

FREE

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## DAILY LOTTERY

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18 25 27 31 33  
Meganumber: 19  
Jackpot: \$12 Million

**FANTASY 5**  
13 17 25 31 33

**DAILY 3**  
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Evening: 8 7 1

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1st: 01 Gold Rush  
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## NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

**Air Travel Blues:** (1) In March, a woman suffered a midflight heart attack, leading the KLM pilot to emergency-land at Heathrow Airport in London, but she died before an ambulance could arrive. Six months earlier, Heathrow officials had eliminated costly standby ambulances, resulting in the woman's plane being met by a paramedic on a bicycle (which carried some emergency equipment but not nearly as much as an ambulance). (2) In a major incident on Feb. 11, security officers at Dublin International Airport "booted" (in Ireland, clamped) an ambulance at a terminal entrance, even though it was parked in an area reserved for emergency vehicles; a patient with serious injuries was delayed until paramedics paid cash to have the boot removed.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**Today the 178th day of 2005. There are 187 days left in the year.**

**On June 27, 1950,** President Truman ordered the Air Force and Navy into the Korean conflict following a call from the U.N. Security Council for member nations to help South Korea repel an invasion from the North.  
**In 1756,** in India, a group of British soldiers was imprisoned in a suffocating cell that gained notoriety as the "Black Hole of Calcutta"; most died.  
**In 1863,** West Virginia became the 35th state.

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## Shake a tail feather



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Debbie Merrill performs on Saturday with Tropidanza, a Latin dance showcase, at the Carnevale Venice Beach festival at Windward Circle. The event kicked off a celebration of Venice's 100th birthday.

## Students take on summer of philanthropy

BY SARA MILSTEIN

Special to the Daily Press

For many high school students, summer means hanging at the beach and reveling in a few months of freedom. But for three local students, summer means philanthropy halfway around the world.

Laurent Sander Grill, 16, a junior at Crossroads School, Mariza B. Lockhart, 15, a sophomore at Santa Monica High School, and Gether Gibson, 17, a Santa Monica High School junior, will head to Sri Lanka on July 1 to help the locals there rebuild their lives after the devastation caused

by December's tsunami.

The local students will travel with seven other Southern California youths who are being sponsored by Relief International-Schools Online (RI-SOL) and the American Red Cross of Santa

See PHILANTHROPY, page 8

## COMMUNITY PROFILES

COMMUNITY PROFILES IS A WEEKLY SERIES THAT APPEARS EACH MONDAY AND DELVES INTO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY IN SANTA MONICA.



## Annie Mahoney: Keeping fit through friends

BY WINTER JOHNSON

Special to the Daily Press

Annie Mahoney never realized how well she'd been living her life until she got sick.

Now 81 years old and stricken with pancreatic cancer, she finds herself surrounded by people who care about her — friendships she forged simply by adhering to the golden rule.

Mahoney has been a senior fitness counselor at the Santa Monica Family YMCA for the past 16 years.

A Santa Monica resident since 1948, Mahoney has inspired many senior citizens to stay active and lead a physically challenging life, said her colleague Pam Allison.

Born in 1924 in East St. Louis, Ill., Mahoney characterizes her childhood life as "nomadic." Her mother died when she was 14 months old. Raised by her father until age 13, she was often left alone in cars while he played cards and gambled at the race track. His habits led to frequent moves throughout the country.

"Today they would call that

## School district juggling fiscal crunch

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

**DISTRICT HDQTRS.** — Despite fears the public education system in California will continue to be inadequately funded, Santa Monica school officials said they have minimized the effects of financial setbacks in next year's budget.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District board members adopted the projected \$64.12 million budget for fiscal year 2005-06 on Friday, and acknowledged that a \$6.1 million subsidy from the city of Santa Monica will be essential for the schools to maintain their quality of programming.

The budget takes into account all guaranteed sources of funding, as well as a slight attrition of enrollment in which the district

See SCHOOL BUDGET, page 9

child abuse, but in my day they called that survival," said Mahoney with a laugh. "That was love to me. You never knew where you would end up if the state took you."

Mahoney's father died when she was 13. She was raised by a foster family in Lawrence, Mass., where she met her future husband, Carl. Their marriage led to Mahoney's many adventures and her subsequent move to the West Coast.

See PROFILES, page 4

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## Monday? So what, Scorpio

Santa Monica Daily Press



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

### ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ The information you are receiving might not be on-target. You need to do your own private investigating to sort fact from fiction. You might be overly serious right now. Share some of your negative feelings with a trusted and wise friend. He or she gives you valuable feedback. Tonight: Get lots of sleep.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A partner or associate does not come through for you as you would like. Tension could build if you allow it to. Be smart: Let bygones be bygones. Everyone has the right to think differently and act freely. Buy a card for a friend at lunch. Tonight: A meeting could be important.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ For the moment, you can count on yourself and no one else. Others have their own issues to work through. Be generous of spirit, as well as financially. Stop and buy a card for a loved one. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ The smart Moon Child will not get triggered by events, but rather will detach. You need to function as a troubleshooter in a daily situation. You can do this job with grace if you so choose. Schedule a checkup with the doc soon. Tonight: Whatever relaxes your mind.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Deal with people individually, and you will experience success. This little rule for the day will help you in business, financially or emotionally. Others reveal much more on a one-on-one level. You might need to revise your opinion of someone you care about dearly. Tonight: Quality time.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Others hold the cards. Let them play their hands. At this point, the smart move is to do nothing. You might want to rethink a domestic issue that is changing right before your very eyes. A friend shares his or her ideas. Tonight: Accept an invitation out.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ All work and no play could put you in a sour mood. You might smile to the world, but you're not comfortable with present demands. Realize how much you add to a public or professional situation. Tonight: A personal night — just for you.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You'll come up with an answer when you encounter a problem. Risking financially could cause more problems than you want. Detach and share your feelings in a meaningful way. You don't always have to be gushy. Tonight: So what if it's Monday?

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Deal with a personal or domestic situation first, as it is likely to interfere with the remainder of the day. A partner smiles as you work through a key issue. This person is really there for you. Still, he or she will set boundaries. Tonight: Stay close to home.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Avoid making mountains out of molehills. You will find that when you open up and talk to someone, the situation wasn't as you'd thought. Don't stand on ceremony. Make calls. Reach out for others. Tonight: Catch up on calls and e-mail.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Be careful with your funds. Everything is not as it seems. Others might be pushing you in a certain direction. Stop and think about your daily life. Use a natural talent or gift. Others respond to your abilities. Tonight: Cut the spending.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You have the ability to push through a difficult situation. Your creativity and charm merge, making saying no to you close to impossible. Don't avoid an important talk with a child or loved one. Tonight: It's your call.



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LOCAL



Mystery photo



Glenn Bolan/Special to the Daily Press

The first person to accurately describe where this photo was taken will win a 30th anniversary limited edition DVD of Jaws, recently released by Universal Studios. E-mail answers to editor@smdp.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Santa Monica student receives Gas Company scholarship

By Daily Press staff

The gas company not only powers up homes but people, too. The Southern California Gas Company recently awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Jennifer Pacheco of Santa Monica to help pay her college expenses.

“The scholarship recognizes academic achievement and other important signs of character,” said Kimberly Freeman, director of community relations at the gas company. “We’re awarding scholarships to about 100 high school seniors in Southern California this year as a way of partnering with our communities and improving the quality of life for young people with high potential.”

Pacheco, who graduated from Santa Monica High School last week, played on the school’s basketball team and served as secretary of the Police Activities League. She plans to study veterinary science at the University of California at Davis.

The gas company is the nation’s largest natural gas distribution utility, providing energy to 19.5 million consumers through 5.5 million meters, according to officials.



JENNIFER PACHECO

Volunteers needed for community involvement

By Daily Press staff

It’s never too late to give back to the community. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of WISE Senior Services, based in Santa Monica, is in need of volunteers. RSVP is a program that recruits

See BRIEFS, page 9



SURF REPORT

Monday is looking like a dominant SW day as the swell filling in along the coast reaches its peak with shoulder- to head-high+ surf and some sets reaching 2+ feet overhead at standouts. By this time, we are expecting some lagging periods from this swell with a more even distribution of size along south-facing breaks, so some south-facing breaks might experience an increase in size on Monday.

Today the water is:

58°

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



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The Q Line

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Pier officials are working on a plan to bring sport fishing and boating back to Santa Monica.

Currently they are considering two options: an estimated \$13 million plan that would restore the breakwater just north of the Santa Monica Pier to accommodate commercial boating and a harbor, or a substantially less expensive gangway that might achieve the same goal. A recommendation could be presented to the City Council as early as August.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, “Which plan do you favor — the breakwater rebuild or the gangway? Why? Is there another option that should be considered?”

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

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COMMUNITYPROFILES

PROFILES, from page 1

Mahoney’s jobs were not always on the physical fitness track. She has held multiple positions, including working for Bell Aircraft president E.C. Ewing, running five Santa Monica bars simultaneously, flying over waters looking for schools of fish, and landscape design. Her husband’s death after 15 years of marriage and her subsequent alcoholism led to a change of pace and her interest in physical fitness.

Though she is stricken with pancreatic cancer and residing at the Seaport 17th Care Center, her relationship with the YMCA family has not ceased. Clients and colleagues are constantly bringing her everything from water to tuna melts from Fromin’s, a local deli on Wilshire Boulevard.

The Daily Press caught up with Mahoney at Seaport 17th to discuss her YMCA family, physical fitness and her life in Santa Monica.

What did you do before the YMCA?

“Before I was married, I was a ‘Rosie the Riveter’ during the Second World War. I worked for Bell Aircraft in Niagara Falls, N.Y. I went there when I graduated from high school in 1943. I was working on a fuselage on an airplane, and wasn’t doing things quite properly, so they pulled me off the assembly line and I ended up as a private secretary to E.C. Ewing, who was president of Bell Aircraft at the time. At 18 years of age, that was quite a stint. I worked there until after the war ended, and then I went back home, met my husband and got married. After we got married, I went down to Florida on my own and worked in a plant while my husband was doing pre-law in Boston. He came out here (Los Angeles) to get settled, and then I came out here after him by train, which was very interesting. He went to LMU law school, and then decided that he didn’t want to become a lawyer. I said, ‘Well, I guess we’ll just be in the bar business.’ He was working as a bar boy on the weekends at the time. We were so successful that we had five bars when we were 32

years old. I knew how to make the money, and he knew how to spend it properly. During the summer when he was out of school, we always went into some kind of business. One summer we went into the roofing business and traveled way up to Eureka, Calif. We did roofing and siding. After my husband passed in 1960, I worked at the Bob Burns Restaurant for 20 years, the Seafood Broiler for 10 years and the Greek Out for five years. I came to the YMCA in 1989. I’ve worked all my life.”

What prompted you to go from the restaurant/bar industry into fitness?

“I was getting older. I was about 69, and I just wanted to do it. I got books on fitness, and read a lot of stuff on nutrition. However, I’ve always had a sensitive internal problem. That’s my vulnerable part — my esophagus and stomach, but I managed to work around it and not let it stop me from what I wanted to do. I also dated a bodybuilder for a while. That was really the first time that I encountered physical fitness. I just decided that I wanted to be healthy. And then in January of this year, I got sick. It happened over the course of a week or so, and I went into the hospital. I don’t want pity, but I do want people not to forget me.”

Tell me about your experience at the YMCA.

“After I came out of alcoholism rehabilitation at St. John’s Hospital, I started volunteering at the Y in 1989. They started training and teaching me, and I went on paid staff in 1995. I was a trainer up in the weight room and a teacher for aqua aerobics, high- and low-impact aerobics and therapeutic stretch. Whatever they needed. I didn’t realize how good a teacher I was until I got sick. I thought I was struggling to get it together, but it turns out I had it together and didn’t know it. The people at the Y are wonderful. I have made many, many friends, and my friends have not abandoned me. Hardly a day goes by when I don’t get a visitor from the Y. If any of my friends hear this, bring me

food. Bring me tuna melts. Bring me spaghetti, bring me food that I can eat, and make sure it’s soft. Nothing in chunks.”

Do you have good relationships with your clients?

“Yes. I formed what I would call an entourage of women. I don’t have a family or children so I made a tribe, a family of my own. It was a group of ladies from the YMCA, and I started to have them over to my house. I am what you call a gourmet soul-food cook, which means cholesterol heaven. I would cook dishes like turkey cacciatore and chicken a la king. I would always have these ladies over a couple of weeks before Christmas, I said, ‘No gifts. This is my gift to you for being friends.’ They were such a wonderful group of ladies. I had no idea about them, because when you work with people at the Y, I call it working with people naked. When they walk in, you have no idea who people are. When they come in, they come in dressed to work out. They’re not wearing their jewelry. They don’t have their entourage with them. They’re just people. They may be very affluent, but really are hard-working women like me. (She laughs.) To this day, they come and see me, and give me things. I got to know the women really well. I’m a Gemini and very inquisitive. I’m not academically educated, but I’m people wise.”

What is your philosophy on life?

“I never thought I was smart enough to have a philosophy. It just comes down to being good to people. To have friends, you have to be a friend to people. Be a listener, listen to what people say. Have a heart. I didn’t realize how good a friend I was. I guess I was a good friend, with the way people do things for me now without reservation. Do unto others as you’d have them do unto you. It’s that simple. It’s a very simple philosophy. I can’t add anything to it.”

What motivates you?

“Right now, I am in a position where it’s hard to get motivated. But when I was working, it was pride and helping people.

I love helping people.”

You’ve lived in Santa Monica for a long time. Would you say Santa Monica has changed for the good or for the bad?

“A lot of it has changed for the bad. The monstrosities they’re building and the ugly buildings they are putting up — they don’t want to keep anything architecturally safe from destruction. So much of our heritage is being destroyed. It’s become a money town. It’s always been rich, but now it’s rich in a different way. At least they’re building the (Madison theater at SMC). I always hoped I would live to see something there. Another thing I don’t like is the Christmas decorations we have. They’re very plastic.”

What do you like about Santa Monica?

“I like the fact you can ride around on your bicycle, and it’s relatively safe. I like our thrift shops. Our schools are nice — I went to Santa Monica College for a little bit and took theater arts there for one semester. I also took English literature. I thought if I took enough classes, they would give me an honorary degree, but that’s not going to happen.”

What piece of advice would you give to a senior wanting to be healthy?

“Do what you can. I don’t care if it’s one foot in front of the other, or sitting in a chair, but move. Move.”

What surprises you about the people that you work with?

“I have to relate back to listening. Seniors don’t listen. You can repeat and repeat, and they will still come up to you asking questions. They don’t focus, but that’s OK. I just tell them to open their ears.”

What would you tell someone who’s young?

“Go for it. Whatever you have going around in your mind that you want to do, and if you have the ability to do it, then you should. As long as it’s sensible, just do it. Don’t wait. Just dive in. You can always come back. So why not? The opportunities are out there.”

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# LOCAL



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

"Know before you go" is a weekly update on construction projects throughout Santa Monica. Here is a run-down of this week's construction projects initiated by City Hall:

### Seismic retrofit

Seismic retrofitting is underway on parking structure No. 5, on Fourth Street between Colorado Avenue and Broadway, to bring it up to current code requirements and enable it to better withstand future earthquakes. Additional work will improve access for those with disabilities. During construction, the parking structures will remain in full operation and plenty of parking will be available. However, there may be some added congestion around the entrances and exits.

### Beach pedestrian access

The Idaho Avenue stairs between Palisades Park and the beach are closed for cleanup and repair.

### Cingular telecommunications lines

Cingular is installing telecommunication lines on San Vicente Boulevard between 17th and 19th streets. There may be detours around the work area.

### Civic Center parking structure

Construction of a new 900-space Civic Center public parking structure located on Fourth Street, next to the Public Safety Facility, continues. Construction will require the closure of Avenida Mazatlan and the Fourth Street sidewalk. One lane of southbound Fourth Street is subject to closure while work is occurring.

### Franklin Reservoir roof-strengthening project

This project involves the strengthening of the Franklin Reservoir roof. During the course of this project, Franklin Street will be closed to both vehicles and pedestrians between Lipton and Montana.

### Gas company main replacement

Southern California Gas Company is replacing a 4-inch main on Ocean Park Boulevard between 14th and 16th streets. There will be detours around work areas. Follow posted signs.

### LADWP electrical transmission line repair

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water & Power has begun emergency electrical transmission line repair at 2677 Centinela Ave., just north of Ocean Park Boulevard. LADWP anticipates that repair work will take several months. The target completion date is Aug. 30. Construction crews will work from approximately 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. daily. During construction, one lane of Centinela just north of Ocean Park will be blocked. There also may be some impact to parking along Ocean Park Boulevard between South Bundy Drive and Centinela Avenue. Call LADWP at 1-866-546-9997 for more information.

### Main Library

Construction is underway on the new main library, located at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. During construction visit the temporary library at 1324 Fifth St. or any of the branch libraries. There is currently no sidewalk access on Santa Monica Boulevard, Sixth Street and Seventh Street adjacent to the project.

### Memorial and Los Amigos parks

Demolition of existing park buildings and construction of new restrooms, concession stands and storage buildings. Park buildings will be inaccessible during construction. Memorial Park is located at Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street, and Los Amigos Park is located at Fifth and Hollister streets.

### Street and park lighting project

Work continues on upgrading street lighting with new fixtures and circuits. Construction for this project occurs in the sidewalk area and may impact pedestrians, vehicles and park visitors. Parking restrictions also will be in place immediately adjacent to the work areas. This work is currently scheduled to occur on California Avenue between Seventh Street and Euclid Avenue and in Marine Park at Marine and 16th streets.

### Virginia Avenue Park

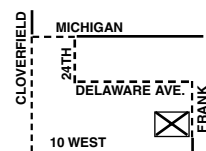
Major renovations at the park, located at the corner of Pico and Cloverfield boulevards, are expected to continue through fall of 2005. The park is closed. This project also includes construction of new turning lanes, traffic signals, striping, and irrigation and landscaping on Cloverfield and Pico boulevards adjacent to the park.

(For more information, log on to [http://santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug\\_project\\_list.asp](http://santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug_project_list.asp) or call 310-458-8721.)



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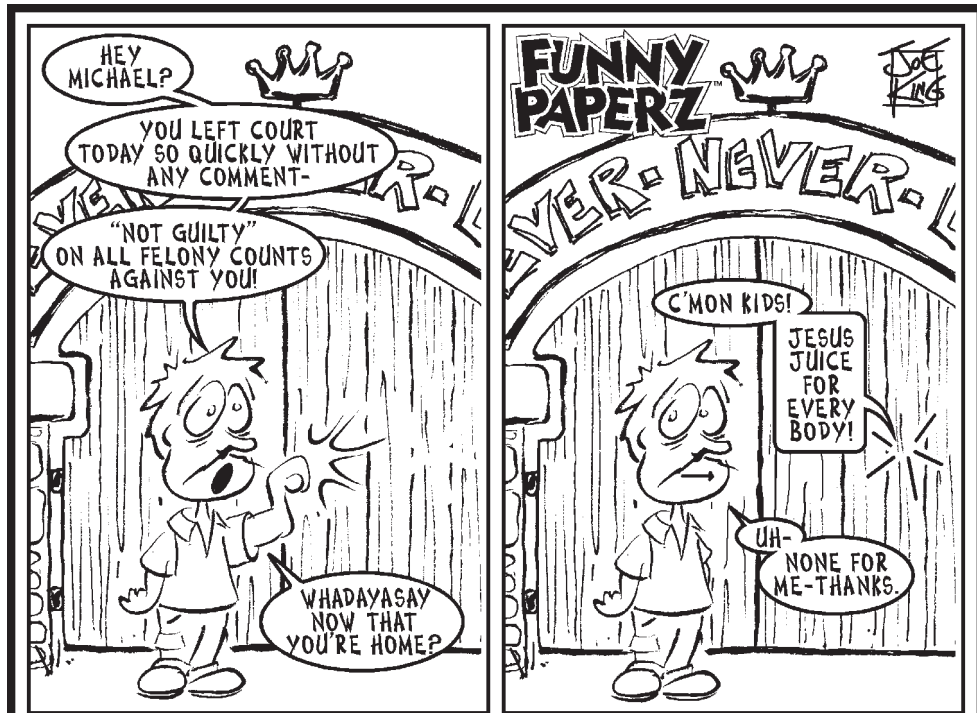
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## OPINION



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Shriver doing the work

Editor:

I applaud the efforts of Santa Monica first term councilman Bobby Shriver to assist in the plight of the homeless veterans. Some Santa Monicans recognize that of every homeless man or woman we see on our streets a portion are veterans. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has yet to decide what to do with acres of land dedicated to serving veterans, and was considering developing office space, when Los Angeles County ruled Tuesday to have their lawyers block any development that would violate county planning rules. With ample land and existing model programs at the VA now, like "The Haven" run by the Salvation Army, we could go a long way toward helping these men and women off the streets.

As a Marine Corps veteran that spent 11 months and 23 days in the Republic of South Vietnam in 1965, I recognize that the true cost of war is not visible on the surface. Of the billions of dollars we now spend in war efforts around this globe, trillions might be needed in the future to heal the physical and mental wounds of combat placed on our young men and women. The sign at the entrance to the VA Hospital in West Los Angeles reads in part: "This is the true cost of war." Veterans salute you, Councilman Shriver, for highlighting these problems and posing some workable and immediate solutions. Semper Fi.

Clyde Smith  
Santa Monica

## Skate park fees out of reach

Editor:

While I join in celebrating the opening of the new skate park, I am astonished at the \$80 annual fees for young people to use this new community resource. As the Police Athletic League, located right next door, has helped bridge the digital divide by providing access to computers for disadvantaged young people, I hope they or the recreation and parks department will do something about a looming "Dogtown Divide" by offering scholarships or "work-skate" volunteer opportunities to kids whose family resources can't afford this new luxury item and to teens who would like to donate their time and services to the community in exchange for using a really cool park. Promoting citizenship and skateboarding together will do a lot to redefine some community members' perception of boarders as "slackers." Just as skateboarding is not a crime, nor should our park resources be out of reach for the many young people who would like, but can't afford, to use them.

Alan Toy  
Santa Monica

## 'No' on mall expansion

Editor:

The plans for Santa Monica Place to extend into Main Street must not have come from anyone who lives near Main Street.

Main Street used to have real shops that catered to the neighbors. There were several markets, old-fashioned barber shops, a TV repair, a butcher, a baker, a 5-and-10 and a hardware store. Now it's all eclectic junk, expensive restaurants, bars and nail salons for tourists and people driving in from Beverly Hills.

This has severely impacted the quality of life for residents. The homeless have followed the tourist hand-outs, and the surrounding streets have become filthy and have homeless people sleeping there all the time. The tourists are not much better as far as dumping their Starbucks cups and beer bottles from the bars and wandering around loud and drunk on the weekends. The traffic is already a mess, and cars

See LETTERS, page 7

# 'Flippers' are flopping all over SM real estate



I recently watched The Learning Channel's (TLC) new reality show, "Property Ladder." It was about "flippers" — speculators who buy "undervalued" real estate, fix it up and sell fast at inflated prices. The goal: make big bucks in a short period of time.

The debut episode, taped last fall in Santa Monica, featured a 28-year-old real-estate broker's first "flip." His property was a 1970s era, multi-level, two-bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condominium in Ocean Park — a stone's throw from Lincoln Boulevard and rent-by-the-hour motels — he recently acquired for \$588,000.

He would "contemporize" the kitchen and two bathrooms, redo the fireplace and refinish ceilings and wood floors — all for \$20,000. Although inexperienced, to save labor costs, he'd complete the work in six weeks with help from family and friends. He'd then unload the condo for \$650,000 and make a cool \$40,000 profit.

As it turned out, the work took more than 16 weeks and cost \$31,000 plus an extra mortgage payment or two. A new interior wall was built dividing a large single bedroom into two small bedrooms — resulting in a three-bedroom condo worth \$60,000 more than a two-bedroom condo.

The refurbished condo went on the market at a low-ball \$650,000 to generate intense buyer interest. Although characterized as a "bait and switch" by one real estate agent at the open house, our flipper got his offers — 17 in all with many well above the asking price. The best offer was \$705,000. Sold! Ca-Ching! Our "hero" made a fast \$81,500.

I don't have a problem with anyone making honest money — even a lot of fast money. After all, isn't that what the American system is all about?

But, I started thinking. Aren't we facing a housing crisis in part because more and more speculators are coming in, scooping up moderately priced properties, remodeling cheaply and then turning them quickly at inflated prices only those in the highest incomes can afford?

The more I thought about it, the more

angry I became. "Flipping" affects apartment buildings and single-family homes, too. Already, only a very small percentage of people can afford to buy in Santa Monica.

Maybe this is something that our City Council and affordable housing advocates should research. How about a special capital gains tax on short-term property speculators to put the brakes on all the profiteering on scarce housing?

You can't blame speculators for taking advantage of suckers so desperate to own that they get lured into a feeding frenzy and overpay. Because a previous sleaze-ball owner used incompetent labor and cheap materials to tart up an "old lady," many of these "contemporary designer dream homes" develop peeling paint, leaky plumbing and sagging floors.

Oh well.

Consider this. In the mid-cities area, building codes allow a 45-foot height for new construction. Older nine- to 11-unit apartments are being gobbled up by speculators who evict tenants and go out of the rental business. With codes permitting five or six condos and sale prices close to \$1 million each, a very good profit can be had.

Downzoning would take the high profit potential out of these developments. It's another way to protect middle- and low-income housing and the eight, nine or 10 families who are forced out of the community every time a profiteer has an itch to speculate on an older apartment building. And it's a way to maintain the community's diversity.

Back to "Property Ladder." In checking around, I couldn't find a building permit (required when walls are added, fireplaces are renovated and plumbing and electrical work is done) or inspection reports for the condo featured on the show. And, I couldn't locate a city business license for our broker/flipper, his projects or even for the Colorado Avenue production company that produced "Property Ladder" for TLC. I also learned our flipper now has other flips in the works in Santa Monica and Venice.

I wonder whether buyers know that many of these fast turnaround remodels may have been illegally completed by unlicensed amateurs, apparently without permits or safety inspections? It appears climbing the property ladder can leave a lot of untidy ends.

(Bill Bauer is a long-time resident of Santa Monica and a freelance writer.)

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# OPINION



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS, from page 6

speed on the residential streets to avoid Main Street. Parking is a constant battle. Turning our Main Street into Disneyland Main Street is a great idea for tourist business, but not for us tenants who live here.

**Marty Liboff**  
*Santa Monica*

### A perspective on the homeless from the street

Editor:

I have read the report on the amount of homeless within the county of Los Angeles. I was not surprised at all. As a matter of fact, I would put the estimate at closer to 100,000. The reason being the nomadic lifestyle of some of the homeless I know.

When I wrote my first "From The Street" column for this newspaper, I had told you who read it this would happen. The problem of homelessness is a very complex one. The factors that put one on the street are many, from drug and alcohol abuse, mental illness, family abuse, rising rents and the lack of wages significant enough to keep one housed.

I think the beginnings of getting the problem solved are more shelters and transitional housing programs but with the following type of format:

■ Separate the mentally ill from the parolees and the regular or newly homeless. This would facilitate a more streamlined system in that each would receive the individualized care needed for transition to housing. It would also keep the shelter system from falling into the "prison mentality" from those career criminals who are paroled to these facilities and make it so.

■ Spend more on case management than on the upper echelons. These people are the "front line" in this fight to help the homeless population get off the streets. There should be more of them who are trained to keep the case loads individualized. They shouldn't just treat the homeless population as a lump sum.

■ The private sector, property owners and management companies should look at making a larger percentage of housing available to the low-income renters. A letter to the editor from the man with the section 8 vouchers should have been the "red light" to this major road block in solving the homeless problem.

The man was begging for someone to take his voucher. Would he go through the program only to be put back on the street?

■ Jobs with a sustainable income. I would like to see how many of us could live and afford a place on minimum wage.

I have been homeless in this area for more than nine years. I am considered "chronic homeless" and yet when I was writing my column for this newspaper I put my e-mail address and asked for work as a freelance artist and writer. I received a lot of mail, and not offering jobs.

This count should be a real wake-up call to us all. This is the culmination of how man's greed has eroded this nation. And how we, as human beings, have treated our fellows.

**Charles Springer**  
*Homeless in Santa Monica*

### It's time to opt out

Editor:

Ed Silverstein's Incites column about this secret government's attacks on our privacy was right on target. ("No identities would be better than stolen ones," June 22, page 4).

An additional item for his litany of lost freedoms: the No Child Left Behind Act. Did you know how this Bush law gives military recruiters access to the phone numbers and addresses of high school students? (I thought only 18-35 year olds were eligible to enlist.)

That is, unless students — and their parents who must sign a form — "opt out." Similar, Ed says how us consumers in other areas must opt out to fight junk mail, telemarketers, magazine subscriptions, etc. — only by opting out can students avoid being on the recruitment list.

Since January, "counter-recruiters" from groups like "Palisadians for Peace" have been on missions to schools at 6:30 in the morning to give students information about the opting out option. CAMS.org is a place to find out more about these hearty activists, teachers and parents fighting what they call "the militarization" of our schools.

**Henry Rosenfeld**  
*Santa Monica*

# Life on earth is only a vapor that evaporates in a blink



**THE  
WITNESS  
STAND**  
BY CLIFF NICHOLS

Last month we celebrated Mother's Day. This month enveloped Father's Day. In years past, these holidays engendered talk of lunches, barbecues, hot dogs and hamburgers. But in recent years these days have, to me, been taking on new meaning. If we are blessed, a few things in life seem to grow stronger with the passage of time. Love may be one of those things. A love that is true, that is. Like the one most parents hold deep in their hearts for each of their children, as well as that of their children for them.

At a recent event, it was my good fortune to encounter a man I hadn't seen or spoken with for more than 30 years. He brought this point home in a way few have been able to achieve.

As such conversations go, we began to reminisce and play catch up to bridge the gap of the intervening decades. Long ago I had attended high school with his children and remembered all of them fairly well, but of course, some better than others. We went through where they were now and what each one was doing. But as we went along, I sensed we were coming to a place of unavoidable discomfort. It was the uneasy pause that comes from contemplating whether or not to avoid the painfully obvious. It was when I recalled his second son that my friend seemed to detect my awkwardness. To relax the moment, he generously extracted from his pants pocket what first appeared to be a smooth red stone.

I remembered his son as not only a cross-country athlete, but a quiet young man with somewhat unfashionable horn-rimmed glasses. More importantly, however, I remember him as a gentle spirit with a peace settled upon him uncommon to most others around him who were busy participating in the uproar of the Vietnam War era. Even compared to his siblings, he always seemed to be the one thinking about other things ... perhaps things that should have mattered to the rest of us more. Maybe that's why he so liked to run — it gave him time to do just that.

What I didn't know until yesterday, however, was that one of the things he did in his life was create a plastic-like cube in a shop class he took. When he had finished it and brought it home way back then it was likely a non-event in their house. With four children, the inflow of arts-and-crafts projects into the house was probably an all too common event. Even so, I imagine he was proud of it. At the very least, it's red color was attractive to the eye. And so, he kept it.

About two years later, a friend from

back home approached me in my university dorm to ask me if I had heard that this quiet, gentle young man had died. Some form of cancer had taken him. I remember being stunned and crying that night. I had considered him a friend, and beyond the sense of loss, I was at a loss to understand why the God my friend so deeply believed in would allow such a thing to happen. It is only now, at the other end of my life, that I am receiving a glimmer of the answer to that question.

In part, it has to do with the important lessons of life we are to learn that, due to our hard headedness, are most permanently imprinted upon our minds best through adversity. I don't know what lessons the members of his family learned from that trial, but I'll bet they do.

The other part, however, is equally — if not perhaps more — important. It has to do with our understanding of the purpose of our lives in light of their brevity, no matter how long we may live. Many of us spend our lives chasing the wind in search of what may be gained here while all the time putting out of mind the fact that life is really nothing more than a vapor, here today and gone tomorrow. And, when it is over, is it not more important that we be able to leave a reminder, some token, of our love to all those who we leave behind?

I doubt if my friend knew that is what he had done when he made that small red cube in shop class ... but it was. It has been carried in the pocket of his father every day for nearly 35 years, its edges now smoothed by the caresses of a father who loved his son very much — a love that has remained as strong as the day they parted ways, a love that is symbolized by a cube that now has been given the appearance of a beautiful red stone. For the rest of us, perhaps we should consider more carefully what it is that we are doing. The question that remains is whether we in our lives are working to produce anything nearly as precious that those we love will want to carry it in their hearts and minds — and maybe even their pockets — for what remains of their lives. If not, we would do well to get about it, remembering that no matter how long we live, our time here is really nothing more than a vapor soon to be gone, and producing something like a smooth red stone may take all the time that remains.

One day my friend will playfully skip that red stone along a foamy shore while walking hand-in-hand with the son who made it — no more tears — a fulfillment of the promise established in the hope. Then they will both understand clearly and rejoice forever.

*(Cliff Nichols is an attorney practicing criminal defense/entertainment law in Santa Monica. He can be reached at 310-917-1083, [www.cliffnicholslaw.com](http://www.cliffnicholslaw.com) or [www.thedailystand.com](http://www.thedailystand.com).)*

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## LOCAL

# SM Red Cross to sponsor students for tsunami relief

PHILANTHROPY, from page 1

Monica.

The youth exchange, "Global Citizenship — Youth Exploration and Empowerment," aims to give young leaders the opportunity to view cultures, youth leadership and community development from a global perspective. The program offers participants the opportunity to develop and maintain personal linkages with Sri Lankan youth while familiarizing themselves with an entirely different culture.

The students and their five adult chaperones will embark on a 23-day journey to Sri Lanka, an island country near India whose southern coast is still in shambles from the destruction left by one of the world's worst natural disasters. The service learning trip offers a multi-faceted approach, involving preparation and training, education and activism.

"I'm excited to help out while learning about other cultures," Lockhart said. "I know the experience will be so rewarding."

During their first week in Sri Lanka, students will talk with community members in an effort to understand the country and its culture. Once they get oriented, students will help rebuild schools, replant vegetation and clean debris in needy communities. Their trip will culminate with a service project that they will plan and design.

They were inspired to take part in the abroad program after working with the Santa Monica Red Cross, which has trained them in disaster relief and community aid. To further prepare for their trip, the students had to take part in physical training and teamwork exercises with the Outward Bound program, which was "tough for some people," said Grill. The Outward Bound trip was meant to try their physical and personal limits, while encouraging the students to emerge from their experience as a single-team entity.

"We really didn't know each other

before, but (the Outward Bound trip) really prepared us to work as a team," Grill said.

For Grill, who says he's never met any Sri Lankans before, his time in Sri Lanka will mean helping as well as learning. Grill's volunteer experience has involved little commitment in comparison with the upcoming service learning trip. He views the program as an "opportunity to make a real difference, make a real impact."

In addition to their activism, students will learn about international development and peace studies by sitting in on educational seminars. The high schoolers will have the opportunity to work with numerous non-governmental organizations that also are committed to helping the affected region.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for some bright, hard-working kids to experience a part of the world they would normally never see, and to help build a bridge of friendship and understanding between the peoples of Sri Lanka and Santa Monica," said Jerry Washington, the Santa Monica chapter's director of volunteers and youth services.

The trip is a pilot project for RI-SOL and is sponsored by American Red Cross. Earlier this year, the American Red Cross pledged \$18.3 million in aid and has been a constant presence in rebuilding the region.

RI-SOL is a Los Angeles based non-governmental organization that has 15 years of experience in providing emergency, rehabilitation and developmental services addressing long-term developmental needs. RI-SOL is involved in delivering education and communication technologies to classrooms around the world and has been conducting academic and cultural exchanges since 2000.

All costs for the trip, including pre-departure orientation, travel expenses and airfares for both students and adult chaperones, are covered by a private financial grant through RI-SOL.

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# City Hall will continue helping schools for 10 years

SCHOOL BUDGET, from page 1

anticipates a drop of 235 students, bringing the estimated total to 12,545.

Still, school officials at Friday’s meeting said the adopted budget could be revised in coming months because Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has yet to commit resources the district has depended on in the past to fund its programs.

“It should be noted the absence of ‘predictability’ of the governor’s office to commit to and deliver all outstanding money owed the district, as well as the proposed November 2005 special election, will impact our ability to attest, with confidence, our own projections and stability through the 2005-06 fiscal year,” said a report issued by the district.

The special election for which the governor is calling, if successful, might legally allow the governor to re-direct funding sources typically allocated to the schools, officials have said.

To address the state’s public education funding issues, the 2005-06 SMMUSD budget does not anticipate these funds the governor could issue will actually materialize.

As a result, school officials said that while total district revenues are expected to increase by \$2.16 million next year compared to this year, a \$3.28 million increase in overall expenditures is expected to result in a \$794,728 deficit.

To balance the budget, the district will be taking

money from its reserves, using 41 percent outright of its \$1.92 million in anticipated reserves for next year.

The \$1.92 million, which represents approximately 3 percent of the district’s anticipated budget, is the amount of savings the SMMUSD is required by law to have on-hand at the beginning of its fiscal year.

Santa Monica schools, which have been stripped of millions of dollars of funding since Schwarzenegger took office, are expected to continue to face increased deficits in coming years.

Still, officials on Friday said next year’s budget shortfall will be less than the district might have anticipated if the city of Santa Monica had not agreed to provide more than \$6 million in funding next year for the schools.

“We’re at a good point in a year that’s been trying fiscally,” said Julia Bromley, school board vice president. “If we were looking at the budget three or four months ago, we’d be in a different place.”

Santa Monica public schools, which have been receiving at least \$6 million in funding annually from City Hall since the Governor’s budget cuts began a few years ago, reached an agreement this spring with the city, which agreed to continue subsidizing local public education efforts for 10 years.

This circumstance, believed to be unique statewide, has been essential for the district’s well-regarded education programming, said school board member Oscar de la Torre.

“Without the residents of Santa Monica, we’d be looking at a different budget entirely,” said de la Torre, who thanked City Hall for supporting the schools.

John Deasy, the district’s superintendent, whose daughter graduated from Santa Monica High School on Thursday, indicated he was relieved the district’s budget is moving forward.

“Obviously, I concur,” Deasy said after de la Torre’s remark.

Meanwhile, one person used the public comment portion of Friday’s school board meeting to criticize aspects of the district’s proposed budget.

Zina Josephs said the SMMUSD should reconsider a decision to drop an eighth grade drama course in the fall at John Adams Middle School.

Officials responded by saying a drama component will continue to be offered in the language arts course offered at the school. Also, opportunities to participate in after-school theater are also available for students throughout the district.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

volunteers 55 years old and older, and matches their talents, creativity and wisdom to community needs, officials say. Some current volunteer assignments are Meals on Wheels drivers, reading tutors for kindergarten through fifth graders, Call-A-Friend program, St. John’s Hospital and a program aimed at fraudulent telemarketers called Fraud Fighters. RSVP has more than 60 different assignments. Interested persons should call Lauren at WISE Senior Services at (310) 394-9871, ext. 261.

### Early Childhood Parenting Center settling into new home

By Daily Press staff

The ECPC has moved — but not away from the needs of parents.

The Early Childhood Parenting Center (ECPC) has found a new home. The center is once again offering full-service parenting assistance.

Originally started in 1970 and housed at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, ECPC is now operating out of the Quaker House in Santa Monica. ECPC is renting space and is not affiliated with the Quaker House, according to officials.

Serving the greater Los Angeles community, ECPC’s staff of volunteer professionals’ goal is to build confident, knowledgeable parents through education, counseling and support groups.

If you have child-rearing questions, you can call the ECPC at (310) 281-9770. The free consultation service has 30 qualified professionals to discuss your concerns about emotional, social and behavioral issues for children from birth to 6 years old.

For medical questions, they recommend you consult your pediatrician or other health care professional.

The professionals on-staff include child-development specialists, clinical social workers, family and child therapists, and early childhood educators. Parents can leave a message for staff members and their call will be returned within 24 hours.

In addition, if parents prefer to listen to information on their own time, ECPC has audio CDs on parenting topics such as toilet training, temper tantrums and sleep problems.

For more information on the Early Childhood Parenting Center and the services it offers, contact Joan Simon at (310) 281-9770.

### SM democrats to discuss United Nations controversy

By Daily Press staff

The United Nations and the controversy surrounding it will be the official topic of conversation for Santa Monica democrats next week.

The Santa Monica Democratic Club invites all interested persons to attend its next meeting to hear about the United Nations, the Bolton nomination and the numerous issues involving the United Nations.

The guest speaker, Irving Sarnoff, has had a lifetime of involvement in social-justice issues. Originally a union organizer, Sarnoff subsequently organized the Peace Action Council of Los Angeles, which is the leading anti-Vietnam War organization, according to officials.

Over the past few years he has traveled worldwide, speaking on behalf of the United Nations-sponsored International Human Rights Charter.

Based in Santa Monica, Sarnoff is involved full time in promoting and defending the United Nations.

A question-and-answer period will follow the formal presentation.

The event is free, open to the public, with free parking and refreshments. The discussion will take place on Wednesday, June 29, at 7 p.m. at the St. Annes community room on 20th Street and Colorado Avenue.

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# Mega Millions debuts in California under legal cloud

By The Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES** — The Mega Millions lottery game debuted Friday night, marking California's entry into a multistate lottery.

The winning numbers drawn Friday night for a \$42 million jackpot were: 14-43-44-50-56 with a Mega Ball of 7.

The drawing followed brisk sales in California, where ticket buyers Wednesday set a first day sales record of \$2.4 million for the game. The strong sales surpassed the \$1.7 million sold on New York's first day in 2002.

California is the 12th state to join the Mega Millions game, which had a U.S. record \$363 million jackpot in May 2000. It also had a \$331 million jackpot in April 2002.

Players pay \$1 for a chance to match five numbers between one and 56 and a 'mega ball' number between one and 46.

With California aboard, the chances of winning are one in 175 million.

The game's introduction has been challenged by antigambling forces who allege that it violates a requirement in a 1984 ballot initiative that all lotteries run in California be controlled by the state.

The California Coalition Against Gambling Expansion vowed to file a lawsuit within two weeks to halt the Mega Millions game in California.

Lawyers for the state Legislature said the California Lottery Commission may have illegally joined the game. Chon Gutierrez, the state lottery's acting director, testified before a state Senate committee Tuesday and said the commission had the power to join the multistate game.

The state attorney general's office also has said the commission's decision was legal.

The California Lottery Commission didn't seek legislation authorizing participation. Ten of the other 11 states in the game avoided the possibility of legal problems by getting legislation authorizing them to join a multistate game.

## Lodi cleric accused of ties to terrorism

BY DAVID KRAVETS

AP Legal Affairs Writer

**SAN FRANCISCO** — A Pakistani cleric facing deportation was accused Friday during an immigration hearing of trying to incite followers to defend Osama bin Laden and kill Americans.

Shabbir Ahmed, 39, seeking bail on a charge of overstaying his visa to head a Lodi mosque in the Central Valley, denied that he had made any speech against the United States. During the same hearing, a government attorney said another Lodi imam being held on immigration charges once had close ties to the Taliban.

Justice Department attorney Paul Nishiie argued against releasing Ahmed on bail, saying he was linked to a terrorist group in Karachi, Pakistan, and had preached about attacking Americans a few months after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

While preaching at an Islamabad mosque, Ahmed also encouraged attacks on Pakistan's President Gen. Pervez Musharraf because of his support for the American war on terrorism, Nishiie said.

"Did you encourage people to defend Osama bin Laden and kill Americans?" Nishiie asked.

"I did not say it like this," Ahmed said through an Urdu interpreter.

In response to a similar question later, he said, "Sometimes you say something when you're emotional."

Immigration Judge Anthony Murry did not rule on Ahmed's bail request, continuing the hearing until Aug. 2. Ahmed, wearing an orange jail suit, was led away from the heavily guarded courtroom in shackles. A deportation trial was scheduled for Oct. 24.

Ahmed's lawyer said his client was not involved in terrorism.

"We all do things in life that we are not proud of," immigration lawyer Saad Ahmad said after the hearing. "Somebody may have said things. It doesn't necessarily mean he is a terrorist."

But the Justice Department counsel said Ahmed was a student and teacher at Jamia Farooqia, which was listed as a terrorist group by the U.S. State Department in 2001.

Jamia Farooqia, which calls itself a "renowned university of Islamic sciences" on the Internet, sent troops to Afghanistan to fight on behalf of the Taliban against

Americans, Nishiie said.

Ahmed is one of five men arrested during a terrorism investigation in Lodi, a community of about 62,000 about 80 miles east of San Francisco. Muslim leaders, the American Civil Liberties Union and government leaders have criticized the tactics of federal investigators and for bringing a spotlight on the community. Authorities, meanwhile, have pressed forward with the cases.

Friday's hearing in San Francisco was the first time they revealed evidence against Ahmed.

In another case, a father and son who face criminal charges for allegedly lying to the FBI won their fight in Sacramento federal court Friday to see some of the evidence prosecutors have against them.

Hamid Hayat, 22, allegedly lied to agents when he denied attending a terrorism camp in Pakistan in 2003 and 2004. His father, Umer Hayat, 47, was charged with lying to investigators about his son's camp activity that he allegedly financed.

Federal prosecutors agreed to turn over some of their evidence, but U.S. Magistrate Judge Peter Nowinski rejected a request to make prosecutors reveal what led them to suspect Hamid Hayat and put him on the government's "no fly" list.

Nowinski said he wasn't going to let defense lawyer Johnny L. Griffin III "muck around in national security information."

"It's a serious false statement case," Nowinski said. "It's a case where someone lied about terrorist activities."

In the immigration case, another Lodi religious leader, Muhammad Adil Khan, and his 19-year-old son, Muhammad Hassan Adil Khan, are being detained pending immigration hearings that were postponed until Aug. 2.

The elder Khan was the former general secretary of Jamia Farooqia and allegedly had close ties with the Taliban, Nishiie said.

Saad Ahmad, who also represents the Khans, said Ahmed's visa expired in November and that he applied for an extension in October. While he said it's usually best to apply for an extension six months in advance, he claims Ahmed is still in the country legally.

"I don't think this has anything to do with his immigration status," Ahmad said after the immigration hearing.

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# Lightning-sparked fires burn in Mojave National Preserve

By The Associated Press

**KELSO, Calif.** — Lightning-sparked wildfires burned on more than 52,000 acres of the remote and rugged Mojave National Preserve in southeastern California on Friday, while firefighters elsewhere worked on remnants of two other big fires including one that destroyed a half-dozen homes this week.

In the preserve near the Nevada border, a series of fires were ignited by lightning from two storm fronts Wednesday afternoon and several merged or were on the verge of joining, authorities said.

The scale was "terribly unusual," Ranger Linda Slater said. "This is the

biggest fire on record for this area."

About 500 firefighters were on the lines and the blaze was 10 percent contained late Friday night.

Several small cabins burned and about 20 people left two tiny private communities within the 1.5 million-acre preserve, which lies between Interstates 15 and 40, about 150 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

The wildfires burned at the edges of critical territory for the threatened desert tortoise but, at about 4,000 feet, were too high to damage much of it, Slater said.

The fire area included some horse corrals from the 1870s, historic mining sites and some sites of ancient Indian pictographs, Slater said. Some historical

ranch homes were damaged, but it was not known if other historical and archaeological sites also were damaged.

Officials prompted residents in the region's Fourth of July Canyon and Round Valley areas to evacuate their homes. The exact number of evacuees wasn't immediately known.

The fire was feeding on grass, sagebrush, juniper and pinyon pine stands in steep, rocky terrain. Winter rains made the vegetation unusually dense.

Elsewhere, firefighters were encircling two other fires.

A 3,022-acre fire that burned that destroyed six houses and one other structure in Morongo Valley on Wednesday

was 50 percent contained. Full containment was expected by 8 a.m. Saturday.

No homes were threatened.

"The fire is virtually out" but rising winds might bring a threat of flare-ups, said Capt. Steve Faris of the San Bernardino County unit of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

More than 1,000 firefighters were patrolling the edges of the blaze, working to cut the last seven miles of line to surround the fire, Faris said.

Another fire, about 35 miles away in the San Jacinto area of Riverside County, remained at 2,080 acres and was 80 percent contained. No homes were in the vicinity.

## Southern Utah town evacuated, Interstate closed, by wildfires

BY JENNIFER DOBNER

Associated Press Writer

**ST. GEORGE, Utah** — Battling high winds and hot, dry conditions, fire crews made little headway Saturday on a string of blazes that covered southwestern Utah in a black fog, shut down an Interstate and threatened hundreds of homes.

Flames up to 10 feet high were visible from Interstate 15 just north of St. George before the fire, sparked sometime by lightning in the afternoon, eventually jumped the road and forced its closure. Several hotels in this Nevada border town were booked full of motorists forced to stay the night.

Residents of Gunlock were told Saturday to leave after the largest fire in the area — which had consumed 59,000 acres by that night — edged to within 4 miles. Firefighters were battling winds up to 25 miles per hour and several other smaller fires sparked by lightning that kept popping up nearby.

The biggest fire is a combination of four smaller ones started Wednesday that burned together into a single blaze two days later. Fire officials estimate it could be several days before it's contained.

Later Saturday, residents of eight

homes in Pintura, about 20 miles north of St. George, were evacuated after the Interstate fire grew too close.

Utah's unusually wet spring and late snow melt are providing plenty of fuel as plants that thrived in the wet conditions dry out in 90-degree June temperatures. More hot, dry and windy weather was expected to make fire crews' work just as difficult Sunday.

"When it gets in that high grass, it's just like a blowtorch," said Gary Elliott, with the National Interagency Fire Center.

About 400 firefighters were working on the ground, aided by four heavy air tankers, six small single engine airplanes and three helicopters.

An evacuation center was set up at Snow Canyon High School in St. George, about 20 miles southeast of Gunlock, but only one family was there Saturday.

Gunlock residents Lana Parker, 27, and her husband Jeremy Parker, 29, had been preparing to evacuate with their three children since the night before, when they heard rumblings it might be ordered. The family packed up a suitcase and some photos before heading off for the school.

Still, the Parkers said, no one is really sure just how dangerous it would've been to stay in town.

"It's really smokey out there, but you get no indication that the fire is out there" because it's not visible, Jeremy Parker said.

Emergency response officials said 64 of Gunlock's 112 residents had evacuated, though others fled to the homes of friends and family instead of the evacuation center.

The area is still recovering from a January flood that left the town stranded after a river washed out a bridge and swallowed several homes.

"People of the town of Gunlock have had a lot of heartache this year. This has been a very hard year for them," said Dean Cox, Washington County's emer-

gency services director.

Hyrum Smith, who runs a cattle ranch about a mile north of Gunlock, was one who stuck around. He said he wanted to wait and see if the fire got any closer before leaving his land. Smith said he lost fencing and irrigation equipment and about 25 acres when the city flooded in January.

"Nobody knows what it's going to do so we're just kind of watching it hour by hour here," Smith told The Associated Press. "They're taking precautions and asking people to evacuate, which is the smart thing to do. But it would have to cross some pretty rugged area to get to the town."

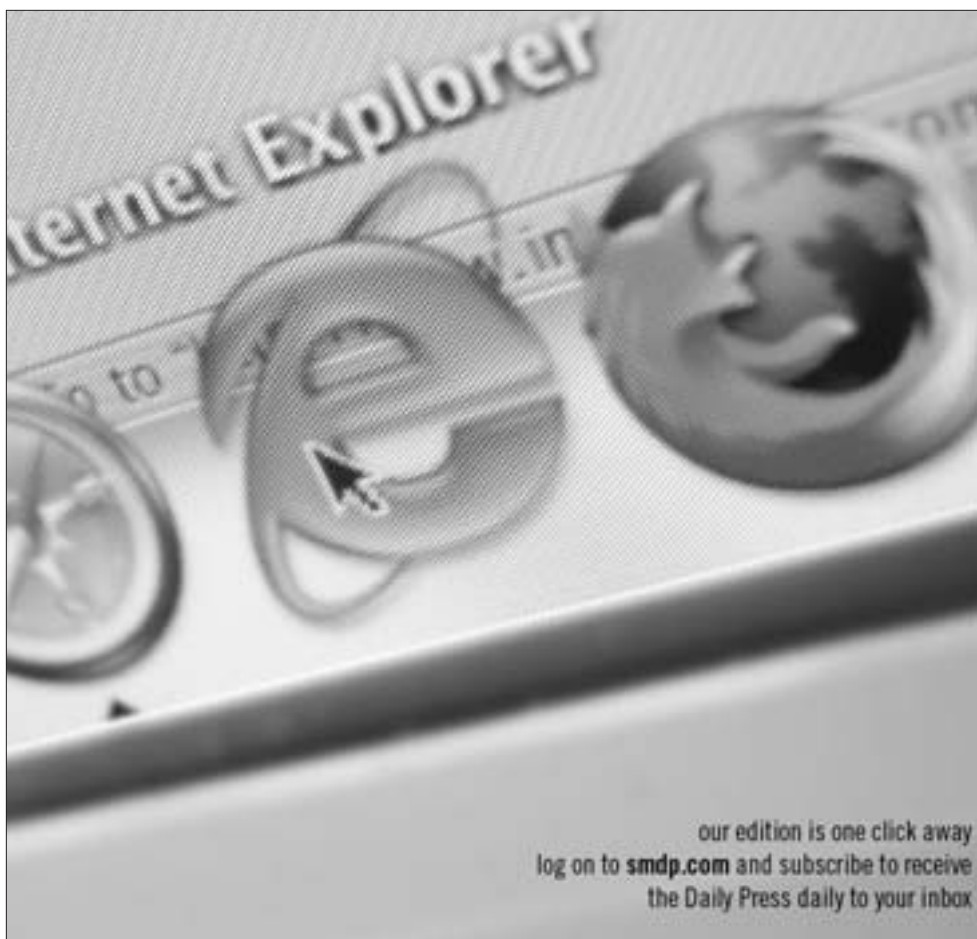
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# NATIONAL

# Civil-rights group names its new leader

BY ERIN TEXEIRA

AP National Writer

**ATLANTA** — Turning to a businessman to lead one of the nation's seminal civil rights groups, the NAACP's board of directors announced Saturday that Bruce S. Gordon, a retired Verizon executive, will be its next president.

"Civil rights leaders throughout this country did what they did and died, so my generation has full responsibility to walk in the doors those brave people opened," Gordon said after the board voted. "It's fabulous, exciting, humbling."

Gordon was selected by a large majority of the board to succeed Kweisi Mfume, former U.S. representative and a candidate for Senate in Maryland who resigned abruptly in December. Several months later, a report surfaced that his personal relationships with NAACP staffers had contributed to widespread mismanagement at national headquarters in Baltimore. One staff member threatened to sue.

Described as a top-notch leader and consensus-builder, Gordon, 59, began his career in 1968 as a management trainee at Bell of Pennsylvania. For 35 years, amid massive upheaval in the telecommunica-

tions industry, he helped the company navigate the string of mergers that led it to become Verizon Communications Inc. When he retired in December 2003, he was chief of Verizon's biggest division — retail markets.

Gordon's corporate background "means that he is accustomed to working within a system in which merit and achievement count the most," Julian Bond, chairman of the group's board of directors, said in an interview. "That was attractive to us. Not to say that the NAACP didn't have that. But with every step we've taken ... we wanted to move up. And we think he's going to bring us a quantitative move up."

Gordon said his first priorities will be to improve the organization's finances — its expenses have exceeded its income for the last two years, tax documents show — by working to build an endowment, increasing membership and pushing for more efficiency in operations.

His civil rights goals include working toward greater economic equality, he said.

"People of color need to change and balance the trade deficit that exists between people of color and the rest of society," Gordon said.

He also said he was looking forward to

building a stronger relationship with the Bush administration.

"I believe there has to be some common ground that can be established between the White House and the NAACP that serves the mutual interests of both of those parties," he said. "So I expect going forward to find a way to forge that relationship."

Relations between the NAACP and Bush administration have been strained. Bond has condemned the administration's policies on education, the economy and the war in Iraq and urged high black voter turnout to defeat Bush for re-election last year. And Mfume once described Bush's black supporters as "ventriloquists' dummies."

A National Association for the Advancement of Colored People search committee invited Gordon to apply for the position in February. More than 250 candidates were considered, Bond said.

It became clear last week that Gordon was the only presidential candidate under consideration, a choice that marked a striking change for the NAACP. Most presidents have been political or religious leaders, or prominent figures from the civil rights movement.

"He's not a minister or a politician, but

this man's been doing it all along," said Eric Cevis, a vice president in Verizon's retail division who has known Gordon since 1986. "He has a social accountability that he's been preaching for years."

Cevis said Gordon pioneered diversity efforts at Verizon for blacks and other minorities, consistently pushing the company to improve its hiring and promotion practices.

Gordon was born in Camden, N.J., and raised with four siblings by parents who were both educators and civil right activists.

He serves on boards of Southern Co. and Tyco International Ltd. and is a trustee of Gettysburg College and the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation. He was named one of Fortune magazine's 50 most powerful black executives in 2002 and executive of the year by Black Enterprise magazine in 1998.

"I think he's a godsend," said Leroy Warren, a board member from Silver Spring, Md., minutes after the board voted. "We need to get back to real civil rights and economic development. ... He has the intelligence to move forward."

After contract negotiations, Gordon is expected to be confirmed as president at the association's convention in July.

# Sin and salvation collide on the Las Vegas Strip

BY ANGIE WAGNER

Associated Press Writer

**LAS VEGAS** — Down a dim staircase in a place known for wild concerts and late-night partying, something very un-Vegas rings out from the depths of the House of Blues at Mandalay Bay hotel-casino.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!" comes a woman's throaty voice. "For the Lord is good!"

Wait. This is Vegas, den of sin, where what happens here stays here, right?

Absolutely, but inside the Sunday Gospel Brunch, not too far from the clinking slot machines and ticking roulette wheel, tourists and locals are raising their hands, tapping their feet and singing about Jesus.

This may always be Sin City, but that doesn't mean tourists can't heal their soul a bit while they're here. Two Roman Catholic churches are just a step away from the Strip, and there's always a walking preacher, warning sinners to embrace their savior.

On this sweltering afternoon, it's Eddy Rocha, a minister from Nicaragua who plans to open his own church. He tries to counter the so-called smut peddlers who pass out handbills full of pictures and phone numbers of exotic dancers.

"A lot of people come here and never hear about the word of God," he said from his post in front of Bally's hotel-casino. "We try to change that. We're here to change the city."

Across from the Luxor hotel-casino, the Shrine of the Holy Redeemer opened in 1991 specifically to serve tourists. And they come in droves — some 9,000 worshippers attend Sunday Mass. They hold rosary beads and pray in their shorts and tank tops, relishing the break from all things Vegas.

For St. Louis tourists Walt and Joan Gemmer, finding a Mass was a priority. Sure, they drink and gamble. After all, it's their 50th wedding anniversary. But, Joan Gemmer said: "He (God) comes before drinking, gambling and everything else."

A bit farther up Las Vegas Boulevard, the music of the Guardian Angel Cathedral plays as tourists busily cross the street with drinks in hand. The church is tucked away on a side road, but easy enough for tourists to find.

Nancy Farnsworth, a 71-year-old local, worships here almost every day and watches tourists fill the church. "They come here and pray they won't lose another day," she joked.

Father Francis White notices something more telling about Las Vegas.

"There is evil here. If people are looking for it, they will find it," he said after finishing morning Mass.

At Mandalay Bay, tourist Jay Stanley, with his bronze tan and model good looks, strolls through the casino floor in his white bathrobe on his way to the pool. There, he'll do the same as he did the day before. Drink, then hit the clubs. Last night, the 23-year-old stayed out until 5

a.m. and spent what was left of the night on the bathroom floor with a girl he knew from high school.

"I'm here 100 percent for partying," he said in a perfect advertisement for 24-hour fun.

He glanced over his shoulder at the line of people waiting for the Gospel Brunch, but wasn't big on prayer this Sunday.

"Maybe after the weekend," he said with a grin.

Inside the brunch, it's time to get to dancing and to praising. First, tourists and locals eat a tasty Southern-style buffet and sip orange juice, then this place really gets going.

"We gonna rock the house with Jesus!" proclaims show host Sandra Alexander.

She isn't kidding. You can't help but tap your foot, clap your hands, even jump out of your chair when Alexander slinks across the floor with her hyped-up, deep, soulful voice. The joint is bouncing along with her as she belts out "Ain't Nobody Treat Me Like Jesus!" with the gospel group Firm Foundation.

It's so loud, so powerful and so wonderful some guests are clearly confused. "I'm a little surprised I guess," said Cincinnati visitor Joyce Brinker, 64, who never knew something like this existed in Las Vegas. In fact, all House of Blues venues across the country have the Gospel Brunch. It's just a bit more unusual in Vegas.

Then again, maybe not. A check of the Yellow Pages reveals more than 800

church listings in this valley of 1.7 million people.

The crowd waves red napkins in the air, shouts, "I'm blessed!" in unison and, with Alexander's encouraging, gives God the highest praise.

"Do I have a witness in the house today?" asks Alexander, in her red-sequined dress and big hair to match her voice.

"A-men" come the answers. "Yes!"

Singer Ray Sidney likes to say guests come for the show, but they get more than just a show. He asks for the "Amen corner" in the crowd and keeps the Bible verse quoting to a minimum, but it's clear this is all about praising Jesus.

Richard Holland, an eighth-grade teacher who just moved here from Gillette, Wyo., has been to the brunch twice and can't get enough.

"It's perfect. It's what it should be," he said, beaming after Firm Foundation wrapped up their performance. "Nothing says you can't have faith in the midst of anything. Even in Vegas."

Vera Shelton jumped on stage to celebrate her 52nd birthday. She shut her eyes tight, raised her arms high in the air and danced in her fancy blue dress. The crowd, jubilant and still smiling from the show, filed out, ensuring at least for this hour that Vegas isn't a city completely without faith.

If this keeps up, Vegas' reputation may be on the line.

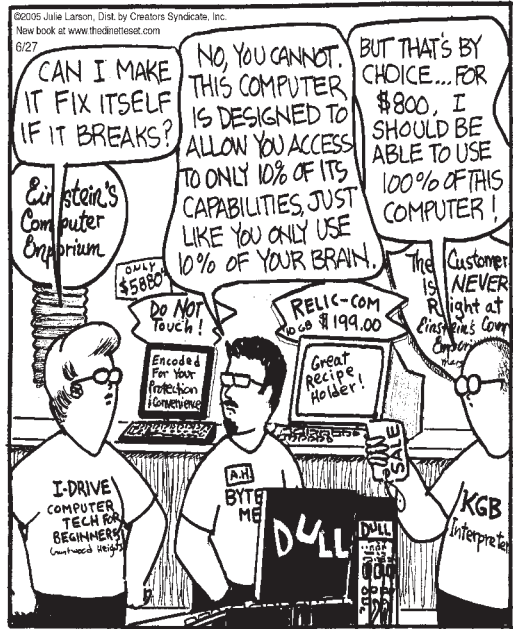
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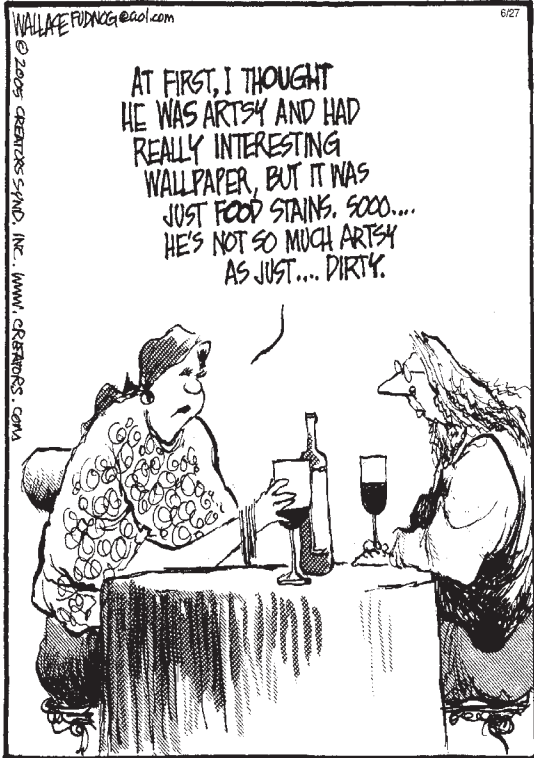
# COMICS

## The Dinette Set by Julie Larson

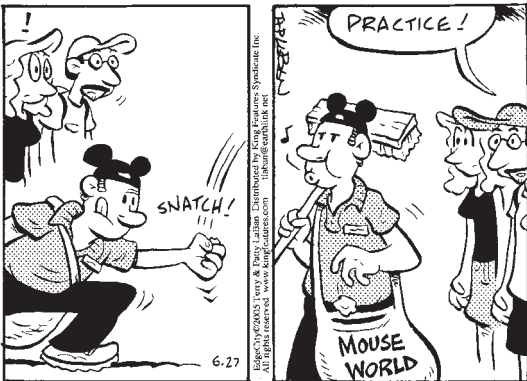
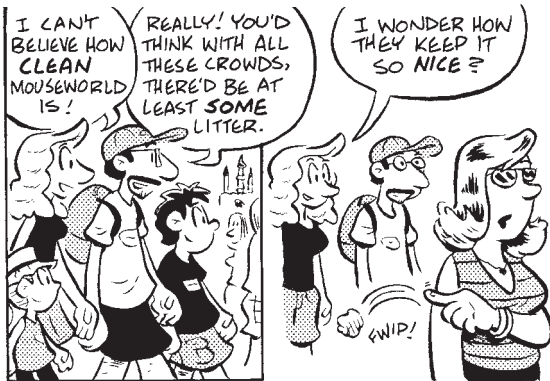


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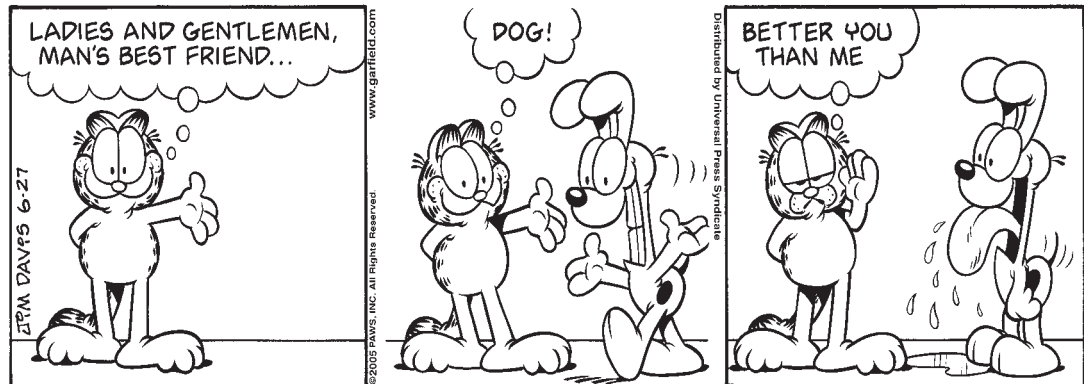
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- 13 Loosen, in a way
- 14 Parrot sound
- 16 Lyricist Gershwin
- 17 Some wordplay
- 18 High-interest lender
- 21 Turf
- 22 Ignores the Surgeon General
- 23 Arouse
- 24 Serious quarrel
- 26 Big galoot
- 29 Tome of film
- 30 Refer to
- 31 Battleship letters
- 32 Twisting force
- 34 Team
- 37 Sees the sights
- 38 Oklahoma city
- 39 Binding need
- 40 Simple

- 41 Casino calculation

### DOWN

- 1 "Macbeth" ghost
- 2 Teem
- 3 Fizzy drinks
- 4 Realized
- 5 Mustangs' sch.
- 6 Farm clucker
- 7 Dress
- 8 There are 20 in a ream
- 9 Surprised sounds
- 11 Brandy base
- 15 Small citrus fruit

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| E | L | K |   | R | I | O |   | I | M | P |
| D | O | M | A | I | N |   | L | E | I | S |
|   | P | A | S | D | E | D | E | U | X |   |
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|   | C | A | R | D | I | N | D | E | X |   |
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| B | I | N | G | O |   | L | A | N | A | I |
| A | N | D | E | S |   | S | L | E | D | S |
| S | E | A | T | S |   |   | T | R | U | E |

### Saturday's answer

- 19 First course, sometimes
- 20 Hawaiian instrument
- 22 Use a sofa
- 23 Letter before omega
- 24 Pyrenees language
- 25 Address of "Dr. No"
- 26 Mercury's state
- 27 Road reversals
- 28 Gaggle members
- 29 Need to
- 30 Throng
- 33 Director Premier
- 35 Donkey
- 36 Calendar box

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| 38 |    |    |    |    |    | 39 |    |    |    |    |
|    | 40 |    |    |    |    | 41 |    |    |    |    |

6-27

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Export, 801 Perry St., Montebello, CA 90640. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Stephen Qiu, 801 Perry St., Montebello, CA 90640, Jian Min Liu, 3115 1/2 Isabel Ave., Rosemead, CA 91770 This Business is being conducted by, a general partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Stephen Qiu, Jianmin Liu This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/2/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1283137 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Karliz Beauty Salon, 1621 E. Florence Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90001. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Maria Concepcion Ochoa De Rivas, 7020 Seville Ave., Apt. #B, Huntington Park, CA 90255, William Aristides Rivas, 7020 Seville Ave., Apt. #B, Huntington Park, CA 90255 This Business is being conducted by, husband and wife. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Maria Concepcion Ochoa de Rivas, William Aristides Rivas This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/01/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1282088 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as City Financial Center Real Estate & Loans, 18780 Amar Road, #207B, Walnut, CA 91789. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Homes One Realty, Inc, 18780 Amar Road, #207B, Walnut, CA 91789 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Homes One Realty, Inc., President, Roland P. Ramos This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on . NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1481961 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Robert Ginsburg, 11744 Darlington Ave., #206, Los Angeles, CA 90049. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : The New Knowledge, Inc., 11744 Darlington Ave., #206, Los Angeles, CA 90049 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: The New Knowledge, Inc., President, Robert Ginsburg This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/22/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1343829 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Agenda Economica Laxcca, 1613 Chelsea Rd., San Marino, CA 91108. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Luis Carlos Agudelo Galvis, 1613 Chelsea Rd., San Marino, CA 91108, Fausto Tovar, 1613 Chelsea Rd., San Marino, CA 91108 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Luis Carlos Agudelo Galvis, Fausto Tovar This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/8/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1341362 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as At The Shop, 14987 S. Praire Ave., Lawndale, CA 90260. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jose Esparza, 14703 Condon Ave., Lawndale, CA 90260 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/1/2005. /s/: Jose Esparza This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/8/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1343801 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FRE Income Tax and Bookkeeping Service, NARS Watch Repair, 11618 South St., Suite 212, Artesia, CA 90701. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Frank-E & Company, Inc., 11618 South St., Suite 212, Artesia, CA 90701 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)5/28/2005. /s/: Frank-E & Company, Inc., President, Felina R. Empedrado This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/8/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1293991 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as L&E Logistics, 3009 S. Raymond Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Lydia E. Perez, 3009 S. Raymond Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Lydia E. Perez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/2/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1343802 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Xtreme Dimension Inc., 15710 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Xtreme Dimension Inc. 15710 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)5/28/2005. /s/: Xtreme Dimension Inc., President, Edgardo Tantoco This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/8/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1343802 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Xtreme Dimension Inc., 15710 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Xtreme Dimension Inc. 15710 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)5/28/2005. /s/: Xtreme Dimension Inc., President, Edgardo Tantoco This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1481954 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Sammy Serious Home Wrecking Management, 2680 32nd St., Santa Monica, CA 90405. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Samuel D. Sadowitz, 2680 32nd St., Santa Monica, CA 90405 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Samuel D. Sadowitz This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/23/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1440881 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Truckles, Tnet-working, Heat Inc., 1863 1/2 Kelton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Adi Hed, 1863 1/2 Kelton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025, Tamir Elghangyan, 1863 1/2 Kelton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/20/2005. /s/: 06/20/05

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/20/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1481960 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Accupoint Mortgage, 12711 Bonaparte Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Fuad Ghassan Khayyat, 1145 Greenvale Ave., Akron, OH 44313, James Vincent Rizopoulos, 12711 Bonaparte Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066 This Business is being conducted by, an unincorporated association other than a partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: fuad Khayyat, James Rizopoulos This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/22/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1357107 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as True West Productions, 1659 Ocean Front Walk #105, Santa Monica, CA 90401. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Christopher Robert Thurber, 1659 Ocean Front Walk, #105, Santa Monica, CA 90401 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Christopher Thurber This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1315985 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Jenn's Beauty Salon, 154 S. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel, CA 91776. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Charles R. Chen, 2080 Durango Dr., Monterey Park, CA 91754 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/6/2005. /s/: Charles Chen This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/6/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1355655 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Taqueria 3 Reyes, 543 Clintwood Ave., La Puente, CA 91744. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Cedric H. Reyes Jr., 543 Clintwood Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Cedric Reyes This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1355609 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Thunder Ground Music, Mystic Ministries, 10421 8th Ave., Inglewood, CA 90303. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Wendell Frederick Hinton, 10421 8th Ave., Inglewood, CA 90303 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Wendell Hinton This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1355609 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Thunder Ground Music, Mystic Ministries, 10421 8th Ave., Inglewood, CA 90303. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Wendell Frederick Hinton, 10421 8th Ave., Inglewood, CA 90303 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Wendell Hinton This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1353371 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Infocom, JK Consulting Company, 113 Diamond St., #B, Arcadia, CA 91006. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Joseph Kwong, 113 Diamond St., #B, Arcadia, CA 91006 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Joseph Kwong This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1353364 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Pam's One Stop Shop 'Til 'U' Drop, 209 N. Central, Compton, CA 90220. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Pamela Denise Campbell, 2122 W. Lantana St., Compton, CA 90220 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Pamela Denise Campbell This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on . NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1353353 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Chatas Janitorial

DBAS

Services, 815 Telamon Lane, Pomona, CA 91766. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jose C. Verduzco, 815 Telamon Lane, Pomona, CA 91766 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)1/1/2005. /s/: Jose C. Verduzco This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/9/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1481945 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Never 2 Late Records, Total Exposure, 4435 3/4 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Artlee Corporation, 4435 3/4 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Artlee Corporation, President, Arthur Smith This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/23/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1390412 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as STONE HOME EDITION, 12019 Vanowen St., #102 N. Hollywood, CA 91605. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Samuel Brachetti, 12019 Vanowen St., #102 N. Hollywood, CA 91605 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/14/2005. /s/: Samuel Brachetti This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005, 7/11/2005, 7/18/2005

Petition for Change of Name:
Conformed Copy of original filed in Los Angeles Superior Court April 22, 2005: John A. Clarke, Executive Officer/Clerk By J. Sunga, Deputy Case # BS096318

Petitioner or Attorney: Arleen Amy McDermott, 1516 Colby Ave., #6, West Los Angeles, CA 90025. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Petition of Arleen Amy McDermott for change of name. To all interested persons, Petitioner for a decree changing names is as follows: Present name: Arleen Amy McDermott filed a petition with this court for the proposed name of Niki Amy McDermott. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: 6/1/05 at 9AM, Dept. 1A Room 548. Signed this judge 04/22/05 by Murray Gross, Commissioner, Judge of the Superior Court. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the Santa Monica Daily Press on the following dates: 06/27/05, 07/04/05, 07/11/05, 07/18/05.

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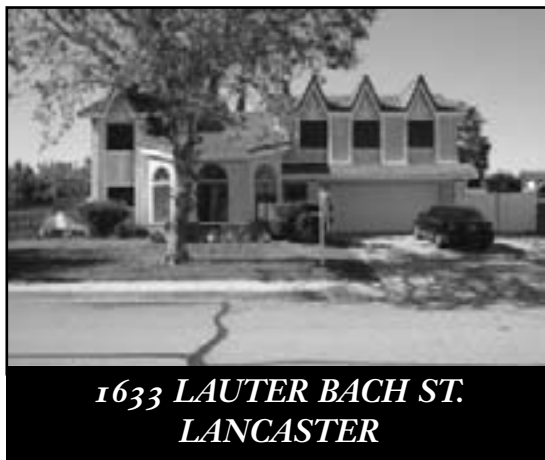
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