.

"He said, 'What did I do, OK, OK,"' Levi said. "He had no shirt on, you could hear the baton slapping against his skin."

Levi and several others said Mosesue was mentally ill. Mosesue was diagnosed about two years ago with terminal lung cancer and schizophrenia, his nephew, La-auli To-omalatai, 37, told the Los Angeles Times.

Billy Moses, the son of Mosesus' girlfriend, told KNBC-TV news he called police after Mosesus made threats.

"If I would have known that was going to happen, I never would have even lifted the phone," Moses said. "It was one of those caught-up-in-the-moment things."

Some residents recalled Mosesus would talk to himself but was friendly and would often play with kids on the block.

"If he was a threat do you think we would have let him play with our kids?" neighbor Tashuna Paige, 38, said.

Ana Taliu, 19, Mosesue's niece, said two officers struck him with batons and a third shot him several times. Other witnesses said they saw officers kick Mosesue in the head as he lay on the floor and that he was not struggling when he was shot.

> **"HE SAID, 'WHAT DID I DO, OK, OK.' HE HAD NO SHIRT ON, YOU COULD HEAR THE BATON SLAPPING AGAINST HIS SKIN."**
>
> Lorena Levi,
> Cousin of suspect shot and killed, Roketi Mosesue

"The cop's hand was shaking," said neighbor Chrystal Pagota, 23, one of those whose birthday was being celebrated. "He said, 'I can't believe I shot him."'

Several witnesses said no police officers fell to the ground with Mosesue and both were standing over him when he was shot between three and six times in the back.

Patricia Mathis, 48, said her son's girlfriend took pictures of the incident with her cell phone camera but police grabbed it and smashed it.

Police said only two officers were involved in the shooting. Both took scheduled days off Monday and were expected to return to regular duty Wednesday. The officers were not identified.

Pratt said she could not respond to many of the allegations as the investigation was ongoing, but said more information would be released Tuesday.

After the altercation, the officers were confronted by a hostile crowd of about 40 people until additional units arrived, police said. Neighbor Cranston Howard countered the crowd was not hostile and only gathered to investigate the sound of the gunfire.

He said he was arrested for obstruction and an officer hit him with a flashlight, causing a cut that required several bruises. The police department did not immediately respond to the allegation.

According to some neighbors, Mosesue lay dead on the sidewalk for almost an hour before anyone tended to him. Tomicka Rollerson, 30, a certified nurse assistant, said she offered medical assistance but an officer pointed a gun at her and told her to "Back up."

A preliminary investigation found Mosesue died from multiple gunshot wounds,

Los Angeles County coroner's spokesman Ed Winter said, though it was not clear if the bullets struck him from the front or from behind.

A full autopsy is scheduled for Tuesday.

Dr. E. Fuller Torrey, founder of the Treatment Advocacy Center in Arlington, Va., which aims to improve treatment for the mentally ill, said police shootings involving mentally ill happen often.

"There are many too many of these incidences," Torrey said. "And the really sad thing is most of them are preventable if the person was being treated."



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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn

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Plan, plan, plan

WHEN YOU WANT TO GO ON A VACATION, one of the first things you do is plan the trip. In real estate, to be a successful investor you need to do the same thing — plan. However, planning alone is not the only skill needed to succeed as a real estate investor.

It is important to know the basics of real estate investing. The old adage location, location, location still holds true to this day. However, location alone does not make or break a piece of real estate.

When investing in real estate, keep in mind that you are paying a premium for one thing — cash flow. The cash flow or income stream you are purchasing must give, or have the potential to give, you the return you need. This leads to the second basic skill you need as a real estate investor — evaluation.

If you are going to be a professional surfer, you have to learn how to read the ocean and waves.

If you are going to be a real estate investor, you need to know how to evaluate a real estate transaction to see if it is a sensible deal. Many successful investors know quickly if they have come across a deal and thus lock it up quickly. Which brings us to the third important investor trait needed — decision making.

Most professional investors have many contacts, specifically real estate brokers/agents. Those same brokers are in the business of selling real estate and will send potential deals to investors who perform and close deals.

When a broker sends over a deal, an investor will evaluate it quickly and decide if they want to move forward. An investor must decide if they want the deal before they can proceed with the next step — negotiating.

A real estate investor once told me that you can always change the financing, but you can never change the purchase price. This is where negotiating becomes one of the most valuable tools in your arsenal as an investor.

Some sellers are motivated by a quick close and willing to take a lower purchase price. It is important to find out what the seller's motivation is and see if you can negotiate terms and a price that gives you good deal.

Most investors do not go out and put down all of the money on a real estate purchase in cash. Most investors borrow the funds or finance the purchase. Investor financing can take many forms, such as hard money lending.

A hard money lender will lend on the value of the property and an investor can borrow up to 100 percent of the purchase price if the investor is getting a good price. Fortunately, hard money lenders charge a lot of percentage points for a loan with high interest rates.

However, hard money is typically only for a short time and used to close a real estate deal quickly. Most investors will use a hard money lender to close a deal within a matter of days, with the cost of the financing offset by the low purchase price.

Like any profession, real estate investing takes years to perfect. However, the monetary risks involved in real estate investing are enormous and should not be taken lightly.

If you want to become a real estate investor, figure out what type of investing you want to do, have a plan, find the deal, decide, negotiate, put the financing together and close.

MIKE HEAYN is a Washington Mutual Multi-Family Loan Consultant. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342, or e-mailed at michael.heayn@wamu.net.

TECHNOLOGY

Napster rolls out all-MP3 online download store

BY ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Napster Inc. begins selling MP3s Tuesday, a move the online music service hopes will lure iPod users and turn around Napster's sliding fortunes.

The company is the latest to make the switch to the unrestricted file format, which makes music tracks compatible with virtually any music player or other device.

"It's great that we have finally gotten here," said Chris Gorog, Napster's chairman and chief executive. "It is really the beginning of a level playing field, which I think is essential for Napster, but also for the health of the digital music business in general."

Tracks downloaded as part of Napster's subscription service will continue to have copyright restrictions.

For much of the decade, major record labels refused to license their music for downloading as MP3s. But steep annual declines in CD sales and the growing dominance of Apple Inc.'s iPod music players and its iTunes Music Store led the labels to ease that position last year to remain competitive.

Amazon.com is the only other retailer offering MP3 downloads from all the major record labels.

ITunes began selling digital versions of recordings from artists on EMI Group PLC labels last year, but the tracks are more expensive and higher quality than standard copy-protected versions.

Napster MP3s will be priced at 99 cents each, while full-album downloads will start at $9.95, the company said.

Rob Enderle, principal analyst with the Enderle Group, said he can't picture many iPod and iTunes users shifting to Napster, since iTunes software is so integrated with Apple music players.

The exception may be someone looking for a track that Apple doesn't offer, he said.

Napster might have a better shot competing against Amazon, which isn't solely focused on selling music downloads.

"Napster's brand and focus on the medium should give it an advantage," Enderle said.

ENERGY

Stocks tumble on news of record high oil prices

BY JOE BEL BRUNO
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Wall Street stumbled Tuesday after oil prices spiked to a new record above $129 a barrel and a government report raised investors' concerns about the impact of inflation on consumer spending. The Dow Jones industrials fell nearly 200 points.

Crude jumped after OPEC's president was quoted as saying his organization won't raise its output before its next meeting in September. That sent a barrel of light, sweet crude to a trading high of $129.60 before it finished just above $129 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Meanwhile, the Labor Department's producer price report indicated higher energy and food prices might be seeping into other parts of the economy — compounding investors' concerns raised by higher oil. The department said wholesale inflation edged up by 0.2 percent in April following a 1.1 percent jump in March, but outside of food and energy, prices rose by a faster 0.4 percent — double what analysts expected.

Wall Street is worried that a drop-off in consumer spending could ensue if wholesale price increases are passed along; consumer spending is critical because it accounts for more than two-thirds of the U.S. economy.

Analyst Stephen Leeb believes escalating oil prices and their fallout have now replaced the health of the financial sector as the market's biggest worry. He said rising energy creates a "very vicious circle" through the economy, and thinks the government must take some kind of action to bring down prices.

"Stock investors are watching oil, period," said Leeb, whose New York-based Leeb Capital Management focuses on crude and its impact on equities. "The events that moved the market before revolved around write-offs and foreclosures, but all that's changed."

The retreat in major indexes reversed the optimism of last week, when stocks rose on a growing belief that the economy is still managing to plod along despite worries about both oil prices and the global credit crisis. The loss showed that the market has yet to shake off the volatility that has plagued it since the credit crisis began last summer.

The mood on the Street was further depressed Tuesday by sluggish retail reports and comments from Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Donald Kohn that policymakers are inclined to hold interest rates steady.

The Dow fell 199.48, or 1.53 percent, to 12,828.68, logging its biggest daily slide since a 206-point drop on May 7.

Broader market indexes also retreated. The Standard & Poor's 500 index shed 13.23, or 0.93 percent, to 1,413.40, and the Nasdaq composite index dropped 23.83, or 0.95 percent, to 2,492.26.

Bond prices rose as investors sought the relative safety of government securities. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its yield, fell to 3.78 percent from 3.83 percent late Monday.

Gold gained, and the dollar fell against other major currencies.

Concerns about rising inflation, spurred by higher prices for commodities, were the topic of a speech by Kohn. The policymaker said he was cautiously upbeat that the economy will recover, and that the central bank "appears to be appropriately calibrated" to manage inflation over the medium term.

Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago reported that U.S. economic activity weakened further in April and reached its lowest level since the 2001 recession.

> "THE OIL PRICE RISE IS BEING DONE BY SPECULATORS AND DOES NOT REFLECT MARKET FUNDAMENTALS."
>
> Peter Cardillo,
> Chief market economist at New York-based brokerage Avalon Partners

But some analysts believe the market's slide gave investors an opportunity to collect profits. Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at New York-based brokerage Avalon Partners, said Tuesday's decline doesn't change the market's long-term prospects.

"The oil price rise is being done by speculators and does not reflect market fundamentals," he said. "But, it still has an effect on the consumer — and investor confidence is equal to consumer confidence, which has been having swings as of late."

Cardillo is watching to see any kind of indicator about how much Americans are spending to get a better idea of how Wall Street views the economy. "It's a battle between prices and the consumer," he said, "and the consumer usually does win."

Investors did get some data on consumer spending during the session. The International Council of Shopping Centers and UBS Securities showed chain-store sales fell 0.4 percent during the week of May 17, down from 1 percent the previous week.

Investors also mined earnings reports from Home Depot Inc., Target Corp., and Staples Inc. for clues about consumers.

Home Depot fell $1.50, or 5.2 percent, to $27.37 after it reported first-quarter profit fell 66 percent amid a continued housing slump.

Target reported that profit dropped almost 8 percent on higher costs, but it beat expectations. Shares fell 63 cents to $54.29.

Staples said profit rose 1.5 percent during the quarter, and reaffirmed its outlook. Shares rose 4 cents to $23.61.

Banking stocks fell after Oppenheimer & Co. analyst Meredith Whitney said she expects the credit crisis to extend into 2009, and "perhaps beyond." She said firms like JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Citigroup Inc. have set aside $25 billion to cover losses, but might have to set aside about $170 billion by the end of next year.

Citi fell 88 cents, or 3.8 percent, to $22.11, and JPMorgan dropped $2.29, or 5 percent, to $43.70.

Declining issues led advancers by nearly 2 to 1 on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated volume came to 3.74 billion shares, up from 3.55 billion on Monday.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 2.81, or 0.38 percent, to 735.64.

Overseas, Japan's central bank kept interest rates steady amid lingering worries about a global slowdown. Tokyo's Nikkei closed down 0.77 percent.

In Europe, London's FTSE dropped 2.90 percent, Frankfurt's DAX fell 1.49 percent and Paris' CAC 40 shed 1.70 percent.

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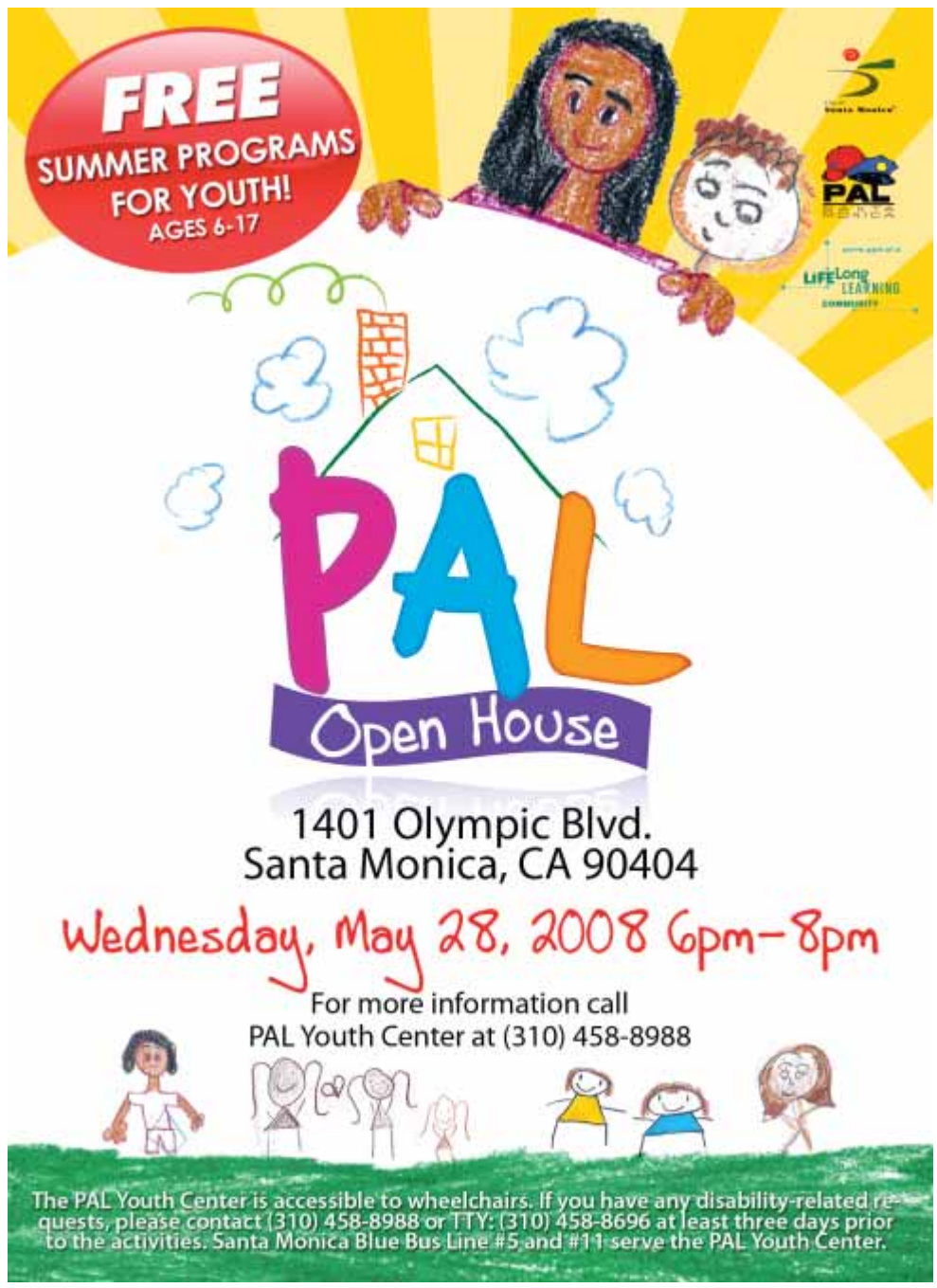
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Budget includes 45 new positions

FROM **BUDGET** PAGE 1

Ewell and City Hall's Finance Director, Carol Swindell, pointed to Santa Monica's diversified revenue streams as the reasons why the budget is larger than in years past while others are having to tighten their belts. They said the city is fortunate to have a relatively strong housing market, a robust tourism industry and steady retail activity.

If approved by the council next month, City Hall will see the addition of 45 full-time equivalent positions, about seven of which will go toward public safety — four jailers and three firefighters.

Roughly half of the new employees will be assigned to operate the new Annenberg Community Beach House when it opens in 2009.

The 22 positions, which will be paid for by the beach fund, will provide staffing at the club year round, providing maintenance, programming and administrative support at the 5-acre site.

"This is a very unique facility so we made certain assumptions about use and what people want and we are going to be flexible to hopefully develop a program over time that is responsive to the community," Barbara Stinchfield, the director of Community and Cultural Services, said.

In addition, Community and Cultural Services will hire someone to enhance cultural events, such as Jazz on the Lawn, and another to meet the increased demand for community sports programs, both offset by anticipated revenues, Ewell said.

The budget also allows City Hall to enter into Phase II of the Solar Santa Monica program, which has a goal of making the city energy independent by 2020 through the increase in privately-owned solar energy systems.

Santa Monica faces a tough economy much like other communities across the country. But unlike other communities, the city does have a generous buffer thanks to a diversified tax base. The largest source of revenue in the city comes via property taxes, making up approximately $98 million of the pie. Sales taxes make up another $67 million.

Sales taxes are expected to decline by 1.6 percent next year.

"At first blush it looks like an aggressive budget," Ewell said. "We've done everything ... to protect the integrity of the general fund."

Swindell added that Santa Monica traditionally has more resiliency than other communities and its property tax base is not as impacted by the slowing housing market due to the area's popularity amongst home buyers.

There are currently 127 homes that are in or headed toward foreclosure, an indicator of stability in the community, Ewell pointed out.

Some of the spending increases will be concentrated on capital improvements, including setting aside new positions to work on the Civic Center Specific Plan, expansion of Memorial Park and two community projects — the greening of Ocean Park Boulevard and the Borderline Neighborhood.

Located on the southern edge of the city — west of Lincoln Boulevard — residents in the Borderline Neighborhood are seeking improvements to a stretch of Longfellow Street, which visually appears to be an alley but is an actual residential street. The "Living Street" project, which will include pedestrian-friendly improvements, has thus far been in the concept phase. Funding will be made available in the next fiscal year to move the project into the design phase.

"We are absolutely elated," Dennis Woods, a resident who launched the Living Street campaign, said. "This is truly where the sustainable pavement hits the ground, literally."

A subject of much controversy in the past year, the city's budget sets aside approximately $900,000 for tree maintenance and replacement. Ewell said there has been a backlog in trimming and would like to see maintenance done on a three- to five-year cycle. The budget will also set aside funding to maintain the Santa Monica Pier, replacing the planks, pylons and the carousel's roof.

"We felt it was time to get all the work done once and for all," Ewell said.

City Hall has a limited window of opportunity to issue debt and leverage tax increment funds prior to 2014, which is the deadline established by current redevelopment laws for Santa Monica's largest project area, which includes the Civic Center, Ewell said.

melodyh@smdp.com



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

GETTING A BIG PUSH: **The expansion of Memorial Park, located at 14th Street and Olympic Boulevard, is among a number of capital improvement projects included in the city's $521 million fiscal 2008-09 municipal budget.**

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MAY 28



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

LIVE MUSIC
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Approx. 8:00 p.m.

WHEEL RE-LIGHTING CEREMONY
Approx. 8:30 p.m.

PACIFIC PARK OPENS
FREE PACIFIC WHEEL RIDES
9:15 p.m. to Midnight

Music, ceremony and wheel re-lighting best viewed from the Pacific Park parking lot.

(310) 260-8744
www.PacPark.com

Former USC student Ashcraft pleads no-contest in trash-bin baby case

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A Montana woman whose newborn son was found dead in a trash bin near the University of Southern California pleaded no contest to child endangerment Tuesday after four attempts to charge her with murder were dismissed.

Holly Ashcraft, 23, entered the plea in Superior Court to the charge and a special allegation that the endangerment resulted in death.

Under a plea agreement, she will be sentenced June 27 to time already served – about 30 days of jail time and about 695 days of electronic monitoring. She also will be placed on five years of probation, said Jane Robison, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County district attorney's office.

Judge Kathleen Kennedy warned Ashcraft she could face up to 10 years in prison if she violates probation.

It was "a fair ending to a tragic situation," said her attorney, Mark Geragos.

> **"HOLLY WANTS TO PUT THIS MATTER BEHIND HER AND CONTINUE WITH HER STUDIES AND HER CAREER."**
>
> **Mark Geragos,** Attorney

"Holly wants to put this matter behind her and continue with her studies and her career," he said in a statement.

A homeless man said he found the dead baby on Oct. 10, 2005, in a cardboard box in a trash bin behind a restaurant-bar that was a popular hangout for students at USC, where Ashcraft was studying architecture.

DNA testing showed the child was Ashcraft's. A coroner's investigation determined the infant was born alive and died from prematurity and other, unspecified factors.

The defense argued the child might have been stillborn.

The district attorney's office filed murder charges against Ashcraft but they were dismissed four times.

Ashcraft, from Billings, Mont., was in her third-year at USC and on scholarship at the time of her arrest. She was suspended by the university pending the outcome of the case.

In April 2004, Ashcraft went to a Los Angeles hospital because she was bleeding, and doctors determined she had given birth. She said she had given birth to a stillborn child but no body was found and she was not arrested.

County is committed to following court's decision

FROM MARRIAGE PAGE 1

employees who were uncomfortable in that situation in a position to do that," he told the newspaper.

But a spokesman for the office, Paul Drugan, said Monday no such policy was being contemplated. Logan, in a letter released by his office, said "we have had no employees or volunteer civil marriage commissioners raise concerns with this issue at all."

The county is "committed to implementing this court decision, fully and completely," Drugan said.

Kate Folmar, a spokeswoman for the Secretary of State, said the office has "no role in granting marriage licenses and ... no authority to provide any instructions to county clerks on how to implement the California Supreme Court's recent decision. That authority rests with individual counties or the Attorney General."

McDermott decides to end marriage

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Dylan McDermott has filed for divorce from wife Shiva Rose after more than 12 years of marriage, court records show.

McDermott, 46, filed a petition for dissolution of marriage in Superior Court last Friday citing irreconcilable differences, according to court records first obtained by CelebTV.com.

McDermott, the former star of TV's "The Practice," and Rose, an actress, have two daughters together.

They separated more than a year ago, according to court documents.

Property and custody arrangements will be determined at a later date, the documents state.

A message left Tuesday at the office of McDermott's publicist Cari Ross was not immediately returned.

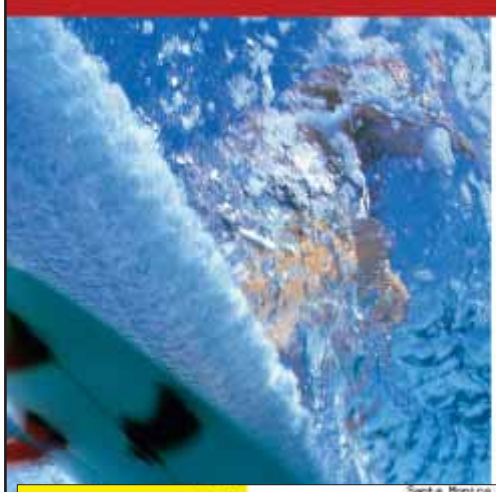
Attempts to find contact information for Rose were not successful.

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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 62°**

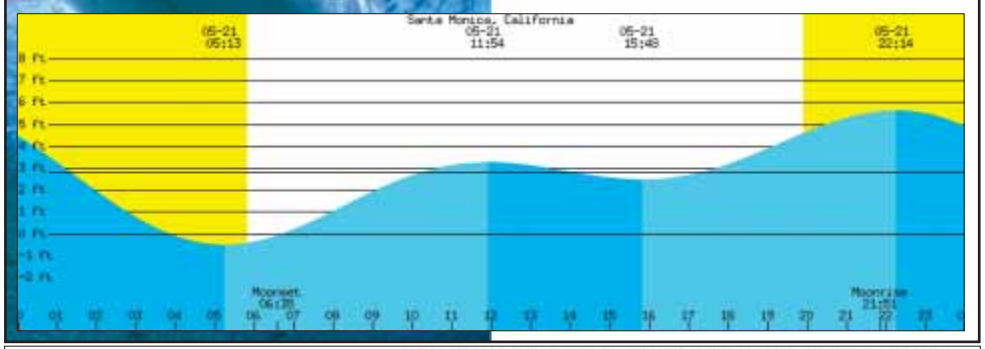
SWELL FORECAST (6-9 FT)

The SSE swell should come to its peak with breaks able to work the 175-degree angle running head high, slightly overhead at standouts. Wednesday has strong NW wind swell due as a trough dips southward, bringing with it a low from Seattle. Strong high pressure moving into the Gulf should create some tight gradients, increasing winds and subsequent wind swell near the coast. Gradients should tighten enough to pump up a fetch that'll bring head high waves to west facing breaks in the early morning.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

TRACKING SSE SWELL BEING FOR 30TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **May 5, 2008**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 2
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from Ford

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth	C	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Las Almos creeks	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	F	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	F	ns
Pearco State Beach at creek mouth	D	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	D	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	B	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	D	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET – grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MLB

Piazza decides to retire

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEVERLY HILLS Mike Piazza is retiring from baseball following a 16-season career in which he became one of the top-hitting catchers in history. "After discussing my options with my wife, family and agent, I felt it is time to start a new chapter in my life," he said in a statement released Tuesday by his agent, Dan Lozano. "It has been an amazing journey ... So today, I walk away with no regrets.

The 39-year-old Piazza became a free agent after last season and did not re-sign. He was not available to discuss his decision, according to Josh Goldberg, a spokesman for Lozano.

Taken by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 62nd round of the 1988 amateur draft, Piazza became a 12-time All-Star, making the NL team 10 consecutive times starting in 1993.

He finished with a .308 career average, 427 home runs and 1,335 RBIs for the Dodgers (1992-98), Florida Marlins (1998), New York Mets (1998-05), San Diego Padres (2006) and Oakland Athletics (2007).

His 396 homers are easily the most as a catcher, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Carlton Fisk is second with 351, followed by Johnny Bench (327) and Yogi Berra (306).

Piazza thanked his family, teams and managers, some of his teammates — and even owners, general managers, minor league staffs and reporters.

"Within the eight years I spent in New York, I was able to take a different look at the game of baseball," Piazza said. "I wasn't just a young kid that was wet behind the ears anymore — I was learning from other veteran guys like Johnny Franco, who taught me how to deal with the pressures of playing in New York, and Al Leiter, who knew what it took to win a world championship."



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MOVIETIMES

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Lawrence of Arabia (1962) (PG) 3hrs 42min
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Babysitters (R) 1hr 30min
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:05
The Fall (R) 1hr 57min
2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
Nim's Island (PG) 1hr 35min
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:05
Speed Racer (PG) 2hrs 15min
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:55

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

21 (PG-13) 2hrs 03min
1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00
Baby Mama (PG-13) 1hr 36min
10:50 a.m., 1:15, 3:35, 6:00, 8:20, 11:00
Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay (R) 1hr 42min
11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:45 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40
Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) 1hr 51min
12:00, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45
Speed Racer (PG) 2hrs 15min
11:00 a.m., 1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:20, 7:30, 8:30, 10:35, 11:35

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Redbelt (R) 1hr 39min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Then She Found Me (R) 1hr 40min
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
The Visitor (ZPG-13) 1hr 48min
1:30, 4:20, 7:25, 10
Smart People (R) 1hr 33min
1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Iron Man (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 6:00, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00, 12:00 a.m.
Made of Honor (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
What Happens in Vegas (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20, 11:50

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

All smiles, Sagittarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Stay adventurous despite a snafu or misunderstanding. You can and will get through any hassle if you keep an overview. Tonight: Treat your mind to a favorite pastime.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Working with one specific person could prove to be nothing less than frustrating. You must work within certain constraints, and might have no other choice, though you certainly might fantasize about alternatives! Tonight: Try to chill.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You could be flabbergasted by what someone drops in your lap. You easily could have had enough. Others don't get your message. Whether it is how you communicate or their unwillingness, it might not make a difference. Tonight: Look and listen rather than react.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Step up to the plate. You might need to make your own decisions. Focus on what you must do rather than get involved in someone else's issues. Your sense of accomplishment could make all the difference in the outcome. Tonight: Do what you need to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Depending on how you deal with chaos and uproar, you might enjoy yourself despite it all. Keeping a sense of humor always helps. Knowing when to call a game just that could be important. A child or romance bubbles forth. Tonight: Go for fun. (You can do it.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You would like some stability, but finding it cannot happen if you don't look at change as constant. Gaining a perspective could help you swing through uproar and surprises. Move past the immediate story and look to the long term. Tonight: Happy at home. Screen calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might like to try another approach or do something differently. Listen to news that heads your way with a touch of cynicism. Though no one means to misrepresent a story, observe just this tendency. Tonight: Listen to war stories.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ Expenses could easily blow out of control. It is apparent that you cannot stop this trend without taking a strong stand. You could be very uncomfortable with what might be going down. Take care of the immediate issue. Tonight: Pull back.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to take the first step or head in a new direction. Confusion earmarks a personal matter or issue. Stay centered on what works. Tonight: All smiles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ If you can shut your door and avoid others and their problems, you could be much happier. Listen to what is being said, but don't feel like you must take action. Draw out the facts by doing nothing. Tonight: Take a break.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter and take charge. Information might not make you happy; hence, you might need to take a stand. Tonight: Your time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Take in the big picture before revolting and heading in a new direction. Be smart: Stay centered and know your limitations. Understanding flourishes at an unprecedented level in a few days. Tonight: Putting in overtime might be impossible.

Happy birthday

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

Take your time; step with care through issues as they appear. Your sense of humor will carry you through many hassles. Winter and spring 2009, you seem to suddenly have that magic. Your creativity emerges and allows new insights. If you are single, your life takes on a new vision or possibility. Don't consider any relationship as solid until you have made it through a year. If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from understanding. A workshop or seminar in relating or traveling together could open doors. SAGITTARIUS could have you pulling your hair out!

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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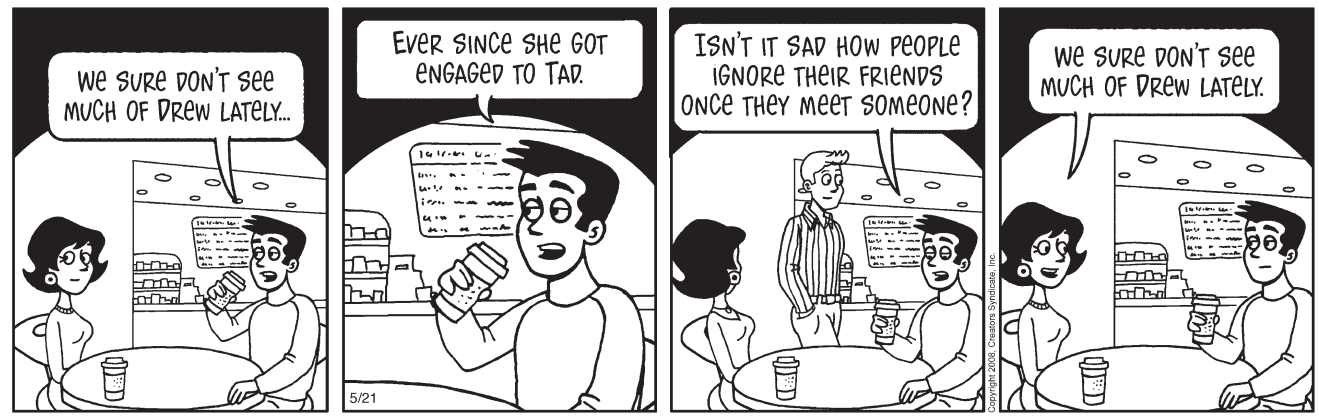
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



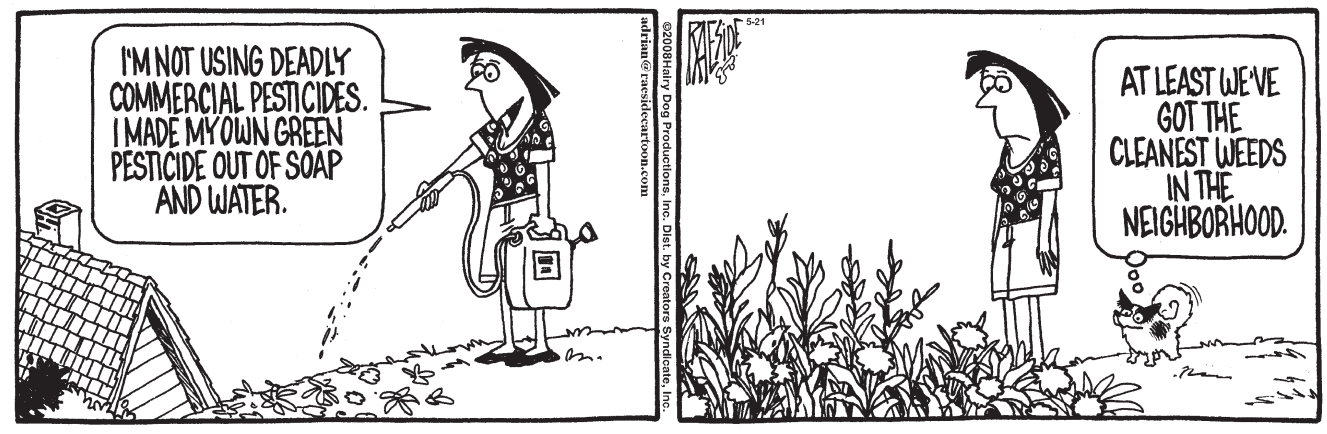
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



Garfield

By Jim Davis

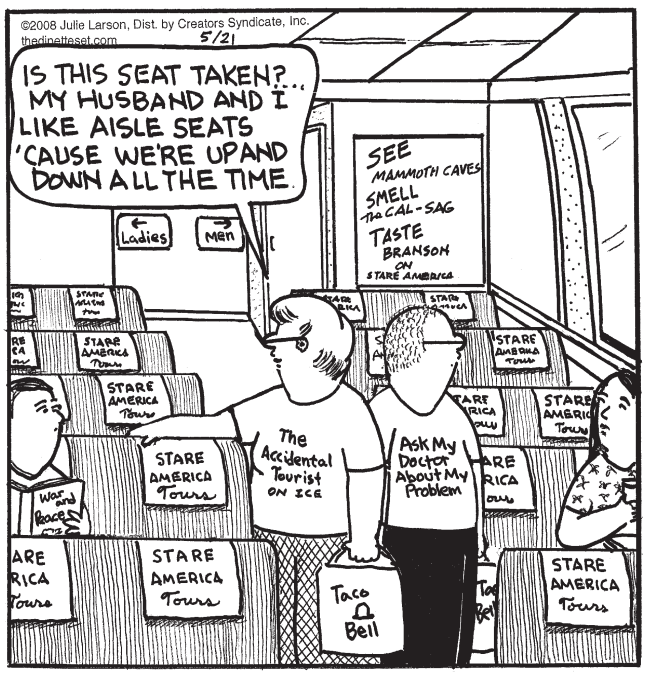


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Nick and Nora's dog
5 Streisand, in fanzines
9 Sender's need
11 Seattle cager
12 — Domingo
13 "Common Sense" writer
14 Easter symbol
15 Jeff Bridges film
17 Historic satellite
19 Curator's topic
20 Coffee bar order
21 Tissue layer
22 Michael Caine movie
24 Harden
26 Make law
29 One of the Brontës
30 Hollywood hopeful
32 Sirius
34 Hearty quaff
35 Muse of love poems
36 Throat dangler
38 Advantage
39 Ocean motions
40 Perfect place
41 Simple

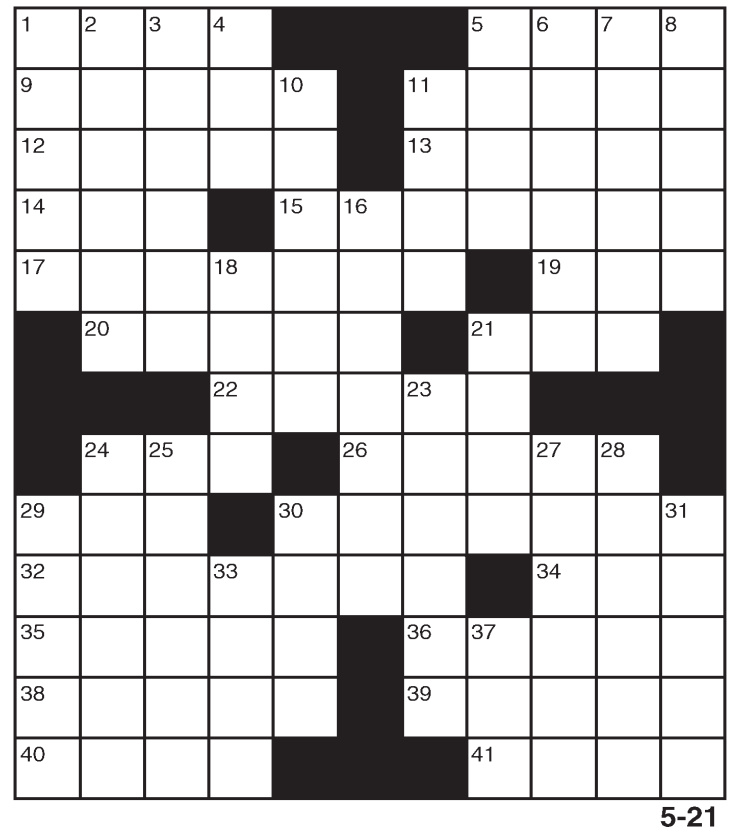
DOWN

1 Useful skill
2 Put on
3 Snarl
4 Quantity: Abbr.
5 Sow's mate
6 "20 Questions" category
7 Like some stars
8 Bloodhound's clue
10 Letter-related
11 Ship pole
16 Dress material
18 Sing like Ella
21 Dessert fruit
23 Needing change
24 Slept soundly?
25 Hire
27 Rains in the movies
28 Bank worker
29 Fred's dancing sister
30 Terminate
31 Make sport of
33 Astonish
37 Energy

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Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



5-21

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 2 14 26 32 41 Meganumber: 32 Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 24 35 41 46 Meganumber: 5 Jackpot: $31M

Fantasy 5: 9 13 25 35 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 3 9 EVENING: 7 8 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 03 HOT SHOT 2nd: 07 EUREKA 3rd: 11 MONEY BAGS RACE TIME: 1.43.45

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ School authorities in Mount Vernon, Ohio, began an investigation in April after complaints that eighth-grade science teacher John Freshwater was injecting his religious beliefs a little too much into the class. In one "experiment," Freshwater allegedly tossed Lego pieces into a pile and asked students if the pieces could assemble themselves (or would a "creator" have to do it), but the accusation that most aroused parental anger was a demonstration of electrostatic electricity, in which he asked for volunteers to take a shock on the arm, which resulted in a distinct "cross" being burned onto the skin.

■ In April, two of the nine Baltimore-area middle-school kids implicated in a potentially fatal beating of a young couple on a transit bus last year said they would soon file lawsuits asking for $10 million each from their school (for suspending them) and the transit company (for barring them from future rides, which it did out of concern for the safety of its passengers).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1542 Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River.

1832 the first Democratic National Convention got under way, in Baltimore.

1840 New Zealand was declared a British colony.

1892 the opera "Pagliacci," by Ruggero Leoncavallo, was first performed, in Milan, Italy.

1881 Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross.

1924 14-year-old Bobby Franks was murdered in a "thrill killing" committed by Nathan Leopold Jr. and Richard Loeb, two students at the University of Chicago.

1932 Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean as she landed in Northern Ireland.

1956 the United States exploded the first airborne hydrogen bomb over Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.

1959 the musical "Gypsy" opened on Broadway.

1979 former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the slayings of Mayor George Moscone and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk.

WORD UP!

Potemkin village \puh-TEM(P)-kin\, *noun*:
An impressive facade or display that hides an undesirable fact or state; a false front.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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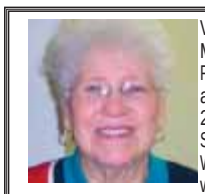
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Obituaries



VERA ANNIE McClain Passed away May 8, 2008, in Spokane, WA. She was born in Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada, on February 13, 1919 to Fred and Annie Watson. At age two, she moved to Santa Monica, CA, with her parents. She resided in Santa Monica for sixty-four years. She was a graduate of Santa Monica High School. She married Vance McClain, the love of her life, in 1936. Together they raised two children, a daughter, Shirley, and a son, Jim. Vance predeceased her in 1979. In 1983, she married Oscar Rozansky and moved to Hollywood, FL, where she lived until moving to Spokane, WA, in 2007. Oscar predeceased her in 1994. An impeccable homemaker and accomplished seamstress, she enjoyed beach volleyball and bowling with Vance until they fell in love with golf. It was a game she continued to enjoy with her many friends in Florida. Travel, books, movies, and cards filled her later years. Although she did not live near her grandchildren, she surrounded herself with their photographs and was proud of their accomplishments. She will be greatly missed by her family. Vera is survived by her daughter, Shirley Kircher (Don) and son Jim McClain (Mari Ann), her grandchildren, Julie Pitz, Denise Colee, David Kircher, Kevin Kircher, Erin Nulf, Vance McClain, Anne McClain, Jonathan McClain and five great- grandchildren. It was Vera's wish that no services be held.

Miscellaneous

AIRLINES MECHANIC: Rapid training for high paying Aviation Career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if qualify - Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute Maintenance. 888-349-5387.

ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE from home. Medical, Business, Paralegal, Computers, Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial aid if qualified. Call 800-494-3586 www.CenturaOnline.com

BODYGUARDS: COUNTER - Assault Teams! Needed/USA-Overseas $119-$220K/yr. Bodyguards $250-$750 Daily.18 plus. 1-615-885-8960 Ext.707. www.InternationalExecutives.net

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(310)829-0251

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

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World famous Santa Monica Jeweler is looking for a sales associate for his first class organization. Retail store experience a must. Must love people and have excellent customer service skills.Please fax resumes to 310-451-0095 or email them to info@readersjewelers,com.

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WAIT STAFF
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YARDPERSON F/T, including Sat. Will train. Lifting req'd. Apply in person: Bourget Bros. 1636 11th St. Santa Monica, Ca 90404

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MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 225 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1050/mo on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 2bdrm/1bath, 11461 Washington Place.Unit C, upper, stove, blinds, carpet, laundry, street parking, no pets $1350 (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 9, 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1350, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$300 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA $1895.00 "Townhouse" 2Brms, 2Baths, No Pets Garage Balcony Stove Refrigerator Dishwasher, Washer/Dryer, Elec. Fireplace 12048 Culver Blvd. #202 Los Angeles, CA 90066 Open Daily for Viewing 9a,-7pm, Additional Info in Unit Manager in unit #100 or #101

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Our friendly staff will provide training and support during your hosting experience.
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Notices

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES
AND DESIGNATION OF CENTRAL COUNTING PLACE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office of polling places designated for the GENERAL ELECTION scheduled to be held on NOVEMBER 4, 2008.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's facility, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, California 90650 has been designated as the central counting place for the above election.

Polling places shall be open between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, or Vietnamese regarding information in the notice may call (800) 481-8683.

POLLING PLACES

9001279B (9001763A CONS) - KAHAL JOSEPH SYNAGOGUE, 10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD LOS ANGELES;

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

Santa Monica Daily Press
CN797676 P24606 May 21, 2008

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POLLING PLACES

6250001A (6250001D, 6250017D, 6250017E, 6250017F CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 709 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402;
6250005A (6250005E, 6250109B, 6250109C, 6250109D, 6250109E, 6250109F CONS) - SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1704 MONTANA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250005B (6250005C, 6250005D, 6250010F, 6250110B, 6250110C CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250007A (6250008B, 6250008C, 6250008D, 6250125E CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 300 GEORGINA AVE SANTA MONICA 90402;
6250008E (6250008E, 6250008F, 6250020C, 6250020D, 6250020E, 6250020F, 6250095F CONS) - GARDENS OF SANTA MONICA, 851 002ND ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250010A (6250010C, 6250010D, 6250017B, 6250017C, 6250125B, 6250125C CONS) - EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY, 1311 MONTANA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250010E (6250010E, 6250094B, 6250094C, 6250110D, 6250110E, 6250110F CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250011A (6250011C, 6250011D, 6250011E, 6250012C, 6250012D, 6250012E CONS) - TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1015 CALIFORNIA AVE SANTA MONICA 90;
6250016A (6250015B, 6250015C, 6250016C, 6250016D, 6250016E, 6250016F CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250018A (6250018B, 6250018C, 6250018D, 6250018E, 6250018F, 6250094D, 6250094E CONS) - SAINT MONICA'S PARISH, 725 CALIFORNIA AVE SANTA MONICA 904;
6250021A (6250021B, 6250021C, 6250021D, 6250021E, 6250095C, 6250095D, 6250095E CONS) - SANTA MONICA BAY WOMENS CLUB, 1210 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250025B (6250025B, 6250025C, 6250025D, 6250025E, 6250025F, 6250062D, 6250062E, 6250062F, 6250063G CONS) - 18TH ST ARTS CENTER, 1639 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250026A (6250026E, 6250026F, 6250078B, 6250078E CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250031A (6250031B, 6250031C, 6250031D, 6250031E, 6250031F CONS) - DOUGLAS PARK, 1155 CHELSEA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250032A (6250032C, 6250032D, 6250032E, 6250034B CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250034C (6250034C, 6250034D, 6250034E, 6250034G, 6250034H, 6250034I, 6250035B, 6250035C, 6250035D CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250036B (6250035E, 6250035F, 6250035G, 6250036B, 6250036C, 6250036D, 6250036E CONS) - TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1015 CALIFORNIA AVE SANTA MONICA 90;
6250038A (6250019D, 6250038B, 6250038C, 6250038D, 6250038E, 6250038F, 6250038G, 6250056B, 6250056C CONS) - THE SALVATION ARMY, 1533 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250041C (6250019B, 6250019C, 6250019E, 6250041C, 6250041E, 6250041F, 6250041G CONS) - REED PARK, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;

BOLD IT! MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT

Notices

6250043A (6250043C, 6250043D, 6250043E, 6250053G CONS) - UNI-TARIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1260 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250045A (6250045C, 6250045D, 6250045E CONS) - MARTHAS FLOWERS, 2709 SANTA MONICA BLVD SANTA MONICA;
6250050C (6250051C, 6250051D, 6250051E CONS) - CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1518 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250052A (6250051F, 6250052A, 6250052C, 6250052D, 6250052E, 6250052F, 6250052G CONS) - HOLIDAY VILLA, 1447 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250053A (6250041B, 6250041D, 6250053A, 6250053C, 6250053D, 6250053E, 6250053F CONS) - RED CROSS OF SANTA MONICA, 1450 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250056A (6250055D, 6250055E, 6250055F, 6250056D, 6250056E CONS) - COLORADO COURTS, 502 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250060A (6250060C CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 2944 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250061B (6250061B, 6250061C, 6250061D, 6250061F, 6250061G, 6250062B, 6250062G CONS) - VIRGINIA PARK, 2200 VIRGINIA AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250065A (6250065B, 6250065C, 6250065D, 6250065E, 6250065F, 6250065G, 6250121C, 6250121D, 6250121E CONS) - OCEAN HOUSE, 2107 OCEAN AVE SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250068A (6250067D, 6250068C, 6250068D, 6250069B, 6250069C, 6250069E CONS) - JOSLYN PARK, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250068E (6250068E, 6250068G, 6250068H, 6250106B, 6250106C, 6250106D, 6250106E, 6250106F CONS) - SANTA MONICA CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250070A (6250069D, 6250069F, 6250070B, 6250070C, 6250070D, 6250070E CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 1204 PINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250075A (6250076D, 6250076E CONS) - GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 2368 PEARL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250078A (6250076B, 6250076C, 6250078C, 6250078D, 6250078F, 6250085E CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250081C (6250081C, 6250081D, 6250081E, 6250081F, 6250093D, 6250093E, 6250093F CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250083C (6250083C, 6250083D, 6250083E, 6250083F, 6250089D, 6250120F CONS) - THE SOFA COM-PANY, 2314 LINCOLN BLVD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250085A (6250085D, 6250087E CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250089A (6250083B, 6250087F, 6250089B, 6250089E CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250089C (6250089C, 6250092C, 6250092D, 6250092E, 6250092F, 6250092G CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250098B (6250067E, 6250067F, 6250098C, 6250098D, 6250098E CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250104A (6250012F, 6250012G, 6250012H, 6250095B, 6250104B, 6250104C, 6250104D, 6250104E CONS) - REED PARK, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250107A (6250093B, 6250093G, 6250098A, 6250107B, 6250107C, 6250107D, 6250107E, 6250107F, 6250107G CONS) - SANTA MONICA SHORES, 2800 NEILSON WAY SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250113A (6250113C, 6250113D, 6250113E, 6250113F, 6250125D, 6250125F CONS) - ST PAULS LU-THERAN CHURCH, 958 LINCOLN BLVD SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250120A (6250067B, 6250067C, 6250081B, 6250120C, 6250120D, 6250120E CONS) - JOSLYN PARK, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250121A (6250063B, 6250063C, 6250063D, 6250063E, 6250063F, 6250121F CONS) - SANTA MONICA CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250127A (6250093C, 6250093H, 6250127B, 6250127C, 6250127D, 6250127E, 6250127F, 6250127G CONS) - WASHINGTON WEST PRE-SCHOOL, 2802 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

Santa Monica Daily Press
CN797683 P24606 May 21, 2008

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES
AND DESIGNATION OF CENTRAL COUNTING PLACE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office of polling places designated for the GENERAL ELECTION scheduled to be held on NOVEMBER 4, 2008.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's facility, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, California 90650 has been designated as the central counting place for the above election.

Polling places shall be open between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, or Vietnamese regarding information in the notice may call (800) 481-8683.

Notices

POLLING PLACES

6250023A (6250023C, 6250023F, 6250046B, 6250046C, 6250046D, 6250046E, 6250046F CONS) - BRENTWOOD NURSING&REHAB CTR, 1321 FRANKLIN ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250026A (6250026C, 6250026D CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250029A (6250015D, 6250015E, 6250015F, 6250029B, 6250029C, 6250029D CONS) - WE THE PEOPLE, 2922 WILSHIRE BLVD SANTA MONICA 904;
6250031A (6250029E, 6250029F CONS) - DOUGLAS PARK, 1155 CHELSEA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250045A (6250023B, 6250023D, 6250023E, 6250045B CONS) - MARTHAS FLOWERS, 2709 SANTA MONICA BLVD SANTA MONICA;
6250048A (6250024D, 6250048B, 6250048C, 6250048D, 6250048E, 6250050B CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 2944 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250050C (6250050C, 6250050D, 6250050E, 6250050F, 6250050G CONS) - CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1518 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250060A (6250024B, 6250024C, 6250024E, 6250060D, 6250060E, 6250060F, 6250060G, 6250060H, 6250060I CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 2944 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250071A (6250071B, 6250071C, 6250071D, 6250071E, 6250071F CONS) - VIRGINIA PARK, 2200 VIRGINIA AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250075A (6250075D, 6250075E, 6250076F, 6250076G CONS) - GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 2368 PEARL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250075B (6250072B, 6250072C, 6250072D, 6250072E, 6250072F, 6250072G, 6250075B, 6250075C CONS) - RESIDENCE, 2521 032ND ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250085A (6250087C, 6250087D CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
9000944A (9000944C, 9000944D, 9000944E, 9001377C, 9001377E CONS) - FIRESTATION # 43, 3690 MOTOR AVE LOS ANGELES 90034;

9001051A (9001502B, 9001502C CONS) - FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3735 HUGHES AVE LOS ANGELES 90034;
9001248A (9001454C, 9001454D CONS) - MASONIC LODGE # 677, 2244 WESTWOOD BLVD LOS ANGELES 9006;
9001250A (9001252B CONS) - GOODWILL DONATION CENTER, 1894 WESTWOOD BLVD LOS ANGELES 9002;
9001377B (9001377B, 9001377D, 9001377F, 9001533B, 9001533C, 9001533D, 9001533E CONS) - LOS ANGELES DENTAL CENTER, 10801 VENICE BLVD LOS ANGELES 9003;
9001456A (9001456C, 9001456F, 9001476F CONS) - RIDDICK YOUTH CENTER, 2634 OVERLAND AVE LOS ANGELES 90064;
9001522A (9001216B, 9001522B, 9001522C, 9001522D, 9001522E, 9001522F, 9005424F CONS) - PALMS MIDDLE SCHOOL, 10860 WOODBINE ST LOS ANGELES 90034;
9001525B (9001519C, 9001519D, 9001525D, 9001978B, 9001978C CONS) - PALMS RECREATION CENTER, 2950 OVERLAND AVE LOS ANGELES 90064;
9001525C (9000002B, 9000002C, 9000002D, 9000002E, 9000002F, 9001525C, 9001525E, 9001525F CONS) - QUEENSLAND MANOR SOUTH, 3300 S SEPULVEDA BLVD LOS ANGELES 90;
9001532A (9001532A, 9001532C, 9001532F, 9002890B, 9002890C, 9002890D CONS) - CHARNOCK RD ELEM SCHOOL, 11133 CHARNOCK RD LOS ANGELES 90034;
9001533F (9001532E, 9001533F, 9001535B, 9001535C, 9001535D, 9001535E, 9001535F, 9001535G, 9001535H CONS) - INTERIORS MADE EEZZY, 10730 WASHINGTON BLVD CULVER CITY 9;
9001564A (9001565D, 9001565F CONS) - ST BEDES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3590 GRAND VIEW BLVD LOS ANGELES 90;
9001566A (9001565B, 9001565C, 9001565E, 9001565G, 9001566B, 9001566E, 9001566F CONS) - VINEYARD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 3838 CENTINELA AVE LOS ANGELES 9006;
9001567A (9001566C, 9001566D CONS) - ST BEDES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 3590 GRAND VIEW BLVD LOS ANGELES 90;
9002358C (9001476D, 9001476G CONS) - NAZARETH HOUSE, 3333 MANNING AVE LOS ANGELES 90064;
9002375A (9002891B, 9002891C, 9002891D CONS) - PALMS AVE ELEM SCHOOL, 3520 MOTOR AVE LOS ANGELES 90034;
9002889A (9001215B, 9002115B, 9002115C CONS) - PALMS MIDDLE SCHOOL, 10860 WOODBINE ST LOS ANGELES 90034;
9002890E (9001530B, 9001530C, 9001530D, 9001530E, 9002890E, 9002890F CONS) - WOODMERE APARTMENTS, 3700 S SEPULVEDA BLVD LOS ANGELES 90;
9004218A (9004218C CONS) - WESTERN PARKING ENFORCEMENT, 11214 EXPOSITION BLVD LOS ANGELES 9;
9005424A (9001432B, 9005424C, 9005424D, 9005424E CONS) - PALMS RECREATION CENTER, 2950 OVERLAND AVE LOS ANGELES 9006;

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

Santa Monica Daily Press
CN797581 P24606 May 21, 2008

Notices

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES
AND DESIGNATION OF CENTRAL COUNTING PLACE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office of polling places designated for the GENERAL ELECTION scheduled to be held on NOVEMBER 4, 2008.

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POLLING PLACES

6250001A (6250001A, 6250003A, 6250017A CONS) - RESIDENCE, 709 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402;
6250001B (6250002A CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 2222 SAN VICENTE BLVD SANTA MONICA;
6250003D (6250128A CONS) - RESIDENCE, 349 EUCLID ST SANTA MONICA 90402;
6250005A (6250005A, 6250109A CONS) - SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1704 MONTANA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250005B (6250005B, 6250010B, 6250110A CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250007A (6250007A CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 300 GEORGINA AVE SANTA MONICA 90402;
6250008E (6250020A, 6250020B CONS) - GARDENS OF SANTA MONICA, 851 002ND ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250010A (6250003B, 6250010A, 6250125A CONS) - EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY, 1311 MONTANA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250010E (6250094A CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250011A (6250011A, 6250011B, 6250012A, 6250012B CONS) - TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1015 CALIFORNIA AVE SANTA MONICA 90;
6250016A (6250016A, 6250016B CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250018A (6250018A CONS) - SAINT MONICA'S PARISH, 725 CALIFORNIA AVE SANTA MONICA 904;
6250021A (6250021A CONS) - SANTA MONICA BAY WOMENS CLUB, 1210 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250023A (6250023A, 6250046A CONS) - BRENTWOOD NURSING&REHAB CTR, 1321 FRANKLIN ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250026A (6250026A, 6250026B CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250029A (6250015A, 6250029A CONS) - WE THE PEOPLE, 2922 WILSHIRE BLVD SANTA MONICA 904;
6250031A (6250031A CONS) - DOUGLAS PARK, 1155 CHELSEA AVE SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250032A (6250032A, 6250032B, 6250034A CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250034C (6250035A, 6250036A CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250038A (6250038A CONS) - THE SALVATION ARMY, 1533 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250041C (6250019A CONS) - REED PARK, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250043A (6250043A, 6250043B, 6250053B CONS) - UNITARIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1260 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250045A (6250045A CONS) - MARTHAS FLOWERS, 2709 SANTA MONICA BLVD SANTA MONICA;
6250048A (6250048A, 6250050A CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 2944 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250050C (6250051A CONS) - CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1518 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250052A (6250051B, 6250052B, 6250055A CONS) - HOLIDAY VILLA, 1447 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404;
6250053A (6250041A CONS) - RED CROSS OF SANTA MONICA, 1450 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250056A (6250055C, 6250056A CONS) - COLORADO COURTS, 502 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250060A (6250024A, 6250060A, 6250060B CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 2944 COLORADO AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250061B (6250025A, 6250062A CONS) - VIRGINIA PARK, 2200 VIRGINIA AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;

6250065A (6250065A CONS) - OCEAN HOUSE, 2107 OCEAN AVE SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250068A (6250067A, 6250068A, 6250068B, 6250069A CONS) - JOSLYN PARK, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250070A (6250070A CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 1204 PINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250071A (6250061A, 6250062C, 6250071A CONS) - VIRGINIA PARK, 2200 VIRGINIA AVE SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250075A (6250075A, 6250076A CONS) - GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 2368 PEARL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250075B (6250072A CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 2521 032ND ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250078A (6250078A, 6250085B CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250081C (6250093A CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250083C (6250120B CONS) - THE SOFA COMPANY, 2314 LINCOLN BLVD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250085A (6250085A, 6250087A, 6250087B CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250089A (6250083A, 6250085C, 6250089A CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250089C (6250092A, 6250092B CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250098B (6250098B, 6250106A CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250104A (6250095A, 6250104A CONS) - REED PARK, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250107A (6250107A CONS) - SANTA MONICA SHORES, 2800 NEILSON WAY SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250113A (6250008A, 6250113A, 6250113B CONS) - ST PAULS LU-THERAN CHURCH, 958 LINCOLN BLVD SANTA MONICA 90403;
6250120A (6250081A, 6250120A CONS) - JOSLYN PARK, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040;
6250121A (6250063A, 6250121A, 6250121B CONS) - SANTA MONICA CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401;
6250127A (6250127A CONS) - WASHINGTON WEST PRESCHOOL, 2802 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405;
6250128B (6250006A CONS) - CARLTHORP SCHOOL, 438 SAN VICENTE BLVD SANTA MONICA 9;
6250128C (6250128C CONS) - The qualified voters shall vote by absent voter ballots or vote at the office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk on Election Day.
7100001A (7100001A, 7100001B, 7100001C, 7100005A, 7100007A, 7100007B, 7100007C, 7100007D, 7100007E, 7100007F, 7100007G CONS) - TOP OF TOPANGA ESTATES, 3360 N TOPANGA CANYON BLVD TOPANGA 9;
7100003A (7100003A, 7100003B, 7100003C CONS) - TOPANGA COMMUNITY HOUSE, 1440 N TOPANGA CANYON BLVD TOPANGA 9;
7100004A (7100004A, 7100004B, 7100004D, 7100004E CONS) - COLDWELL BANKER, 120 S TOPANGA CANYON BLVD TOPANGA 90;
7100006A (7100006A CONS) - TOPANGA COMMUNITY HOUSE, 1440 N TOPANGA CANYON BLVD TOPANGA 9;
7100030A (7100030A, 7100030D CONS) - TOPANGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 141 N TOPANGA CANYON BLVD TOPANGA 90;
7100032A (7100030B, 7100030E, 7100032A, 7100032B CONS) - RESI-DENCE, 21980 SADDLE PEAK RD TOPANGA 90290;
9001379A (9005925A, 9005925B CONS) - PALISADES LUTHERAN CHURCH, 15905 SUNSET BLVD PACIFIC PALISADES;
9005921A (9007687A, 9007687B, 9007687C, 9007687D, 9007687E, 9007687F, 9007687G CONS) - CALVARY CHR PACIFIC PALISADES, 701 PALISADES DR PACIFIC PALISADES;
9005923A (9005923A CONS) - BEL AIR BAY CLUB, 16801 PACIFIC COAST HWY PACIFIC PALI;
9007693A (9007693A, 9007693B, 9007693C CONS) - THE SUMMIT CLUB, 1501 CHASTAIN PKWY W PACIFIC PALISADE;
9007697A (9007697A, 9007697B CONS) - SANTA YNEZ RECREATION CENTER, 17005 PALISADES CIR PACIFIC PALISADE;
9007698A (9007698A, 9007698B, 9007698C, 9007698D, 9007698E, 9007698G CONS) - THE SUMMIT CLUB, 1501 CHASTAIN PKWY W PACIFIC PALISADE;

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
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Santa Monica Daily Press
CN797656 P24606 May 21, 2008

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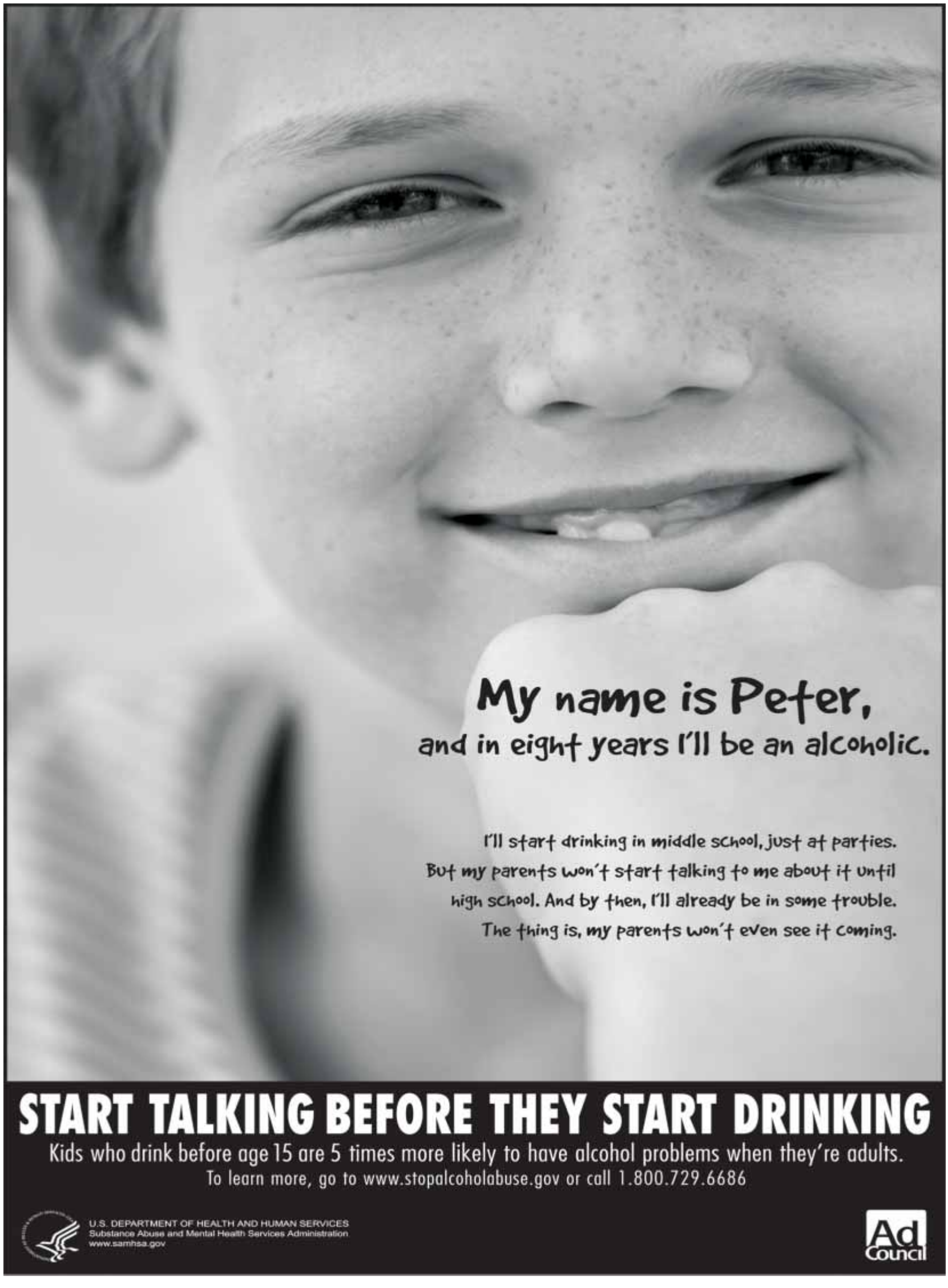
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Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Late May 2008

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 2,189,056	No Listings
North of Montana	=	$ 4,177,846	$ 1,699,765
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 3,054,667	$ 956,759
South of Wilshire	=	$ 973,121	$ 731,368
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,474,071	$ 853,188
Ocean Park	=	$ 1,804,154	$ 1,378,837

Statistics updated every Wednesday

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.