

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

7 11 20 30 35

Megamember: 4

Jackpot: 7 Million

FANTASY 5

3 6 8 26 39

DAILY LOTTO

Daytime: 5 7 5

Evening: 4 7 5

DAILY DERBY

1st: 04 Big Ben

2nd: 03 Hot Shot

3rd: 11 Money Bags

RACE TIME: 1:46.24



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Clermont, Fla., police 911 dispatcher Lorraine Stanton was fired in May as the result of bad performance reviews, not even counting an incident on her last weekend. A woman called to report a street gathering that included a man wanted by police, but according to the 911 tape, Stanton was not helpful: "OK, that person would have to come to the police station, and we would have to check. When they come in, they'd have to bring ID." When the caller asked why a wanted man might voluntarily turn himself in, Stanton replied, "Ma'am, that's the only way we can check."

■ The mother of accused serial killer Maury Travis filed a lawsuit against the prison in May for her son's alleged suicide, claiming among other things that the architects who designed the cell-block made it unusually difficult for guards to peek in on inmates on a "suicide watch," such as her son. However, Travis' "suicide" actually revealed a remarkably focused man: According to news reports, Travis is said to have hanged himself with a bedsheet, but with a pillowcase over his head, toilet paper in his nostrils, a washcloth in his mouth, and his hands tied behind him.

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Eviction notice: Tenants receive bump in benefits

New law increases level of benefits and makes them available to more tenants

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Any renters sent packing so their landlords can turn apartments into condominiums must be paid thousands of dollars for the inconvenience, according to recent changes in local rent law.

Relocation money, as it's called, had been limited to low-income renters since 1993. It also had been kept between \$3,000 and \$5,500, depending on apartment size. Under the recent changes, \$4,400 to \$8,050 is now available to all tenants, regardless of earnings.

An additional \$1,000 is available to senior citizens, disabled people and those with minor children in residence, if they've lived in their units since 1999.

The changes were made to help evicted tenants find housing in an increasingly expensive marketplace. They also are expected to ease workloads at City Hall, where lawyers were given the time-consuming task of determining who fell under the low-income umbrella.

"Such disputes are often legally complex and fact-intensive," reads a June report prepared by staffers at City Hall. "Removing the low-income requirement would eliminate the issue of tenants' income and thereby allow staff to spend more time on other housing and consumer issues."

City Hall most recently put the following upper limits on the low-income designation: \$33,000 for a one-person household; \$38,100 for a two-person household; \$42,850 for a three-person household; and \$47,600 for a four-person household, said Tracy Condon, a spokeswoman for City Hall's Rent Control Board.

The City Council first voted in June to make the benefits available to all renters, regardless of income. Council members affirmed that vote at a second reading last week. This sets up the law to become effective in the middle of August.

Higher relocation amounts, on the other hand, already are in place. Because they are governed by resolution, and not law, they were increased immediately after the June vote, Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky said. Radinsky heads a special consumer protection unit at City Hall and frequently prosecutes land-

See TENANTS, page 6

Dog day afternoon



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A softball player swings away Sunday afternoon during a game on the diamonds at Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street. The Big Dogs squared off against the Coyotes as part of a summer co-ed league that plays weekly at the field.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

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



John Pacheco: On the edge of disaster

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

11th STREET — John Pacheco's career is a disaster waiting to happen.

He's spent half of his life responding to tragedies throughout the world — earthquakes, hurricanes, fires, floods, the LA riots and most recently, the July 16, 2003, Farmers' Market crash in Santa Monica.

Pacheco worked his way from a part-time blood mobile driver to a top administrator at the American Red Cross Los Angeles chapter and has seen the international organization change dramatically. He

became the executive director of the Santa Monica chapter last summer after he had spent a few months here "on loan."

It was when he was on loan from the LA chapter that Pacheco learned about the strength of the Santa Monica community. It left him with a strong enough impression that when the job as executive director came up, Pacheco took it — and a \$20,000 pay cut.

And responding to one of the city's most historic tragedies wasn't his only challenge as a newcomer. Pacheco had taken a post that been occupied with two previous leaders — one who had a questionable

See PROFILES, page 6

Jacquie Banks

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Good night's sleep, Virgo

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

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ The fun and games continue, even if it is Monday. Adjust your plans to new information and different ways of handling a problem. Your lively and resourceful mind emerges, coming up with one solution after another. Tonight: Don't act like it's Monday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Investigate new ideas involving a partnership, finances and creating greater security. Work on a minor re-adjustment to your vision. Build on your strong sense of self and well-being. Talk about changes. Tonight: Put your feet up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Keep asking questions, especially if you're not hearing the answers you need or the replies don't make sense. Your questioning and curious attitude helps you become a winner in your immediate circle of friends. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Expenses increase, especially if you don't eye efficiency in your daily life and at work. What are your priorities here? Discuss alternative ways of reaching the same goals and keeping more money in your pocket. Be generous to yourself, for a change. Tonight: Play away.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You are powerful, unbeatable, charismatic and resourceful. These characteristics emerge during your day, especially as you tackle issues and avoid a power play. Speak your mind loud and clear in a meeting. Tonight: Go for what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Your intuitive strength emerges when dealing with a boss or higher-up. You understand where you might need to back down or make a personal adjustment. Do just that, and you'll gain the type of long-term results you desire. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Aim high and go for your desires. You have the ability to make what you want happen. Do needed research and read between the lines. Trust your intellectual sense. Adjust plans, knowing full well what you want. Tonight: Hook up with your friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Others push hard, but you gain anyway, you stubborn Scorpio! Carefully think through an answer that involves finances and your career. You might want to put a little more of yourself into your pursuit of a career. Take charge. Tonight: Get guidance from a trusted partner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your fire energizes many — but especially you — to seek out unusual solutions. You find answers when others don't. Partners and associates are only too happy to work with new concepts and ideas. Tonight: Relax and read a good book or listen to a favorite piece of music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You deal with others well, especially on a one-on-one level. You have the right answers for each person because of your ability to look at each situation with new eyes. That ability separates you from others. Tonight: Get together with a dear friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Others step up to the plate and want to toss the ball to you. You are likely to hit a home run out of the blue. Your goals and/or immediate circle of friends might be changing. Be creative and open to others. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might be more entrenched in work than you realize. Be more upbeat with those who seek you out. A boss or superior needs information from you. Share as much as you know. You make quite a difference at the office. Tonight: Take a brisk walk and let go of your work.

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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

RAND graduates 20 doctorates

By Daily Press staff

New York Stock Exchange Chairman John Reed delivered the commencement address Monday at graduation ceremonies for the Pardee RAND Graduate School (PRGS), which awarded a record 20 doctorates in policy analysis.

Reed, who also is the retired chairman and co-CEO of Citigroup, challenged the new graduates to move policy analysis in support of decision makers in both the public and private sectors to new levels of insight and usefulness.

Both public and private organizations operate at the frontiers of their competence, and are always short of "good people" and always confronting an array of seemingly intractable problems, Reed said. Santa Monica-based RAND, which pioneered much of the quantitative fact-based analysis that should underlie decisions of importance, continues to be vital in improving capabilities and in training the professionals who are essential in dealing with the complexities and subtleties of our information-rich world, Reed said.

The commencement was held at the California Yacht Club in Marina del Rey, not far from Santa Monica where PRGS is located. The graduate school is part of the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit research organization.

PRGS offers the only accredited doctoral program based at an independent policy research institution. Founded in 1970, it has awarded 174 Ph.D.s in policy analysis, including those awarded today — more than any graduate school in the world.

This year's dissertations by the new graduates cover a broad range of topics including: The placement of inner city drug treatment centers, the kindergarten entrance age, factors influencing breastfeeding in the United States, health maintenance organizations, the design of clinical trials, melanoma screening, life insurance, local responses to chemical terrorism, the Chinese economy, Air Force purchasing and supply management, preparation of U.S. diplomats, and dealing with the impact of a deadly asteroid on Earth.

"There are only 20 of you, but you will have an impact on the shape of the world far out of proportion to your numbers," RAND Corp. president and CEO James A. Thomson told the graduates.

"You've spent the last few years working on RAND research projects, studying some of the greatest challenges facing the world," he added. "You've been trained not just to study what happened in the past, but to make new things happen in the future. You believe fiercely in getting out of the ivory tower, getting your hands dirty in the real world. You won't just wait for the future to come to you — you will work to help create the future."

PRGS currently has a record enrollment of 85 students, and the entering class for the upcoming academic year will be the largest since the school was founded — 26 students, chosen from about 800 applicants.

The RAND Corporation is a nonprofit research organization providing objective analysis and effective solutions that address the challenges facing the public and private sectors around the world, officials said.

Milken Foundation doles out \$80K

By Daily Press staff

Eight Los Angeles high school students each received an award of \$10,000 from the Santa Monica-based Milken Family Foundation's scholars program.

The 2004 recipients of the award were chosen from a pool of 100 nominated and interviewed applicants. Along with the \$10,000 award, the students also will have access to ongoing support and resources throughout college and also during their transition to either graduate school or a professional career.

"The young men and women we honor as Milken scholars have all demonstrated outstanding character, leadership and academic achievement in the face of significant obstacles," said Christopher Crain, senior vice president of the Milken Family Foundation and director of the Milken Scholars Program.

The award, which was established in 1989 by Co-Founder Michael Milken and his wife, Lori, has helped more than 200 students.

"The award is both a reward for what they have already accomplished and a way to support future endeavors in college and in their careers," Crain said.



SURF REPORT

On Monday look for a mix of building SW swell and increased NW wind swell. Northern LA County spots see SW swell produce inconsistent chest-shoulder-head high waves at the better exposed breaks, with a few bigger sets at standout spots. Breaks in the south half of the South Bay spots are in the 1-3' range off the wind swell. Breaks in the north half of the South Bay pick up the SW swell with inconsistent waist-shoulder high surf and occasional bigger sets at standout spots. Look for light wind in the morning to build out of the W in the 8-12 knot range for the afternoon.

Today the water is:

69°

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



LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	4:38	-0.5	3:31	2.6	11:17	3.8	9:46	6.1
SUNDAY	5:08	-0.5	4:07	2.6	11:46	3.8	10:19	6.0
MONDAY	5:38	-0.4	4:46	2.5	12:16	3.9	10:52	5.8
TUESDAY	6:08	-0.2	5:30	2.5	12:48	4.0	11:28	5.4
WEDNESDAY	6:38	0.1	6:23	2.5	N/A	N/A	1:21	4.2
THURSDAY	7:09	0.5	7:28	2.4	12:09	4.9	1:56	4.4
FRIDAY	7:42	1.0	8:50	2.2	1:00	4.3	2:36	4.6

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The Q Line

Los Angeles County health officials recently posted warnings at area parks that West Nile Virus could be in the area.

Officials recommend residents avoid spending time outside during dawn or dusk, drain any puddles of water where mosquitos gather, and wear bug repellent, shoes, pants and long sleeves when mosquitos are most active.

Though the sometimes-fatal disease hasn't been detected in Santa Monica, it is moving westward, and officials expect it will infect all

areas of LA County by the end of the year. There have been no reported deaths in California.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "How concerned are you about West Nile Virus? What steps, if any, should the city take to protect residents?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your responses by Friday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in our weekend edition. Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rent control hike not high enough

Editor:

Once again that happy time of year for building owners is upon us. The time when the great powers of Santa Monica Rent Control decide what the rent increase will be. Now, last year was low. About \$15 to someone paying under \$1,000 a month. But this year? 1.3 percent. Are you crazy? So all the many tenants paying around \$500 a month just got a raise of \$7. Wait, didn't we just have one of the largest real estate booms in the last 10 years, amounting to prices going up an average of 50 percent? Didn't the DWP, the gas company, and insurance rates all skyrocket? Aren't taxes on a run-down million dollar property just over \$10,000 a year?

I propose this question to Rent Control. Who are you really helping by passing this type of low increase? The majority of building owners are not rich. Who is going to pay for necessary upgrades to apartments that are not requirements? Upgrades that would significantly enhance the lifestyle of rent control tenants you are out to protect? New plumbing, updated wiring, weather efficient windows, pest control, paint jobs, gardening to name a few. Do you think someone would rather have these or save \$84 a year? When you pass a rent control price so low, you are forcing owners to make a sacrifice. When they are forced to make sacrifices, buildings and neighborhoods suffer. When neighborhoods suffer, Santa Monica will decline. Yet another of the many reasons to not re-elect any of the City Council incumbents.

It's now time for me to fire my gardener due to cutbacks.

Peter Shopay
Santa Monica

SMPD commended for arresting Pico criminals

Editor:

We would like to commend Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. and the police department for their recent arrests in the Pico neighborhood (SMDP, July 15, page 1). Working together with neighbors and property owners, the police department is making the neighborhood safer. We are pleased to be a part of their team in crime

fighting by providing surveillance tapes and private investigative reports. It fits into the chief's vision of community policing through cooperative and responsible private citizens.

Now let's see whether the DA's office will come through on their end. The police department certainly did.

Joan Ling
Executive director, Community Corp. of Santa Monica

Bush plan is working, be patient

Editor:

New job figures and other recent economic data show that America's economy is strong and getting stronger — and that the president's jobs and growth plan is working. The Labor Department announced that employers added 288,000 new jobs in April. In total, over 1.1 million jobs have been added since August, with eight consecutive months of gains. President Bush's pro-growth agenda, strong education system, and policies to help American workers gain the skills to secure good jobs are the right ways to respond to the challenges of our growing and changing economy. America has a choice: It can continue to grow the economy and create new jobs as the president's policies are doing, or it can raise taxes on American families and small businesses, hurting economic recovery and future job creation. The president's jobs and growth policies have put the economy on the road to recovery, but there is more work to be done. The president has outlined a six-point plan to create even more job opportunities for America's workers and keep America the best place in the world to do business. The plan includes: Enabling families and businesses to plan for the future with confidence by making tax reductions permanent; making health care costs more affordable and predictable; reducing the burden of lawsuits on our economy; ensuring an affordable, reliable energy supply; streamlining regulations and paperwork requirements; and opening new markets for American products and services.

Steve Gonzalez
Santa Monica

The hydrogen highway might be leading us to a dead end



**COMMON
SCENTS**

BY CAROLE ORLIN

Since my last column appeared in the SMDP two weeks ago ("Bush-wacked on the road to the hydrogen highway"), more doors continue to open. In that column, I focused on our dependency on the Middle East for oil, the frustration over the last three decades at making any serious progress of reducing our oil dependency by decreasing oil consumption and seriously exploring alternative energy sources.

The responses I received from the last column resulted in meetings with several Santa Monica residents, who have come forward and taken personal actions that make a difference in the quest for lessening our dependence on foreign oil and improving our environment. I made mention in my last column of Gov. Schwarzenegger's pledge to solve our problems by building a "hydrogen highway." This came about a year after President Bush made reference in his January 2003 State of the Union address to commit \$1.2 billion over five years to research the production of hydrogen as a replacement for gasoline in automobiles.

I started thinking back again to the 1970s when long gas lines produced unanimous bipartisan agreement with rhetoric about reducing our demand for foreign oil and developing alternative fuel sources. A trend appeared to follow by people who purchased smaller and more efficient automobiles. What happened to that trend? We are consuming more gasoline with the sale and purchase of less-

fuel-efficient vehicles.

According to Ward's Automotive Reports, V8 engines went into nearly one-third of all passenger vehicles built in North America for sale in the United States last year, the highest percentage since 1985. Each time a V8 engine is selected over a V6 engine, the driver will burn an extra 104 gallons per year with 15,000 miles driven. What about the incredible proliferation of SUVs? During the 1990s, California was forced to look at ways to meet air quality targets set by the Clear Air Act. By 2003, the California Air Resources Board had mandated that 10 percent of all new automobiles sold in California be emission free.

As the auto manufacturers like General Motors plunged into research and development of electric vehicles (EVs), the consumer was given mixed signals. A small number of EVs were produced like the Saturn EV1 (648 produced and all 648 eventually leased). Toyota got into the market with production of RAV4 EVs. Ford put forth its Th!nk Evs. The early critics attacked EVs as being too expensive, with too short of a driving range, and a minimal infrastructure.

There was no concerted effort at marketing the benefits of EVs to the general public: Zero emissions, quiet operation, powerful acceleration, no trips to the gas station, no oil changes, no tune-ups, no transmission. In short order, the automakers started shutting down their assembly lines. One example in point is Toyota. They originally proposed a retail program to span two years. However, within eight months, all 400 of their RAV4 EVs were sold, and the waiting list at dealerships was growing. Toyota reacted by refusing to make any more vehicles to meet customers' demands. Toyota ended their program 16 months early and justified it by referring to a "lack of demand."

To make matters worse, the automak-

ers took it upon themselves to take the majority of EVs (which were part of a lease program as opposed to outright ownership by the consumer) and send them to "crushers" when turned in at the end of their lease term, so they would be permanently off the road. This process is occurring in spite of loud complaints by customers to either permit them to continue their leases or to sell them outright. Interestingly, our own city has a fleet of 13 EVs with their leases coming to an end. Will we see them get caught up in this ridiculous crushing process?

The real irony here is that most of the current EV customers are incredibly enthusiastic supporters of them. This last week, several Santa Monica residents came by to share their experiences with my husband and me, and allowed us to drive their prize possessions. The two cars that we drove (a RAV4 EV and a neighborhood electric vehicle called a Gem) were great. My husband and I would have purchased the RAV4 EV on the spot if it had been for sale. Unfortunately, none have been made since about December 2002. None are scheduled to be manufactured, and the ones that are going to be coming off lease (you guessed it) are heading to the "crusher" for extinction. What a country.

So what do the automakers and the oil companies have in store for us down the road? In the long run, we are being told to get ready for the "hydrogen highway." Gov. Schwarzenegger and many others — all the way to the White House in Washington, D.C. — want our alternative source of energy for transportation to come from hydrogen fuel cells. It sounds interesting and clearly more than a little complicated. After looking at numerous studies, I came away with a number of serious concerns, including the following:

- According to automakers, we are decades away from being able to walk into a dealership and drive away in a fuel cell vehicle.
 - Fuel cell vehicles that operate on hydrogen made with electrolysis consume four times as much electricity per mile as similarly sized EVs.
 - With today's technology, EVs have twice as much driving range as current fuel cell vehicles. What this focus on hydrogen-powered vehicles seems to be accomplishing is deflecting attention away from energy efficiency in the present.
- Hybrid cars, which combine electric motors with small petroleum engines, are presently gaining popularity. Although these hybrids are powered by and require gasoline, they are showing demonstrably better fuel economy than our traditional powered vehicles.
- Energy security demands that we shift our energy use away from oil. We have known this for a very long time and have watched politicians and lobbying groups over the last 30-plus years create a real smoke screen. We are looking at a continuation of this petroleum inaction by deflecting attention away from real energy efficiency to a technology of hydrogen fuel cells that keep us on the same course for decades to come. Why not allow people to have access to electric vehicles? Why crush the ones that already exist? Why not support a technology that exists here and now? At the same time, let's educate motorists and encourage them to switch to and demand more fuel-efficient passenger cars like the hybrids that are now available in growing numbers. The alternative is to find ourselves in a very, very costly mess at all levels for generations to come.

(Carole can be reached at
Caroleorlin@yahoo.com)

OPINION



A thing's a thing, but even the trivial have value



HIP TO BE SQUARE

BY CAROLINE BODKIN

Last weekend I helped a girlfriend of mine pack up her apartment. By Saturday afternoon, everything she owned would be boxed up, wrapped up, thrown in and hauled off to storage. After that, she'll decide where she's moving next. For now, it was a whirlwind of ... stuff.

"What is all this crap?" she asked, holding up a sequin-covered stapler. "I don't even care about most of it, and here we are, still packing — on our Saturday — so we can be sure it will arrive safely in storage." She rifled through a box of miscellaneous items: Phone charger, extension cord, the top of a casserole dish whose bottom we're sure we packed already. "You know all of it could be lost in storage forever, and I'd probably never know the difference."

Probably not. Most of it probably doesn't mean much in the long run. When we're 80, we'll wonder why we loved our iPods so much, we'll remember cell-phones as being nothing more than driving hazards. I'll never be able to remember every item on the long list of things I've owned. A thing's a thing.

In high school, my CDs were my most prized possessions. I would lie under my purple overhead light and listen to Simon and Garfunkel, happy to ponder. In college, my 1989 4-Runner was my favorite. It secured my independence. After college, when I returned West, I talked on my new cell phone — the next prize — the entire way. They were all important to me. But were they important?

Now, years after I started collecting music, I own way more than I listen to. I traded in the 4-Runner for an Accord — a car's a car — and I'm pretty sure I could live without the cell phone. Yes, even in L.A. Really, it's all just stuff.

But we covet things. We work for them, window shop for them, save for

them, worry about them, talk about them, even fight over them.

Why?

Back at the apartment, as we packed all her things, her boyfriend was making room for her in his place, going through his things, clearing out closets and drawers. His things stayed where they were for the most part, since he wasn't moving, but as he went through it all, he came across letters, journal entries, photos. Memories, most of them. Some happier than others, some forgotten until then. Some of them were things he had kept for himself, but realized he wouldn't want to share with her, and so he got rid of them.

It's amazing how you can feel something so profound and then forget you'd ever felt it until a word or an image reminds you. The reminder is important.

I thought about things, why we love them, why we take care of them. In my lifetime I usually did not desire material objects because of what they were inherently, but because of what they provided: In some cases, a sense of freedom (Passports for traveling, music for day-dreaming, computers for access and exposure, cars to be mobile). Sometimes, things are just there to help us remember our lives. The items in a home tell us the home is ours. Journal entries from two years ago give today its proper distance.

That night, I sifted through my own things. I came across items that I had once valued or felt for, but had since forgotten. And after remembering them from a distance, I got to put them away again.

My friend could probably leave most of her stuff in storage and life would still go on. But I think it's OK if you want to protect the things that bring you joy, freedom or peace. It's OK to value the things you've earned. It's OK to safeguard your memories.

And it's just as good if, when the time is right, and the thing resurfaces, you decide to let it go.

(Caroline Bodkin lives in Los Angeles and recently had her stereo stolen. That's life. You can e-mail her at hiptobesquare-bybodkin@yahoo.com).

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COMMUNITYPROFILES

PROFILES, from page 1

background and another who had questionable management practices.

Pacheco's predecessor, Tom Miskimen, resigned due to health reasons. But when board members and Red Cross staff started to learn that Miskimen had been accused of financial misappropriations at his former job at an Iowa nonprofit, pressure started to mount. Even before Miskimen, many people close to the Santa Monica chapter had questioned the direction the organization was headed when it was led by longtime executive director Ray Corvan, who Miskimen replaced.

The morale seems to have turned around since Pacheco dug his heels into reshaping the organization, which recently has been able to balance its budget. Boasting 550 volunteers and 300 youth volunteers, the Santa Monica Red Cross appears to be moving past its previous challenges and reconnecting with the community.

Pacheco literally chose his career at random. Although he's an administrator now, Pacheco, 51, got his bachelor's degree in psychology and his master's degree in community clinical psychology. He applied what he learned to helping others cope with experiences of disastrous proportions.

He commutes from Sylmar, which has led him to a new pastime — books on tape. He is currently reading/listening to a Sherlock Holmes series. With a teenag-

er at home, Pacheco also has mastered video games and likes to play guitar with Andrew, his 14-year-old son.

Here, the Daily Press caught up with Pacheco at his office on 11th Street.

How did you end up in Santa Monica?

"At the Red Cross, the structure is such that when they have an exec out for whatever reason, they loan execs from other chapters to fill in. I was the associate manager for the Los Angeles chapter, and I was kind of the guy who they sent out when chapters around Southern California lost their execs for one reason or another.

There were a number of assignments I took in different chapters around the country. I moved into the administration from the program service area, so it was really logical and it was a matter of timing in selecting the right chapter that I had the best skill set for and could benefit from my experience. And Santa Monica — I wasn't expecting the vacancy to come up — I came here only because I was asked to be here for a couple of weeks until Tom got back.

I had been out on a number of other assignments. Frankly, I said to myself that the next time I go out I am just going to stay. When you put that much time and effort into a place, you want to stay. It seemed like a good match."

What's the last disaster you personally went to?

"The Farmers' Market. Going back to the Santa Monica chapter, one of the things that I was attracted to was it had a

core competency in its service delivery. They have a good staff. I think that was illustrated in the Farmers' Market. I think they had the ability to respond to a fairly significant and odd disaster. It wasn't our usual disaster.

I don't want to compare it to Sept. 11, but it was very similar in many ways. Up until that time, we didn't even talk about 'non-disaster' events that really are disasters. In the last four or five years, the definition has been broadened substantially. Now we are training people. We are helping to train people around the United States with what it is you do in the event of a mass casualty incident like the Farmers' Market.

What were the challenges of the Farmers' Market incident?

"The chapter did its job and responded. The first challenge that was presented is when the old fire chief said, 'Call the Red Cross,' if you need anything. The chapter wasn't set up for it. But within a few hours, not only had we installed lines and set up a hotline operation here, but we had used resources from the Los Angeles chapter. I was still affiliated with them so we could use their hotline for a few hours.

We had a good disaster nursing team. I supplemented it with some folks from LA who worked for me and got them set up because they had some experience in this kind of casualty incident. We contacted the hospitals and were trying to find where everybody was.

Within 24 or 48 hours, we had a good basic mental health team here. We start-

ed to increase the number of mental health counselors here. Within 48 hours, we were working with county mental health and working toward debriefings. It became more of a mental health operation. I think we spent about \$7,000 or \$8,000, which isn't a lot for a disaster. There wasn't things like people losing their homes.

We worked with the Chamber of Commerce in getting money for the victims.

We also got about 500 units of blood. The community really came together. We mobilized our volunteers, and they got in there early."

What do you like about the Santa Monica chapter and being here?

Besides the weather? It's smaller and in many ways, it's actually more like the norm of the Red Cross chapters. There are more small and mid-size chapters than larger chapters. Red Cross works much better in identifiable communities. If I need to do business with the city, or I need to talk to the fire chief, I can go talk to the fire chief. In Los Angeles, No. 1, there are 33 cities and No. 2, you would never get in to talk to the fire chief. It's much more direct here, it's more accessible.

It's much easier to demonstrate to the community what it is that you are doing, and I think there is more accountability. There is no place to hide in a small community, and I think that's good. Our life blood is based on what the community thinks of us.

I also like the sense of community. It

See PROFILES, page 7



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Fewer units being 'Ellised' in recent years

TENANTS, from page 1

lords under the city's tenant harassment ordinance.

Local landlord attorney Rosario Perry, often at odds with City Hall, accused elected leaders of being unfair by raising rates dramatically.

"They claim they've increased the relocation fees based on CPI (the Consumer Price Index)," Perry said. "However, in the same comparable period of time, the rent board has only increased rent by about one-tenth of the amount. Clearly, their relocation fees are meant to be punitive and, more importantly, they're meant to discourage owners from attempting to use their property."

As to extending relocation money to all tenants, regardless of income, Perry said it will be used to benefit rich tenants who use their units as second homes.

"What financial (help) does a millionaire need who's leaving an apartment that he probably spends no more than two or three months in a year anyway?" Perry asked. "Probably, the owner who wants to move in is being financially harmed greater than the tenant. But, like every-

thing the city does related to rent control, it's done regardless of financial need and rather done simply to encourage their political support."

Landlords can evict tenants in order to turn their apartment buildings into condominiums under a 1986 law called the Ellis Act. Relocation money originally was available to all renters, but City Hall changed that law in response to a 1992 California Court of Appeals ruling that said only low-income tenants were entitled to the benefits. In January of 2004, the state broadened the law to apply once again to all renters.

Though initially there was an influx of Ellis applications after the law was passed, officials said those filings have fallen off sharply. Many of the initial filings were related to landlords moving into their buildings, while most current applications have to do with tear-downs, officials added.

So far this year, 70 apartments have been taken off the housing market under the Ellis Act, Condon said. That's compared to 75 units in 2003, 92 units in 2002, 114 units in 2001, 210 units in 2000 and 126 units in 1999.



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COMMUNITYPROFILES

PROFILES, from page 6

may sound odd, but after LA? The Red Cross works really well in a defined community. You see it work. You see partnerships develop and grow.”

There were some issues surrounding previous Santa Monica Red Cross executive directors. What challenges did you face when you got here?

“I think morale was low for the staff and the volunteers. It always is when leadership changes. There is a level of guilt that permeates within an organization — that they thought they should have done this, or done that — and generally a lack of leadership and the board had not been in power. Some of the best people left. I don’t blame them.

You rebuild the confidence. You have to demonstrate that you are worthy of their support, and you don’t get that overnight. You treat your fiscal responsibilities just as serious as your services responsibilities. This was always one of the best chapters for service delivery. But that isn’t enough.

There are some who took responsibility for what happened, and there were others who pointed the finger ... rightfully so or not ... there was plenty of blame to go around. It wasn’t just them. While the board has the authority to approve an executive director, they only do that after the region has approved the candidate. Part of the process was the region let them down. There was some angst to get a new person in when the old director left. They felt leaving that position open for a long period of time was bad, but I think they could have taken more time and done much more due diligence.”

How did your career start at the Red Cross?

“There was a fire in downtown LA, and there were a number of deaths. At that time, Red Cross really didn’t have a mental health program like it does today. I had been doing bereavement counseling at the VA, as well. The social worker in charge of their disaster response realized she was beyond her skill level and she asked me to come on in the summer months and oversee the disaster response on that job. That

was it. I just got hooked. I spent half of my career overseeing disasters.

Los Angeles is probably the second busiest next to New York. I had the southern territory, which included the Watts neighborhood and most of the downtown areas. And that’s where most of the fires are. You’d average 350 a year, almost a fire a day. Plus the national disasters.”

How did you get into the military?

“I was in the last draft call of the war. I never thought I would have to go in. The war was winding down. I had asthma as a kid so I had a doctor’s note. It didn’t matter at all. It was June 1972. It actually wasn’t a bad experience at the beginning. But then I got sick. They make you run the rifle ranges — you get up at 5 a.m. and you would run five or 10 miles and by the time you finished, with the breeze, you’d be freezing. I ended up in the hospital and stayed there for about three weeks. I got recycled into a different company because I missed too much. They put me in a company that was an all-volunteer company, one of the first all-volunteer companies. They were going to send me to radio school. Because my dates were shifted, I had the option of doing something else, and there was a little French Canadian drill sergeant. His name was ‘Pepe Le Pew.’ He called me into his office one day and said, ‘Here college boy, you don’t want to be a radio man, that’s the second guy they shoot after the guy with the red cross on his helmet.’ He said, ‘C’mon you’ve already got your basic training, you can extend for a few months and go to school.’ He had this big book out, and I opened it up and honest to God, it said ‘mental health, social work psychology specialist.’ I said, ‘Can I get in to this?’

That’s how you started your’re career?

“Yes. Completely random. I never ever thought I would do that. I think I got a ‘C’ in psychology in college.”

Describe your career ascent from the Army.

“They sent me to Houston. I went through basic medic training because everyone did that. I went through three or four months of training to be a psychologist, essentially. It was kind of new in the military. I got to Georgia which was

Evac for the first year and a half for psychiatric casualties coming out of the Republic of Vietnam and direct casualties out of Germany. I worked in a mental health clinic and had a small psychiatric ward that I worked on. I was there for about a year, and the psychiatrist there had got discharged. They were having a hard time keeping doctors. I was the last one there.

There was some pretty significant psychiatric problems there and so it was really a new arena. I ran the clinic for about a year. They gave me the Army commendation medal for it. I thought that was kind of neat because you often don’t get medals and it said it was for my warm and compassionate nature, which I thought getting a warm and compassionate medal in the Army was pretty good.”

What was the worst disaster for you?

“There isn’t a name for it. But it was right before or after Hurricane Andrew. It was October 1985, and it was Puerto Rico. It was just incredible. It didn’t get a lot of press. It wasn’t rated as a hurricane, it was a tropical storm. It went through the south side of the island, and the deluge of water just literally flooded out entire villages. Whole villages just disappeared. It was not uncommon for them to find bodies every other day. It was tough in a lot of ways. The power was out. It was hot, humid, 100 degrees. It was a tough population to work with. I spoke a little Spanish because I had run some East LA disaster operations. If you had a fire or a disaster I could talk to ya, but nothing beyond that.

We used a lot of local volunteers who weren’t trained in disasters and there is some basic training needed to be efficient at it. It was a tough place to be. The living accommodations were atrocious, as they were often, but probably more so in this case. We ended up in some kind of

resort that had had mud come through. It went on for a long time.

The tragedy was in your face. We were using volunteers that had lost family members. And, that’s a tough little island. In the southwest portion of it, it’s run by these little local ‘alcaldes’ and each one of them has their own militias. So we were opening service centers in these little towns, and every time you went to one of them, you had to make a deal with the local alcalde. Sometimes I suspected that the local alcalde was also the local drug runner. You didn’t get a place opened up if you didn’t work out a deal with them.”

Was it difficult going into communities you knew nothing about?

“The politics were interesting. One of the things about the Red Cross is that you get to walk into a city unlike you would if you were just visiting or going to a meeting. You walk in at a time when the doors are all open. You are interacting at a level that would normally take years. That Red Cross symbol, because of what people assumes it stands for, and rightfully so in its neutrality, often lets you in places that you wouldn’t get in. It brings a certain moral authority in a non-religious way. You see things you wouldn’t see.”

How political is the Red Cross?

I think you need to be savvy to the politics of the city, particularly in a small community. The Red Cross has a neutrality, and you need to maintain that neutrality, but that doesn’t mean you don’t build friendships out there. With previous executive directors, the staff were told not to do that, but to stay in the office. I came here and told them to go out in the community, that’s what we do. I am meeting with many people in the community and building neat collaborations with them.”

John Pacheco, MA

Executive director, American Red Cross, Santa Monica chapter

Salary: \$72,000 a year

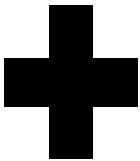
Residence: Sylmar, Calif.

Family: Wife, Sandy, who is an accountant. Daughter, Heather, 24, who attends San Diego State University. Son, Andrew, 13. Two beagles.

Hobbies: Listening to books on tapes, playing guitar and recreating in the eastern Sierra Mountains.

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STATE

Schwarzenegger renews his threats of change

BY JIM WASSERMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — By 2006, California could have a dramatically different political landscape, with part-time and more moderate legislators and a more streamlined state bureaucracy, if Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's renewed threats against the status quo catch fire with voters.

As the governor fights against a Legislature he says is resisting his calls for change, he is campaigning this weekend against individual lawmakers. He has again threatened to push a ballot measure to create part-time Legislature. Combined with an open-ballot primary initiative on the November ballot pushed by Schwarzenegger supporters, the crop of politicians elected in 2006 could find themselves both part-time and term limited.

"To the extent he gets stymied by a Legislature unwilling to come to grips with the issues, I think the voters are going to be totally sympathetic to making significant changes," says Sal Russo, a veteran Republican consultant.

The governor, who frequently campaigns as an anti-politician while also

attempting to master the Capitol's Byzantine ways, has recently resumed the outsider persona with a vengeance, deriding lawmakers individually and collectively, and threatening again to smash the political system. Rebuffed by both Democratic and some Republican legislators over his spending plan — and losing face over his promises to deliver a budget on time — the governor is taking aim at the state's governing institutions.

Analysts say the change in tone by a governor with 65 percent approval ratings, could, if sustained, have extensive repercussions on the nation's most extensive political system outside of Washington, D.C.

"Californians have this really interesting proclivity to really like reforming government," says Mark Petracca, political science professor at the University of California at Irvine. "It really is hard to find an example with a reform placed on the ballot where the public has not supported it."

Schwarzenegger, who already has his California Performance Review plans to cut state bureaucracy in motion, said in Long Beach on Friday he plans to call a

special election next year to make the Legislature part-time.

He's not bluffing, spokeswoman Ashley Snee said Saturday.

"I would say it's something he is seriously considering," she explained after Schwarzenegger's appearance in Ontario, where he urged people to tell their legislators to pass his budget.

The notion of a part-time Legislature coupled with term limits alarms many veteran political observers, including Barbara O'Connor, director of the Institute for the Study of Politics and the Media at California State University, Sacramento.

"They would be more dominated by big business and lobbyists and the infrastructure that surrounds the Capitol," she says. "I think that's not necessarily a good solution."

California's Field Poll director, Mark DiCamillo says he hasn't tested public opinion for a part-time Legislature, an issue Schwarzenegger first raised in April, but adds, "My instincts wouldn't be to dismiss it out of hand, that's for sure." His May 27 poll showed the Legislature with 27 percent approval ratings, less than

half the 65 percent given the governor Californians elected last Oct. 7 in a historic recall election.

California is one of nine states where lawmaking is considered a full-time job. Voters in 1966 scrapped the state's part-time Legislature for a new "professional" institution that quickly became hailed as a model for other states and the nation's best lawmaking body. Other states with full-time legislatures include New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

A June 10 Field Poll also showed 50 percent support for an open primary system that would let voters pick whomever they want in primary elections, regardless of parties, then send the top two choices to a November runoff. Though Schwarzenegger hasn't taken a position on the idea, many of his business supporters are behind it, believing it will bring more moderate voices to a Legislature widely viewed as dominated by right- or left-wing lawmakers.

Such partisan differences have become a key ingredient of Sacramento's annual budget standoff, producing late budgets from the Legislature every year since 1986.

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Wildfire near Santa Clarita forces hundreds from homes

By The Associated Press

SANTA CLARITA — A wildfire that broke out Saturday morning in northern Los Angeles County forced hundreds to evacuate their homes, while firefighters trying to corral another blaze in the region were aided by winds that allowed evacuated residents to return home.

The 2,000-acre Foothill Fire prompted fire officials to issue mandatory evacuation orders for Sand Canyon, a community of more than 100 homes, Placerita Canyon and the Placerita Nature Center. The Red Cross has set up an evacuation center at College of the Canyons.

The fire was 10 percent contained Saturday evening as 15 mph winds pushed the flames northeast.

No homes or structures have been destroyed, said Mike McCormick, a spokesman for the county fire department.

About 750 firefighters were on the scene and the wildfire was being fought with three water-dropping helicopters. No injuries have been reported.

The fire started before noon Saturday east of Highway 14. Authorities closed part of the highway and the parallel Sierra Highway. Firefighters manned a residential area west of Highway 14 in case the fire jumped across it.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Meanwhile, residents were allowed to return to their homes Saturday after a stubborn fire also burning in northern Los Angeles County shifted away from rural communities.

The Pine Fire about 45 miles north of Los Angeles had burned 16,008 acres by Saturday evening and was about 70 percent contained.

Increased humidity and weaker southeast winds helped firefighters corral the blaze, which is expected to be fully contained by Friday, said county fire department spokesman Scott Alber.

About 1,700 firefighters concentrated on the southwest corner of the fire Saturday, where the terrain is flatter and

fuels are lighter than the northeast part of the conflagration.

The cause of the fire is arson, Alber said. Since the fire broke out Monday, four homes, 15 outbuildings and one motorhome have been destroyed.

The blaze was one of dozens of wildfires in California during the week that burned across more than 32,000 acres.

Hundreds of residents began returning home to Lake Hughes and Elizabeth Lake on Friday night after winds pushed the flames away from the areas. Mandatory evacuations for other communities were lifted Saturday, said Ron Haralson, a spokesman for the county fire department.

Authorities had evacuated nearly 1,000 people from rural communities and set up two evacuation centers in Lancaster.

Some 200 teenagers were evacuated from two county juvenile probation camps near Lake Hughes as flames crept within several miles, said Ken Kondo, spokesman for the Probation Department. The youngsters, most of them convicted of nonviolent crimes, were taken to a probation camp in Lancaster.

In eastern San Diego County, the 8,867-acre Mataguay Fire that destroyed two homes and four outbuildings was expected to be controlled by Sunday night. The flames were ignited by bottle rockets set off near Lake Henshaw, and were 100 percent contained Friday night.

Other fires still burning Saturday in California:

■ The Verbenia Fire, which burned across nearly 4,000 acres west of Palm Springs in Riverside County, was fully contained Saturday evening. Two other fires that burned about 500 acres in the county near Lake Elsinore were also 100 percent controlled, said county fire department spokesman Alan Schmutz.

■ Seventy miles north of Los Angeles, a 510-acre wildfire on the eastern side of the Tehachapi Mountains was 90 percent contained Saturday evening after destroying a house and motorhome in Cameron Canyon.

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NATIONAL



Ranchers see 'predator friendly' as selling point

BY BECKY BOHRER

Associated Press Writer

BILLINGS, Mont.— While some of their neighbors opposed reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf, Arizona cattle producers Will and Jan Holder came to embrace it. For them, it provided a new marketing opportunity and the prodding to manage their operation in a way that benefits both predators and a ranching lifestyle in the West.

The Holders are part of a still-small group of livestock and wool producers considered "predator-friendly." They view peaceful coexistence with predators such as wolves as a basic principle, sound business decision and potentially profitable selling point to consumers.

Their approach goes beyond that of many other ranchers in the West willing to tolerate predators to a certain point: The Holders are among those who have refused to take lethal measures against predators — even those that might kill livestock — and instead change their practices to try to avoid conflicts.

"We don't believe it solves anything by killing a predator, and we like to see wildlife," said Jan Holder, whose family runs a cattle ranch in eastern Arizona and has encountered such predators as mountain lions, coyotes, bears and wolves.

But some livestock industry leaders view this predator-friendly approach warily, seeing it as little more than a novel, niche-marketing opportunity unlikely to gain much footing in the West, where predators are a regular, sometimes costly way of life for producers.

"How would you like it if I came up every few weeks and pulled \$500 from your wallet? That's pretty much what wolves do when they kill a calf," said Steve Pilcher, executive vice president of the Montana Stockgrowers Association. "Ranchers are going to have to get a pretty hefty premium to offset that cost."

Helping "predator friendly" ranchers command a premium price on products such as meat or wool is the idea behind a certification program administered by the Predator Conservation Alliance in Bozeman.

Certified ranchers — and there are only about a dozen so far, scattered from Arizona to Washington state to Vermont — can use a special brand with track marks in advertising and on certain products, said Janelle Holden, program director with the alliance.

The brand cannot be placed directly on meat because of federal labeling requirements, she said. But it can appear on signs at local markets and on restaurant menus, as well as on wool goods.

The idea is to give discriminating consumers with an environmentalist tilt another reason to buy the products, often already raised organically or naturally, she said. The program is too new to say how much of a premium the tag might draw on the market.

"At this point, no one's really saying, 'Buy my beef because we don't kill coyotes,' but 'Buy my beef because it's good for you and the environment,'" she said.

For the Holders, part of raising a healthy product and

protecting, even enhancing, rangeland conditions is recognizing the role played by predators — in helping keep rodents in check, for example — and managing their ranch to accommodate it.

Their cattle are no longer dehorned and are often moved, like the chickens, to keep them from being easy targets for predators. Often someone will camp with the cattle, in hopes that the human presence will help keep any predators away.

The family also buys cattle from like-minded producers for Ervin's Grassfed Beef, their company, which shuns the use of antibiotics or hormones in their cattle production and notes their predator-friendly status.

Jan Holder believes that, had they not taken these routes and changed the way their family ranches, they would have had to sell off.

"There are a whole lot more people that care about wildlife more than cattle ranching; that's reality," Holder said. "We're outnumbered. And unless we make changes, our lifestyle will cease to exist."

Conservationists like Nina Fascione at Defenders of Wildlife praise a predator friendly philosophy that promotes coexistence and a greater understanding between the ranching and conservation communities. She said her organization, which helps ranchers implement practices to help reduce conflict, has supported predator "management" if non-lethal measures are first exhausted.

Some certified practitioners admit the approach may not be for everyone, and Jan Holder said they might consider lethal action if faced with a "deviant" animal. Having a predator killed, regardless of the circumstances, would result in certification being revoked, Holden said.

"If we set it up so you could kill an animal every now and then, it's not really predator friendly," she said. Her group took over the program from a group that included ranchers and conservationists about a year ago and is trying to breathe new life into it.

Making a financial go of predator-friendly status is hardly assured. The Holders and Montana sheep rancher Becky Weed have been successful, Holden said, but have also tapped niche natural or organic markets. How big a part predator-friendly status played in that, she can't yet say.

Holden sees a potential for growth in the certification program, noting interest from producers like Mike Stevens in Idaho. But she also sees challenges to that, such as marketing, distribution and ensuring ample production to meet demand. One goal, she said, is forming a cooperative of producers interested in marketing together.

"I think that those already involved are committed to this and that has less to do with an economic benefit than their belief in this lifestyle," she said. "As we can prove an economic benefit, I think others may jump on the bandwagon."

Stevens considers his a predator-friendly philosophy that includes nonlethal steps — such as the presence of herders and guard dogs — to protect his sheep. But from a business standpoint, he believes certification could help

in marketing lamb.

One concern he has is being faced with chronic predation and significant losses, but he said he hasn't had a situation yet when losses could prompt federal wildlife officials to recommend killing offending predators.

"I haven't had to cross that bridge yet," he said.

Weed has had losses. This year, she said, foxes killed some lambs on her ranch near Bozeman. In that situation, the lamb and wool producer said, it's difficult to have "warm, fuzzy feelings" for the predators.

But Weed, who runs Thirteen Mile Lamb & Wool Co. and is certified predator friendly, said she set aside her emotions to look at the bigger picture, one in which she sees coexistence with wildlife as a privilege and responsibility, and their presence part of what makes living in the region special.

"This is not a romantic, cute notion to me. This is a deep-seated belief of the role of wildlife on the landscape," she said. "And I believe it's possible to figure out ways to cope with it."

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NATIONAL

Kerry gambles with discontent over optimism

BY WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — When it comes to voters' anxiety about the economy, this election year is a far cry from 1980, when Ronald Reagan famously asked: "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?"

Nor does 2004 measure up to 1992, when Bill Clinton's team summed up the campaign's theme with the memorable phrase: "It's the economy, stupid."

This year, Democrats John Kerry and John Edwards are gambling that there is enough lingering uneasiness about pocketbook issues that their message about a struggling economy and loss of jobs will resonate despite rising public optimism.

"It's the best issue they've got, especially in some of the swing states," said Democratic consultant Dane Strother.

But the senators have a bigger selling job than Reagan had in 1980 when he defeated President Carter or Clinton had in 1992 when he beat the first President Bush.

In June 1980, three-fourths of Americans disapproved of Carter's han-

dling of the economy at a time of rising inflation and little growth.

In June 1992, three-fourths disapproved of the elder Bush's economic performance when the economy was just starting to revive.

An AP-Ipsos poll this month found that voters were about evenly divided about the current president's handling of the economy, with 49 percent approving and 50 percent disapproving. Also, consumer confidence has been on the rise.

In a twist on the old Reagan question, those in the AP poll were asked: "Compared to four years ago, is your family's financial situation better today, worse today or about the same?"

Four in 10 respondents said better, 34 percent said the same and 26 percent said worse.

In July 1992, only one-quarter of Americans said they were doing better than four years earlier.

"By far, Kerry and Edwards have a harder case to make," said Marlin Fitzwater, a spokesman for Reagan and the elder Bush.

"In 1980, it was a successful argument

for President Reagan because everybody in the country felt the weight of the failing economy on a daily basis. It was a truly fearsome reality to see how inflation was taking hold," Fitzwater said.

Should the economy continue to improve, it could complicate the Democrats' message of protecting jobs and reviving the economy.

"The economy's still a big issue," said Mark Zandi, an economist at Economy.com. "But it's diminishing as the economy continues to improve."

The improving jobs situation is a mixed bag for the administration, Zandi said. "The quality of job creation is relatively poor. The job market will continue to resonate as a political issue right up to the election," he said.

While more than 1.5 million jobs have been restored since the economy's low point, Zandi said, the total is still more than 1 million lower than when Bush took office.

Some people have lost jobs and found other jobs at much lower wages.

"I'm certainly not doing better," said Garry Holden, a 54-year old supervisor of

a telemarketing company from Parma, Ohio. "I had to change jobs and got a lower-paying job with less satisfaction. I was a computer salesman. Now I'm supervising telemarketers."

Former presidential candidate Pat Buchanan said the Democrats' job is tougher now than it was for Clinton 12 years ago in the campaign.

"The one area where they can be effective with that message is the corridor from southern Michigan to Ohio to Western Pennsylvania to West Virginia," Buchanan said. "The jobs and trade issues could have resonance there."

For one Kerry strategist, the economy and jobs are effective campaign issues because many in the middle class have had to take lower-paying jobs and are paying more for health insurance, education and gasoline.

"When the president talks about the economy in glowing terms, it is a complete disconnect for those people," Tad Devine said. "Those people in the middle class are being squeezed by today's economy and that group probably will have a huge impact on the outcome of the election."

Panel to recommend new post to oversee intelligence

BY PETE YOST
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks will recommend a new Cabinet-level post to oversee the nation's 15 intelligence agencies and control their budgets, say two people familiar with the panel's final report.

The report to be released Thursday makes the case for a director of national intelligence by detailing intelligence failures by the CIA and the FBI that enabled the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to occur, they say. The two would only speak on condi-

tion of anonymity because the report has not been made public.

Putting in place a Cabinet official for intelligence would be the most drastic step in structuring the intelligence agencies since the CIA was created after World War II.

The CIA director now has loose authority over those agencies. But the commission in a preliminary report found that the director did not hold enough power, because the Pentagon controls more than 80 percent of the nation's intelligence budget. As a result, CIA requests to other agencies are often ignored.

Advocates say the plan for a Cabinet offi-

cial for intelligence is gaining momentum as the Bush administration faces criticism for going to war with Iraq based on flawed intelligence that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. The idea of a new intelligence chief is fiercely opposed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry has advocated the creation of a director to oversee all facets of the nation's intelligence. He also wants to double spending for clandestine operations and accelerate FBI changes to improve its handling of domestic intelligence.

A Senate Intelligence Committee report

released July 9 concluded that the CIA provided false assessments of the Iraqi threat. GOP leaders and President Bush say the CIA is to blame and they have urged an intelligence overhaul. Some Democrats also believe the administration might have unduly pressured analysts.

The idea of a single intelligence director is not new. It was recommended by a joint congressional committee that investigated the Sept. 11 attacks and by a presidential commission headed by Brent Scowcroft, a former national security adviser.

The Senate committee plans hearings in the coming weeks on changes among the intelligence agencies. The chairman, Sen. Pat Roberts, has said Congress should not act hastily. "We have got to get it right," said Roberts, R-Kan.

The White House would be willing to consider the idea. "The president has made it clear that he is open to further reforms," White House communications director Dan Bartlett said Saturday.

The New York Times first reported on the recommendation.

Acting CIA Director John McLaughlin said in a recent speech that a Cabinet official for intelligence would mean "additional layers of command or bureaucracy."

Creating such a post "is not the best answer to the real challenges American intelligence faces in the 21st century," McLaughlin said. Instead, said McLaughlin, the government can make progress on intelligence by "modernizing the structures we already have."

The commission was established by Congress in 2002 to investigate government intelligence lapses before the attacks and recommend ways to better protect the country against terrorists. The commission has interviewed more than 1,000 witnesses, including Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney, and reviewed more than 2 million documents.

The report will be posted on the Internet and sold in bookstores and through the government printing office.

(Associated Press reporters Hope Yen and Katherine Pfleger Shrader contributed to this report.)

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Thousands pay for chance to breathe radon in mines

BY DARYL GADBOW

Associated Press Writer

BASIN, Mont. — Is health, like beauty, in the eye of the beholder?

If that's the case, thousands of people every year find healing relief from a variety of ailments — from cataracts and emphysema to arthritis and migraine headaches — at Montana's most unusual health facilities — the radon health mines of Boulder and Basin, Mont.

The two small towns, located a few miles apart between Butte and Helena on Interstate 15, are the only known places in North America where people come and pay to breathe the radioactive radon gas that occurs naturally in the mines — for their health.

Radon is a gaseous radioactive element that is derived from the radioactive decay of radium, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which calls it "extremely toxic."

The Montana public health agency "doesn't encourage (the mines') use," said Dr. Todd Damrow of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Service. "But people are free to use them."

And they do, by the thousands every year. Many people make annual pilgrimages to the Merry Widow and the Earth Angel mines in Basin, and the Free Enterprise and Lone Tree mines in Boulder. Owners of the mines dismiss the EPA warnings about radon as "government propaganda."

"It's not harmful at all," said Patricia Lewis, owner of the Free Enterprise Mine.

The opinion of many physicians, however, is altogether different.

"It's hard to believe that something like radon, which we know to be a carcinogen, people will pay to go sit and inhale it," said Dr. Peggy Schlesinger, a Missoula

physician specializing in arthritic conditions.

But people suffering from the chronic pain of arthritis are often desperate, she said.

"People are always looking for alternative treatments," Schlesinger said. "But radon is a clear, bad actor. It's a carcinogen. I don't get it."

Dwayne Knutzen, owner of the Merry Widow, was visiting the Basin area from Washington four years ago and found the mine and its campground for sale.

"I was like everybody else," he said. "Radon? That can't be good for you."

But the more he researched, he said, the more he was convinced.

"The only reason I bought the place is it's so fascinating," Knutzen said. "You hear all these bad things. But you can't ever find anybody who died from it. And there are all these benefits."

Arthritis is the most common malady of people seeking relief in the radon mines, according to Knutzen.

He estimated that a couple of thousand people visit the Merry Widow for therapy every year.

"They come from everywhere — the Philippines, Europe, the U.S., Canada," he said. "A lot come every year. One guy has come every year since 1962. He's 95 now."

Knutzen charges \$3.50 for one-hour "treatments" in the mine.

"The biggest bang for your buck is the first hour," he said. "You go in for an hour. Your blood stream will absorb the maximum amount in the first half hour. Then your skin absorbs it. Most people make three visits a day for about 10 days, usually 30 to 32 hours while they're here."

"There are tons of skeptics," he said. "I've gotten lots of testimonials from them too. They're the best ones."

Schlesinger attributes the testimonials for the radon health mines, in part, to a placebo effect. Visitors expect to feel better, she said, so they do.

"There's a 30 percent placebo response to anything," Schlesinger said. "And I'm grateful for whatever works to make people feel better. ... But I wish they'd take the radon out and just go to the mine."

People should be aware, she added, that there have been significant, major advances in the medical treatment of arthritis in the past five years.

"All in all," she said, "it is a great time to have arthritis."

While the owners of the mines don't guarantee any cures, legions of visitors claim that their health has greatly improved from inhaling the radon gas. The mines have received considerable national publicity in recent years, most recently in a National Geographic magazine article in January.

But radon therapy is not new, the owners said.

In Eastern Europe and Russia, the use of hot springs with high radon content dates back some 5,000 to 6,000 years, according to the Free Enterprise Mine Web site. And radon "clinics" and underground "galleries" are popular there today.

All of the radon health mines in Basin and Boulder were once working mines dating from the 19th century. In Basin, the mines produced gold and silver. Those in Boulder also produced uranium, the source of radon in all the mines.

An incident in 1950 led to the accidental discovery of the mines' purported curative powers. The story goes that a California woman suffering from arthritis accompanied her husband, a miner, to the Free Enterprise uranium mine. Following her visit, she claimed to find freedom from her continuous pain. She told a

friend, who also reported relief from arthritis pain. More visitors came as word spread.

At one time after that initial excitement in the early 1950s, there were as many as 16 radon health mines operating in Boulder and Basin, according to Free Enterprise owner Lewis.

"Everybody with a hole in the ground jumped on the bandwagon," she said. "But they didn't all work. Some didn't have significant radon concentrations."

The Merry Widow mine shaft, carved smooth by miners through solid granite more than a century ago, takes guests 450 feet into the mountain. The temperature remains constant year-round at around 55 to 60 degrees, Knutzen said.

At the end of the passage, the tunnel is enlarged to create an elongated, grottolike room where as many as several dozen visitors can sit facing each other on padded vinyl benches along the walls. The mine's spring water collects in a shallow pool there, where guests can soak.

A small bookshelf near the benches offers paperback books, magazines and board games. An alcove branching off to the side of the room contains a card table and chairs.

Lyle Long, 71, and his wife Beverly of Everett, Wash., were visiting the Merry Widow last month for the fourth time in five years. He has arthritis. His wife has trouble breathing.

"It seems to help here," he said. "Oh yeah, it makes a big difference for me."

Larry Sloan, 73, of Cheyenne, Wyo., has myelodysplastic syndrome and has been coming to the mine regularly since last summer.

"I just feel like a different person after I've been here," he said. "It may not be curing anything. But it makes me feel better."

Arafat consolidates security forces, replaces national police chief

BY MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH

Associated Press Writer

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat agreed Saturday to consolidate his security forces into three branches, a key international demand for reform, a top aide said.

Arafat also replaced the national police chief, who was one of six Palestinians and foreigners briefly abducted in a wave of kidnappings a day earlier, and named two new top officials in a shake-up of his security machine, said the aide, Nabil Abu Rdeneh.

The Palestinian leader appointed his cousin Mousa Arafat al-Qidwe, 64, as the new security chief for the Palestinian territories.

The announcements came after Arafat

met his prime minister, Ahmed Qureia, and shortly before Qureia summoned the Palestinian Cabinet for an urgent meeting on the security crisis in the Gaza Strip.

Hours earlier, Arafat's National Security Council declared a state of emergency and sent troops to protect government buildings and officials from militant factions.

There have been several shake-ups of the Palestinian security services since the outbreak of Israeli-Palestinian fighting nearly four years ago, but none lived up to the international community's expectations for reform.

However, the latest realignment appeared to be more sweeping than any previous attempt.

The Palestinian government called the emergency after Police Chief Ghazi Jabali

and another senior security officer were seized by militants Friday and later released.

Four French charity workers also were abducted and held for several hours, as militants made an apparent show of force before the announced withdrawal of Israeli forces and thousands of settlers from the Gaza Strip.

"This is a true disaster," Qureia said Saturday outside his offices before meeting Arafat. "This is a level of chaos that we have never seen before."

Egypt and the quartet of international peacemakers — the United States, Russia, the United Nations and the European Union — have been pressing Arafat to bring rival security factions under unified control. More than a dozen security

branches now operate in the areas, often fighting each other.

An Egyptian plan specifically called for the streamlining of the services into three branches in Gaza and the West Bank.

Abu Rdeneh said the security forces would be the national police, public security forces and intelligence.

Mousa Arafat, who has been with his first cousin since the early days of the Palestinian national struggle in 1965, replaced Abdel Razzak AL-Majaideh who was considered ineffectual.

The Palestinian leader also appointed Saeb al-Ajez as the new police chief for the West Bank and Gaza, replacing Jabali who has been widely accused of corruption.

The chief of intelligence was not immediately named.



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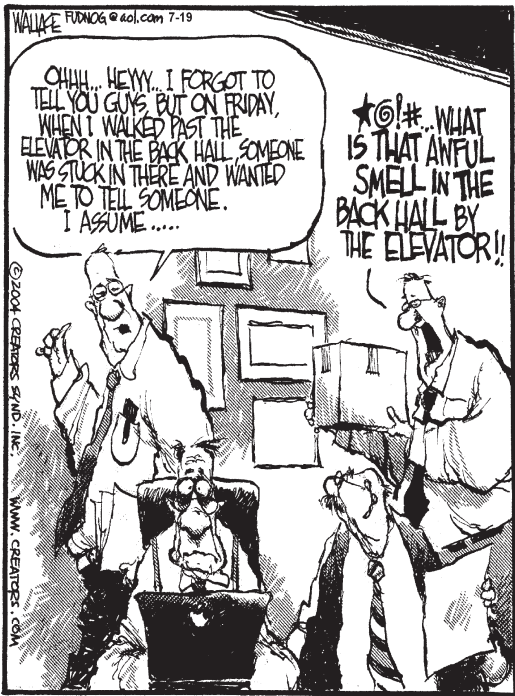
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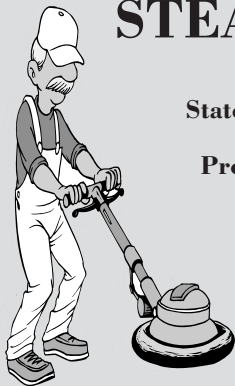
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V6 3.5 Liter, Automatic,
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Leather, ABS
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SANTA MONICA Unf., Studio, 1 bath, 818 Cedar St., w/c pet, r/s, carpets, newly re-modeled, parking included, one year minimum lease, utilities included www.westsiderentals.com

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Personals

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1524029 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Masterwork Ball Bonds, 515 W. Gardena Blvd. Suite 85 Gardena CA 90248. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Deyana Louise Moten This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Deyana Louise Moten This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1527238 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Ron's Limo Service, 10876 Tonibar Street Norwalk CA 90650. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ronald Andrew Gonzalez This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ronald Andrew Gonzalez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/15/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1540302 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as 1st Class Casino Devices, 1245 E. Wanamaker Drive #D Covina CA 91724. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : David Carlin This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: David Carlin This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/16/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1541106 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as AM Signs, 11412 S. Central Ave. Los Angeles CA 90059. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Maria Estrada This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Maria Estrada This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/16/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1555609 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Ahmed Tobacco,

DBAS

4420 S. Figueroa St. Los Angeles CA 90037. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ahmed A. Hassan This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ahmed A. Hassan This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/17/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1553726 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Mora Rooter, 420 Holger Drive Montebello CA 90640. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Henry Mario Mora This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Henry Mora This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/17/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1554337 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Western Grill BBQ, 935 Yosemite Court San Dimas CA 91773. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ani Ekizian This Business is being conducted by, husband and wife. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ani Ekizian, Albert A. Ekizian This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/17/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1553117 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as B Kaiser Consulting, 220 W. Grand Avenue El Segundo CA 90245. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : FDOG, LLC 3915 Chestnut Ave. Long Beach CA 90807 This Business is being conducted by, a limited liability. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Joyce Kaiser, Managing Officer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/17/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1512905 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Fruty Bionicos, 9446 Whittier Bl. Pico Rivera CA 90660. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Maricruz Chicas This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/14/2004. /s/: Maricruz Chicas This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE

DBAS

NO. 04-1511624 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Elegant Referrals, 7739 Bradwell #7 Whittier CA 90606. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Earl Sampson This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Earl Sampson This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/28/2004

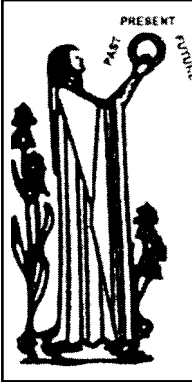
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1510504 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as RS Enterprises Printing Division, 6606 Templeton Street Huntington Park CA 90255. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ricardo Ramirez This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/14/2004. /s/: Ricardo Ramirez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1504784 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Carla's Sport Center, 3652 E. 3rd Street Los Angeles CA 90063. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Claudia Carmona This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Claudia Carmona This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1504783 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Ana's Fashion, 6111 S. Main Street Los Angeles CA 90003. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Reynaldo O. Rodriguez This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Reynaldo O. Rodriguez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/14/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 04-1540912 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Victor's Hauling, 1117 W. 119th Street Los Angeles CA 90044. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Victor G. Yuvte This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/16/2004. /s/: Victor G. YuvteThis statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/16/2004. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/28/2004, 7/5/2004, 7/12/2004, 7/19/2004

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE


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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Cosby avoids confrontation in return to 'Parent Power'

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — Bill Cosby avoided his recent criticism of some segments of the black community, instead sticking to humor and praise for parents during a charity event for at-risk children.

Many in Saturday night's crowd had expected Cosby to continue his series of remarks urging blacks to stop blaming others for social problems such as teen pregnancy, poverty and academic underachievement.

Cosby appeared before a packed crowd at Zo's Summer Groove, which is organized by former Miami Heat center Alonzo Mourning.

Cosby, wearing a sweat shirt reading "Parent Power," joked that his parents and grandparents always knew exactly what he was up to.

"All day long, you were watched," he told the audience. "Even if there was a drawn shade, there was at least one eye peeking out of it. My mother knew everything I did."

In May, Cosby stunned an audience commemorating the landmark civil rights ruling Brown vs. Board of Education by citing elevated school dropout rates for inner-city black students and criticizing low-income blacks for not using the opportunities the civil rights movement won for them.

Cosby made similar comments this month at a gathering of black community activists in Chicago, when he said many young blacks are illiterate and "going nowhere."

On Saturday, he made an indirect allusion to those remarks, saying that television star Art Linkletter once told him, "'You know, Bill, as you get older, you're in sync with 5-year-old people and you don't really give a damn about what people think about what you say.'"

Before Cosby's speech, Mourning said he did not hesitate to invite the entertainer.

"No, because it's the truth. The truth is confrontational," Mourning said.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Perennially perky Sandy Duncan is slamming what she considers the sorry state of Broadway musicals.

Duncan stars in a two-week run of "The King and I" starting Tuesday.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical marked her professional debut as a 12-year-old in Dallas.

But now, at 58, she said an industry once run by producers with vision and heart has devolved into a business run by "money men who don't have an eye for the product."

"It used to be that producers would make a profit, with the idea that they would put that money into a new show," Duncan told the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

"Now, they want to make a killing, and so they're flogging these shows into 10-, 12-, 14-year runs. It hurts the whole creative community."

The result, she said, can be seen in the lack of new titles on Broadway and on the road. Her six-month tour as Anna in "The King and I," she said, just proves her point.

"Shows like this are being done to death because there's no new product," she said.

Duncan's Broadway credits include "Peter Pan," "My One and Only" and, most recently, "Chicago." She said audiences in the rest of the country are being cheated by productions that claim to be Broadway musicals but are pale imitations, with diminished technical qualities and less-experienced, nonunion actors.

"A lot of what's coming out of New York is dreck; they should be touring them in theme parks," Duncan said. "And then on top of that, they do it on the cheap so they can make more money. It's immoral, and it tricks

the public."

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Hustler Magazine publisher Larry Flynt is expanding his pornography empire to South Florida, opening an upscale sex shop despite opposition from this city's mayor and others.

Hustler Hollywood is supposed to open Friday, and Flynt is scheduled to visit on Aug. 3.

"In every city we open a store there is always some politician who needs to showboat before his religious or conservative constituents about keeping us out," said Flynt, 61, who's currently on a national 19-city book tour.

Mayor Jim Naugle and city Commissioner Dean Trantalis had spearheaded an attempt to block Flynt by changing a city zoning law.

Currently "less than half" of a store's inventory can be sexually oriented if it's within 500 feet of a residential area. Otherwise, the city can shut it down.

Naugle and Trantalis wanted the ordinance changed so a store could be closed if a "substantial" amount of its inventory was of a sexual nature. But, after Flynt threatened to sue, the Fort Lauderdale City Commission voted against the notion.

Naugle says he won't be rolling out the red carpet for Flynt.

"I am not happy about Flynt coming into town and opening his store," Naugle said. "If he sends me an invitation where I have to call and RSVP, his phone is not going to ring."

Trantalis declined to comment.

Flynt insists that politicians know his Hustler Hollywood stores are not sex stores in the traditional sense.

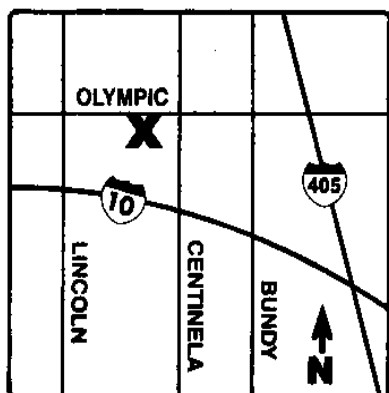
"These are upscale shops where sexuality is presented in a clean, healthy, natural way, which is why 50 percent of our customer base are women," Flynt said.

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