

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

**DAILY LOTTERY**

**MEGA MILLIONS**
9 15 31 42 45
Meganumber: 41
Jackpot: \$20M

**SUPER LOTTO**
2 9 12 20 34
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: \$7M

**Fantasy 5**
6 12 16 18 36

**DAILY 3**
MIDDAY: 1 8 2
EVENING: 0 3 3

**DAILY DERBY**
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 07 Eureka!
RACE TIME: 1:40.90

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

**NEWS OF THE WEIRD**
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

The Gilgit tribe beat Chitral, 9-6, this year in the annual, bloody, take-no-prisoners, referee-less polo match on a remote, 2-mile-high field on a mountain in Pakistan, an event that, despite its viciousness, some observers credit with forestalling actual war between the tribes. According to a May dispatch in ESPN The Magazine, clubbing of opponents is rampant; horses are treated more reverently than players; and when a star player was thrown and landed on his head, motionless and thought perhaps even to be dead, fans screamed for him to be cleared from the field quickly so the match could continue. (He only had a broken neck and concussion.)

TODAY IN HISTORY
Today is the 188th day of 2006.
There are 177 days left in the year.

One year ago, on July 7, 2005, suicide terrorist bombings in three Underground stations and a double-decker bus killed 52 victims and four bombers in the worst attack on London since World War II. (The United States put its subways, buses and commuter trains on high alert amid concern about a possible copycat attack.)

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Straus is back in house

Former Samohi principal tapped as school district's secondary school sage

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS. — Looking for experience, stability and strong leadership skills at the highest levels of the school district, elected officials drafted one of their most accomplished educators to drive academic achievement at all middle

and high schools.

In an unanimous decision, the school board last week appointed former Santa Monica High School principal Ilene Straus as the senior director of secondary education, making her a key player in reaching the district's goals, including closing the achievement gap experienced by students of color.

The salary range for the position is \$95,919 to \$116,589. With more than 20 years of experience, Straus is expected to receive the full amount offered, said Marcia Hagan who works in the district's human resources department.

Straus' appointment fills a position recently created as part of a reorganization of the leadership

structure of the district, said Interim Superintendent Mike Matthews.

Harry Keiley, president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association, said the union is closely monitoring the recent changes in leadership in the district's main office, looking to see if admin-

See **STRAUS**, page 7

CAPTURED



RICHARD FRANCIS GIBBONS

Couple aids in capture of molester

BY MICHAEL J. TITTINGER
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC — Shortly after settling in for Saturday's fireworks show here for Celebrate America, Julie McGray and her boyfriend Manuel Monson were horrified at what they saw near the Corsair Field stage.

There dancing about, with children all around him, was Richard Francis Gibbons, a former co-worker of theirs and a convicted child molester. Earlier that day, the couple had read that police were on the lookout for Gibbons, whose parole violations restricted him from entering the city's limits and being within 100 yards of places where children congregate. He was released from

See **GIBBONS**, page 8

SEE RELATED STORY
■ Knowing the neighbors

Page 8

Showing some steel resolve



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Two men try to stay cool inside the Chautauqua Blvd. tunnel that runs beneath the Pacific Coast Highway.

Judge denies bail for elderly landlord

BY ANDREW GLAZER
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — A magistrate judge said this week there is "probable cause" to believe that an elderly Santa Monica landlord and her friend murdered two transient men

and denied a request for bail.

Helen Golay, 75, and Olga Rutterschmidt, 73, of Hollywood, face federal mail fraud charges for allegedly befriending two men later killed in unsolved hit-and-runs and collecting at least \$2.7 million from their life insurance policies. The two

are said to have masterminded a devious plot to befriend homeless men, set them up with paid-for apartments and then cash in on insurance claims when they met their untimely demise.

See **GOLAY**, page 9



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: July 10, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street (wheelchair accessible)

A Public Hearing will be held by the Architectural Review Board to consider Building, Landscape or Sign Designs for the following projects:

- ARB 06-148, 1260 Third Street Promenade: Sit-Down Restaurant
- ARB 06-214, 2512 Twenty-Eighth Street: Multi-Residential
- ARB 06-299, 505 Olympic Boulevard: Homeless Services Facility
- ARB 06-243, 1630 Stewart Street: Artist Studios
- ARB 06-174, 1227 Lincoln Boulevard: Medical Office Building
- ARB 06-242, 1401 Third Street Promenade: Retail Store
- ARB 06-211, 1460 Fourth Street: Retail Store
- ARB 06-218, 1302 Montana Avenue: Retail Store
- ARB 06-228, 1426 Montana Avenue: Retail Stores



More information is available on-line at:
<http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arb agendas.htm> or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). Call 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 for disability accommodation requests. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 serve City Hall.

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Horoscopes

2

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2006

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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Chat with friends, Gem

Santa Monica Daily Press



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

★★★★★DYNAMIC ★★★★★ POSITIVE ★★★ AVERAGE ★★SO-SO ★DIFFICULT

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Take an overview. Don't settle, knowing full well what you need to do. Think positively; act positively. Others find your mood contagious. Your ability to impact others comes from seeing the whole picture. Tonight: Read between the lines.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Think positively about a partnership. Brainstorm with others. You will find a family member resourceful and creative. Work as a duo. Honor what you want. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Others give you a lot of feedback. Think positively about what you need to do. Give others more of what they want. This laissez-faire attitude will take you far. Brainstorm with those around you. Tonight: Chat with friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Easy does it. You might want to rethink a question or get to the bottom of a problem. Discuss spending or do independent research. Yes, you get to play Ralph Nader for a day! Tonight: Easy does it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Loosen up and share more of your wild and woolly ideas. Let go and relax with those around you. You might want to start your weekend early. Allow others to see the happy you. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might want to head home and relax a little more than usual. Someone in the family has many ideas. Some of you might be taking on a redecorating project or two. Your inner voice might be making suggestions you would prefer not to follow. Tonight: A vintage few days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You know the right words to get the results you desire. Be smart and don't back off. You might be surprised at how successful you can be if you make that extra effort. Relax with the many people around you. Tonight: Chat in the weekend with your pals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Accept the limelight and understand what is possible if you relax. You might want to invest some money in your public image and style. Think through a decision more carefully. You might change your priorities if you do. Tonight: Out late.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Examine what you feel is necessary to make your life more copasetic and easy-going. Some of your ideas might be wild and entail travel, more education or even a different career path. Why not? Tonight: You have one life to live.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Get to the bottom of a problem. Work with others more directly. Listen to a partner who often gives you tons of moneymaking ideas. However, this person's great ideas might involve more of your money than his! You can say no. Tonight: Relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Friends have strong ideas and push hard to "help" you see a situation as they do. All might be OK as long as you don't get too vested in a certain end result or get too financially involved. You might want to say yes, but you could turn hostile if you don't like what happens. Tonight: Find your pals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ If you are on top of your game, you could be surprised by your moves and the end results. Working with the situation might be more important than following a predetermined path. Loosen up and head down the right path. Tonight: A must appearance.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Power to the people

By Daily Press staff

In an effort to empower citizens to take a stand for clean water, Santa Monica Baykeeper is launching a new Clean Water Act: "Empower the People Program."

Beginning July 19, Baykeeper will conduct a series of workshops, each one focusing on a particular water quality issue in Los Angeles County and how ordinary citizens can use the Clean Water Act to help clean up LA's waters.

The Clean Water Act, passed in 1972, set a goal of eliminating the discharge of pollution to waterways by 1985. It also said that all waters would be "fishable and swimmable" by 1983. However, the Clean Water Act has not been properly enforced, which is why 180 of Los Angeles County's water bodies are currently listed on the state's Threatened and Impaired Waters List, officials said. Each of those waters is not meeting at least one water quality criteria established to protect the uses of the water body. Without the help of citizens and community groups, polluters will continue to illegally pollute our waterways, and the goals of the Clean Water Act will never be realized, officials said.

Santa Monica Baykeeper believes that the people of Los Angeles, if given the tools and knowledge they need, will speak up and organize for clean water. Baykeeper's workshops will provide that knowledge and will feature inspirational presentations from a wide range of experts in the water quality field, including Jon Bishop, executive officer of the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board; Mark Gold, executive director of Heal the Bay; Jennifer Novak, deputy attorney general at the California Department of Justice, and Ozzie Silna, board member of Santa Monica Baykeeper and the Malibu Coastal Land Conservancy.

Each workshop is different, and they will build on one another to some extent, so attendance at each is recommended, if possible. For a complete list of workshop dates, topics and locations, call (310) 822-4522 or visit www.smbaykeeper.org.

Santa Monica Baykeeper is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay, and adjacent coastal waters through enforcement, fieldwork and community action. Since 1993, the Santa Monica Baykeeper has stopped millions of gallons and thousands of tons of toxic waste from entering the local bays. Santa Monica Baykeeper is one of over 150 environmental organizations throughout the world that form the international Waterkeeper Alliance, officials said.

Check it: Bicycle donations coming around

By Daily Press staff

REI plans to turn over an \$8,000 check to a coalition dedicated to bicyclists in Los Angeles County. In May, during the grand opening of the REI in Santa Monica, the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition had a bike valet outside the store. The bike valet gave customers a safe way for them to park their bikes, while at the same time allowed them to have \$5 donated to the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition on behalf of their name. At the end of the weekend, the total number of bikes parked was tallied up and so was the amount of money REI was going to present to the coalition. The check will be delivered on Monday.



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	0"	BASE DEPTH	36"-60"	LIFT HOURS	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	RUNS OPEN	35	LIFTS OPEN	3/28
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CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING, CORN

MOUNTAIN HIGH
CLOSED

MT. BALDY
CLOSED

SNOW SUMMIT
CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 60°

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)
THE NW WILL START TO DECLINE AND THERE'S NO MEANINGFUL SW DUE EITHER, LEAVING MOST ALL BREAKS WITH WAVE HEIGHTS IN THE KNEE TO WAIST ZONE

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SW DUE ON THE 14TH...

DAY	LOW 1	LOW 2	HIGH 1	HIGH 2
1	8:01 AM	8:26 PM	12:41 AM	3:02 PM
2	8:36 AM	9:54 PM	1:34 AM	3:42 PM
3	9:08 AM	11:21 PM	2:52 AM	4:21 PM
4	9:48 AM	N/A	4:36 AM	4:59 PM
5	12:27 AM	10:38 AM	6:24 AM	5:41 PM
6	1:21 AM	11:26 AM	7:41 AM	6:21 PM
7	2:02 AM	12:19 PM	8:40 AM	6:57 PM
8	2:36 AM	1:08 PM	9:22 AM	7:39 PM
9	3:14 AM	2:00 PM	10:00 AM	8:21 PM
10	3:58 AM	2:43 PM	10:34 AM	9:05 PM
11	4:32 AM	3:35 PM	11:11 AM	9:49 PM
12	5:11 AM	4:23 PM	11:52 AM	10:35 PM
13	5:56 AM	5:19 PM	12:29 PM	11:28 PM
14	6:32 AM	6:28 PM	1:11 PM	N/A
15	7:17 AM	7:42 PM	12:20 AM	1:54 PM
16	8:00 AM	9:06 PM	1:22 AM	2:42 PM
17	8:40 AM	10:39 PM	2:45 AM	3:35 PM
18	9:36 AM	N/A	4:28 AM	4:30 PM
19	12:04 AM	10:32 AM	6:23 AM	5:27 PM
20	1:09 AM	11:40 AM	7:52 AM	6:21 PM
21	2:02 AM	12:43 PM	8:54 AM	7:15 PM
22	2:52 AM	1:37 PM	9:36 AM	8:00 PM
23	3:25 AM	2:26 PM	10:08 AM	8:41 PM
24	4:05 AM	3:06 PM	10:39 AM	9:18 PM
25	4:32 AM	3:39 PM	11:07 AM	9:49 PM
26	5:02 AM	4:20 PM	11:38 AM	10:26 PM
27	5:30 AM	4:54 PM	12:05 PM	10:59 PM
28	6:01 AM	5:36 PM	12:29 PM	11:29 PM
29	6:27 AM	6:28 PM	1:01 PM	N/A
30	6:46 AM	7:26 PM	12:08 AM	1:27 PM
31	7:08 AM	8:40 PM	12:54 AM	2:05 PM

GOT NEWS?

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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The Q Line

Hold that thought ...
Beginning last week, a pair of downtown bathrooms, located in city parking structures, are being manned by attendants from morning until night. The pilot program is aimed at keeping the restrooms free from the abuses that have plagued them in the past, and kept most tourists and residents alike holding it rather than venturing into the oftentimes harrowing bathrooms. So this week, Q-Line wants to know:
Are staffed bathrooms in city parking garages the answer to providing relief for downtown denizens? Will you take advantage of the revamped restrooms?
Call 310 285-8106 or leave your post at smdp.com/forum and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition.

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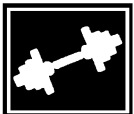
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EDITORIAL

Having a blast ... not



Apparently, not everyone loves a parade, at least not in Santa Monica.

Fourth of July festivities have come and gone, but you may not have been aware if you were somewhere else in Santa Monica other than the beach. By Wednesday morning, it was evident that some sort of party was going on since the sand was littered with firework remnants, beer bottles and other garbage.

For one reason or another, Santa Monica has no organized Independence Day events. How unpatriotic. No parade? No community picnic? No art show or street festival? No 10K runs?

We understand why the fireworks display was canned — the crowds were too unruly and the police couldn't adequately protect the public as a result. It was an issue in the 1980s when the police chief, at the time, urged the City Council to dust the fireworks display.

The idea of canceling the fireworks, which had been a 25-year tradition, surfaced in 1982. At the time, an aggressive radio promotion by K-EARTH, which broadcast timed music in unison with the fireworks, was blamed for attracting the masses to Santa Monica. The results, officials said, were massive traffic jams from the throngs descending upon the beach.

Needless to say, it caused a serious public safety problem,, and the police agreed that advertising our fireworks display would bring “undesirables” to the city.

Officials realized they couldn't place the burden completely on the radio station, and a few years later, they banned the nighttime pyrotechnics for good. Shootings, stabbings, assaults and other unruly behavior from the estimated 500,000 people who squeezed onto the beach was enough for city and police officials to say the party is over.

Then they came up with “Dawn's Early Light,” which was fireworks at 5 a.m. on the Fourth of July as a means of avoiding the usual chaos. But the experiment was short-lived.

When the fireworks were finally canceled forever, then City Manager John Jalili said staff would look at other options for city-sponsored activities for the Fourth that did not include fireworks.

Well, where are they?

At one time, the Santa Monica Department of Parks and Recreation sponsored a series of free picnic games, including a tug-o-war, gunny sack races and watermelon-eating contests in various parks throughout the city.

What's the harm in good old-fashioned fun?

Apparently, there used to be a small parade as well — with the theme of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. But at some point, that fell off too. The 10K run? Finished.

For a city as vibrant, progressive and celebratory of our freedom as we claim to be, how can we not have some sort of organized community events centered around Independence Day? We should be coming together to celebrate America's birthday, not leaving our own community in pursuit of festivities. Pacific Palisades has a parade and fireworks. Marina del Rey has fireworks. Dozens more surrounding Santa Monica have similar events. Thousands of communities across the country celebrate their freedoms together, but not Santa Monica.

Of course, there is Celebrate America — the fireworks and community party at Santa Monica College. But it's held on the Saturday prior to July 4. That doesn't make much sense.

Judging from the riff-raff and gang bangers seen at the beach this past weekend, we can fully understand how a fireworks display would cause serious concerns for public safety, not to mention the unbearable traffic, crowds and litter that would ensue as a result.

But we don't think having a city-sponsored community party and other events would attract the “undesirables” that city officials are so worried about.

There has been some discussion from the Ocean Park Association, a neighborhood group that represents the residential areas east and west of Main Street, to get a parade going for next year.

We encourage that group to pursue that idea full throttle and hope that City Hall gets behind them.

GUEST COMMENTARY BY ALEX EPSTEIN

With great wealth comes responsibility

Former Enron chairman Kenneth Lay has just died, just over a month after being convicted of fraud, and almost five years after his company's cataclysmic collapse. The common perception of Lay is that he and other Enron leaders brought about the company's fall because, eager to make money, they schemed to bilk investors. The ethical lesson, it is said, is that we must teach — or force — businessmen to curb their selfish, profit-seeking “impulses” before they turn criminal.

But all this is wrong.

Enron was not brought down by fraud. While the company committed fraud, its fraud was primarily an attempt to cover up tens of billions of dollars already lost — not embezzled — in irrational business decisions. Most of its executives believed that Enron was a basically productive company that could be righted. This is why Chairman Ken Lay did not flee to the Caymans with riches, but stayed through the end.

What then caused this unprecedented business failure? Consider a few telling events in Enron's rise and fall.

Enron rose to prominence first as a successful provider of natural gas, and then as a creator of markets for trading natural gas as a commodity. The company made profits by performing a genuinely productive function: linking buyers and sellers, allowing both sides to control for risk.

Unfortunately, the company's leaders were not honest with themselves about the nature of their success. They wanted to be “New Economy” geniuses who could successfully enter any market they wished. As a result, they entered into ventures far beyond their expertise, based on half-baked ideas thought to be profound market insights. For example, Enron poured billions into a broadband network featuring movies-on-demand — without bothering to check whether movie studios would provide major releases. They wouldn't. They spent \$3 billion on a natural-gas power plant in India — a country with no natural gas reserves — on ludicrous assurances by a transient Indian government that they would be paid indefinitely for vastly overpriced electricity.

The mentality of Enron executives in engineering such fiascos is epitomized by an exchange, described in New York Times reporter Kurt Eichenwald's account of the Enron saga, between eventual CEO Jeff Skilling and subordinate Ray Bowen, on Skilling's eventually failed idea for Enron to sell electricity to retail customers.

An analysis of the numbers, Bowen had realized, “told a damning story ... Profit margins were razor thin, massive capital investments were required.” Skilling's response? “You're making me really nervous ... The fact

that you're focused on the numbers, and not the underlying essence of the business, worries me ... I don't want to hear that.”

When Bowen responded that “the numbers have to make sense ... We've got to be honest (about whether) ... we can actually make a profit,” Eichenwald recounts. “Skilling bristled. ‘Then you guys must not be smart enough to come up with the good ideas, because we're going to make money in this business.’ ... (Bowen) was flabbergasted. Sure, ideas were important, but they had to be built around numbers. A business wasn't going to succeed just because Jeff Skilling thought it should.”

But to Skilling and other Enron executives, there was no clear distinction between what they felt should succeed, and what the facts indicated would succeed — between reality as they wished it to be and reality as it is.

Time and again, Enron executives placed their wishes above the facts. And as they experienced failure after failure, they deluded themselves into believing that any losses would somehow be overcome with massive profits in the future. This mentality led them to eagerly accept CFO Andy Fastow's absurd claims that their losses could be magically taken off the books using Special Purpose Entities. After all, they felt Enron should have a high stock price.

Smaller lies led to bigger lies, until Enron became the biggest corporate failure and fraud in American history.

Observe that Enron's problem was not that it was “too concerned” about profit, but that it believed money does not have to be made: It can be had simply by following one's whims. The solution to prevent future Enrons, then, is not to teach or force CEOs to curb their profit-seeking. The desire to produce and trade valuable products is the essence of business — and of successful life.

Instead, we must teach businessmen the profound virtues money-making requires. Above all, we must teach them that one cannot profit by evading facts. The great profit-makers, such as Bill Gates and Jack Welch, accept the facts of reality — including the market, their finances, their abilities and limitations — as an absolute. “Face reality,” advises Jack Welch, “as it is, not as it was or as you wish ... You have to see the world in the purest, clearest way possible, or you can't make decisions on a rational basis.”

This is what Enron's executives did not grasp — and the real lesson we should all learn from their fate.

(Alex Epstein is a fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. The Institute promotes Objectivism, the philosophy of Ayn Rand. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.)

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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GUEST COMMENTARY BY JACK NEWORTH

Love and tennis in the city by the sea

This Sunday is the finals of the most dignified tennis tournament in the world, Wimbledon. Here in Santa Monica, the tennis isn't quite as dignified, at least on the public courts. For some reason, they seem to attract a cast of colorful characters who could rival any reality show. And where I play, at Ocean View courts down by the beach, it's no different, and I include myself. The stories below are true, but I've changed the names to protect the guilty.

Ocean View opened in 1987 after a year of construction, during which I got very acquainted with ear plugs. While the courts are country-club beautiful, they're literally 20 feet from my apartment. Sometimes it feels like they're in my apartment. Since we had endured so much, my wife thought we ought to at least learn to play tennis. But first, a trip to Big 5 to get outfitted. Her idea, not mine.

So, all decked out, we walked to the courts as "virgin" tennis players — there's a joke there, but it's too cheap, even for me. But as we watched the players rally gracefully, it became obvious, being in our late 30s, we couldn't learn a new sport. We trudged home defeated. I never even took the price tag off my racket.

The next day, however, a friend invited me to play and within a few hours I was addicted — I even cut off the price tag. During the years, I became so obsessed with tennis that when my wife filed for divorce, she threatened to name Wilson Sporting Goods as a co-respondent — which was absurd, because I use a Prince.

Back at Ocean View, the first of my eccentric tennis buddies was Mario, a waiter, and quite the ladies man. His wife had gone back to Italy for a month and he'd already met a sexy woman at a club whose name, as fate would have it, was the same as his wife's. Mario said it was an omen. After all, if he were to ever say the girl's name in his sleep his wife would be none the wiser.

And everything was fine until the moment his wife stepped off the plane. When she demanded the truth he tearfully confessed everything. Within the year he was divorced and, fittingly I suppose, dumped by his girlfriend. Trying to remain positive, and true to his tennis bum status, Mario said it gave him more time to improve his game.

I met Gary, a boiler room, precious metals salesman, when my friend, Mark, had to cancel their game. Gary said he had been ranked No. 364 in the world, but Mark assured me even my caliber player was better than nobody. Talk about a backhanded compliment.

Gary was a loud, obnoxious braggart. Other than that, he was fine. When I beat him 6-3, 6-3 I came to the following conclusion: There are very few things I am 100 percent certain about. Among them, the sun rises in the east and Gary was never ranked No. 364. In the meantime I asked Mark if he knew who was No. 363.

Rick was a doctor in Venice, with a ponytail and the serene look of a yoga teacher. But on the court he displayed a surprising temper. Afterwards he struggled to apologize, which wasn't necessary but he insisted. He was in the middle of explaining about an overbearing father when I noticed a young couple in the park, behind a tree ... having sex.

The couple's extracurricular activity definitely cut into my listening skills. But Rick was so into apologizing he didn't notice. As we left I joked with the cashier that the city could charge more for that court since apparently it was X-rated. Just one more day at the cuckoo's nest.

Wimbledon takes place only over a fortnight but Ocean View is open daily. To play, or observe the reality show, call (310) 399-4891.

(Jack Neworth can often be found at the Ocean View courts, still trying to learn a topspin backhand. Contact him at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.)



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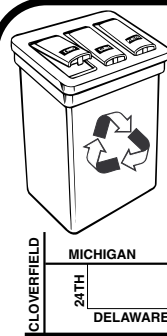
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CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for the:

Heal the Bay Aquarium Reroof Project, SP2046

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, not later than 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2006, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents.

Job Walk is Thursday, July 13, 2006, at 9:00 a.m.
Heal the Bay Aquarium
1600 Oceanfront Walk
under the Santa Monica Pier

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE: \$200,000.00
CONTRACT CALENDAR DAYS: 60
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: \$670.00 PER DAY
COMPENSABLE DELAY: \$500.00 PER DAY

Contract Documents may be obtained at the Office of the City Engineer or by mail for an additional mailing charge (check or money order payable to the City of Santa Monica). Cost of the documents shall be \$15.00. Additional mailing charge shall be \$10.00. Contract Documents may also be examined in City Hall, at the Civil Engineering and Architecture counter, phone number (310) 458-8721. Additional information may be obtained on the City's website at www.santa-monica.org/engineering. The Contractor is required to have a Class B license at the time of bid submission.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

Appeal 06-001, 2252-2256 Twenty-Eighth Street. A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission regarding the appeal of the Zoning Administrator's denial of Variance 05-024. The applicant/owner/appellant proposes the conversion an attached single car garage to habitable living space and replacement of the garage parking space with a surface parking space located within the front half of the parcel. The request to locate surface parking within the front half of the lot is subject to variance approval. [Planner: Gina Szilak] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Marty Kaplan.**

Conditional Use Permit 06-010, 1653 Twentieth Street. The proposed project is a request to allow a surface parking lot with 14 parking spaces on a 7,100 square foot property in the Light Manufacturing Studio District (LMSD). Pursuant to SMMC 9.04.08.35.030(g) a conditional use permit is required to permit this use in the LMSD District. [Planner: Grace Cho] **APPLICANT: Howard Lichtman, AIA. PROPERTY OWNER: Creative Buildings, LLC.**

Design Compatibility Permit 05-004 and Tentative Map 05-022, 525 Marine Street. The applicant requests approval of a Design Compatibility Permit and Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 062943 to subdivide one lot into four airspace parcels in conjunction with a proposed four-unit residential condominium project. The proposed project is a two-story, 30 foot building with 8 parking spaces in a subterranean garage. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT: William Adams Architects. PROPERTY OWNER: Marine Pacific, LLC.**

Design Compatibility Permit 05-005 and Tentative Map 05-023, 521 Marine Street. The applicant requests approval of a Design Compatibility Permit and Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 062942 to subdivide one lot into four airspace parcels in conjunction with a proposed four-unit residential condominium project. The proposed project is a two-story, 30 foot building with 8 parking spaces in a subterranean garage. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT: William Adams Architects. PROPERTY OWNER: Marine Pacific, LLC.**

Development Review Permit #04DR-007, Tract Map #04TM-028, and Final Environmental Impact Report, 1940-44 Cloverfield Boulevard. A Development Review Permit and Tentative Tract Map to allow the construction of a two-story (30-foot high), 25,001 square foot, 16-unit condominium complex with a 35-space subterranean parking garage on a 25,300 square foot site. The proposed project also involves the demolition of the existing eight rent controlled, single-story detached apartments and associated garages. A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request: The Planning Commission will also consider certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report, which analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed project. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared for the proposed project is available on the City's website: <http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/environmentalreports.html>. Approval of the proposed project will require the Commission to adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations since the EIR found that the project will have significant and unavoidable traffic impacts on Virginia Avenue between Cloverfield Boulevard and 20th Street. The Final EIR, which consists of the Draft EIR and the responses to comments received during the comment period on the DEIR, is available at the Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard, at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1685 Main Street and at the City Planning Division Public Counter, Room 111 in City Hall. [Planner: Laura Beck, AICP] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Siamak Torkian, Torkian Construction.**

WHEN: Wednesday, July 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

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



HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Case Planner at (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(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.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Thirsty shoplifter gets a taste of pepper spray

On Thursday, June 29, at 9:35 p.m., Santa Monica Police officers responded to the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard — Ralph's grocery store — regarding a report of shoplifting. When officers arrived, they spoke with an employee who said he observed the suspect enter the store and walk out with \$26.94 worth of soda. Once outside the store, the employee said he confronted the suspect and a struggle ensued. The employee used pepper spray to subdue the suspect, who was detained until police arrived. He was placed under arrest and booked for strong arm robbery, police said. He was identified as Roberto Ramirez, 36, a transient. His bail was set at \$50,000.

On Thursday, June 29, at 11:57 a.m., police officers responded to the 3200 block of Wilshire Boulevard regarding a report of forgery to illegally receive prescription drugs. When officers arrived they spoke to a pharmacist at Longs Drugs who said they filled a prescription for the painkiller Vicodin for a black woman. Later in the day, a Caucasian woman requested the same prescription be filled, prompting the pharmacist to call the police. Apparently, the first woman gave the pharmacist false information to obtain the drugs. The following day, the black woman visited the pharmacy, but this time used another name to fill a prescription. Police were notified and the woman was taken into custody and booked for possession of Vicodin and using another person's prescription to obtain drugs. She was identified as Sada Kane Toure, 27, of Los Angeles. No bail was issued because of a felony probation violation, police said.

On Friday, June 30, at 5:30 a.m., police responded to the 1400 block of Berkeley Street regarding a report of domestic violence. When officers arrived, they spoke to an alleged victim who said she and her boyfriend were inside their apartment arguing and that the boyfriend had pushed her. Officers arrested the boyfriend, who was booked for domestic violence. He was identified as Michael Robertson, 25, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at \$25,000.

On Friday, June 30, at 2:50 a.m., police responded to a report of a person sleeping in their vehicle in an alley adjacent to the 1000 block of Grant Street. When officers arrived, they approached the car and spoke with the occupant who said he was on parole for a narcotics violation. Officers asked if he had any weapons or narcotics on him or in the vehicle. The man said he had methamphetamine in his backpack, police said. Meth was recovered and the man was booked for possession of a controlled substance and a parole violation. He was identified as Salvatore Troy, 39, of Mar Vista. No bail was set.

On Saturday, July 1, at 8:30 p.m., police responded to the 2600 block of Ocean Park Boulevard — Clover Park — regarding an assault. When officers arrived, they spoke to a woman who said that she got into an argument with her son-in-law and that during the confrontation, he kicked her in the right knee. Police arrested the son-in-law for assault and battery. He was identified as Rigoberto Guzman, 26, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$20,000.

On Sunday, July 2, at 2:55 a.m., police in the 2300 block of Broadway observed a man walking suspiciously. When officers tried to approach him for questioning, the man allegedly fled on foot. The man was apprehended after a brief foot chase. A short time later, officers learned that a burglary had occurred in the 2300 block of Santa Monica Boulevard — Cynergy Cycles. Several items were taken, including a bicycle and miscellaneous coins, all of which were recovered. The man in custody had allegedly used a brick to break a window and gain access to the store. Failing to identify himself, the suspect was booked for robbery as John Doe. No bail was set.

On Sunday, July 2, at 12:35 a.m., officers responded to the 1900 block of Main Street — Star Liquor — regarding an assault investigation. When officers arrived, they spoke to an employee who said that a visibly drunk customer came into the store and demanded to buy liquor. When the clerk refused due to the customer's level of intoxication, the man allegedly swung his crutch at the employee, striking him in the shoulder. Police arrived and arrested the man, who was identified as Nathaniel Charleston Scott, 48, a transient. He was booked for assault. His bail was set at \$30,000.

On Wednesday, June 28, at 3:30 a.m., officers stopped two bicyclists for riding with no headlights. When officers questioned the two, they found the females had no identification. During a search, officers recovered use hypodermic needles in a suspect's purse. The two were transported to the Santa Monica jail and booked for possession of hypodermic needles and for a probation violation. They were identified as Kiva Gerber, 20, and Fidji Wise, 22, of Los Angeles. No bail information was available.

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New director looks to close achievement gap

STRAUS, from page 1

istrative costs are increasing at a time when teachers are asking for a raise.

Keiley said it is too early to tell if the director of secondary education is needed or what impact Straus will have on student achievement and the professional development of faculty.

"District staff and the school board obviously think this is the right position at the right time to sustain some of the reforms," Keiley said. "If it can make a difference in the lives of students and teachers, than it will be money well spent. But the union demands that there be continual oversight and evaluation on whether or not this position is doing what its supposed to do."

Straus also will be in charge of evaluating the performance of all secondary school teachers; analyzing data collected from standardized test results; and designing curriculum and how it should be taught to students.

"I think this is really necessary," school board member Emily Bloomfield said of Straus' appointment. "Since we have three current principal vacancies (at John Adams and Lincoln middle schools and Samohi) we need someone with a lot of experience to mentor the new principals and get them up to speed along with our development staff. That is very critical and Dr. Straus is very capable of performing these tasks."

Straus' appointment was challenged by some black and Latino parents who felt she had performed poorly as principal at Samohi, which suffered from racial tension. Samohi also experienced a dramatic rise in test scores for all students.

At one point this year, members of Samohi's African American Parent/Student/Staff Support Group unanimously passed a resolution stating, "We request the termination of employment of Dr. Ilene Straus CEO/Principal of Samohi and that she not remain in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District because she is a clear and present danger to our children."

The creation of the director position also was criticized because it was publicly offered to Straus before it was approved by the school board, making elected officials seem as if they had no influence.

"I don't think Dr. Straus should be rewarded for doing a bad job," said parent Marlene Herrera, who spoke before the school board, urging them to hire someone else for the director's post.

Straus could not be reached for comment. Prior to joining Samohi, Straus served for 16 years as principal of Lincoln Middle School, where she was selected as California Secondary Principal of the Year. Under her leadership, Lincoln was selected as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, a California Distinguished School and Disney Spotlight School of the Year.

The school board has defended Straus, with members throwing their support behind the educator, who has expressed an intense interest in continuing to serve the district as director of secondary education.

In a letter to parents, board members said the district "is extremely fortunate" to have Straus, whose years of experience will "help bring continuity" to those schools where there are currently no principals.

To ensure that the needs of students of

color are met, the school board added some essential duties and qualifications to the director position, such as breaking down grade point averages and other data by ethnicity; increasing the diversity of honors and advanced placement classes; and identifying successful strategies and skills regarding working in and leading a diverse community.

Straus will report directly to the assistant superintendent of educational services, Tim Walker, according to a report by district staff.

With the departure of Superintendent John Deasy and Donna Muncey, the chief academic officer, the district's staff felt it was necessary to make some changes. Formerly the assistant superintendent of special education, Walker was recently promoted to assistant superintendent of educational services, a position similar to Muncey's. Straus will handle secondary education while Maureen Bradford will continue to work with elementary schools.

Winston Braham will continue to serve as assistant superintendent of business services, and Matthews will remain interim superintendent and assistant superintendent of human resources until a new superintendent is chosen by the school board, a decision which is expected in the coming weeks. At that time Matthews will leave the district to become vice president of the Los Angeles office of Extreme Learning, a San Francisco-based firm that develops after school programming for struggling schools.

"We are really going back to what it was a few years ago," Matthews said of the recent reorganization "The new superintendent, when he or she comes on board, may chose to keep it this way, or say, 'I like it better having four (assistant superintendents).' It's their choice. We feel this is a more streamlined approach."

Special education used to be under the direction of educational services, however, an assistant superintendent position was created and Walker was hired to deal with concerns expressed by district officials and parents.

"I don't think you will find many assistant superintendents of special education, but the needs were acute and we felt we needed someone to meet those needs," Matthews said of Walker's appointment. "The recent changes are really just a natural progression. As we've gotten special education more in line, we felt it was time for (Walker) to assume more responsibilities."

The current title of assistant superintendent of special education still remains active, with the board reserving the option of closing it or hiring another person to fill it.

The hiring of Straus should not affect the \$145 million budget approved by the school board last week, Braham said. However, if the board chooses to hire a replacement for Walker in special education, that would change the amount of money needed to fund administrative posts.

Matthews said Straus is highly-qualified to lead secondary education and believes the new position will enable a greater focus on middle and high school students.

"Many school districts have an elementary curriculum specialist and a secondary elementary specialist," Matthews said. "The needs of both are very different. So the first time in a long time we'll have a position that provides the expertise to secondary schools. We think Dr. Straus' expertise is outstanding."



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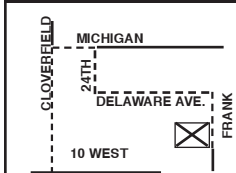
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Busted at the fireworks

GIBBONS, from page 1

prison in June and had failed to register as a sex offender.

"He was within 50 yards of my grandkids. There were thousands of kids around him, it was upsetting," recounted McGray on Thursday. "I was really pissed off."

"You don't know if he might've picked up some innocent kid and tried to walk away with them."

McGray described Gibbons as dancing like someone who hadn't a care in the world, let alone a fugitive from justice. An article in the weekend edition of the Santa Monica Daily Press detailing police's efforts to locate Gibbons, following his release from prison, caught their eyes. The couple had worked with Gibbons a few years ago at Dewey Pest Control in Santa Monica, that is until Gibbons was arrested at the workplace for violating his parole.

Both Monson and McGray had seen Gibbons around town on previous occasions — loitering on Stanford Street, eating ice cream on the Third Street Promenade — but weren't aware he was wanted by police.

At 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, the Santa Monica Police arrested Gibbons, after he was detained by SMC officers at the college on the couple's tip. He was arrested for a parole violation because he was in Santa Monica city limits.

"We are thankful for the assistance that the Santa Monica Daily Press was able to give in taking a sexual predator off the streets," said SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega on Thursday.

Earlier this month, the SMPD was contacted by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation regarding Gibbons' release. On parole for molestation, he was ordered not to enter the cities of Santa Monica and El Segundo, not to have any contact with minor children, not to be within 100 yards of schools and parks, and to adhere to a strict curfew between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Gibbons was apparently disregarding all of the restrictions at the time police approached him on the field and escorted him into a campus building for detention.

Gibbons' last known address, according to the California Megan's Law Web site, was in West Los Angeles, but he had been known to frequent Santa Monica. Police confirmed he was spotted on several occasions on the 1100 block of Stanford Street, where numerous juveniles live. He was drawn particularly to elementary school-age children, especially girls, according to police.

"I think they are heroes for following up. A lot of people don't want to get involved and do what it takes," said Dee Fozard, a Santa Monica resident who educates children about sexual predators. "That was a great thing."

Fozard has taken a particular interest in sexual predators and education since a harrowing incident more than 20 years ago. While shopping in a K-mart in West Hollywood, a man tried to take her son, who was just 5 at the time.

Giving her son a 10-minute talk on what to do in the event a stranger tries to lure him away may have saved his life, she said.

"I thank God I taught him to fight," said Fozard on Thursday. "The man threatened him and he screamed. I may not have him today."

Fozard was proud to report her son, now 27, just received his degree from Indiana State University.

Fozard pointed to another telling example of the dangers that threaten children, which also occurred Saturday before the fireworks show at SMC. She said a lost child, apparently around 2 years old, was brought up onto

stage in an attempt to locate the parents.

Casting web for predators

BY MICHAEL J. TITTINGER

Daily Press Staff Writer

LA COUNTY — The arrest Saturday night of a convicted child molester, who was forbidden to enter the Santa Monica city limits, brings to the fore the role a community can play in apprehending such fugitives.

After reading about a former co-worker who was wanted by police in the morning, Julie McGray and Manuel Monson spotted him dancing on the field at Santa Monica College shortly before the fireworks show was set to begin.

On their tip, Robert Francis Gibbons was taken into custody by police and subsequently arrested, but the ordeal left the couple shaken. When she returned home that evening, McGray logged on to the Megan's Law Web site.

"I just had to see where these predators are, and found six around me," said McGray, who briefly worked with Gibbons at a Santa Monica exterminator company. "Now my son is looking it up and finding people he knows on there. More people need to know that information is out there."

There are 38 registered sex offenders currently living in Santa Monica, according to the Megan's Law Web site, presented by the Attorney General's office. Eleven of those offenders are reported to be in violation of their registration requirements.

Megan's Law, which was established on May 17, 1996, requires that each state develop a procedure for notifying its residents of sex offenders living amongst them. The Department of Justice site provides information on more than 63,000 persons required to register as sex offenders in California.

There are presently more than 11,000 registered sex offenders within LA County, spread throughout the region. To the south of Santa Monica, in Venice Beach, there are 29 registered offenders, 16 of whom are said to be in violation. In Marina del Rey, there are eight offenders, three in violation.

While there is just one registered offender north in Malibu, there are six to the east in Westwood, two of whom are in violation.

While some would rather not know the transgressions of their neighbors, no matter how seedy, others can't fathom how a parent or guardian can be complacent and ignorant to the histories of those with whom they share their community.

"Instead of kids playing games on the computer, they should be spending some time looking up faces," McGray said.

Approximately 20 minutes later, parents and child were reunited.

"Today, I would blame the parents, with the information and technology we have today," said Fozard. "Parents need to be aware whether they live in Santa Monica or the ghetto. They need to teach their children to be aware. Something can happen at any place, any time."

As for McGray, who has three grandchildren, and Monson, the father of two, they were just happy to do their part. After just happening to read the Daily Press article online before they headed out for Corsair Field, McGray said that spotting Gibbons dancing among the revelers was fate.

"I read about him in the morning and helped to catch him in the evening. What are the odds of that?" mulled McGray. "My adrenaline was pumping. I can't imagine why he would go to Santa Monica College after the article."

"Where was his head at?"

ON THE NET

California Megan's Law
www.meganslaw.ca.gov

FBI implicates Golay

GOLAY, from page 1

They have not been charged in the deaths of Kenneth McDavid in 2005 and Paul Vados in 1999. But Magistrate Judge Jeffrey Johnson, in rejecting the women’s request for bail, referred to evidence provided by investigators and suggested murder charges are likely.

“These women, there is probable cause to believe, have committed murder,” Johnson said.

Johnson made his ruling after testimony from FBI special agent Samuel Mayrose, who outlined some of the government’s evidence:

■ blood found in a Mercury Sable that Golay allegedly had towed from a site near McDavid’s death;

■ lists of personal data, including Social Security numbers, found in the women’s homes;

■ \$900,000 in missing life insurance payouts.

Golay — who owns three Santa Monica apartment buildings — was dressed in an orange jumpsuit, and Rutterschmidt, in a white sweater. Both looked forward stoically as the judge denied their second attempt at getting bail.

The judge did grant Golay’s request to be transferred from a San Bernardino lockup to a federal detention facility downtown as long as she and Rutterschmidt, already in custody there, are kept apart.

Sandi Gibbons, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles district attorney’s office, refused to comment on whether murder charges were pending.

Lawyers for Golay and Rutterschmidt tried to convince the judge that their clients posed no flight risk or public danger and were simply facing fraud charges.

Golay’s lawyer Roger Jon Diamond

argued that his client would be eligible for bail if she did face state murder charges.

“With no murder charge filed, are we worse off?” he asked.

Diamond said that Golay, a grandmother with little money available, had no plans to flee.

“She wants to stay and fight the charges,” he said.

Public defender Kim Savo, bringing up her client’s age and lack of passport, still had a harder time convincing Johnson that Rutterschmidt didn’t plan to skip town. The Hungarian immigrant allegedly told police during her May 18 arrest that if she had a valid passport, she would have run.

If she isn’t a flight risk, Johnson asked, “Ms. Savo, what does that make her?”

“A frightened 73-year-old woman,” Savo responded.

Savo said she would appeal Johnson’s decision to deny bail and was continuing an independent investigation of the charges.

Both Golay’s daughter, Kecia Golay, and Vados’ daughter, Stella Vados, were in the audience during the hearing.

Stella Vados periodically glared at Helen Golay, who was looking at the judge. Kecia Golay, who sat on the other side of the room, waved to her mother before the hearing began and wiped tears from her eyes during parts of the hearing.

After the hearing, as the suspects were led shackled down the hallway, Kecia Golay was rebuked by a marshal for reaching out to touch her mother.

He warned her that she would be barred from the trial if she approached her mother again.

Sobbing, Kecia Golay told the guard that she would stay home if it becomes too hard for her to control her emotions during the trial. She declined to be interviewed.

The trial is scheduled to begin on July 25.

STATE BRIEFS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIVERSIDE

Detective denies molesting his relative

A Pomona police detective pleaded not guilty to charges involving the molestation of a 15-year-old relative.

Donald Seveskind, 48, a 24-year veteran of the Pomona Police Department, faces three counts of lewd acts upon a teenager and one count of attempted rape.

His lawyer, Jeff Aaron, said Wednesday the allegations were “completely unfounded.”

Prosecutors said the inappropriate contact occurred over a period of about 18 months, starting last summer. The girl reluctantly reported the incidents to a school counselor, Deputy District Attorney Michelle Paradise said. The girl was not identified.

Seveskind was arrested in April and released after posting \$50,000 bail. He faces up to six years in state prison, if convicted. The Pomona Police Department placed him on paid administrative leave following his arrest.

PASADENA

Scientologists get some prime real estate

Members of the Church of Scientology bought a building in the city’s historic shopping and dining district to use as a place of worship.

Plans for the century-old Braley Building include a bookstore and information center on the ground floor, a chapel that seats 250 people, and classrooms on the building’s top three floors, church officials said.

“This will be a beautiful space for our parishioners to go to,” said Eden Stein, president of the church’s Pasadena branch, which now operates in a smaller building.

Neighboring business owners had mixed reactions to the planned facility.

“Some of the people here have said ‘Oh my goodness, there are going to be people passing out pamphlets in the street,’” said Fritzie Culick, owner of the nearby Old Town Music Co. Property owner Jim Plotkin said the plan could boost surrounding businesses.

“They’ve still got to eat a pizza,” he said. “They’ve still got to wear clothes.”

Ventura

Parents can log where their children have been

County officials will soon start offering parents a software program to check what their children are viewing on computers.

District Attorney Greg Totten said his office will begin distributing compact discs with ComputerCOP software in August. The program displays images and text that have been viewed on computers and can scan for words that might be considered offensive.

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SM Civic Light Opera goes big with musical

By Daily Press staff

The hills of Santa Monica will soon be alive with the sound of music.

The Santa Monica Civic Light Opera (SMCLO) presents their final production in their 2005/2006 season, closing with the most cherished musical of all time, "The Sound of Music," for one weekend only, July 21-23 in the restored Barnum Hall Theater. The movie starring Julie Andrews won five Oscars, and the Broadway show ran for 1,443 performances and garnered six Tony award wins.

The SMCLO cast from The Sound of Music is comprised of professionals, Samohi theatre alumni, and current high school students. The handshake partnership between professionals and students is what makes the SMCLO productions so extraordinary, event organizers said. Since 1989 the SMCLO has been producing full-scale, professional musicals in Barnum Hall every summer.

Immediately following the close of The Sound of Music in Santa Monica, the troop will give an encore performance of The Sound of Music on Wednesday, July 26 at 7 p.m. in the historic Avalon Casino Theater and present a sensational 90-minute, one-act, cabaret-style, musical revue, called Showstoppers on Thursday, July 27 at 8 p.m. in the world famous Avalon Ballroom.

After last summer's sold-out performance of "My Fair Lady" in the Avalon Casino Theater, the troop returns with The Sound of Music and Showstoppers. The Showstoppers Musical Revue boasts a stellar line up of 20 hit numbers from such current shows as "Aida," "Chicago," "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," "Hairspray," "The Last Five Years," "Thoroughly Modern Millie," "The Producers," "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," "The Wild Party," "Spamalot" and "Wicked."

The Sound of Music takes place in Austria, 1938 and plays in Santa Monica on Friday, July 21 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, July 22 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and closes on Sunday, July 23 at 2 p.m. — for four shows only — in Barnum Hall, the troupe's, 1,200-seat, newly restored main stage performance space.

Tickets are \$20 and \$25 for matinees, and \$25 and \$30 for Friday night. A special SMCLO gala fundraiser will take place on Saturday, July 22 at 8 p.m. and feature selections from Showstoppers after the show. Tickets are \$40 and \$50. To preserve the hall's beauty, there will not be any concessions served.

The cast from The Sound of Music will comprise most of the company of performers for "Showstoppers," however, producer Brett Fisher will augment the cast of mainland performers by auditioning local talent in Avalon to be in the show.

Fisher oversees the entire production operation and serves as the show's music director.

"After last summer's hugely successful sold-out, one-night-only production, we wanted to come back with a second show where we could embark on a collaborative partnership with the local community residents and give them not just another one of our shows to see, but one that showcases what great talent already exists on the island, and that is what they'll get," he said.

The SMCLO, a sponsored educational activity of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, serves as a partner to Santa Monica High School's theatre arts program, enhancing the student experience through mentoring by alumni and theatre professionals and developing productions for the Humanities Center and Barnum Hall stages.

For more information, call (310) 458-5939 or visit www.smclo.org.

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SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE

MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Welcome to the Santa Monica Art Palette for the weekend of July 8. It's a good weekend to be in Santa Monica. The goal of the Art Palette, created by City Hall's cultural affairs division, is to showcase the many eclectic arts and cultural opportunities available in Santa Monica every week, highlighting one or more of the many happenings within our borders. Artist Steve Hurd will offer decorating tips for the inebriately inclined and Jane Fonda and George Segal will key us in on the finer points of bank robbery and extortion. What more could you ask for?

The Powerhouse Theatre continues its production of John Patrick Shanley's Danny and the Deep Blue Sea through July 23. Hezekiah Lewis directs this inspiring story of hope and love with performances Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

Danny and the Deep Blue Sea
The Powerhouse Theatre Company
Buy tickets online
3116 Second St.
(310) 396-3680

On Saturday night, head on over the Bergamot Station and take a look at Steve Hurd's first solo exhibition. Hurd is known for his drippy renditions of women's magazines and home decorating interiors in which old English Malt liquor bottles are sprawled about — must be the same decorator who did the dorm rooms across the hall from me when I was in college. I've heard from someone who is definitely in the know that Hurd is "the coolest artist ever," and that this is going to be one groovy art opening. The gallery will be hosting a reception from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and the show will remain on exhibition through Aug. 26.

Steve Hurd
Rosamund Felson Gallery
Bergamot Station B4
2525 Michigan Ave.
Artist Reception: Saturday July 8, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
July 8 through Aug. 26

The Palette is dedicated to spotlighting events in Santa Monica but we're going to break that rule for a moment to help promote the work of one of Santa Monica's most important arts agencies — The Virginia Avenue Project. Working with professional actors and writers, young people from the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) have written and produced nine short plays filled with comedy and music. Performances are free, the plays are terrific, the kids are amazing, and Virginia Avenue Project is truly one of Santa Monica's most valuable resources. Don't miss it.

Virginia Avenue Project
What happens when all signs are pointing in the direction away from where you're headed? Find out, as the Project's One-on-One program produces two shows that direct you to summer comedy and music.

Signs of the Times Part 1
Nine short plays at UCLA's Little Theater
Friday, July 7, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 8, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.



The Santa Monica Theatre Guild continues its new play festival, Next Stage, on Sunday and Monday with The Salt Water Women by L. Lewis Stout. The story centers on three women who meet accidentally on an Oregon beach. One woman murdered her husband, while another's infant was stolen at birth, and a third simply cannot decide her own fate. Tickets for the series are only \$5 and the audience is invited to participate in lively discussions afterward with the playwright and the actors.

Next Stage
Staged readings from emerging LA playwrights
Sunday, July 9 and Monday, July 17 at 7 p.m.
All tickets are \$5 and available at the door
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd.
www.morgan-wixson.org

Fun with Dick and Jane
And finally this week, tickets are now available for a stellar evening at the Aero Theatre benefiting the Santa Monica Conservancy. A special screening of the original (good) version of Fun With Dick and Jane will be screened in honor of local benefactor Max Palevsky. But that's not the best of it — following the screening there will be a panel discussion and reception with the stars of the movie, Jane Fonda, George Segal and Ed McMahon.

AERO Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Monday, JULY 17 at 7 p.m.
Tickets are \$30 for Santa Monica Conservancy members; \$35 non-members. Tickets sold online until July 14 at www.smcconservancy.org or mail check payable to Santa Monica Conservancy, P.O. Box 653, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

Well, that wraps it up for this week's Palette. I want to remind you all of the new Art Trek Map created by City Hall's cultural affairs division in partnership with the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau. This comprehensive listing of every gallery, theatre, museum, public artworks and other cultural venues in Santa Monica can be found at key tourist destinations throughout Santa Monica. Check it out — it's the very best guide to arts in Santa Monica and essential reading for anyone looking to have a good time.



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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy

One of the images from 'The Gloaming,' an exhibit of Eric Bogart's photos.

Loneliness and fast theater on tap at Ruskin Theater

By Daily Press staff

Finding the right man can be a laughing matter. The Ruskin Group Theatre will present the world premiere of Cindy Lu's unique one-woman play — a theatrical experience-cum-dating-tutorial that delivers a comic punch along with practical advice on nabbing the love of your life. "The Four Man Plan: A Romantic Science," directed by Paul Linke, will run from July 14 through Sept. 2 at Ruskin Group Theatre, 3000 Airport Dr. at Santa Monica Airport. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturdays. Described as a delightful and sometimes raunchy comedy, "The Four Man Plan" tells the true story of Lu's 15 years of bad dates and tortured relationships — all the result of her quest for Prince Charming — before she decided to take a more scientific approach. "I sucked at love. But I loved love. I just needed a logical approach," said Lu, an accomplished actor with extensive theater and television credits, including "Desperate Housewives" and "Six Feet Under."

"Through a series of test dates and experimental men, analyzing previously accumulated data and using myself and girlfriends as guinea pigs, I developed a formula for love that can be used by dysfunctional Cinderellas of all ages," she said. "Yes, the goal is to date four men at a time. But it isn't as simple as it sounds. The Four Man Plan consists of a carefully developed set of postulates, graphs, charts and theories. For example, there are the 'Wait for Sex Index,' 'The Rule of Chuck,' 'The Half Man Imperative' and 'The Chick's Chick Angle.'"

The performance — with cocktails, featuring "Planner's Punch," allowed in the theater — is followed by a question-and-answer session after Friday night performances so that audience members can be sure to get "the desired results — loving relationships with yourself and others, a renewed faith in humanity, and someone to save your seat, rub your feet and grill your meats into happily ever after," Lu said.

Lu said that though her show might seem to be geared toward women, she thinks men — both straight and gay — will learn a lot and have as good a time as the female audience members.

"Besides, what better way to meet motivated women?" she says. Linke, a professional actor and director for almost 30 years, best known as Artie Grossman on the NBC-TV series "CHiPs," has directed several critically acclaimed shows at Ruskin, including "That May Well Be True" and "Caterpillar Soup." He has created, acted in and directed several one-person shows, including directing Ben Gazzara in the one-man play "Nobody Don't Like Yogi" off-Broadway at The Lambs Theatre. He also directed Charles Nelson Reilly's hit one-man show "Save it for the Stage." Tickets for The Four Man Plan are \$20. Call (310) 397-3244 or go to <http://www.ruskingrouptheatre.com>.

In conjunction with the opening of the "The Four Man Plan" is "The Gloaming" — an exhibit of Eric Bogart's compelling black-and-white photos of the people, landscapes and objects of Santa Monica and Venice. The exhibit will run from July 15 to Sept. 16. An opening reception will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 15. "All of Bogart's photographs show us the complex beauties of our urban landscape that we miss in our busy cell phone- and car-oriented lives," said Amelia Mulkey, Ruskin's gallery director. Bogart, who worked for seven years as a film editor for an advertising company but whose passion is photography, says loneliness is a theme that intrigues him. "The people or places that convey this feeling of emptiness and isolation are what I gravitate towards," he said. "Santa Monica and Venice are my favorite places for pictures, partly because I know them so well and partly because there's so much I've still never seen."

Also produced by the Ruskin Group Theater is "Independence," the theme of the next monthly installment of the popular "L.A. Café Plays" to be held on Sunday, July 16. The Café Plays have been dubbed the "Fastest Theater in Town" because five short plays go from conception to execution in just 10 1/2 hours. The "Café Plays" will be staged at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Ruskin Group Theatre, 3000 Airport Dr. at Santa Monica Airport. Past participants in the "Café Plays," as director or actor, have included such luminaries as Dylan McDermott ("The Practice"); Olivia D'Abo ("The Wonder Years" television show and The Odd Couple on Broadway); and Dan Lauria ("The Wonder Years," "Jag," etc.). Although several theaters throughout the country have staged 24-hour plays, Ruskin

producers Mike Myers, Erin Kelly and Michael Laurie have upped the stakes and cut that time by more than half. In addition, the speed plays are produced monthly. At 9 a.m. the day of the performance, five writers gather at Back on Broadway, a café-restaurant in Santa Monica. Each writer picks, at random, two manila envelopes containing actors' headshots. They are then given four hours to write a seven- to 10-page one-act play that takes place in a café. The directors then take over, meet their actors, and begin rehearsals.



Photo courtesy

'Into the Woods' stars (clockwise from left) Amira Suliman as Florinda the wicked stepsister, Casey Schultz as the wicked stepmother, Marla McClure as wicked stepsister Lucinda, and Kendall Lewis as Cinderella.

Fractured fairy tale 'Woods' parks it at the Hangar Stage

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica College theatre arts and music departments will present "Into the Woods," the Tony Award-winning smash hit musical that turns popular fairy tales on their heads to deliver, ultimately, a moving lesson. The play will run from July 14-23.

It will be presented Fridays through Sundays. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7 p.m. and Sunday performances at 1 p.m. An additional matinee at 1 p.m. will be on Saturday, July 22. Theatre arts professor Terrin Adair-Lynch directs.

"Into the Woods" will be presented in the Hangar Stage, located at SMC's Airport Campus, 2800 Airport Ave. Parking is free. With music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by James Lapine, "Woods" tells a fractured fairy tale about a baker and his wife who, cursed with childlessness, embark on a quest to break the spell. Along the way, they swindle, lie to and steal from Cinderella, Little Red, Rapunzel and Jack (of beanstalk fame). What begins as a lively irreverent fantasy becomes a moving lesson about community responsibility.

The musical won three Tonys in 1987 — best score for Sondheim, best book for Lapine and best actress in a musical for Joanna Gleason. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$10 for students and senior citizens. For tickets, call (310) 434-3000 and for information, go to <http://www.smc.edu/theatre>. Also by SMC will be the emeritus college presentation of "Interlude Revisited," a student summer art exhibit July 13-Sept. 15 at the Emeritus College Art Gallery. The exhibit will feature an eclectic mix of styles, media and content and will honor outstanding student works. The opening reception will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 13 in the gallery, located on the first floor of Emeritus College, 1227 Second St. in downtown Santa Monica. Parking is available next door in Santa Monica Public Parking Structure No. 2. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Emeritus College is SMC's widely praised program that was founded 31 years ago and currently serves about 3,500 older adults with 150 classes and special programs. For information, call (310) 434-4306 or visit www.smc.edu/emeritus.



GREG KINNEAR STEVE CARELL TONI COLLETTE PAUL DANO WITH ABIGAIL BRESLIN AND ALAN ARKIN

"THE FUNNIEST LAUGH-OUT-LOUD AUDIENCE PLEASER AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL."
ROGER EBERT, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

"A HILARIOUS TALE ABOUT WINNING, LOSING AND THAT NETHER STATE IN BETWEEN WHERE MOST OF US MUST LEARN TO LIVE."
DAVID GERMAN, AP Associated Press

"A PERFECT COMBUSTION OF CHARACTER AND COMEDY."
REUTERS

"A SNEAKY-SMART CROWD PLEASER."
JOHN POWERS, WKXJ

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Lawmakers convene for hot-button issue

BY STEVEN K. PAULSON
AND JON SANCHE

Associated Press Writers

DENVER — Colorado lawmakers convened in a special session Thursday to consider a crackdown on illegal immigration amid a heated election-year debate over what should be done about workers who come to the U.S. illegally — and who should do it.

Legislative leaders skipped the traditional opening speeches and plunged directly into proposals to restrict public benefits for illegal immigrants and deny them business permits, and to make involuntary servitude a felony.

Lawmakers said almost everything will be on the table, including proposals to restrict school bus service and school lunches for illegal immigrants, impose a statewide identification program and protect health and safety services such as garbage collection and jail for felons.

House Democrats asked a federal Homeland Security official to testify on attempts to set up a national database to track illegal immigrants. Lawmakers want to know whether the state should set up its own.

At least 47 bills on illegal immigration had been introduced by Thursday. Lawmakers said they expect the special session to last about a week.

Sen. Tom Wiens, R-Castle Rock, warned fellow Republicans that lawmakers may be trying to do too much in too little time. Legislative staffers have not had time to even determine the costs of some proposals.

"I'm a little bit concerned about the scholarship, doing this in such a short time," he said.

GOP Gov. Bill Owens called the special session after the state Supreme Court disqualified a proposed ballot issue that would have cut off most state services to illegal immigrants.

In addition to asking lawmakers to consider a crackdown on immigration, Owens also wants them to pass legislation setting a deadline for the Supreme Court to rule after reviewing ballot initiatives. Owens accused justices of deliberately delaying their decision on the immigration proposal until it was too late for backers to start over.

Also on the table is a proposal to raise the minimum age for common-law marriage after a state court ruled that girls as young as 12 and boys as young as 14 can marry.

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**AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	50	32	.610	—
New York	47	35	.573	3
Toronto	47	37	.560	4
Baltimore	39	47	.453	13
Tampa Bay	38	47	.447	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	57	28	.671	—
Chicago	55	29	.655	1½
Minnesota	46	37	.554	10
Cleveland	39	44	.470	17
Kansas City	29	54	.349	27

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	44	40	.524	—
Texas	43	42	.506	1½
Seattle	42	44	.488	3
Los Angeles	40	44	.476	4

Friday's Games

Baltimore (Benson 9-6) at Cleveland (Sabathia 6-4), 4:05 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees (Wright 4-5) at Tampa Bay (Seo 2-5), 4:15 p.m.
 Toronto (Burnett 1-2) at Kansas City (Hudson 1-3), 5:10 p.m.
 Minnesota (Silva 4-8) at Texas (Wadlin 1-1), 5:35 p.m.
 Boston (Lester 3-0) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 9-5), 5:35 p.m.
 Detroit (Bonderman 7-4) at Seattle (Pineiro 6-7), 7:05 p.m.
 L.A. Angels (Lackey 6-5) at Oakland (Zito 8-5), 7:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Boston at Chicago White Sox, 10:20 a.m.
 Baltimore at Cleveland, 4:05 p.m.
 Toronto at Kansas City, 4:10 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
 Minnesota at Texas, 5:05 p.m.
 L.A. Angels at Oakland, 6:05 p.m.
 Detroit at Seattle, 7:05 p.m.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	50	34	.595	—
Philadelphia	38	45	.458	11½
Florida	36	46	.439	13
Washington	38	49	.437	13½
Atlanta	37	48	.435	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	45	38	.542	—
Cincinnati	44	41	.518	2
Milwaukee	43	43	.500	3½
Houston	42	43	.494	4
Chicago	31	53	.369	14½
Pittsburgh	29	57	.337	17½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	44	40	.524	—
Los Angeles	44	40	.524	—
San Diego	44	40	.524	—
San Fran	43	42	.506	1½
Arizona	40	45	.471	4½

Friday's Games

San Diego (Williams 3-1) at Washington (Ortiz 6-6), 4:05 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (Snell 7-6) at Philadelphia (Lieber 3-5), 4:05 p.m.
 Florida (Willis 5-7) at N.Y. Mets (Oliver 3-0 or Lima 0-3), 4:10 p.m.
 Cincinnati (Milton 4-4) at Atlanta (H.Ramirez 4-2), 4:35 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 7-3) at Milwaukee (Jackson 1-1), 5:05 p.m.
 St. Louis (Marquis 10-6) at Houston (W.Rodriguez 9-5), 5:05 p.m.
 Arizona (Batista 8-5) at Colorado (BKim 5-4), 6:05 p.m.
 San Francisco (Morris 7-7) at L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 0-2), 7:40 p.m.

Saturday's Games

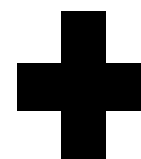
Florida at N.Y. Mets, 10:20 a.m., 1st game
 Florida at N.Y. Mets, 1:50 p.m., 2nd game
 St. Louis at Houston, 1:05 p.m.
 San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers, 1:05 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Atlanta, 4:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 4:05 p.m.
 San Diego at Washington, 4:05 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
 Arizona at Colorado, 5:05 p.m.

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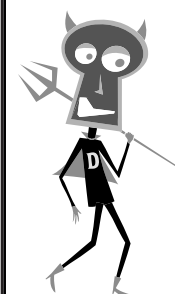
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Israelis establish buffer

BY IBRAHIM BARZAK

Associated Press Writer

BEIT LAHIYA, Gaza Strip — Israeli forces on Thursday took over the remains of three abandoned Jewish settlements in the northern Gaza Strip and entered a nearby Palestinian town, creating a temporary buffer zone to prevent Palestinian militants from firing rockets at Israel.

The army last week launched its largest operation in the coastal area since it withdrew from the territory a year ago. The operation, which followed the kidnapping of an Israeli soldier, was expanded overnight after militants from the ruling Hamas group fired two homemade rockets at the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon, which used to be out of their range.

No one was hurt in the attack on Ashkelon, a city of 110,000, but it infuriated Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, who pledged the rocket strikes would have “far-reaching consequences.”

Cabinet minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said the Israeli tanks and troops would avoid entering the densely populated towns of Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun — which are often as rocket launching grounds by militants.

An Associated Press reporter accompanying the Israeli troops said the forces had reached the outskirts of Beit Lahiya and taken over a two-story house with a family inside. An Israeli tank and several armored vehicles surrounded the house. The family was confined to the ground floor.

Gunfire and tank fire rang out in the area, and Palestinian medics said one Palestinian was killed in a shootout.

Israeli leaders said their aim is to stop the rocket fire and bring back the captured soldier, and there are no plans to reoccupy Gaza.

“We have no intention of drowning in the Gaza swamp,” said Defense Minister Amir Peretz.

Israeli artillery and aircraft assisted the ground troops, striking bases and groups of militants. Early Thursday, Hamas officials said one militant was killed and another wounded in an airstrike on a Gaza beach. The army said the air force had targeted an armed militant.

In another incident, a Hamas militant and a Palestinian policeman were killed and 11 others wounded in an explosion along the northern part of the beach. Palestinians said Israeli tanks or gunboats shelled the area. Israel denied that, but the military was checking whether an airstrike was involved.

In nearby Beit Lahiya, Palestinians fired at a car carrying a crew from the Arabic satellite TV channel Al-Jazeera, wounding two people, said Wael Dahdouh, one of the reporters in the car. The gunmen apparently thought the reporters were Israeli undercover agents, he said.

An Israeli airstrike in the southern Gaza Strip on

Thursday hit a group of people, wounding several militants and civilians, Palestinian officials said. The army confirmed it had carried out an airstrike in Khan Younis after Israeli forces were attacked with anti-tank missiles and a rocket. The Palestinian officials said some of the wounded were in serious condition.

The destroyed Jewish settlements — Nissanit, Dugit and Elei Sinai — are in a strategic location just along the border with Israel. Before Israel dismantled its Gaza communities, critics of the withdrawal warned that the pullout would put more Israeli cities within rocket range.

A buffer zone could be the only way to keep Israeli population centers out of rocket range. But such a zone brings back bitter memories of a similar tactic Israel used in southern Lebanon, when its forces held onto a security zone for 18 years in an attempt to prevent Hezbollah guerrillas from firing rockets at Israel.

The guerrillas still fired rockets, and the zone became a deadly battlefield. Pressure from Israelis opposed to the occupation finally forced Israel to withdraw in May 2000.

Hamas said in a statement Wednesday that the rocket fired at Ashkelon was a new, longer-range weapon that can hit targets at least 7.5 miles away. That could mean the Gaza buffer zone would have to run deeper than the area of the abandoned settlements, bringing forces into populated areas the army is reluctant to enter.

Forces also remain in southern Gaza, an area invaded after Cpl. Gilad Shalit was captured in a June 25 attack on an Israeli outpost. Their main goal is to find Shalit.

At his daily briefing, U.S. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said Palestinians must release the soldier and stop the rocket attacks, but he called on Israel to show restraint so that in the future “there is the possibility of a negotiated settlement.”

Egyptian and Turkish mediators were trying to end to the worsening crisis.

The Hamas-linked militants holding Shalit have demanded that Israel release hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for information about the captive. Israel has publicly refused to negotiate with the militants holding Shalit, but could be indirectly communicating with Hamas through mediators.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on both sides to “step back from the brink.” He said the soldier must be released and Israel must avoid collective punishment of the Palestinian people.

Israel clamped a total closure on Gaza after the soldier was captured, trying to prevent militants from moving him out of Gaza. In the last two days, Israel has reopened two crossings to allow badly needed food and fuel into Gaza. The Gaza-Egypt border was to open briefly Thursday to allow Palestinians stuck on either side to return home.

Candidates await tally to determine Mexican president

BY LISA J. ADAMS

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY — The two front-runners in Mexico’s closest presidential race in history watched anxiously Thursday as an overnight vote tally recount saw the conservative candidate Felipe Calderon catch up to his leftist rival and pass him by a razor-thin margin.

Hundreds of Calderon supporters gathered at his campaign headquarters cheered wildly with the news as the ruling-party candidate emerged once again to declare victory.

“We are ahead in the election for the presidency and the remaining votes to be counted will be in our favor,” a smiling Calderon said to applause and whistles from his followers.

His opponent, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, remained holed up at his home awaiting the final vote count.

With nearly 98 percent of the vote tallies recounted, Calderon had 35.62 percent of the vote, while Lopez Obrador had 35.57. It was the first time since counting began early Wednesday that Calderon held the lead. Mexico’s electoral officials said they would not announce any tendencies until the full count was completed.

Both campaigns insisted throughout the day that they would triumph when the final numbers came in, but asked their supporters to refrain from violence whatever the result.

In an exclusive interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, Calderon offered to include Lopez Obrador in his Cabinet.

Each campaign accused the other of trying to manipulate the vote counts to favor their candidate, while electoral officials implored them to refrain from declaring victory until the full count was complete.

Ruling party officials said Lopez Obrador had the lead earlier only because more votes had been counted in areas where he was strongest. They also accused the candidate’s Democratic Revolution Party of stalling tactics in states where Calderon was strongest, saying it was deliberately trying to give the impression that Lopez Obrador was ahead as the count progressed.

On Wednesday, Lopez Obrador threatened to ignore the final tally because of “serious evidence of fraud.” Leonel Cota, president of the Democratic Revolution Party, accused election officials of deliberately mishandling the preliminary vote count Sunday to confirm a win for Calderon. He said Lopez Obrador won Sunday’s vote.

“We are not going to recognize an election that showed serious evidence of fraud, that was dirty from the start, manipulated from the start,” he said.

His party has claimed that more than 18,000 polling places had more votes cast than there were ballots and nearly 800 had more votes than there were registered voters.

When polls closed Sunday, citizens staffing the 130,488 polling places opened the ballot boxes and counted the votes, then sealed them into packages and attacked a report. The electoral institute then posted preliminary results on its Web site from about 41 million ballots cast.

The sealed packages were delivered to district headquarters, where election workers used the tallies Wednesday to add up the formal, legal vote totals.

Workers were not reviewing individual ballots except when the packages appeared tampered with or their tallies were missing, illegible or inconsistent.

Cota said Democratic Revolution would not recognize the results without a ballot-by-ballot recount. But Ugalde said that was not possible.

“Mexican law is very clear on when a ballot box can be opened: only when there are problems with the vote tallies, when the tally sheet has obviously been changed, or when the box has been tampered with,” Ugalde said.

Once the count is complete, the seven-judge Federal Electoral Tribunal will hear any complaints and can overturn elections. By law, it must certify a winner by Sept. 6, and its decision is final.

Cota said the party might take its case to international tribunals.

Ugalde scolded both candidates for prematurely declaring victory, saying: “No political party can declare or affirm, at this time, that its candidate has received the largest number of votes.”

Santa Monica Daily Press Official Photo Blog



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Hicks gets on the bus

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

Some pop stars want fame and money. "American Idol" winner Taylor Hicks just wants to ride the tour bus.

Hicks gets to do just that on a cross-country tour that kicked off Wednesday in Manchester, N.H. The tour, which reunites Hicks with castmates from the fifth edition of the hit Fox show, ends Sept. 24 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

"I've always wanted to be on a bus. ... My home has been on the road since even before 'American Idol,'" the 29-year-old Alabama native told AP Radio in a recent interview.

As a struggling musician en route to his next gig, Hicks had hoped to travel on his own tour bus one day.

"You would see buses on the road in Alabama going to their next destination, and I would always dream about being on one and now I have the opportunity," he said.

These days, Hicks says he prefers to travel rather than stay at his Birmingham apartment.

"It's been there and it's been nice to come home, but (I'm) only there for a few days and I'm on the road," he said. "So a tour bus with some good, cold iceberg lettuce is probably where I'm gonna stay."

LONDON

J.K. honored for M.S. support

J.K. Rowling has received an honorary doctorate from Aberdeen University for her support of research into multiple sclerosis.

Rowling, whose mother, Anne, died of multiple sclerosis in 1990 at age 45, was awarded a Doctorate of Laws degree Thursday in a ceremony at

Aberdeen's Marischal College in Scotland.

Dressed in a dark suit, the creator of the best-selling Harry Potter books smiled to acknowledge the audience's applause as she received the honor.

"I am thrilled. ... It is very exciting," she told reporters afterward.

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic disease of the central nervous system that may result in speech defects and the loss of muscular coordination.

Rowling, 40, is president of the Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland. She has donated substantial sums to Aberdeen's Institute of Medical Sciences for its research into multiple sclerosis.

"J.K. Rowling is best known because of a book that she wrote in a cafe in Edinburgh which has made her a household name," Neva Haites, head of the university's College of Life Sciences and Medicine, said at the award ceremony.

"However, what is less well known is Ms. Rowling's significant contribution to many charitable causes."

Haites said Rowling had taken on leadership of the Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland after discovering "what she called 'the appallingly poor quality of care available to people with multiple sclerosis in Scotland.'"

PARIS

Designer has Legion of fans

Valentino, known for his red-carpet-ready gowns, has received a French Legion of Honor medal.

Elizabeth Hurley and Anna Wintour, editor of American Vogue magazine, were among those who packed the gilded hall Thursday where Culture Minister Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres presented the Italian designer with the medal, conferring on him

the honorary title of "knight" in the elite society.

He commended Valentino for having seduced "the most promising stars of French cinema, including Brigitte Bardot," with his dramatic gowns.

Valentino, 73, expressed his "immense joy" at receiving the award.

"I love this country like my own," said the designer, who was born in Rome. As a young man, Valentino studied fashion at a prestigious Paris institute. He now owns a chateau outside Paris.

France "has always accepted me," he said.

HOUSTON

Scott feels images are black-eye

The portrayal of black women in popular music and videos is too often degrading and the black community must find a way to change these images, singer Jill Scott says.

"It is dirty, inappropriate, inadequate, unhealthy and polluted," Scott says. "We can demand more."

The 34-year-old singer spoke Monday before a panel that discussed the issue took the stage at the Essence Music Festival's empowerment seminars as part of the magazine's Take Back the Music campaign.

Scott told the audience that if they are offended by these images, they should stop buying the albums and encourage people in their lives to do the same.

"This is about choosing what we will allow in our lives," she said. "We can force things. We can change things. Challenge the music industry with your purchasing power."

Scott used an eloquent speech, interlaced with song, to illustrate that black women are more than their sexuality and that music should represent that.

"There are many stories to be told that aren't about our sexuality," she said.

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2006

Aero Theatre
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Thursday, July 5
The Jerk (R) 7:30
Friday, July 6
A Fish Called Wanda (NR) 7:30

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

The Break-Up (PG-13)
11:35am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Cars (G)
10:40am, 1:25, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
Da Vinci Code (PG-13)
12:25, 3:50, 7:10, 10:30
Nacho Libre (PG)
10:30am, 11:20am, 12:50, 1:40, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20
Superman Returns (PG-13)
10:15am, 11:30am, 1:35, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 8:25, 10:00, 10:50
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13)
12:01am

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13)
12:15, 1:45, 2:50, 4:20, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30
The Fast and the Furious 3: Tokyo Drift (PG-13)
1:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
A Prairie Home Companion (PG-13)
12:45, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Landmark Nuwiltshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

The Heart of the Game (PG-13)
2:10, 7:10
Thank You for Smoking (R)
11:40am, 4:45, 9:45
Who Killed the Electric Car? (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 2nd Street
(310)394-9741

An Inconvenient Truth (PG)
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man (PG-13)
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
Peaceful Warrior (PG-13)
12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:55
Wordplay (PG)
12:15, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45

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

Click (PG-13)
11:10am, 12:00, 1:40, 2:30, 4:20, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:40, 10:30
Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties (PG)
11:00am, 1:10, 3:10, 5:20
The Lake House (PG)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00
The Omen (R)
7:20, 10:10
Over the Hedge (PG)
11:30am, 1:50, 4:10
Waist Deep (R)
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20

More Information calendar@smdp.com

MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1846, U.S. annexation of California was proclaimed at Monterey after the surrender of a Mexican garrison.

In 1865, four people were hanged in Washington, D.C., for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth to assassinate President Lincoln.

In 1896, the Democratic national convention opened in Chicago.

In 1898, the United States annexed Hawaii.

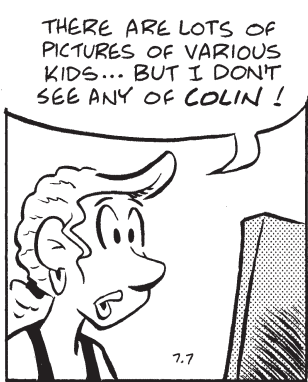
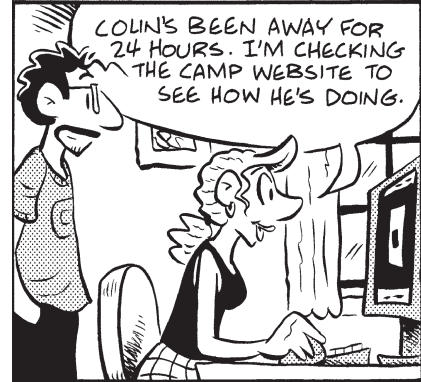
In 1930, construction began on Boulder Dam (later Hoover Dam).



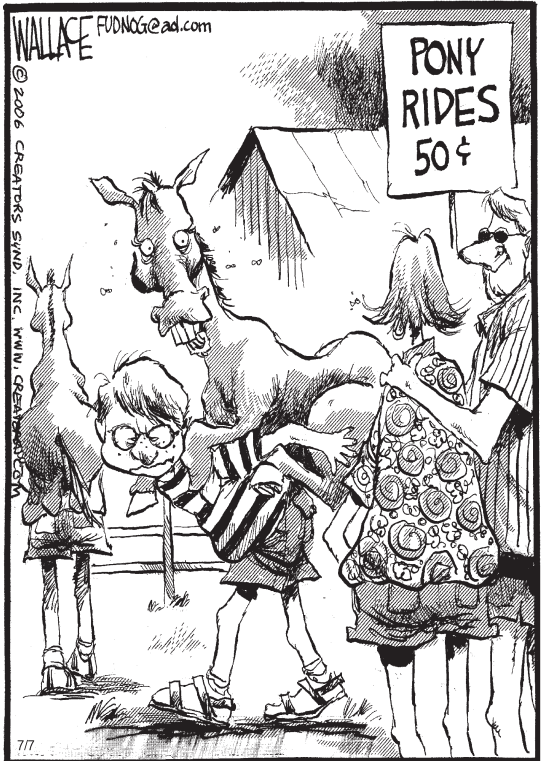
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 - 15 Ga. neighbor
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 - 18 Employ
 - 19 English cathedral city
 - 20 Spoil
 - 21 Trifle
 - 22 Miserable
 - 24 Penalty
 - 25 Con-struction site wear
 - 27 "Fargo" director
 - 29 Fumed
 - 32 Maximum amount
 - 33 Idler
 - 34 Merger words
 - 35 Complete
 - 36 Die roll
 - 37 Put down
 - 38 Photographer Walker
 - 40 Move
 - 42 Hills
 - 43 Singer K.T.

- 44 Stylish
- 45 They have strings attached
- DOWN
- 1 Set
 - 2 Brother of Artemis
 - 3 Without exaggeration
 - 4 Hosp. parts
 - 5 Traveling trunk
 - 6 "Roots" star Burton
 - 7 S&L offering

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Yesterday's answer

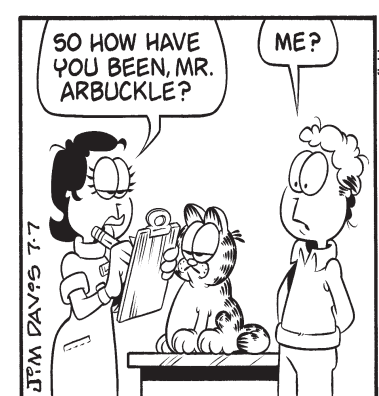
- 8 Without exaggeration
- 9 Menlo Park
- 10 Late flight
- 17 Pistol
- 23 Hosiery shade
- 24 Diet no-no
- 26 Urban pal
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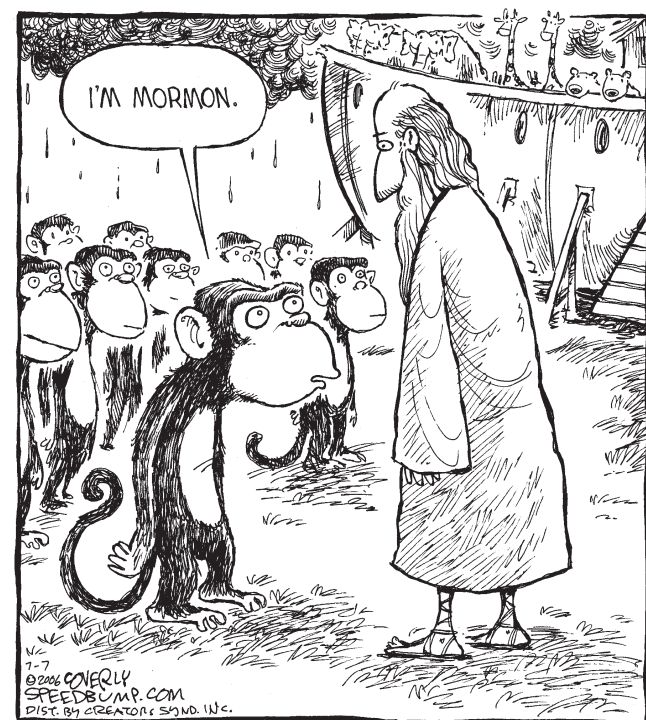
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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

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*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not guaranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS: Announcements Creative Employment For Sale	Furniture Pets Boats Jewelry Wanted Travel	Vacation Rentals Apartments/Condos Rent Houses for Rent Roomates Commercial Lease	Real Estate Real Estate Loans Storage Space Vehicles for Sale Massage Services	Computer Services Attorney Services Business Opportunities Yard Sales Health and Beauty Fitness	Wealth and Success Lost and Found Personals Psychic Obituaries Tutoring
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All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

Employment

ADMIN FOR busy desk needed. Must have experience with purchase orders, creating invoices, strong organization, ability to multi-task, great communication skills and easy going personality. Must work well under stress. Excel, Word, Outlook experience required. **Customer Service/Dispatch** needed. Must be able to communicate clearly and effectively by phone and email. Previous customer service experience required. Please contact Kristi (310) 737-7394 or kcruz@scottell.com

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Tile, Marble, and Slab

Santa Monica Showroom

Salary + Commission

Prefer design or Tile experience

Contact **310.995.5136**

COOK

OCEAN House is looking for experienced cook to work in kitchen at upscale retirement community on Ocean Ave. This is a full time position and candidate must have experience and be flexible morning, afternoon and evening shifts. Benefits eligible after 90 days. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume with salary history to (310)314-7356

COUNTER HELP needed. Cafe near 3rd St. Promenade on Broadway. Must be experienced. Immediate openings, day and evening shifts. Apply afternoons in person. 215 Broadway, SM. (310) 396-9898.

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Employment

Counter Help

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts seeking highly motivated and super friendly individuals for work at our fast paced environment. F/T and P/T shifts available. Apply in person, 6am-10pm: 1231 Wilshire Blvd., SM.

DENTAL HYGIENIST, Front Office, and Dental Assistant Positions Available in Brentwood Dental Office. Call Lisa at 310-820-0093.

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DOG KENNEL F/T clean runs and walk dogs. Apply 2116 Main St. SM M-F 8-5

ENTRY LEVEL position for individual wanting to be trained towards acquiring an insurance license. Requires good handwriting/ phone/ computer skills, neat appearance, able to satisfy background check for the California dept. of insurance. Salary open for discussion. Salary increase and bonus commission after licensing. Please fax resume to (818) 222-7299

FAST PACED, fun WLA Cafe needs P/T, F/T chef/cook. Must speak English. Please call (310) 985-0080

FIT FEMALE MODEL WANTED FOR FIGURE DRAWING BY ARTIST. No experience necessary call. (818) 501-0266

FT/PT CASHIER/SANDWICH maker. Exp nec. Must speak English. Apply in person. **Lincoln Car Wash**, 1624 Lincoln Blvd SM 90404

HAIRSTYLIST WANTED. Busy salon. Experience required. Must know color, perm, cut. Nin's Hair Salon (310) 312-9934 (714) 837-4290

HOST/HOUSTESS, TEPPAN chef, server and kitchen helper.

BENIHANA

(310) 260-1423

1447 - 4th St., Santa Monica

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the environmental service department of St. John's Health Center. Looking for housekeeper/waste management. PT/FT. Hospital experience preferred. Call (310) 829-8431 for interview

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the housekeeping department of Centinela Freeman Regional Medical Center. All shifts available, PT/FT. Hospital housekeeping preferred. Call (310) 674-7050 ext 3319 for interview.

MEDICAL OFFICE SM P/T position front and back office. Experience or we will train. (310) 829-3303, fax resume to (310) 829-3301

Employment

INTERNET/ADVERTISING SALES

Small to mid-size international trade company looking for experienced Internet/Advertising Sales.

Ideal candidate must be self-motivated, energetic, experienced in sales. Sales Marketing Rep. Must have experience with business promotions over the Internet. Additional job duties include: E-mail marketing campaigns, community forums, bulletin boards, and banners. Must have some working knowledge on E-commerce. Salary is negotiable. This is position is full or part time depending on workload. If interested please e-mail resume to tmoses@wbe.net or fax resume to 310-641-8145.

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT

Ocean House is looking for a maintenance assistant to complete work orders and help prepare apartments for new move-ins. This is a full time position and the schedule includes weekends. Benefits Eligible after 90 days. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume with salary history to (310) 314-7356.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT FOR FRONT OFFICE FOR INTERNAL MEDICINE PRACTICE IN SANTA MONICA - EXPERIENCE AND COMPUTER SKILLS REQUIRED. FAX RESUME TO (310) 828-2775

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737

MEDICATION TECHNICIAN

Ocean House is looking for an experienced Med tech to administer medications to the residents of our community. This is a full time position in the afternoon and the schedule will include weekends. Benefits Eligible after 90 days. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume with salary history to (310)314-7356

NEED EXPERIENCED service and repair plumber. Well-established plumbing co. Great Pay. Call (310) 395-5130

OCEAN HOUSE is looking for customer service oriented individuals to work as servers in an upscale retirement community on Ocean Ave. in Santa Monica. Good pay and benefits. Looking for Morning shifts and must be able to work weekends or holidays. Please come by and apply in person at 2107 Ocean Ave. or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356

P/T HOUSEKEEPER/CAREGIVER in exchange for "free rent and board" 5 days/week. Must like dogs. (310) 450-4699

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED for a busy high end, hip salon. Full or part time. Available immediately. Must possess excellent customer service skills. Send resume to info@chasehair.com or call 310-451-4477

SERVERS, BARTENDERS and kitchen staff wanted one year exp needed. Call (310) 391-7700

Employment

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SOCIAL SERVICES: Day and residential programs for adults with developmental disabilities in Malibu/Santa Monica. F/T positions with benefits. Job Coach Mon-Fri 9am-3pm. Direct support professional Mon-Fri 3pm-10pm. Weekend positions also available. (310) 457-6052

TOP DESIGNER Santa Monica Boutique seeks team player, HIGH energy salesperson, experience preferred, family environment, Salary and commission. (310) 394-1406

Pets

ADORABLE MALTESE pups, boys & girls, will 3-5 lb, have shots & dewormed, CKC registered, around 8 to 10 weeks, home raised, loving & sweet, \$800~\$1500, for more info ask Brandon to 323-819-0113



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Wanted

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BUILDING NEEDED to start **CREATIVE MUSIC AND ART BUSINESS**. Need free rent for 6-12 months. will give % of profits. (310) 264-0828

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LARGE 3+2, \$2495. Three patios, private backyard, gated, like a house. Top of hill. Redecorated. (310) 390-4610

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 3, \$995/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. (310) 737-7933 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12450 Culver Blvd. unit 321, \$995/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, utilities included, intercom entry, laundry, gated parking, no pets. (888) 414-7778

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SANTA MONICA \$1450/mo 2bdms/1Bath, Carpet Floors, Parking, laundry, refrigerator, small quiet complex (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2500/mo 3bdms/2.5bath two story townhouse Carpet/Tile, Parking, laundry, one year lease (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

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Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm
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Ad Copy (attach copy if necessary)

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

Requested Start Date: / / Requested End Date: / /

Extras (Additional 20 cents/word):

☐ ALL CAPS ☐ bold ☐ italics
☐ Box (.50/day) ☐ Reverse(\$1/day)

Payment:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Check

Exp: _____ I 20 _____ Check #: _____

Make checks payable: Santa Monica Daily Press

NO CASH PLEASE

Signature: _____

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ATTN: Classifieds

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Santa Monica Daily Press

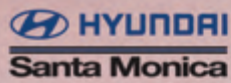
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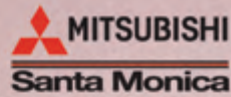
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