

GAME TO GET
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE FAST TRACK ISSUE

Santa Monica Daily Press

MTA moves Expo Line along

BY ALICE OLLSTEIN

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN L.A. Traffic-weary Santa Monicans can rest easy knowing the Exposition Light Rail Line to the Westside is on track for funding from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority — despite a threat from several board members to give a San Gabriel Valley project higher priority.

The MTA Board of Directors met in Downtown Los Angeles Thursday to debate several issues, including the approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and a proposed half-cent sales tax increase to fund future transportation needs.

After hours of debate, the board decided to postpone the approval of the LRTP draft until after the November election, leaving the Expo Line in the funded category and

the Metro Gold Line Foothill extension unfunded until that time. This proved frustrating for the hundreds of Gold Line supporters who bused out to the meeting to argue that their project be moved up. A 4-8 vote nullified their efforts.

“It was kind of crazy,” said former Planning Commissioner Darrell Clarke. “Busloads of people had to be put in overflow rooms, and the public hearings went on

for over two hours. All of that to end up with no change. I imagine it's frustrating, but it was a typical political compromise.”

MTA spokesperson Marc Littman witnessed the conflict between the different groups lobbying to have their project funded first.

“The board did not want to put any proj-

SEE EXPO PAGE 10



PROUD MOMENT

Officer Jay Zabate's wife, Taheerah (left), pins the badge of the Santa Monica Police Department on his uniform while Chief Tim Jackman (center) looks on during a swearing in ceremony held at the Public Safety Facility on Thursday. Adam Buus was also sworn in during the event.

Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

Santa Monica safe from paparazzi frenzy — for now

BY CHRISTINA YOON

Special to the Daily Press

MALIBU While Malibu City Hall struggles to mediate brewing hostility between its territorial locals and the pervasive paparazzi, the vibe in Santa Monica is comparatively free of the flashing lights and aggressive tactics of celebrity photographers.

The reason — less star power and a more laid-back atmosphere.

“Although there are quite a few celebrities in Santa Monica, it is definitely a much more mellow scene,” said Brandy Navarre, co-owner of the leading paparazzi agency x17.

Tension between photographers and residents in Malibu led to violence last weekend when brawls erupted between local surfers and paparazzi, who were on the beach trying to capture a shot of actor Matthew McConaughey's famously-sculpted body as he surfed. The altercations were caught on tape and posted on celebrity gossip blogs such as x17online.com and TMZ.com.

At a press conference in Malibu on Wednesday, Capt. Tom Martin of the Malibu/Lost Hills Los Angeles County Sheriff's Station said that two detectives were assigned to investigate and identify perpetrators in the weekend attacks. He also addressed threats for future fights exchanged between locals and photographers on Web site comment threads throughout the week and warned that sheriffs would “enforce the law very vigorously.”

The incident has revived discussion

SEE PAPARAZZI PAGE 11

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Calendar

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A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Salsa dancing with Isabelle

1334 Lincoln Blvd. 7:30 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Enjoy a night of learning to salsa dance by partying with classmates afterward. Isabelle will host a 90-minute class on salsa dancing, followed by a small social gathering with music and free drinks. All it takes is \$20 and a will to learn. For more information, contact Isabelle at (310) 392-2493.

Workouts for teens

3026 Nebraska Ave., 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

02 Max offers two daily classes teaching teens how to exercise and eat properly in a cool and fun environment. They get to hang out afterwards in the wi-fi lounge, play Nintendo Wii, or simply surf the Internet. For information, call (310) 867-1650.

The Meathands have it

4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m.

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

Saturday, June 28, 2008

Actors try to escape the stage

9070 Venice Blvd., Culver City, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

The Actor's Gang hits close to home in KLÜB, a bizarre play where aspiring actor's become trapped in their play. Each of the 10 performers is dysfunctional in their own way, as audiences learn as they reveal their life stories to try and get off stage. Tickets for the 8 p.m. show are \$25 and the 10:30 p.m. show is \$15.

Laughing with good will

235 Hill St., 7 p.m. — 12 a.m.

Food, drinks, and a good cause for laughter will all be provided at the Church at Ocean Park. The event is presented by the L.A. Womens Shakespeare Company and The Dogsboddy, who are trying to raise money to get to London and Edinburgh. Tickets are \$20. For more information, contact Shae Kuehimann at (310) 923-3430.

Stroll into the past

1436 2nd St., 10 a.m. — 12 p.m.

A walking tour presented by the Santa Monica Conservancy reviews over 100 years of local history in just six blocks. Docents view city landmarks and share the story of Santa Monica's development from a frontier town to bustling metropolis. Tours are given every Saturday, at a cost of \$10 for the general public and \$5 for conservancy members. Reservations can be made by calling (310) 496-3146.

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





Alexandra Bissonnette news@smdp.com

TAKING IN THE SHOW: The Westside Permaculture Group met at the Santa Monica Public Library on Monday to spread the word about community permaculture projects. Group members watch a film highlighting Cuba's permaculture efforts, which included the use of urban gardens.

It's not just simple gardening

BY ALEXANDRA BISSONNETTE
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN There were no disposable dishes or utensils to be found at the West Coast Permaculture Group's meeting at the Santa Monica library on Monday. For this group, sustainability is key and the three R's — reduce, reuse, and recycle — are paramount.

The group met this week for the second time, intent on bringing the community together and sharing ideas and goals.

"We want to take action to green our community," said Sean Jennings, a member of the group's steering committee.

The meeting opened with a basic overview of what permaculture is and an outline of its central tenets.

"Permaculture is more than a new way of gardening — it's a sustainable way to live on planet Earth," said Bill Mollison, the father of permaculture, in 1991.

Despite its long history, permaculture is

just now gathering momentum in Santa Monica.

Permaculture aims to care for the planet, and seek peace. All capital, intelligence, good will and labor should be invested to serve those ends, said Traci Reitz, community sustainability liaison for the city.

In her presentation, Reitz showed the documentary, "The Power of Community — How Cuba Survived Peak Oil," which illustrates how Cuba turned to urban gardening to respond to an oil crisis. With U.S. gas prices creeping ever closer to \$5 a gallon, sustainable living is becoming increasingly popular.

Permaculture actually encompasses several aspects of sustainable living. It is a lifestyle that encourages the use of self regulation with respect to nature's resources and relies on creative responses to change.

There were a wide range of ideas being presented as innovative methods of adapting to our scarce resources. One man was able to

use the sun and a satellite dish to cook a chicken in an hour. Other proposals included installing living walls along freeways with plants that efficiently absorb carbon dioxide, building rain gutters that drain into your garden, shopping at farmers' markets, and turning resource consuming lawns into gardens that grow food.

While the meeting was abundant in imaginative solutions, the main goal seemed to be to make community members aware that small and slow solutions can make big changes.

"Permaculture can help you be your true self," said Ray Cirino, a hands-on manufacturer who procures materials from junk yards for what he calls, "natural building." Sustainable living allows you to "wake up in the morning and know you are doing the right thing."

The concept requires us to change how

Come out and play

Public health officials urge families to enjoy healthy food and activity during summer months

DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITYWIDE Summer is a great time for dads, moms, and kids to incorporate healthy habits into their lifestyles. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health would like to encourage families to grab a healthy snack, and get outside to play for their health.

"Childhood obesity is a serious crisis for L.A. County, as more than one in five students in the fifth, seventh, and ninth grades are considered obese," said Jonathan E. Fielding, director of public health for the county. "Children who eat too much junk food and who do not get enough physical activity are at risk of serious problems, such as low self-esteem, depression, asthma, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, liver problems, and breathing problems during sleep. Moms and dads have a chance to be the teachers this summer, as living a healthy lifestyle is truly a family-friendly activity."

People who eat regular meals and healthy snacks, such as fruits or vegetables, are less likely to overeat and gain weight than people who skip meals. Healthy snacks should be incorporated into a child's diet as an effective way to satisfy the hunger of a growing child, and to provide the vitamins and nutrients a body needs.

HEALTHY EATING IDEAS:

- Plan snacks as part of the day's food plan by offering them at regular times, such as mid-morning and mid-afternoon. It is recommended that children and adults avoid nibbling constantly throughout the day.

- Try skim milk or soy milk instead of soda or coffee. These drinks will provide more nutrients.

- Jazz up "boring" snacks by adding spicy mustard to whole-wheat pretzels, mixing fruit with low-fat yogurt, adding salsa to baked tortilla chips, or turning half of a whole-wheat English muffin into a mini-pizza by adding some pizza sauce, low-fat cheese, and mushrooms or other vegetables.

SEE PERMACULTURE PAGE 13

SEE ACTIVE PAGE 11



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Signatures don't lie

Editor:

It's a good sign when politicians and ex-pols are running scared of a public initiative. Former mayor Nat Trives (June 26, page 4, "Letters to the editor") says the consultants' study of RIFT shows a "potential" negative impact to the city's General Fund. How about the thousands of subsidized units the city's LUCE proposes? Won't that be a drain on the General Fund?

Santa Monica is one of California's richest cities. This year, while the economy is faltering elsewhere, it passed a half billion dollar budget for a city with only 80,000 residents. Don't be fooled by Trives' vague threats that there might be cuts to police, fire or school projects. The city has vast pads of fat in that budget. It can start by cutting out fees to consultants and let paid staff do the work.

Councilman Ken Genser, who is up for election this November, is one of RIFT's opponents. RIFT calls for a cap on commercial (not hospitals, residential, schools) development. No wonder, he was one of the councilmen (1990-present) who sat on their hands when the Water Garden with 1.27 million square feet and thousands of cars in three levels of parking lots was delivered to Santa Monica. Thanks, Ken, for bringing us the daily car jam that's turned the Cloverfield area into a nightmare. Now he wants more unbridled development guided only by the "wisdom" of the City Council.

Ten thousand Santa Monicans who signed the petition to get RIFT on the ballot think otherwise.

HP Epstein

Santa Monica

Bursting columnist's bubble

Editor:

Kenny Mack,

I don't think you can compare oil speculation with investment in the Internet or housing (June 25, page 5, "Bursting the oil bubble"). Because in each of those cases, investments went toward expanding Internet services and the supply of housing. Investment in actual oil production should bring more oil to market, thus driving down the price.

Oil speculation, as I understand it, is no different than investors betting on whether or not the prices of farm commodities will rise or fall. You haven't seen the price of pork bellies rising enormously because of this activity, have you? No. Because speculating is separate from the pricing of the commodity.

So what is there to blame? Have you tried peak oil? In the mid '50s, a Shell geologist estimated that U.S. oil production would peak in the late '60s and early '70s. He was ridiculed for this, but as it turns out, he was also right.

U.S. oil production peaked in 1970, and even with bringing Alaska's resources on line, we've never managed to produce as much oil again as we did in 1970.

As it happens, the production of sweet, light crude (the easy to get out of the ground, easy to process stuff) peaked in 2005. Ever since then, the oil companies have had to turn to oil fields that are harder to get at (they're deep under water), smaller (provide less per dollar invested) or harder to produce (the oil sands in Canada) just to keep the oil supply level. Naturally, this drives up the price of oil.

The consequences of peak oil are significant in a world driven by a "growth" ethic. We'll never again have enough cheap energy to squander in your gas tank. All the by-products of petroleum from paraffin wax to asphalt are getting more expensive. And since fossil fuels touch everything from generating electricity to running supply ships to growing food – everything is getting more expensive.

Don Solosan

Santa Monica



The Rand Stand

Alex Epstein

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Digging too deep to help homeowners in trouble

SINCE THE SUBPRIME MELTDOWN BEGAN, the Bush administration has pledged to act to prevent foreclosures — but without interfering in the market or bailing anyone out. How is this possible? The administration's answer: by "facilitating" what it calls "private" initiatives to prevent foreclosures.

In December the administration announced, in conjunction with mortgage industry leaders, HOPE NOW — a "private sector effort" to give hundreds of thousands of subprime borrowers a free, five-year extension on low introductory teaser rates.

Now, the administration has announced Project Lifeline, under which participating servicers (those who collect loan payments for mortgage investors) will offer a 30-day pause in the foreclosure process to borrowers whose mortgage payments are 90 or more days overdue.

The leader of these initiatives, Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, repeats endlessly that these are "private" initiatives adopted because they are in "everyone's interest" — not government-mandated schemes. But if that is truly the case, why is the government involved at all? What does it bring to the table that the market can't?

Paulson says government is necessary because servicers face an "unprecedented volume of resets that cannot be addressed through individual, loan-by-loan negotiations." It requires, he says, a "streamlined" approach "facilitated" by Washington.

But why? Grant for a moment the dubious premise that the entire mortgage and finance industries can't do one or two million loan-by-loan negotiations (the anticipated volume of potential subprime foreclosures) — even though they process millions of new loan applications a year, and even though individualized processing, by optimally assessing each case, could potentially save \$10s of billions.

If large-scale "streamlining" is truly necessary to protect investor interests, servicers and investors are perfectly capable of "streamlining" different classes of borrowers as they judge best.

So the question remains: What is the government bringing to the table? Is it as simple as: it came up with an ingenious financial plan? Hardly.

Consider the rate freeze, which offers five extra years of low rates to practically any subprime borrower with bad credit (a FICO score of less than 660) and little-to-no equity in his home (less than 3 percent) who bought during the height of the housing boom. Paulson claims this makes sense "because we all know it is in everyone's interest — homeowner, servicer, investor . . . to avoid foreclosures that are preventable." Not true.

There are many cases in which it is in

investors' interest to foreclose, because the cost of foreclosure is lower than the hit taken on a rate freeze.

For instance, it might make sense to foreclose if a borrower shows no prospect of being able to pay his regular rates five years down the line. It might make sense if the borrower's teaser rate is so low (say, 1 percent) that an extension would mean huge losses.

It might make sense not to freeze a rate but to negotiate a compromise between the teaser rate and the reset rate.

What is certain is that it does not make sense to follow Paulson's cookie-cutter approach, which would lead to billions in unnecessary investor losses — a "private sector" bailout of borrowers that would actually break servicers' contractual obligation to serve the financial interests of investors.

If an ordinary citizen proposed to the mortgage industry that it bail out borrowers through a widespread rate freeze and call it a "private sector effort," the proposal would be dismissed as a joke.

But when the government proposes such an initiative to private industry, all participants know that it can do great damage to them if they refuse — and can grant them huge favors if they comply.

Today's HOPE NOW and Project Lifeline participants, for instance, can be harmed by the passage of "anti-predatory-lending" laws, which would expose them to huge lawsuits by borrowers who claim to have been in the dark about the contracts they signed.

With all these sticks and carrots on the line, is it any wonder that the mortgage industry has walked in lockstep with whatever the administration proposes?

It is impossible to know exactly what combination of winking assurances and veiled threats brought so much of the finance and mortgage industry into these "collaborations." What we can know is that nothing resembling economic freedom and respect for property rights is occurring — just coercion, bailouts, and the abridgement of contracts.

What today's market desperately needs is for lenders and borrowers to bear the full consequences of their own bad decisions, and for the government to stop manipulating the market, violating property rights, and inviting future disasters.

It is time to stop letting the Bush administration pretend it can have government-dictated economic policy and a free market, too.

ALEX EPSTEIN is an analyst at the Ayn Rand Institute, focusing on business issues. The Institute promotes Objectivism, the philosophy of Ayn Rand — author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead." Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

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Life after Lakers: Lacrosse, anyone?

IN CASE YOU WERE OUT OF THE COUNTRY for the past two weeks, the Boston Celtics won the NBA Championship beating the Lakers in the final game by 39 points. Trust me, it wasn't that close.

I miss the Lakers because their games got me through boring workouts at the gym. Some people love working out. Day after day on the treadmill only makes me identify with a hamster. I come up with all sorts of excuses to avoid going. Lightning could strike on the way to the gym? (Well, it could.) Much like writing these columns, the only time I'm happy is after I'm done.

I'm not the only one in the gym with "distractions." People show up with magazines, CD players, Blackberrys and iPods. Maria brings a portable DVD player and watches episodes of "I Love Lucy." I saw Lou (not his real name), a cigar smoking tenant, actually eat chips while on the treadmill. As he perspired the gym smelled like a cigar. (Works for smoked salmon, why not humans?)

What really irks me are people on their cellphones. Once, a woman on the treadmill next to me gave her girlfriend (and anyone within earshot of her cellphone) a blow-by-blow account of a Nordstrom's shoe sale. It felt like working out next to Imelda Marcos.

The Lakers were so exciting this year it made the 30 minutes almost fly by. (Instead of checking the timer and thinking, "Is that all?") I used to only do 20 minutes until Alice showed me a fitness article that said if you don't do 30 minutes it's not worth doing. (Reading that article wasn't worth doing!)

During a workout over the weekend I tried watching the Dodgers but almost fell asleep on the Stairmaster. I'd call the Dodgers just a .500 team but they're not that good. My life would be so much easier if I rooted for the Angels. The Dodgers are a bad team in an even worse division, so there's always hope. (My friend Cary says thinking like that is proof I need de-programming.)

I even watched the U.S. Open golf tournament during my workouts. And I don't like golf. I agree with the late George Carlin (R.I.P.) who said all golf courses should be turned over to the homeless. Actually it wasn't golf, it was Tiger. With him out for the year it's adios golf.

So I decided to check out women's professional basketball. The big story of the WNBA

last week was that gorgeous Candace Parker, a rookie with the L.A. Sparks, dunked! Spud Webb was 5'7" and won the NBA dunk contest! Unfortunately the WNBA doesn't pass my crucial "does the game hold my interest or do I keep checking the timer?" Sometimes I get so bored I have to cover the timer with a towel.

Arena Football is fairly exciting but then why not, every play is a touchdown. The problem is there's hardly any TV coverage. It about the same as bowling. (A sport Lou should take up because you can eat and play at the same time.) The Arena Super Bowl is on ABC July 27 but I'll have turned to flab by then.

Someone suggested AVP. (Pro beach volleyball.) It was depressing. The guys are young, tanned and unbelievably fit. (Everything I'm not.) For some reason, however, this didn't bother me with the women's tour.

I even tried lacrosse. Few knew about the sport until a stripper filed rape charges against basically the entire Duke lacrosse team. This past Saturday the L.A. Riptide lacrosse team lost to the Long Island Lizards, 19-18. Two problems: One, it's rarely on TV. Two, it's tough to get excited about a team that loses to Lizards.

This leaves hockey, soccer and NASCAR. On TV I can't follow the hockey puck. (I've never actually seen it go into the net.) Soccer is the most popular sport in the world but you could watch for days and no one would ever score. And NASCAR is one giant left-hand turn.

My friend Alice showed me another article. Apparently for every 30 minutes workout, you add 30 minutes to your life. I did the math and wasn't thrilled. I've been exercising six days a week for 30 years. I've added a grand total of four months. And those will be at the end of my life.

I'd give up my workouts entirely but I'm of the opinion there are three kinds of guilt. Catholic, Jewish and Not Exercising. (Maybe I'll borrow Maria's "I Love Lucy?" It keeps her laughing.) I must admit I always feel better after my workout. The same as I do after I finish one of these columns. There, I'm done. And I didn't look at the timer once.

JACK NEWORTH can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

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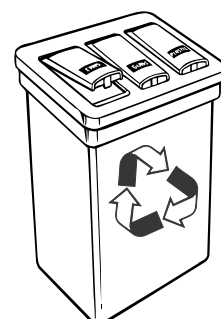
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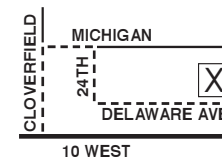
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The Q-Line

Flashing Lights

The new Pacific Wheel at Pacific Park features 160,000 LED lights that put on quite a show once the sun goes down. While the new Ferris wheel has been widely celebrated as a vast improvement over the old wheel there are some that feel the lighting design is a tad too much.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:
Is the new Ferris wheel too bright or just right?

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



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The LUCE @ City Council



Please join us at the upcoming City Council meetings to share your thoughts on the LUCE Strategy Framework.

The Planning Commission has endorsed the approach and concepts of the LUCE Strategy Framework with additional recommendations. The public is invited to listen and participate in three upcoming City Council hearings during which the Council will consider strategies related to Transportation as well as the City's Neighborhoods, Boulevards and Districts.

City Council Meetings

Tuesday, July 1st *Special Meeting on the LUCE*
6:45PM
City Council Chambers

Tuesday, July 8th
6:45PM
City Council Chambers

Tuesday, July 15th *Special Meeting on the LUCE*
6:45PM
City Council Chambers

The LUCE Strategy Framework is available at:
www.shapethefuture2025.com



CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

A long ride to the gray bar hotel

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 7:45 P.M.,

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 500 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Whole Foods – regarding a theft that just occurred. When officers arrived they made contact with the store manager who said one of the customers left a laptop in the market bathroom. When they returned, it was gone. The manager showed police video surveillance footage that captured a suspect walking out of the market with the laptop in hand. Armed with a description, officers were able to locate the suspect a few hours later. The suspect was in the possession of a laptop. Officers checked the laptop and determined that it belonged to the victim. They arrested the suspect for grand theft and for having an outstanding warrant. The suspect was identified as Michael Emery, 62, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,740.

MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 1:20 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 600 block of the beach after receiving a report of an assault with a deadly weapon. When officers arrived they made contact with the alleged victim who said that an estranged friend pulled a knife on her and threatened to kill her. She provided officers with the suspect's name and a description. Officers located the suspect a short time later and placed him under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. The suspect was identified as Marvin Lawrence Smith, 49, a transient. His bail was set at \$30,000.

MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 8 P.M.,

Officers on routine patrol in the 1900 block of the beach observed a suspect rolling a marijuana cigarette. Officers made contact with the suspect and discovered that he had two outstanding Santa Monica warrants. Officers placed the suspect under arrest and discovered he was in possession of less than two grams of marijuana. He was booked for the warrants and possession of a controlled substance. The suspect was identified as Renaldo Antonio Gutierrez, 26, a transient. His bail was set at \$7,075.

MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 12:10 A.M.,

Officers responded to the 1400 block of Euclid Street regarding a report of a prowler in the neighborhood. When officers arrived they spoke with witnesses who said they saw a suspect peeking into bedrooms. A canine search was conducted and the suspect was found near an adjacent apartment building. The suspect was placed under arrest and booked for prowling, peeping into an inhabited building and violation of probation. The suspect was identified as Lemarvin Curtis Hicks, 22, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at \$10,000.

MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 12:23 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 2400 block of Pico Boulevard – Rite Aid – regarding a burglary that just occurred. When officers arrived they spoke with the store manager who said the suspect walked into the store and took several items – a CD player, head phones, a CD and DVD – into the restroom, removed the packaging and then walked out without paying for the items. Armed with a description of the suspect, officers located him a short time later. In his possession were the items missing from the store, police said. The suspect was placed under arrest for commercial burglary and petty theft with a prior. The suspect also had a Los Angeles warrant. He was identified as Rasheed Wallee Hasan, 34, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$26,500. The value of the items recovered was estimated at \$351.

MONDAY, JUNE 16 AT 11:59 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1200 block of Second Street – Parking Structure 2 – regarding a report of someone driving the wrong way in the structure. When officers arrived they made contact with the driver, who was still in the structure, and determined he was under the influence of alcohol. Officers searched the suspect and found prescription medication and concentrated cannabis. The suspect was placed under arrest for driving under the influence and for possession of a controlled substance and possession of concentrated cannabis. The suspect also had an outstanding warrant. The suspect was identified as David L. Morton, 20, of Arizona. His bail was set at \$25,000.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, AT 5 P.M.,

Officers responded to single-car traffic accident at the corner of 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. When officers arrived they found the driver unresponsive and possibly under the influence of alcohol. He was transported to a local hospital and later charged with DUI. The passenger, who also appeared to be intoxicated, was arrested for public drunkenness. She was transported to the Santa Monica Jail where officers found her to be in possession of medication without a prescription. She was booked for public drunkenness and for possession. She was identified as Erin Kathleen O'Neill, 50, a transient. Her bail was set at \$10,000.

Editor in Chief Kevin Herrera compiled these reports. news@smdp.com

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STATE BRIEFS

WESTWOOD

Publisher gives \$6 million to UCLA school

The UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television is getting a \$6 million gift from publisher David C. Copley. The money will be used to endow a costume design chair at the school. "The artistry of costume designers has long been a vital part of storytelling in the cinematic and performing arts and deserves significant scholarly attention," Copley said in a statement. Copley is publisher of the San Diego Union-Tribune and CEO of its parent company Copley Press.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU

Dream of 747 house on a hill has taken flight

Francie Rehwald's dream of living in an old recycled 747 aircraft has finally taken flight. The first major phase of the home's construction, in the picturesque rolling hills overlooking Malibu, began Thursday when a giant red and white, double-rotored helicopter began flying in the plane's wings. Rehwald, surrounded by three dozen friends and relatives, let out a delighted whoop. The house should be completed in about a year. The cost is expected to be about \$2 million, including the \$40,000 Rehwald paid for the junk 747.

AP

BEVERLY HILLS

Hotel-condo plan headed for ballot

Beverly Hills residents will likely get a chance this fall to vote on a plan for a Waldorf-Astoria Hotel and two condominium buildings on the grounds of the Beverly Hilton.

City officials said Thursday that a referendum on the proposed complex has qualified for the November ballot. The City Council must now decide whether to place the measure on the ballot or repeal its approval of the \$500 million project. A Beverly Hilton spokeswoman says she expects the measure to go on the ballot and believes voters will approve the development. Area residents concerned about traffic began collecting signatures for the ballot measure after the City Council approved the plan last month.

AP

MODESTO

Resort residents receive contaminated water

Water being delivered to a resort criticized for encroaching on an endangered species' habitat exceeds state limits for a suspected carcinogen. The California Department of Public Health has cited the Western Hills Water District, which serves the Diablo Grande resort in Stanislaus County. About 350 homes receive water contaminated with trihalomethanes, compounds believed to raise cancer risks. The state wants the water district to install a filtration system by July 31. Residents have been told to use bottled water for cooking and drinking.

AP

SAN CLEMENTE

Hearing set on toll road planned near surf spot

The U.S. Department of Commerce will hold a public hearing on a proposed toll road that would cut through a popular California state park and pass near a world-class surf break. The California Coastal Commission voted against the 16-mile toll road in February, but the local Transportation Corridor Agencies appealed the decision. The Commerce Department says the hearing will be held July 24th or 25th at UC Irvine's Donald Bren Center. Opponents say the road would destroy a large area of environmentally sensitive habitat and ruin the esthetics of San Onofre State Park. Backers of the 875 million dollar project counter that it would alleviate congestion on Interstate 5 between Orange County and San Diego and complete Orange County's network of toll roads.

AP

SACRAMENTO

Group says stimulus checks went for gas

A California consumer group is calling for more federal funding for public transportation, saying that most families have already spent their economic stimulus checks on pricey gasoline. The California Public Interest Research Group calculates that an average household has spent more than \$1,300 on gasoline since mid-February, when President Bush signed the tax rebate law. The group says much of the stimulus money wound up going to oil companies, and points out that gas prices are higher in areas with less public transportation.

AP

SACRAMENTO

Air regulators start tackling climate law

California is pursuing the country's most sweeping plan to counter global warming, pushing for cleaner cars, renewable energy and a cap on major polluters. A 75-page draft proposal released on Thursday outlines how California's air regulators expect to achieve needed cuts in greenhouse gases. The state must reverse to 1990 levels by 2020 under the landmark global warming law signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger two years ago. Air Resources Board chair Mary Nichols says the draft plan is the most significant step yet by California. She says the state is filling the void left by the federal government.

AP

AVALON

Six rescued from sinking boat off Catalina

Six people have been rescued from a sinking boat near Catalina Island. The Coast Guard says it received a distress call at about 10:30 a.m. Thursday that a 22-foot boat was taking on water about a mile off the west end of the island. A cutter arrived and took six people off the boat, which was then pumped out and towed to Catalina. No injuries were reported.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Woman gets life in killing of elderly couple

A woman convicted in the murders of an elderly Monrovia couple during a home invasion robbery has been sentenced to life in prison without the chance of parole. A Los Angeles judge on Thursday gave 35-year-old Shawna Robles two consecutive life terms for the murders of 78-year-old Clark Shaum and his 70-year-old wife, Bernice. Prosecutors say the two victims were stabbed to death in July 2003. Robles wept and apologized during her sentencing hearing. She was convicted April 24 of first-degree murder for killing the couple, but the jury rejected the allegation that Robles had personally used a knife during the attacks. Her alleged accomplice, 36-year-old Alfredo Valenzuela, is awaiting trial on the same charges.

AP



Kate Bransfield

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Man guilty of 11 murders in Metrolink rail disaster

BY ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A man who claimed he was attempting suicide when he triggered a 2005 rail disaster was convicted Thursday of 11 counts of first-degree murder and could face the death penalty.

Two commuter trains collided into a tangled mass of smoking wreckage littered with victims after Juan Alvarez left a gasoline-drenched sport-utility vehicle on railroad tracks in Glendale, northeast of downtown Los Angeles.

Alvarez, 29, looked on stolidly as the Superior Court jury returned its guilty verdicts for the murders and one count of arson. The jury also agreed there was a special circumstance of multiple murders — making Alvarez eligible for the death penalty — but it acquitted him of a charge called train wrecking.

Jurors were ordered to return for the start of the penalty phase on July 7.

Alvarez had pleaded not guilty. He admitted causing the Jan. 26, 2005, disaster but claimed he had intended to kill himself, then changed his mind and was unable to get the SUV off the tracks.

A fast-moving Metrolink train struck the vehicle, derailed and struck another Metrolink train heading in the opposite direction and a parked freight train. In addition to the 11 deaths, about 180 people were injured.

Prosecutors denounced his claim of being



HE NEEDS TO THINK ABOUT THIS EVERY DAY OF HIS LIFE.”

Alberto Romero
45, of Rancho Cucamonga

suicidal as a lie and said he was trying to cause a calamity to get the attention of his estranged wife. Prosecutors said he started out that day with thoughts of killing his wife and then killed the rail passengers because she wasn't available.

The derailment created a horrific scene of mangled rail cars. Workers from nearby businesses scrambled to rescue the injured before firefighters reached the scene.

As he lay injured in the wreck, John Phipps used his own blood to scrawl what he thought would be his last words to his wife and children: “I (heart symbol) my kids. I (heart symbol) Leslie.” He survived.

According to trial testimony, Alvarez fled the vehicle, left the scene and went to a friend's house, where he stabbed himself with scissors. Alvarez testified he did not remember stabbing himself but did remember being in a hospital with puncture wounds.

The verdict relieved relatives of the dead.

Alberto Romero said he is reminded of his uncle Leonardo Romero's death every day because Metrolink commuter trains run past his machine shop. Teresa Nance, whose moth-

er, Elizabeth Hill, was killed, said that as the trial began she had nightmares of being in the train with her. Neither Romero nor Nance, however, thought it was necessary for Alvarez to be executed.

“He needs to think about this every day of his life,” said Alberto Romero, 45, of Rancho Cucamonga.

Nance, 40, of Reseda, said a death sentence could end up being a life sentence anyway because of appeals. “He's not going to get off, he's not going to get out,” she said.

The defense painted Alvarez as a mentally ill victim of childhood abuse who became a drug addict.

The prosecution called him a pathological liar whose claim of mental illness was a manipulative tactic.

Separately, the derailment led to a debate about the practice of running Metrolink trains in reverse, with the heavy engine at the rear being controlled from the other end by an operator in what is called a cab car.

Critics contended that the train wouldn't have derailed if the heavy engine had struck the SUV. The railroad defends the practice.

Mars lander finds salty environment in taste test

BY ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES The Phoenix lander's first taste test of soil near Mars' north pole reveals a briny environment similar to what can be found in backyards on Earth, scientists said Thursday.

The finding raises hope that the Martian arctic plains could have conditions favorable for primitive life. Phoenix landed a month ago to study the habitability of Mars' northern latitudes.

“There's nothing about it that would preclude life. In fact, it seems very friendly,” mission scientist Samuel Kounaves of Tufts University said of the soil. “There's nothing about it that's toxic.”

Phoenix so far has not detected organic carbon considered an essential building block of life. Last week, the lander found evidence of ice below the soil. Scientists generally agree that liquid water, a stable energy source and organic, or carbon-containing, compounds are required for a habitable zone.

The latest experiment was designed to test for minerals that do not have carbon in them. Earlier this week, Phoenix's 8-foot-long robotic arm delivered a pinch of dirt dug up from near the surface to its onboard lab.

Like a chemist, the spacecraft mixed the soil with water brought from Earth into a beaker the size of a teacup and stirred it. Sensors inside the beaker detect the soil's pH and probe for traces of the nutrients.

Preliminary results showed the soil had a pH between 8 and 9, researchers said. A pH less than 7 means the solution is acidic, while a pH over 7 means it is alkaline. Phoenix also detected the presence of magnesium, sodium, potassium and chloride in the mixture.

“It's very typical of the soil here on Earth minus the organics,” Kounaves said during a teleconference from Tucson, Ariz.

On Earth, asparagus, green beans and turnips could be planted in such an environment and chemical-loving bacteria would thrive there, he said.

Planetary scientist David Paige of the University of California, Los Angeles, said it is too early to tell whether the minerals found in the soil could support life. Paige, who had no role in the mission, said the find was not surprising because rocks weather over time and bits of minerals mix with the soil.

“There are a lot of outstanding questions about the composition of the soil,” he said.

Mission scientists said another experiment that heated the soil to high temperatures and sniffed the gas found traces of water vapor.

“This soil clearly has interacted with water in the past,” said William Boynton of the University of Arizona, Tucson.

The heating experiment, which was designed to look for organics, did not yield conclusive evidence of carbon. Scientists planned to study another soil sample taken from further below the surface.

Clooney calls for unity among actors

BY RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES George Clooney just wants actors to get along instead of choosing between sparring unions.

In a two-page letter released Thursday, Clooney adopted a neutral stance in the dispute between the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and the Screen Actors Guild.

“What we can't do is pit artist against artist,” he wrote.

AFTRA has already reached a tentative agreement with Hollywood studios. SAG wants AFTRA members to vote against the deal, saying its approval will handcuff SAG at the bargaining table. Both contracts are set to expire Monday, leaving Hollywood on edge about a possible replay of the 100-day writers strike that ended in February.

Results of the AFTRA vote are expected July 8. Tom Hanks, Alec Baldwin and others



BECAUSE THE ONE THING YOU CAN BE SURE OF IS THAT STORIES ABOUT JACK NICHOLSON VS. TOM HANKS ONLY STRENGTHENS THE NEGOTIATING POWER [OF THE STUDIOS].”

George Clooney
Actor

have joined hundreds of actors in signing an online petition urging actors to ratify the AFTRA pact.

Meanwhile, Jack Nicholson, Viggo Mortensen and Holly Hunter have endorsed a SAG ad calling for AFTRA to return to the negotiating table to get a better deal. Clooney called the fight counterproductive.

“Because the one thing you can be sure of is that stories about Jack Nicholson vs. Tom Hanks only strengthens the negotiating

power” of the studios, he said.

Clooney also called on higher paid actors to chip in a greater share of union dues and for 10 A-listers, including Nicholson and Hanks, to sit down with studio heads once a year to adjust pay for actors.

SAG deputy executive director Pamm Fair called Clooney's letter valuable input. AFTRA and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers declined comment.

Gov. Schwarzenegger dismisses offshore drilling idea

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI Governor Schwarzenegger says lifting a ban on offshore drilling will not bring down gas prices or solve the nation's addiction to oil.

Speaking in Miami today, the governor rebuked a proposal supported by his party's presidential nominee, John McCain, and his host, Florida Governor Charlie Crist.

Schwarzenegger told a climate change summit hosted by Crist that politicians have been throwing out all kinds of ideas in response to skyrocketing fuel prices, from rethinking nuclear power to allowing offshore drilling.

But, said the California governor, “anyone who tells you that offshore drilling will bring down our gas prices immediately or anytime soon is blowing smoke.”

Schwarzenegger said America is addicted to oil and, in his words, “Finding new ways to feed our addiction is not the answer.”

The comments highlight the distance between Schwarzenegger and Republican nominee John McCain on energy policy.

The governor spoke at an energy panel with McCain in California on Tuesday, but he didn't mention drilling.

ON THE NET

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FCC opens inquiry into stealthy advertising

BY JOHN DUNBAR
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON A stealthy form of advertising in which products are featured on television shows as props and even woven into story lines has drawn the government's attention. The Federal Communications Commission said Thursday it will consider new rules to make it clear to viewers when brand-name products appear in shows in exchange for money.

Spending on so-called "embedded advertising" has grown as advertisers look for new ways to reach viewers who flip channels during commercials or use digital video recorders like TiVo to fast-forward past them.

In an order released Thursday, the agency is considering whether sponsorship identification notices should be in larger type, appear for a lengthier period of time on the screen and whether they should appear at both the beginning and the end of programs.

The commission will also consider tightening sponsorship rules regarding children's programming and decide whether to extend disclosure requirements to cable.

"The point of this whole exercise is to clarify what's required so that viewers actually know who is trying to sell them on something," said commissioner Jonathan Adelstein, who has been pushing for better disclosure for three years.

The issue of product placement, in which brand-name items are used as props in shows, is not new and has not generated much controversy. It is the practice of insinuating products into actual plot lines, known as "embedded advertising" or "product integration," that has raised concern.

PQ Media, an alternative media research firm, estimates that paid product placement spending grew 33.7 percent to \$2.9 billion in 2007 thanks to greater use of digital video recorders and "increased TV program product integration," according to the company.

Among examples cited by critics are episodes of the family-oriented show "7th Heaven," which included plot lines revolving around Oreo cookies. Other examples include "The Office" in which characters work at a Staples office supply store; a "CSI" show in which characters promote features of a General Motors vehicle; and a "Smallville" episode in which the dialogue included the line "Acuvue to the rescue," a reference to the contact lens maker.

FCC chairman Kevin Martin has also pushed for better disclosure.

"I believe it is important for consumers to know when someone is trying to sell them something," he said.

The FCC scheduled a vote on rules for embedded advertising at a commission meeting more than six months ago, but the item was pulled from the agenda following pressure by the advertising industry. The probe announced Thursday, may lead to new rules, but is not as tough as the previous proposal.

FCC rules require that sponsorship announcements be made "at the time of broadcast" and that "only one such announcement" must be made. Such disclosures are usually tacked on to the end of a show and, ironically, may be missed by people who use digital recorders like TiVo.

Writers, who have to incorporate products into scripts, and actors, who shill for products without getting paid for it, are especially unhappy.

The Writers Guild of America West, a union that represents Hollywood television and film screenwriters, wants "real time" disclosure at the time the product is mentioned, like a text "crawl" at the bottom of the screen.

"Since DVRs and other such devices allow viewers to skip or fast forward through opening and closing credits, requiring disclosure at some other moment in the programming will simply not offer adequate protection," wrote Patric Verrone, president of the organization.

Bee crisis could lead to higher food prices

BY STEPHANIE S. GARLOW
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Food prices could rise even more unless the mysterious decline in honey bees is solved, farmers and businessmen told lawmakers Thursday.

"No bees, no crops," North Carolina grower Robert D. Edwards told a House Agriculture subcommittee. Edwards said he had to cut his cucumber acreage in half because of the lack of bees available to rent.

About three-quarters of flowering plants rely on birds, bees and other pollinators to help them reproduce. Bee pollination is responsible for \$15 billion annually in crop value.

In 2006, beekeepers began reporting losing 30 percent to 90 percent of their hives. This phenomenon has become known as Colony Collapse Disorder. Scientists do not know how many bees have died; beekeepers have lost 36 percent of their managed colonies this year. It was 31 percent for 2007, said Edward B. Knipping, administrator of the Agriculture Department's Agricultural Research Service.

"If there are no bees, there is no way for our nation's farmers to continue to grow the high quality, nutritious foods our country relies on," said Democratic Rep. Dennis

Cardoza of California, chairman of the horticulture and organic agriculture panel. "This is a crisis we cannot afford to ignore."

Food prices have gone up 83 percent in three years, according to the World Bank.

Edward R. Flanagan, who raises blueberries in Milbridge, Maine, said he could be forced to increase prices tenfold or go out of business without the beekeeping industry. "Every one of those berries owes its existence to the crazy, neurotic dancing of a honey bee from flower to flower," he said.

The cause behind the disorder remains unknown. Possible explanations include pesticides; a new parasite or pathogen; and the combination of immune-suppressing stresses such as poor nutrition, limited or contaminated water supplies and the need to move bees long distances for pollination.

Ice cream maker Haagen-Dazs and natural personal care products company Burt's Bees have pledged money for research and begun efforts to help save the bees.

The problem affects about 40 percent of Haagen-Dazs' 73 flavors, including banana split and chocolate peanut butter, because ingredients such as almonds, cherries and strawberries rely on honey bees for pollination.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, July 8, 2008

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Room 213, Santa Monica City Hall,
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

Use Permit 07UP-009 / Initial Study 07-008, 100 Wilshire Boulevard. The applicant requests approval to install, operate, and maintain an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility on the roof of the 21-story commercial building at 100 Wilshire Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica. The proposed facility would include one 14.2-foot high UHF broadcast antenna mounted on a 62-foot high mast, as measured from the tip of the building's roof; the mast would be a 6" diameter pipe. Two 1.8 meter diameter KU band rooftop parabolic antennas mounted on a 4" diameter pipe. Two GPS antennas mounted on a 5-foot high mast attached to an existing handrail; and one 14-foot x 10-foot equipment shelter would be screened by an existing 20-foot high parapet wall. The project does not comply with the height, location, or screening requirements of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) 9.04.10.06.110(a)(6). Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.06.110(b) the Zoning Administrator may approve modifications to the design standards for non-parabolic commercial antennas. The request to modify the regulations and design standards requires a Use Permit application. The Zoning Administrator will also consider adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration which analyzes the environmental impacts Of The Proposed Project. [Planner: Gina Szilak] **Applicant: Media Flow USA Inc. Property Owner: Douglas Emmett 1998 LLC.**

Use Permit 08-002, 202 14th Street. The applicant requests Use Permit approval to construct a two-story accessory building. The project will include the construction of a new second story consisting of a 250 square foot accessory room above an existing two-car garage. The proposed accessory building is approximately 23-feet in height. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.04.08.02.040(c), approval of a Use Permit is required to construct a two-story accessory building when located in the R1 Single Family Residential District north of Montana Avenue. [Planner: Grace Cho] **Applicant: Denise Bosley, Interior Spaces LLC. Property Owner: Ravi Asnani.**

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #7 and #8 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

ROLLING ALONG: A group of bus riders board a Metropolitan Transportation Authority bus Thursday. The MTA's board decided to move forward with a half cent sales tax proposal that would be used to improve county mass transportation options including bus lines.

Some rankled, some thrilled by MTA's decisions

FROM EXPO PAGE 1

ect ahead of any others," he said. "And we'll have a lot more money to do more projects [if the sales tax passes], but [Gold Line supporters] wanted to see their project moved up right now. They didn't seem too pleased with the decision. A lot of people were shaking their heads and walking out."

MTA chair and Santa Monica City Council member Pam O'Connor stands by the decision to give the Westside Expo line priority.

"It's a fairness issue," she said. "[Santa Monica] is the only region without any rail service. We need to get that light rail built so we have some relief. It's a vital artery that needs to be put in place. No project should be ahead of it."

The discussion then moved to putting a sales tax increase on the ballot. It was temporarily approved 10-2, with a final vote scheduled for July 24. The MTA estimates that the tax would generate \$40 billion over 30 years and create 210,000 jobs. If it does make it to the November ballot, the tax must achieve a two-thirds popular approval in order to take effect.

Littman, while noting that passing the tax will be "an uphill battle," stressed both the measure's importance and low impact on consumers.

"We're short about 60 billion bucks to fund what needs to be funded," he said. "We need to grow the pie. Without additional local revenue, we can't even fix the potholes. And it will only be about \$25 per year, per resident, the equivalent of putting five gallons of gas in your car once a year."

Littman partially faults the state for the lack of financial support for California transportation projects.

"They keep taking money from transportation to fix their own budget woes," he said. "The governor has proposed taking \$133 million from L.A. alone, taking another whack at transportation. We'd have to scramble to make up that money, which is easier said than done. We're not going to be

bailed out by Sacramento or Washington, so we have to help ourselves."

While the board still has to take final action to draft a ballot measure for the sales tax, O'Connor feels optimistic that such a measure can go through. She announced her commitment to "craft a fair proposal for the ballot" as well as to "educating and exciting voters."

"The last time there was a sales tax for transportation on the ballot was 1994," she said. "We need solutions as quickly as possible."

Those against the tax included the Bus Riders Union (BRU), which feels that they will bear the burden of paying the tax without benefiting from the revenue.

"Busriders have to come first," said BRU lead organizer Manuel Criollo. "We're 86 percent of the [MTA] ridership, we're the poorest people in the county, and the big burdens are always on our people. We think that MTA needs to create a moratorium on rails, and focus on reducing fares and expanding the [bus] fleet."

Criollo admits feeling disappointed by the board's decision.

"If this is the start, then it's not a good start," he said.

Clarke was skeptical of the BRU's demands, noting, "They're asking for incompatible things: no tax, no fare increase and expanded service."

The one fact all agreed on was the severe lack of funds.

"Every part of the county is hurting," said Littman. "We've reached a boiling point with gas approaching \$5 a gallon, the worst traffic in the nation and the dubious title of worst air quality. The costs of congestion and rough roads are skyrocketing, and it's going to get worse as the population grows. People are recognizing that it's intolerable."

Littman hopes the voting public agrees with his assessment.

"Will that translate into a two-thirds vote?" he asked. "I don't know."

news@smdp.com

Santa Monica offers relative peace to low-key celebrities

FROM PAPARAZZI PAGE 1

among Malibu residents and city officials about placing restrictions on paparazzi. The once-secluded beach community is now home to many famous residents including Pamela Anderson and Courteney Cox.

“We are a small town and last year we spent a quarter of our budget for our sheriff and law enforcement,” said Mayor Pamela Conley Ulich at Wednesday’s press conference. She said that she has asked Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, to “step up enforcement of existing laws” that paparazzi photographers regularly violate, such as speeding and illegal U-turns on Pacific Coast Highway.

Mayor Ulich is also working with Kenneth Starr, who is currently the dean of the Pepperdine University School of Law, to form a task force that would make recommendations for regulations “where gaps in the law exist.”

Both photographers and legal experts expressed doubts about laws restricting paparazzi photography.

“There’s no question that there are some behaviors that are not only obnoxious but illegal,” said John Nockleby, professor of law and the director of the civil justice program at Loyola Law School. “But you can’t simply say that people who have a profession of newsgathering can’t write stories or take pictures.”

He said that Ulich and others working to regulate paparazzi in Malibu would have to define illegal behavior in a way that does not single out the press.

Navarre said that the incident, although unusual, signifies a greater tension that’s been brewing between photographers and residents in Malibu.

In contrast, Navarre said, Santa Monica residents and businesses take a friendlier approach to paparazzi photographers on their streets.

“We haven’t had any negative experiences in Santa Monica,” she said, although celebrities such as Owen Wilson and Reese Witherspoon frequent the city’s shops and restaurants.

“The city has a lot of attractions, so stars are always around,” said Sgt. Renaldi Thruston, spokesman for the Santa Monica Police Department. “But we don’t have any ordinances or municipal codes regarding paparazzi.”

Thruston said that photographers and any members of the press would be held to the same traffic and trespassing laws as anyone else.

Santa Monica City Attorney Marsha Moutrie added that there are no local laws pertaining to celebrity photographers, but that city attorneys would prosecute if members of the paparazzi violated any state or local laws.

Santa Monica business owners say that they don’t see a need for a crackdown on paparazzi like those in Malibu do.

Sheena Templeton, who has worked at the London Sole boutique on Montana Avenue for two months, said that she sees small groups of paparazzi in the area about once every two weeks, but that they have never caused a disruption. She also says that while she often sees celebrities like Diana Ross and Marcia Cross in her shop, they rarely bring paparazzi mayhem with them.

“The type of celebrity that comes around here isn’t looking for press,” she said. “They’re a more low-key, older celebrity.”

Templeton and others who work in the area said that Santa Monica caters more to families, offering less of a glamorous scene than Malibu.

“I don’t think people come here to be seen,” said Conor Ford, who has worked at the upscale denim shop Jeany on Montana for a year and a half.

Victor Owyang, a longtime paparazzi photographer and the president of celebrity photo agency National Photo Group, said that although Santa Monica has successfully avoided unwanted intrusion by paparazzi photographers, he doesn’t expect high-profile celebrities to move south any time soon.

“I don’t buy the idea that celebrities would run for privacy,” he said. “Everyone knows what they’re getting into in Malibu.”

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Getting families active keeps them healthy

FROM ACTIVE PAGE 3

- Make fruits and veggies friendly for younger kids by adding peanut butter and raisins to celery sticks, dipping graham crackers or gingersnaps in applesauce, freezing fresh, unsweetened 100 percent fruit juice in popsicle molds, or serving frozen bananas with a small amount of chocolate sauce for dipping.

- Make healthy substitutions by trading in ice cream for frozen grapes, chips for pretzels, or a cup of flavored milk instead of a candy bar.

- Prepare healthy snacks in advance, and bring them with you when you are running errands so you will not be tempted to stop for junk food.

- When shopping at a grocery store or farmers’ market, let children help pick out fruits and vegetables for snacks. They will be more interested in eating these foods if they have been involved in selecting them.

- Snacks are a good way to introduce new fruits and vegetables. Include a game or activity to learn about the new food and its nutritional value, and let the child

help prepare the snack.

- Don’t order without information. When eating out, read the nutrition information for the meal you are about to enjoy. If calorie and fat information is not on the menu, ask the restaurant to provide it.

- Don’t feel as though you have to completely skip foods like ice cream or French fries. Just enjoy these foods less frequently and in smaller amounts (order one scoop instead of two, or a small fries instead of the medium size).

IDEAS FOR PLAY:

- Make it a date. Schedule a family walk around the neighborhood several times a week to talk about how everyone’s day was. Or plan a weekly bike outing and picnic at a park.

- Join a walking, running, or hiking club.

- Find sports that have summer leagues for children, such as soccer or baseball.

- Check your local swimming pool for free or low-cost swim lessons, recreational swim hours, swim team sign-ups, or water exercise classes, such as aerobics.

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Alexandra Bissonnette news@smdp.com

GROW STRONG: The city is doing its part at the Santa Monica Community Garden by turning what was once an empty lot into a lush, vegetable producing garden. Above, artichokes are flowering.

Local residents join forces to promote sustainability

FROM PERMACULTURE PAGE 3

we think about things, Cirino said.

"We need to train ourselves to think about problems as solutions," he said, recounting a time when he used dogs that love to dig up yards to dig him a hole to plant his trees. "They dug my hole, I planted my tree."

The idea of finding creative ways of accomplishing tasks by using renewable resources is central to the philosophy.

Although Santa Monica is known for

being an environmentally active city, the Sustainable City Report Card for 2007 highlighted some serious shortcomings. Although the city received an A for effort in nearly all areas, the actual grades for things like sustainable transportation, housing, and resource conservation were C's and D's.

"We have done a lot of sustainable landscaping," said Dean Kubani, environmental programs division manager for the city. "Within our own projects, the city is doing much more to ensure native and sustainable

landscaping.

"The city has a landscape ordinance for both residents and commercial businesses regarding what type of plants can be used. We have regulations to enforce the use of drought tolerant plants," Kubani said.

In addition, there are grants available for independent projects that design and install sustainable landscaping.

Despite the fact that Santa Monica received less than stellar grades in performance, one resident was quick to point out that

many other cities are graded much lower.

There was also a general feeling that the city has been supportive of efforts to enhance sustainability. Despite the mention of a few cases of "guerilla gardening," bringing the city and the community together was considered favorable.

"The city does a lot," Jennings said, "but we want to bring the community into it. Together, we can do a lot."

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Finding drama at the L.A. Film Fest

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE

Special to the Daily Press

SOMEONE NEEDS TO TELL DIRECTOR Sonja Heiss that ugly naked people need not be in films; and if they are, at the very least to please provide us with a cohesive story line so we're not bored and nauseous. But "Hotel Very Welcome" is a foreign film, so it's okay that it has no real plot and the actors are ugly as sin.

After this travesty I find myself with a three-hour writing window between events. A volunteer directs me south on Westwood Boulevard to Borders where she says there are "sandwiches." Expecting a real café, I instead discover a crowded, florescent lit, Seattle's Best sporting a few moldy, plastic wrapped snacks. Maybe I am high maintenance after all ... but I can't stomach lousy food, especially after such a lousy film.

I continue on down the road and come upon Soleil, a charming country French restaurant that is only too happy to accommodate my need to plug in my laptop and feed me a scrumptious lunch. Owner Luc R. Alaire and his manager Martin wait on me as if I'm their only patron (they are filled to capacity with regulars) and after tasting the food it's no wonder. Their prices are reasonable and their food exquisite.

Tonight's party of choice is at Target

Red Room wherein we members of the press interview this year's filmmakers one-on-one.

Finding I still have over an hour to kill before doors open and it's a swelter-box outside I duck into an air-conditioned exhibit on "The Vision and Art of Shinjo Ito."

It's nice to know that in the midst of all the chaos of the festival there's a great little haven of tranquility, a quiet, reflective area, one in which you can step back, take a deep breath, admire some art work, learn about Buddhism or just sit and meditate with your thoughts and get some perspective on your day.

At last, it's time for the big event ... LAFF has numerous sponsors but imagine my surprise when I discover this evening's soiree is hosted by my favorite: Tommy Bahama Rum.

The bar also has cranberry juice so I am able to indulge in my favorite cocktail dark rum, cranberry and a slice of lime. They're also serving dirty mojitos but I play it relatively safe ... relatively.

The filmmakers are an endearing bunch of characters. There's Olaf de Fleur a sweet, round-faced Icelander (yes, he knows Bjork) whose film "The Amazing Truth About Queen Raquela" tells the story of a Filipino transsexual's journey who he says, "Wants a heterosexual male to marry ... preferably someone from the

West ... so it's a film about a "girl" who is looking for real love but cannot find it." Originally shot as a documentary, it became a narrative as de Fleur ran into privacy issues with some of his subjects ultimately hiring actors for the key roles. I leave him, eager to view the screener he promises to send.

Austrian born director Gunter Schwaiger delves into taboo territory with his anti-stereotypical documentary "Haffner's Paradise" on hidden Nazis currently living in Spain "protected from the scrutiny of international justice." Schwaiger, who grew up with a "conscience of guilt," said, "It's very important to know the history [of the Holocaust] through the victims but we must also analyze the perpetrators in order to learn how to avoid it in the future."

Also eager to chat is effervescent Eva Weber, director of "City of Cranes" a masterfully shot and insightful short on English crane drivers and "what becomes of the human spirit working hundreds of feet above the ground." Her direction is superb and it's easy to see why she's already won two awards for this piece.

The most interesting though is Darius Marder, director of "Loot," not so much for his film, which I've yet to see, but for his doggedly, good-natured persistence by which he obliges me to see his film. Marder (who has a wife and two kids) quit

his job to make films (she must have been thrilled at this prospect). He tells me she's been extremely supportive.

Marder's story's a bit bizarre. One day, he went into the park and met a guy (Dan Campbell) sitting next to him who told him this true story: During WWII, two American veterans looted and subsequently buried booty where they were fighting.

An amateur "used car salesman" turned fortune hunter living in Utah was now endeavoring to help them in their quest to find their 60-year old treasures. Marder thought the story would make a great film and three days later he and Campbell (now acting as executive producer) flew to Utah and began the four-year process of filming the veteran's "morally dubious journey."

And finally, I meet up with Emily Moss, a simply delightful volunteer who breaks the "bad volunteer" trend I've encountered by being incredibly helpful and on-top-of-her-game, making sure I'm set up to get all my interviews.

The festival continues with the "Hellboy II" and "Journey to the Center of the Earth" premieres ... until then happy movie going.

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com.

L.A. FILM FEST MOVIE REVIEW

'Encounters' tells a bold story

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE

Special to the Daily Press

WERNER HERZOG'S PART INTERVIEW/PART historical narrative "Encounters at the End of the World" is an often humorous, (though sometimes sad) exploration into the reasons why certain individuals choose to reside in the bleakest place on earth – Antarctica. "There's no point south of the South Pole," says a Forklift operator proudly, as if revealing the obvious adds some mystical weight to its validity. Another claims, "It's as if all the travelers were shaken out of a bag and fell down to this spot." The unifying factor being, these peripatetic people recognize the innate wanderlust in each of their ice loving companions.

McMurdo Base, a dreary mining camp from which Herzog "can't wait to leave," is filled with professional dreamers, odd balls and scientists. A day trip to a field camp harboring biologists studying seal's milk shows the stark remoteness of the locale. And just when you're thinking, "Why in the heck would anyone want to spend time here?" a young zoologist remarks, "If you walk out on the ice you can hear your own heartbeat." There's no wind, no sound, nothing to intrude on your thoughts. That is until the seals begin their underwater calls, and the scientists lay down, ears to ice, in order to simply listen. "They have a completely inorganic sound ... like Pink Floyd," says the zoologist. And indeed, it's as though we're listening to "Ummagumma."

Memorable scenes include, the often sarcastic, Herzog putting "hard" questions to a circumspect scientist studying penguins such as, "Are they gay?" and "Do any of them ever go insane?" The

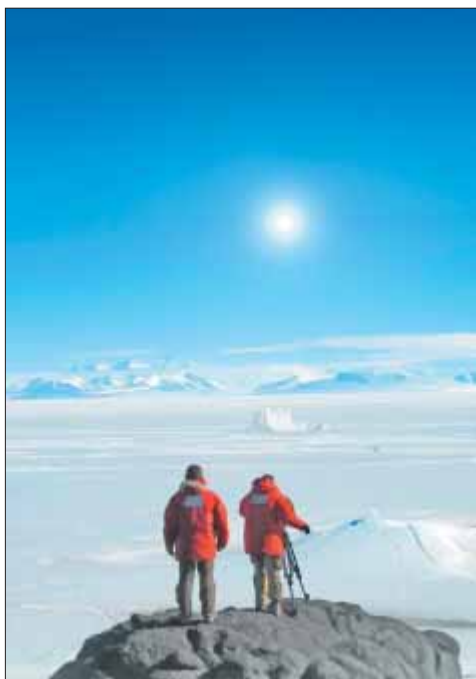


Photo courtesy Discovery Films

underwater photography is stunning and there's a peaceful, serenity to this place that is not merely frozen, but teems with life, however there's plenty inherent danger as well. Divers cannot rely on their compasses, weather patterns shift quickly; it's not territory for the weak. One point Herzog overlooks: The issue of jurisdiction. All travel to and from Antarctica is at the discretion of the National Science Foundation. You cannot just pack up and go; you need to be invited. Don't get your passports ready just yet; see the film instead.

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com.

L.A. FILM FEST MOVIE REVIEW

'Wanted' is a real blockbuster

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE

Special to the Daily Press

IF YOU HAVEN'T YET FALLEN IN LOVE with James McAvoy ("Attonement") just wait till you see him portraying "Wesley" in "Wanted," director Timur Bekmambetov's flawless adaptation of Mark Millar's graphic novel (also starring Angelina Jolie and Morgan Freeman) for you surely will. And if you haven't felt like you've seen a great summer action movie since "Die Hard" – this one's gonna blow you away.

The gist: McAvoy is a small cog in the wheel of corporate America – formerly an "Account Manager" newly dubbed an "Account Service Provider," justifiably mystified as to how his new title will somehow foster better client relations – whose boss, Lorna, is a phlegmatic, pig of a woman (I once worked for the same hideous person, only her name in my "day-mare" was Henriette) always harping on him for his lack of follow through, his inability to complete the "standardized reports" and general malaise.

Add on his "condition" – panic attacks, or what he deems them to be (temporarily quelled by copious amounts of medication), a co-worker who's made him a cuckold with one heck of a lousy girlfriend, and you have a worker ready to go "postal." That is until he's found and saved by the Weaver's – a group of age-old assassins simply called "the Fraternity" whose special kinetic abilities are fostered by their enhanced adrenaline systems.

McAvoy's recruited by Jolie and summarily begins rigorous tutelage on how to fight with knives, take punches and "bend bullets" – which means he can shoot directly at a target and the projectile will curve to avoid objects in it's path.



Photo courtesy Universal Pictures

McAvoy's performance as an apologetic assassin-in-training is beyond reproach.

His hesitancy to rise to meet his destiny is never forced nor labored; and you will root for his "everyman" character, delight when he gains the courage to defy his boss, rebuke his co-worker, regain his self-respect and temper the killer within. And then there's Jolie ... though she's got top billing in the flick's poster, this is clearly McAvoy's vehicle.

Her's is the cherry-red Dodge Viper in which she tears up the streets of Chicago. She's terrific, as always just don't look for her in the sequel. Common (who I just adore as both an artist and a humanitarian) is in far too few scenes. Bekmambetov's directing is superb. He has crafted and redefined, hands down, this summer's blockbuster.

Note: You won't want to miss the train sequence and the exploding rats. Oh sure, there are some implausible situations, and questions whose circuitous answers will leave you pondering, "Wait. How can that be?" but with McAvoy to guide us through the plot, and Bekmambetov at the helm, who cares? Opens in theatres today.

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com.



A Gamer's Life

Robert Summa

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

If you're a gamer, then you should be playing 'MGS4'

GAMERS CAN ALWAYS BE DIVIDED

into two categories: Those who like stealth games and those who do not. For me, I've always been averse to them as my attention span is about as short as they come. That's why up until Konami's "Metal Gear Solid 4" for the PlayStation 3, I have always dabbled, but more or less avoided the "Metal Gear" franchise.

With a long and proud history of stealth gameplay and extra-long cutscenes, "Metal Gear" has always been reserved for that upper crust of videogamer who walks around with his or her nose in the air thinking and knowing that they are better than you because they endured the epic nature and critical thinking that comes along with each installment.

"Metal Gear Solid 4" changed all that, at least for me.

I hadn't planned on picking up creator Hideo Kojima's final masterpiece (he has said this will be his last "Metal Gear" game), but curiosity got the best of me and I figured with the power of the PlayStation 3 behind it and the need of Konami to reach out to a larger audience to justify the millions spent on making the game, I would have a change of heart with this series.

And just like eating sushi for the first time, I'm glad I gave this game a go. In short, it's brilliant. As someone who has played videogames for more than 20 years and lived through the good, bad and ugly, this title not only stands out as one of the best games of this generation, but quite possibly one of the best single-player experiences to date.

What has really made the difference here is the refinement of the controls, the beauty of the storytelling, and the technological wonderment of a having a sandbox-like environment in which to move the lead character, Solid Snake, in. With games such as this in the past, players were always constricted to just one or two options to complete



Konami

a stage, get around enemies, or reach a goal. In "MGS4," it is up to the player how he or she wants to complete a stage.

What this means is that the game adapts to your play style and not vice-versa. No longer are you necessarily forced to sit and time your movements toward enemies. Now, you do what you like. If you're great at stealth and love it, then MGS4 offers every opportunity for you to exploit that. If you're feeling more like Rambo and just want to blast your way through, then within certain limits, you can do that.

In doing this, Kojima allows the player to feel even more immersed in the game and the story that is being told. You feel the tension, you feel the drama and you feel the satisfaction of completing what seem like impossible missions.

All that being said, I must provide this warning, however, to potential players: If you're not a fan of long cutscenes, then this title may not be for you. The non-playable cutscenes in "MGS4" can run as long as 20 minutes or so. This is a good thing for those of us who enjoy the story and pacing of the game, but if you'd rather get all your action in short spurts with no interruption, then this may be a big deterrent for you.

In the past, this fact certainly would have constituted a no-buy for me, but because the action in "MGS4" is so intense, the long cutscenes provide a much-needed break from the mayhem of any given level. Also, if you're a long-time fan of the series, nearly every cutscene includes the opportunity to view flashbacks from the past with the press of the X button when notified on the screen.

So, is this game perfect? Well, nothing ever is. While "MGS4" unquestionably ranks among the top videogames ever made, it does have its flaws. Occasional camera issues can be a turn-off for some, but for the most part, it won't distract or prevent you from completing your missions and getting the most out of this title.

If you're a bored PlayStation 3 owner or someone who has been waiting for the right game to come along to justify the purchase of the system, then "MGS4" is a title that deserves a place in your entertainment library.

ROBERT SUMMA has covered the videogame and technology industry for the past four years. He had a long-running videogame column in New York City and has appeared on television programs such as G4's "Attack of the Show" as a commentator.



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'Dark Knight' credits pay tribute to Ledger

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Heath Ledger is getting a fond tribute from his collaborators on "The Dark Knight."

The end credits of the "Batman Begins" sequel include a farewell note to Ledger, who died in January from an accidental overdose of prescription drugs; and to special-effects technician Conway Wickliffe, who was killed last September in a stunt-car accident.

"In memory of our friends Heath

Ledger & Conway Wickliffe," reads the tribute included in the credits, which went up Thursday on the Warner Bros. publicity Web site.

Ledger plays the villainous Joker in "The Dark Knight," who begins a reign of terror on Gotham City that pits him against conflicted hero Batman (Christian Bale).

Arriving in theaters July 18, the movie reteams Bale with director Christopher Nolan and returning co-stars Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Gary Oldman. Joining the cast are

Aaron Eckhart and Maggie Gyllenhaal.

Beginning months before Ledger's death, his frenetic performance and demented-clown makeup have been a cornerstone of the marketing campaign for the film.

"I needed a phenomenal actor, but he also had to be someone unafraid of taking on such an iconic role," Nolan says in the production notes for "The Dark Knight." "Heath created something entirely original. It's stunning, it's captivating. ... It's going to blow people away."

1.2 Million Gallon Free Gas Giveaway launches new Eco-Friendly home cooling breakthrough that uses the same energy as a 60 watt light bulb

Public has 48 hours to snatch up their share of 1.2 Million gallons in free gasoline along with energy saving air coolers that roll anywhere to quietly throw off ice cooled air with no windows, no vents and no freon



■ ENERGY SAVINGS: Everyone wants to get free gasoline and save on their energy bills. The Cool Surge eco-friendly air cooler helps you do both and stay cool. So all of those that beat the 48 hour deadline by calling 1-800-789-3198 to order the Cool Surge portable air cooler at two-hundred twenty-eight dollars are actually getting a fifty dollar gas card absolutely free.

By RONALD BERRY
Universal Media Syndicate

(UMS) Everyone wants to keep cool this summer. But with high gas prices, we can barely afford to drive our cars; let alone shell out \$1,500 or more for a whole house air conditioner.

And for those who have a window air conditioner, just turning it on sucks the money right out of your pockets. Well now, the all new Cool Surge eco-friendly air cooler will

help solve that problem.

It blasts out ice cooled air but uses about 93% less electricity than a typical window air conditioner. And here's the best part, readers of this publication who beat the 48 hour deadline to order their Cool Surge eco-friendly air cooler are actually getting their share of up to 1.2 million gallons in free gasoline.

This is all happening to launch the brand new Cool Surge portable air cooler that easily rolls from room to room so you can take the ice cooled

air with you anywhere.

That way, everyone who gets them first can immediately fill up their gas tanks, turn down the air, save on their electric bill and never be hot again. The all new Cool Surge is only available direct from Universal Techtronics.

"We can only afford to give free gas to everyone who beats the 48 hour deadline because we've cut out the middleman. That's why you won't find the Cool Surge in the national chain stores," says Jeremiah Gray,

Operations Manager of Universal Techtronics.

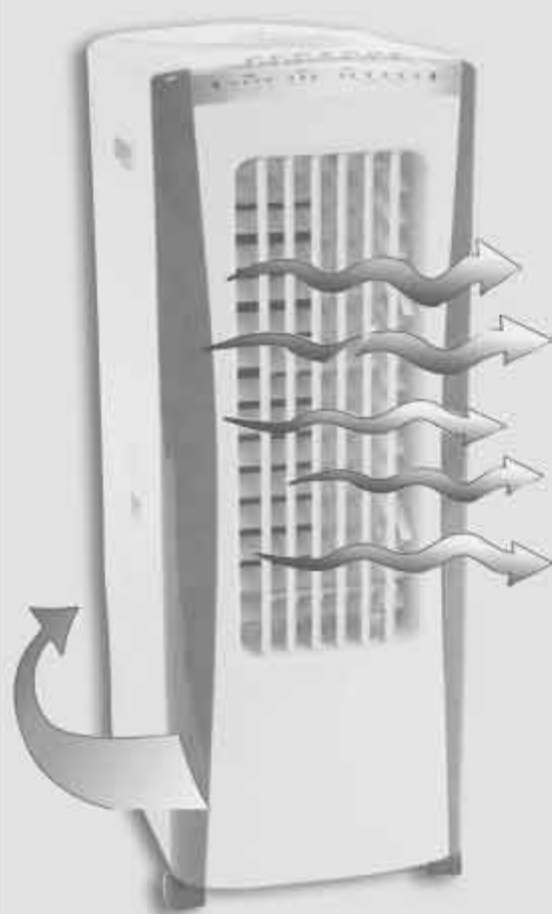
"People everywhere are going to be stampeding over one another to get one and get their share of the free gas. Our phones will be ringing off the hook," added Gray.

"That's because owning a Cool Surge is like having your own personal shade follow you around your home," says Dr. Joe Dietz, Director of Research and Development for Universal Techtronics.

Consumers have been wishing

COOL SURGE™

Portable Air Cooler



HOW IT WORKS: The Cool Surge eco-friendly air cooler is a work of engineering genius from the China coast so advanced that no windows, vents or freon are required. It's as easy to use as a baby's vaporizer and even includes the four hour extra cooling power of the reusable glacier ice blocks. It uses the same electricity as a 60 watt light bulb, yet it blasts out ice cooled air. The hi-efficiency motor cools the air around the unit up to ten degrees so you'll instantly feel cool and refreshed. The 3 cooling levels and auto shut off timer put all the comfort controls right at your finger tips. It's so impressive that it even comes with a full year Money Back Guarantee.

How to get your free gas

The National Toll Free Hotlines are now open. All those who beat the 48 hour deadline to order the Cool Surge portable air cooler plus shipping get a FREE \$50 gas card.

They have imposed a strict limit of 2 per household. Dealers will have to be turned away, but everyone else should be able to get all they need.

Use the map below to locate the weather zone you live in and call the Hotline number for your zone.



EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Scalding Zone: 1
START CALLING AT
8:00 A.M. TODAY
1-800-789-3198

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Scorching Zone: 2
START CALLING AT
8:30 A.M. TODAY
1-800-781-3299

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Sizzling Zone: 3
START CALLING AT
9:00 A.M. TODAY
1-800-731-4851

there was a way to take the coolness with them from room-to-room for decades. The new Cool Surge portable air cooler makes it a snap.

It effortlessly rolls from room-to-room and is unbelievably lightweight. "But don't let its light weight fool you, this is one serious piece of equipment," added Dietz.

During the day, keep it in your living room and at night, roll it into your bedroom and enjoy a cool, comfortable night's sleep. The Cool Surge eco-friendly air cooler cools the air around the unit up to ten degrees but only costs about a penny

an hour to operate. So at only two hundred twenty-eight dollars it's a real steal.

"Everyone can use this new eco-friendly home cooling breakthrough," Dietz explained. "Air conditioners can cost thousands of dollars. And with a central air conditioner you are paying to cool areas of your home that you're not using. Window air conditioners are even worse because they weigh a ton so they're a hassle to move," confirms Dietz.

Getting the Cool Surge is the best way to slash summer electric bills

and still stay cool all summer long. And the free gas giveaway makes the Cool Surge an absolute must have.

It uses the same electricity as a 60 watt light bulb, yet throws off ice cooled air to keep you cool all day and night. The potential energy savings are absolutely incredible.

"We're bracing ourselves for all the calls because everyone wants to save on their electric bills and stay cool. But those that really want to save a ton will be telling our operators they want two and will double up on their share of the free

gasoline too," said Gray.

"So when the lines are busy keep trying or log onto www.coolsurge.com. We promise to get every call. Then we'll have a delivery truck out to you before the summer heat knocks on your door so you can stay cool and fill up your tank with your free gas right away," Gray said.

"You'll instantly feel the ice cooled air in any room. You will never have to be hot and miserable again," he said. ■

On the worldwide web: www.coolsurge.com

Saves Money: Uses about 93% less electricity than air conditioners, so leave it on all day long and never be hot again



■ **SAVES ON BILLS:** Everyone gets low bills and still stays cool and comfortable. Margaret Jones turned down the air and saved a ton of money with her new Cool Surge.



■ **STAY COOL:** Everyone keeps cool with the Cool Surge. It's where the kids will play and the family will relax, especially on those hot summer days.



■ **EASILY ROLLS ANYWHERE:** This is the eco-friendly Cool Surge portable air cooler that easily rolls from living room to bedroom. No vents, no windows and no freon. Just fill it up and plug it in.



■ **GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP:** The built in sleep setting automatically adjusts the cooling level throughout the night. Everyone wakes up cool and refreshed.

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SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 68°
SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)
The wind swell should back off further to waist high max, and the light southern hemi should stick around with at least waist high waves for south facing breaks. Winds should be light throughout the morning, and the tide not much of an issue then as well.
LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
HOLIDAY WEEKEND LOOKING SMALL SO FAR...
TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY
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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria--enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms--that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.
LEGEND DRY -- each location is graded on an A-F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days ns -- no sample taken
Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.
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West Dressed
Mariel Howsepian
Send comments to editor@smdp.com
Worn-out workout wear

WHERE DID I PUT MY WEIGHT-LIFTING gloves?

I have not set one sneakered-foot into the gym since December. Two hundred dollars in membership fees: Gone. There was a six-month period when I was going to the gym five times per week, alternating cardio with weights, lunging, rowing, hip-adducting. Now, dipping and crunching are words I associate with tortilla chips and guacamole. Twice a week, a trainer led me around the gym, telling me that, yes, I could run faster, lift more, and achieve everything I wanted to achieve. I wanted to look like a Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition cover girl, but eating right and five hours a week at the gym just isn't enough. So I quit. My regimen did help me drop from 21 to 17 percent body fat. I was athletic. I was compact. Now, I am ... I'm slim. But it's a soft slim.

At New Year's, while everyone was making their soon-to-be-broken-weight-loss-resolutions, I didn't see the point in lying to myself.

I knew that I was going to be crazy-busy with work and my husband and finishing my thesis, and trying not to have a nervous breakdown over simple household chores like doing laundry.

What would I pay my trainer to tell me? "Ah, Mariel, but stress and exhaustion can be lessened by regular gym activity." You know what else lessens stress? Happy Hour at Chaya Venice.

But I have no more excuses. My thesis is done, and my summer vacation from teaching middle school is finally here.

Last Sunday, my husband and I were fantasizing about taking a cruise around the Mediterranean. Mykonos. Santorini. Me in a bikini.

So, I pulled on my sports bra, a T-shirt, my husband's sweat pants, and went to the gym, the most intimidating gym in the world - Gold's in Venice.

Almost every day during the summer, as you walk through the maze of machines, you have to avoid tripping over backdrops, extension cords, and lighting equipment, as photographers shoot oiled, tanned, freakishly ripped

ACCESSORIZE YOUR WORKOUT WEAR

Weight-lifting gloves. They'll keep your hands from getting calluses, which will make gripping dumbbells more comfortable.

men for fitness mag spreads. You find yourself "working in" on a machine with the Chicago Bulls, or telling Hulk Hogan "Excuse me" because he's blocking your way to the treadmill, or waiting forever to use the ab machine because the aging blonde porn star with breasts the size of balance balls has yet to dismount. Mirrors are everywhere, and everything about my workout-wear is wrong. My husband's sweat pants make me look ten pounds heavier. My hair should be up in a high ponytail, not a messy bun, and I should not be wearing the socks I got on my overnight Virgin Atlantic flight. Other women walk around, straight and tall, as if pulled to the sky by imaginary string, as if they've just come out of pilates, as if they're looking at me in all my shlubbiness, feeling smug. They wear makeup and big hoop earrings, racer back tanks to show off shoulder tats, cropped yoga pants, ankle socks, and clean white running shoes - treadmill shoes. They accessorize with iPods and bottles of Smart Water.

I want to look happy to be here, endorphins coursing through my bloodstream. But all I can think about is how I'd rather be sitting in Red Mango, gabbing with a friend, and eating a frozen yogurt covered with fresh, sweet strawberries and tiny morsels of dark chocolate.

I pull on my weight-lifting gloves, pick up a set of five-pound weights, and do a set of shoulder presses. All around me, men with great big bodies and tiny heads curl dumbbells that weigh as much as kindergarteners. "Excuse me, Hulk Hogan. If I could just squeeze on by?"

MARIEL HOWSEPIAN digs black coffee, fairy tales and a man in coveralls. She lives in Santa Monica and can be reached at Mariel_Rodriguez@antiochia.edu.

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

Be part of a crowd, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Try out situations and be more upbeat. Your style changes, and you are able to make quite a difference. Opportunities pop professionally and/or through your leadership abilities. You have a vision that is easily followed. Tonight: Say yes to living.	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Defer to others, and you'll come out smiling. You find that someone really can lighten your mood and day. You could wonder what is going on behind the scenes. Think through a decision with care. Tonight: Happy among crowds.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Kick back. Your instincts easily could go on overload. Trust your judgment and who you are. If you are able to move in a new direction, do. Someone knows how to light a fire under you. Use this push to the max. Tonight: Try a nap first.	SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You need to defer to others, perhaps more than you would like. Look at how good you will feel when your day is over. Listen to someone you care about deeply. Tonight: Get key errands done tonight because ...
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Zero in on what is important, more than what you want. Someone around you, a key partner, could be very hard on you. Listen to feedback from a more enlightened source. Tonight: Where your friends are.	SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You eagerly await the end of the day. You also could overspend in anticipation of having a very special happening or some fun get-together. Your sixth sense kicks in with communication. Tonight: Let the wild child out!
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You certainly are the envy of many! Few realize how much responsibility you carry. Listen to your inner voice when dealing with a boss. You need to defer from now on. Maintain a high profile if possible. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.	CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You might want to try something very different and more upbeat. Others seek you out for answers. Say yes to possibilities and no to troublesome people. Be careful with money commitments. Listen to suggestions. Tonight: Happy to head home.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You could be stunned by what comes up. If you are open to new types of thinking, you can make a difference. Be careful how you deal with someone who could be a bit more pivotal than you would like to acknowledge. Tonight: Let your mind wander.	AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your sixth sense keeps kicking in. You must be diplomatic, especially if you feel someone says one thing but means another. Don't reflect this deception, and make him or her accountable – that is, if you value the relationship. Tonight: Strut your stuff.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ You might be hard-pressed to work with a key associate. You might be more tired than you realize. If someone wants to dominate, let him. Your imagination plays a large role in your interactions. You could be listening and imagining at the same time. Tonight: Dinner for two!	PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Take a back seat. Know that your time will come soon enough. Take charge and clear out any problems or errands. Your finances could take some dramatic swings. Tonight: In the thick of the moment.

Happy birthday

You could find that you are being observed by higher-ups. You might not be comfortable with all the pressure and what is happening. Stay cool and know that in the long run a steady course is a wise one. Accept responsibilities, but say no if you want to, or need to, before adding any more must-do's. If you are single, your popularity soars. You might want to get to know several of your suitors better. If you are attached, your sweetie is unusually charming. Enjoy. TAURUS helps you achieve the results you want.

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

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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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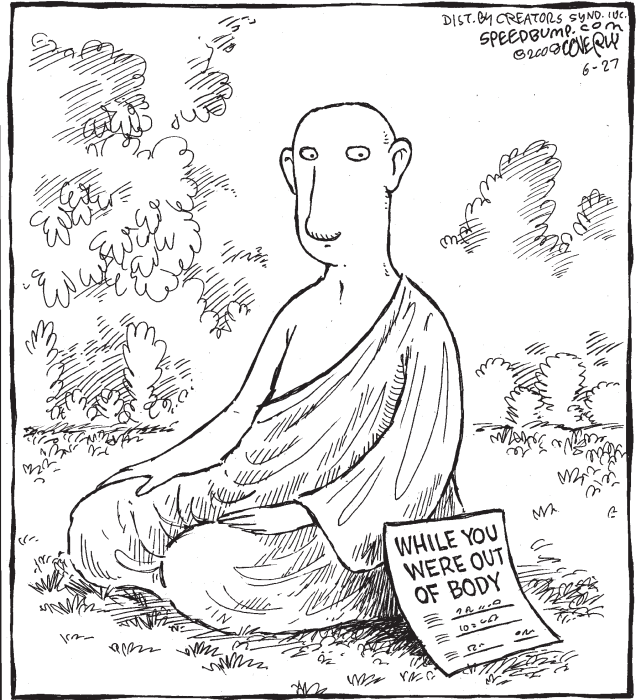
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MYSTERY REVEALED!
Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com
Max Subin correctly identified this photograph of Eino Romppanen's 'Oneness' marble sculpture at Mary Hotchkins Park. He will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Pick up the weekend edition of the Daily Press for another chance to win.

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Memory item
 - 5 Provoke
 - 9 Boring
 - 11 Eateries
 - 13 Mirror sight
 - 14 Action setting
 - 15 Gun
 - 16 Football's Tony
 - 18 Set up
 - 20 Shelter
 - 21 Mona Lisa trademark
 - 22 Polar explorer
 - 23 "You said it!"
 - 24 Little hopper
 - 25 Actions at auctions
 - 27 Dawn
 - 29 Before today
 - 30 Paid tribute to
 - 32 Loose dresses
 - 34 Sch. supporters
 - 35 Elephant of stories
 - 36 "... to fetch — of water"
 - 38 Foreword
- DOWN**
- 39 Hack-neyed
 - 40 Org.
 - 41 Adding column
 - 1 Nest sound
 - 2 Out-of-the-park hits
 - 3 Skeptical comment
 - 4 Small dog
 - 5 Panic
 - 6 Old salts
 - 7 Empathetic comment
 - 8 Tenant

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

Yesterday's answer

- 10 Olympic awards
- 12 Quite full
- 17 Vein yield
- 19 Slapstick weapons
- 22 U2 singer
- 24 Charges
- 25 Felix Salten hero
- 26 Large lizard
- 27 Old French coin
- 28 Dress size
- 30 Canadian native
- 31 Valleys
- 33 Earth's neighbor
- 37 Old hand

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

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS	10 22 36 50 53 Meganumber: 39 Jackpot: \$34M
Super LOTTO	5 17 30 41 44 Meganumber: 14 Jackpot: \$21M
Fantasy 5	10 11 25 27 34
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 7 0 5 EVENING: 9 0 7
DAILY DERRY	1st: 08 Gorgeous George 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 03 Hot Shot RACE TIME: 1:47:16

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Accused triple-murderer Jeffrey Gilham earned a hung-jury verdict in April in Sydney, Australia, by relentlessly denying that he had stabbed to death his mother and father. They and Gilham's brother all died by the same knife, at about the same time, stabbed from 13 to 16 times each in the heart, by a murderer kneeling over the victims. Nevertheless, Gilham said he killed only his brother and not the parents.

■ Jessica Vasquez, 19, was arrested in Indianapolis in April for a road-rage assault, but swore she was only exercising self-defense. Her victim, an 81-year-old woman whom Vasquez said was driving too slow, had been punched in the face, yanked from her car and thrown to the ground, suffering leg fractures in 14 places.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1844 Mormon leader Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, were killed by a mob in Carthage, Ill.

1944 during World War II, American forces completed their capture of the French port of Cherbourg from the Germans.

1950 the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution calling on member nations to help South Korea repel an invasion from the North.

1969 police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York's Greenwich Village; patrons fought back in clashes considered the birth of the gay rights movement.

1977 the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, struck down state laws and bar association rules that prohibited lawyers from advertising their fees for routine services.

1977 the Republic of Djibouti became independent of France.

1986 the International Court of Justice at The Hague ruled that the United States had broken international law and violated the sovereignty of Nicaragua by aiding the Contras.

WORD UP!

Cockaigne \kah-KAYN\, *noun*: An imaginary land of ease and luxury.

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All classified liner ads are placed on our website for FREE! Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

Employment

ASSEMBLY JOB
For cleaners in SM, will train must have legal papers.call (310)393-1010

CASHIER POSITION for gas station. Immediate positions available. Customer service. Call for more information. (310)451-2355, (310)498-7910

BARRETS APPLIANCES
General office work heavy phones, light bookkeeping, computer skills, \$12/hour + benefits call Pat or Carla, (310)392-4108

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

OCEAN HOUSE, an upscale assisted living community, is looking for a Dining Room Supervisor, to oversee and manage our dining room server staff. The shift is 11a-8p Wed-Sun, must be available on holidays. Benefits eligible after 90 days. Must have previous restaurant and supervision experience and great customer service skills. If interested, please fax resumes to (310) 314-7356 or come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405 or email crodezn0@brookdaleliving.com EOE

OCEAN HOUSE, an upscale assisted living community, is looking for dining room servers to help serve our senior residents. Prior serving experience is preferred, but will train. Shifts available are 11a-8p and 4-8p, PT & FT. Must be available on weekends and holidays. Benefits eligible for all FT. If interested, please fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405. EOE

OCEAN HOUSE, an upscale assisted living community, is looking for caregivers and medication technicians for a variety of shifts 6a-2:30p and 2p-10:30p. FT and PT available. Must have previous experience with seniors and a great attitude. Must also be available on weekends and holidays. If interested, please fax a resume to (310) 314-7356 or come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE

OCEAN HOUSE, an upscale assisted living community is looking for evening receptionists, FT and PT. The shift is from 4p-12a and must be available weekends and holidays. Must have great customer service skills and previous experience is a plus. Also responsible for computer data entry. If interested please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE

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Employment

SMALL 3-ATTORNEY Santa Monica law firm needs part-time legal secretary with knowledge of Legal Solutions Plus Version 4.1.0, WordPerfect 12, and Microsoft Office Outlook. Salary commensurate with experience. Hours negotiable. Please fax or e-mail resume to (310) 449-0014 or bpotts@sspolinlaw.com.

Help Wanted

ATTENTION DRIVERS: McKELVEY Trucking is currently seeking 25 drivers with 5+ years experience, who will commit to running a Minimum of 2,000 miles per week. 1-800-410-6255. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER - CDL Training: \$0 down, financing by Central Refrigerated. Drive for Central, earn up to \$40k+ 1st year! 1-800-587-0029 x4779. www.CentralDrivingJobs.net (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER- \$5K SIGN-ON Bonus for Experienced Teams: Dry Van & Temp Control available. O/Os & CDL-A Grads welcome. Call Covenant 1-866-684-2519 EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER: DON'T Just Start Your Career, Start It Right! Company Sponsored CDL training in 3 weeks. Must be 21. Have CDL? Tuition Reimbursement! www.JoinCRST.com 1-800-781-2778. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVERS: ATTN: DRIVERS. Sign-On Bonus. 35-42 cpm. Earn over \$1000 weekly. Excellent Benefits. Need CDL-A & 3 months recent OTR. 1-800-635-8669. (Cal-SCAN)

LOAN OFFICER OPPORTUNITY. US Home Funding seeks licensed Loan officers to work from home. Strong support, Excellent commissions. Phone: 800-788-4498. Fax: 866-255-3371 or email: hr@ushomefunding.com (Cal-SCAN)

NATIONAL CARRIERS needs Company Drivers for its Regional Operations in Southeast California. Excellent Benefits, Generous Home Time & Outstanding Pay Package. CDL-A Required. 1 - 8 8 8 - 7 0 7 - 7 7 2 9 www.NationalCarriers.com (Cal-SCAN)

OUR TOP REGIONAL Driver made \$61,147 in 2007! How much did You earn? \$.41/mile? Make more in 2008! Home weekly! Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953. www.HeartlandExpress.com (Cal-SCAN)

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Business Opps

ABSOLUTELY RECESSION PROOF! Do You Earn \$800 in a Day? Your Own Local Vending Route Includes 30 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

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PREGNANT? CONSIDER OPEN ADOPTION. Loving California couples wish to parent. Work with a licensed caring agency. Expenses paid. We can help, please call: 1-800-972-9225. (Cal-SCAN)

For Sale

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,990 - Convert your Logs To Valuable Lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.NorwoodSawMills.com/300N -FREE Information: 1-800-578-1363 - x300-N. (Cal-SCAN)

Yard Sales

HUGE GARAGE Sale-Sat.June 28 Clothes, books, purses, linens, art, furniture and more 8:00 am 814 23rd St.(near Montana)

YARD SALE tools furniture golf fishing gas soccer art and more Saturday June 28th 8am-noon 1030 Chelsea Ave.

Auction

PUBLIC AUCTION. Fine Chinese Antiques, Ceramics, Jewelry. Saturday, June 28th at 2:00 p.m. 1165 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, California. \$300 deposit. www.DBAuction.com Call 626-278-2268; 323-804-5654. (Cal-SCAN)

Instruction

INCREASE YOUR RAILROAD hiring potential! Train at NARS, Overland Park, Kansas. Complete training 4-8 weeks. Average salary \$63k. Lender info available. Conductor- Electrical/Mechanical, Freight Car, Signal, Welder. 1-800-228-3378. www.RailroadTraining.com (Cal-SCAN)

TENNIS LESSONS by #1 female tennis player in Venezuela Olympic gold medalist has experience teaching all levels Nelly (310)407-9503

Education

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Classes

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For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 16, 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, \$1350, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.\$500 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

3626 KEYSTONE Ave.unit 6, \$795 bachelor, upper, fridge, microwave, carpet, blinds, utilities included laundry, street parking, no pets \$200 off move in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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SANTA MONICA, 1829 20th Street, Apt E. Large 2bd/1ba, \$2200/mo. Upper unit with large closet space, stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, parking, laundry, no pets. Close to SMC, freeways, and ocean. Call for an appointment 213-590-1388

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WESTCHESTER 7087 1/2 Manchester Ave.Single stove, fridge, hardwood floors, on-site laundry, street parking, no pets, \$995/mo \$200 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

WLA 1215 Barry Ave. #6 2+2 \$1495 stove, fridge, balcony, carpet, blinds, on-site laundry room, parking, no pets.\$300 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

WLA, \$1385/mo large 1bdrm.On Barrington near National Very spacious, large closets, crown moldings, verticals, appliances, closed garage Charming older building in popular WLA area Walk to Whole Foods and Starbucks.Owner 310-828-4481 9am-6pm or 310-993-0414 cell after 6pm.

\$5.50 A DAY LINER ADS! CALL TODAY

Apartment Wanted

I'M SEEKING A GUEST house in SM, Pacific Palisades, Malibu, Venice area.Clean, quiet, non-smoking, responsible, working female.Excellent References Wendy (310)749-0787

Roommates

SANTA MONICA HOUSE TO SHARE Lady to share with lady beautiful large 1.8 million dollar house with private bath safe and quiet near freeway no smoking or pets \$1080 /month including utilities plus deposit 310 435 6999

Commercial Lease

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WEST LA \$1,200 310-945-0280 4 Office Spaces for Rent.2566 Overland Ave, LA 90064 Seven Story class "A" Reflective glass Bldg. Prime Location Off 10 & 405 fwys. 190sq.ft/\$1,200 Beautiful offices facing ocean 7th floor. Contact:Adriana@davis-stirling.com.

Real Estate

20 ACRE RANCHES, Near Booming El Paso Texas. Roads Surveyed. \$14,900, \$200 Down, \$145/month. Money Back Guarantee. Free Maps & Pictures. 1-800-343-9444. No Credit Checks!! (Cal-SCAN)

MONTANA'S BEST Property. JUNE LAND SALE! 20AC- County Road and Utilities-\$49,900. 160AC tracts starting at \$650/ AC. 300-1000AC ranch lands for cattle, horses, and the best elk and deer area- Under \$900/AC. North of Billings, MT. Access to thousands of BLM. Owner financing or pay cash with discount. Call 1-877-229-7840 or visit www.WesternSkiesLand.com (Cal-SCAN)

COLORADO RANCH FORECLOSURES. 100 Acres just \$59,900. Other ranches available. Year- round roads, access to utilities. Excellent Financing Available. 1-866-696-5263 x4287. www.CA-LovesCO.com (Cal-SCAN)

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ARIZONA LAND BARGAIN 36 Acres - \$29,900. Beautiful mountain property in Arizona's Wine Country. Price reduced in buyers market. Won't last! Good access & views. Eureka Springs Ranch offered by AZLR. ADWR report & financing available. 1-877-301-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

NEW MEXICO 10-20 ACRE ranches. Great horse property, gorgeous scenery, excellent recreation possibilities. Power included. From \$2,795 an acre. Guaranteed financing, low down. www.SWPproperties.com 1-866-922-6767. (Cal-SCAN)

NEW MEXICO HIGH Country. 3-8 acre parcels, from \$39,995 total. Trees, views, underground utilities, surrounded by government land. Low down, guaranteed financing. www.SWPproperties.com 1-888-812-5830. (Cal-SCAN)

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NEW TO MARKET New Mexico Ranch Dispersal 140 acres - \$89,900. River Access. Northern New Mexico. Cool 6,000' elevation with stunning views. Great tree cover including Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great hunting. EZ terms. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-866-360-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

NEW TO MARKET- Colorado Mountain Ranch. 35 acres- \$39,900. Priced for Quick Sale. Overlooking a majestic lake, beautifully treed, 360 degree mountain views, adjacent to national forest. EZ terms. 1-866-353-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

UTAH RANCH DISPERSAL. Experience the fun and relaxation of having your own 40 acres in the great outdoor recreational area of the Uintah Basin. Starting at only \$29,900. Call UTLR 1-888-693-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

Vehicles for sale



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4 Cylinder, great fuel economy, low mileage
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Dealer – Claude Short Auto Sales
310-395-3712



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Vehicles for sale



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16 Valve 5 SPD rare car. 2 tops. Low mileage
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Lost & Found

LOST KEYS on 6/23/08 near Radio Shack/Real Food Daily on SM Blvd between 5th/ 6th St. (SM)
2 conneted rings holding 5 keys & 3" red flashlight
Dorothea 424-603-0054 after 6pm

LOVABLE CAT Missing since late March '08 from his home on Ashland Ave near 7th St.

Medium size, short-haired - black w/white - & NO TAIL. VERY friedly. Call anytime: 310-392-2064 if you can help



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Notices

NOTICE OF PUBILC HEARING
BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF SANTA MONICA

SUBJECT:Public Hearing to Consider
Water and Wastewater Rate Increases

WHEN:Tuesday, July 8, 2008, at 5:45 pm

WHERE:City Council Chambers, City
Hall, Room 213 1685 Main Street, Santa
Monica

INFORMATION:
In accordance with Article XIII D Section 6 of the California Constitution the City Council will hold a public hearing on proposed water and wastewater rate increases on July 8, 2008, at 5:45pm in the City Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Room 213, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Written protests on the proposed rate increases may be submitted at the public hearing or mailed to or dropped off at the City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401, in sufficient time to be received before the hearing. Please include the parcel address and number and write "Water and Wastewater Rate Increase" on your written protest.

Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. If by the close of the public hearing written protests against the rate increases are not represented by a majority of property owners, the City Council may adopt a resolution to increase the water and wastewater rates. If adopted, the rates will become effective August 1, 2008, and on July 1 in subsequent years. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY WRITTEN PROTESTS SUBMITTED BY PROPERTY OWNERS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING A MAJORITY PROTEST.

Additional information is available on our website at water.smgov.net or by calling the Water Resources office at (310)458-8224

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080937064 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as EMILY STOLTZ CREATIVE, 422 HILL STREET APT 9, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : EMILY STOLTZ, 422 HILL STREET APT 9, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405 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)2/7/2006. /s/ EMILY STOLTZ
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/28/2008. 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 6/27/2008, 7/4/2008, 7/11/2008, 7/18/2008

Statement of Abandonment of Use of Fictitious Business Name
Document Record # 20080937118
Current File No. 06 0285619
State of California, County of Los Angeles
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious Business name:
EMILY STOLTZ CREATIVE located at 28160 MCBEAN PARKWAY, #4204, VALENCIA, CA 91354
The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 2/7/2006 In the county of LOS ANGELES.
Registered owners: EMILY STOLTZ, 28160 MCBEAN PARKWAY, #4204, VALENCIA, CA 91354
This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL
/s/ EMILY STOLTZ
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 5/28/2008 Published: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 6/27/2008, 7/4/2008, 7/11/2008, 7/18/2008

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Per Month Plus Tax on 27 mo. lease. On Approval Of Tier 1 Credit. \$4,544 Total Due At Signing includes tax and license (\$0 Security Deposit). MSRP: \$36,025. 10,000 Miles Per Year/\$.25 Per Mile Excess. Offer expires 6/22/08.

ALL NEW 2008 MERCEDES-BENZ E350



LEASE FOR ONLY:
\$569
per mth for 27 mths
5 at this payment

Per Month Plus Tax on 27 mo. lease. On Approval Of Tier 1 Credit. MSRP: \$55,195. \$4,214 Total Due At Signing includes tax and license (\$0 Security Deposit). 10,000 Miles Per Year/\$.25 Per Mile Excess. Offer expires 6/22/08.

ALL NEW 2008 MERCEDES-BENZ ML350



LEASE FOR ONLY:
\$549
per mth for 33 mths
5 at this payment

Per Month Plus Tax on 33 mo. lease. On Approval Of Tier 1 Credit. MSRP: \$50,045. \$4,694 Total Due At Signing includes tax and license (\$0 Security Deposit). 10,000 Miles Per Year/\$.25 Per Mile Excess. Offer expires 6/22/08.

ALL NEW 2008 MERCEDES-BENZ GL450



LEASE FOR ONLY:
\$709
per mth for 33 mths
5 at this payment

Per Month Plus Tax on 33 mo. lease. On Approval Of Tier 1 Credit. MSRP: \$64,695. \$6,104 Total Due At Signing includes tax and license (\$0 Security Deposit). 10,000 Miles Per Year/\$.25 Per Mile Excess. Offer expires 6/22/08.



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