



TWILIGHT RHYTHMS
SEE PAGE 11

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE ENTERTAINING DILEMMA ISSUE

Much needed dose of reality

Santa Monicans are up for TV's challenges in many ways

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

IN REALITY The stars that populate Santa Monica streets don't only arrive via the movies and television sitcoms. From contests crowning the country's comedy matriarch to battles determining who can last the longest eat-

ing nothing but bugs, reality television in Santa Monica is not only popular to watch, but increasingly popular to participate. The list of reality shows starring Santa Monica residents — both long-time and newcomers — is extensive, including titles such as Nick @ Nite's "Funniest Mom in America," "Project Runway," "On the Lot," "Survivor" and "Grease: You're the One That I Want." The contestants are city employees, like Santa Monica Police Department Officer Cristina Coria, who starred in "Survivor: Cook Islands" last year, and entrepreneurs like Aras Baskauskas, who won \$1 million on "Survivor: Panama."

The latest show to cast the city's own is a new series produced by the Food Network, entitled "The Next Iron Chef," starring Josie Restaurant's Chef de Cuisine Jill Davie. Davie and seven elite chefs from across the country will vie for a spot in a rotation of Iron Chefs that compete regularly in the network's popular series "Iron Chef America." The reality series premieres in October. "We're totally thrilled that she's on 'Iron Chef' and we hope she kicks butt," said Josie Le Balch, the owner and executive chef of Josie.

SEE REALITY PAGE 8

LIFESTYLE

PRIVATE LIVES OF TREES

City officials hope to safeguard area's lush shade canopy

STORY BY KEVIN HERRERA PAGE 6

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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Calendar

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THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



'10 Things I Hate About You' screening

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

The Santa Monica Public Library will screen the last Teen Angst Summer Film screening — "10 Things I Hate About You," starring Heath Ledger and Julia Stiles. All ages are welcome. Seating is first come, first served.

Good nutrition, good health

1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Public Library, in collaboration with Co-Opportunity, presents a discussion on how to stay well by Reza Ghassemloo from the Acupuncture and Nutrition Center.

'Chef Days with Chef Dave'

2201 Wilshire Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Whole Foods Market presents Chef Dave in a presentation on meal preparation.

Shaolin Temple Monks

1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga, 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.

The Henan Province Performing Arts Ensemble and the Shaolin Monks Martial Arts Troupe will present four traditional Chinese art forms: Kung Fu, Tai Chi, Classical Instrumental Music and Peking Opera. Ticket prices range between \$15 and \$40. To purchase tickets or for more information, call (310) 455-3723 or visit www.theatricum.com.

Yappy Hour @ Tails of Santa Monica

2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

A social gathering for dogs and their people. There will be light refreshments, dog snacks and play time. For more information, call (310) 392-4300.

Friday, July 20, 2007

Thump your rump

3321 Pico Blvd., 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.

Club Tubthump is moving their "90s Nights" to Santa Monica Bar & Grille. Tubthump features an assortment of '90s music, ranging from En Vogue to Nirvana to the Spin Doctors. No cover charge. For more information, visit www.smbgrocks.com.

'A Digital Spring' Auction

1332 Sixth St., 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.

All 21 pieces shown in this exhibition were donated to the YMCA in order to help the Senior Programs. Besides those from the Emeritus College, Fabian Lewkowicz, YMCA Board member and photojournalist, participated in this venture and donated several of his works. These works will be auctioned to raise funds for the YMCA Senior Programs when the exhibition ends.

'Pure'

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Daniel Francisco's current exhibit, "Pure," is on display at Kulturas Books. For more information, call (310) 450-8707.

Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m.

Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

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





STEP OFF

Bernie Rodriguez (top), of Curscio Enterprise Inc., spray-paints a no-walking stencil along the Santa Monica beach bike path on Monday, as Eduardo Venegas (bottom left) removes another. Crews were repainting 29 signs along the path this week. Bikers have long complained about pedestrians on the path, posing a safety threat to riders and themselves.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com



Strike may not happen

Union, grocers reach tentative agreement

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITYWIDE Grocery workers can leave those freshly-made picket signs in the storeroom.

The region's three major supermarket chains and their workers struck a tentative deal on the terms of a new labor contract on Tuesday, potentially closing the chapter on more than six months of contentious negotiations with Albertsons, Ralphs and Vons.

The 63,000 members of the United Food and Commercial Workers are expected to ratify the agreement on Sunday, in what union officials call a fair deal with wage increases and improvements to health care coverage.

"People in Southern California stood strong in the fight for decent wages and affordable health care," said Rick Icaza, the president of UFCW Local 770.

The new contract covers seven local UFCW chapters, from Bakersfield to the Mexico border.

Terms of the contract will remain sealed until Monday.

"The companies are very pleased that they've been able to reach these mutually beneficial agreements

on new contracts," said Adena Tessler, spokeswoman for the three grocers. "The companies feel that these new agreements

PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STOOD STRONG IN THE FIGHT FOR DECENT WAGES."

Rick Icaza
President of UFCW Local 770.

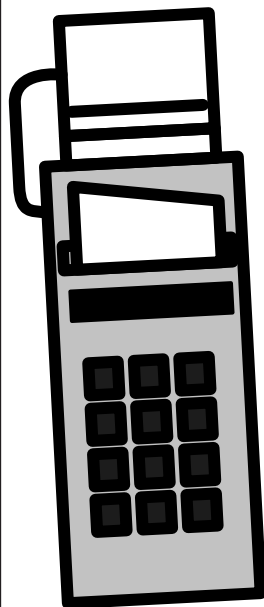
SEE AGREEMENT PAGE 7

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by these architectural mysteries.

RICHARD BROUWER is a 'neutral observer' living on the edge in The Netherlands.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'The Duke' wasn't such a stand-up guy Editor:

"That Rutherford Guy" praising John Wayne ("John Wayne was absolutely for real," July 17) was fine, as long as he kept to his movie roles. But then (John Whitehead) wrote: "Off-screen, he was much like the characters he played on-screen."

Oh, really? Is that why Wayne was known back then for having "fought three war films for his country?" This brave star of Hollywood formed a smear group with wanna-be Joe McCarthy witch-hunters, exposing chosen "Communists."

Yeah, lovely guy.

If "John Wayne was the real deal," he should have used his real name – Marion Morrison.

Henry Rosenfeld
Ocean Park

For immigrants, game has changed Editor:

As compelling as immigration reform appears dressed up in racism overtones, as the new economy takes on the old, there are reasons to question the quality of communications to Latinos.

What we see at present are the characteristics of an employment market in transition. Industrial mergers, acquisitions and plain old business sense are as pertinent now as they were in the '50s, with one exception – groups, rather than individuals, are now being affected by globalization. American life is now criss-crossed by very visible trip wires of emotional, racial grievances simply because we are not told that high-paying three-shifts-a-day manufacturing opportunities, which used to absorb high work ethic Latinos, are no longer positive safety valves!

Whereas Detroit's auto industries, and their parts subcontracting stakeholders saw a bright future in eventual assimilation, no such hope exists now as America can no longer take in and make people from many nations part of its generous own, as we see such companies as Delphi moving factories south, of all places, to Mexico!

Frank Muller
Santa Monica



The Soap Box

Bennet Kelley

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Exposing Bush's Orwellian reality

THE WHITE HOUSE'S RELEASE LAST week of its "Initial Benchmark Assessment Report" on the effectiveness of the surge in Iraq and its invoking executive privilege to block Congressional investigations highlighted the fact that the essential text to understanding the Bush years is not Bob Woodward's "State of Denial," but rather George Orwell's "1984." In his classic novel, Orwell makes two fundamental points that go to the heart of the Bush administration and their current battles with Congress — information is power since control of information leads to control over people; and "who controls the past controls the future and who controls the present controls the past."

It was clear from the start that the White House understood that information was power as they carefully choreographed every message with visual images or slogans such as "Clear Skies" that moderated the actual substance being conveyed. With David Suskind's 2002 interview with a White House aide, however, we discovered that in the Bush administration basing policy on a "discernible reality" was a thing of the past. "[W]e create our own reality. And while you're studying that reality ... we'll act again, creating other new realities."

Indeed they did. Like no administration before it, the Bush administration has worked diligently at creating new realities by concealing, distorting and manufacturing information on a broad range of issues aided by a once timid media and docile Congress.

Last week's report on progress in Iraq was the administration's latest pièce de résistance. While the report's claim of success on eight of the 18 benchmarks set by Congress was pure spin and contrary to testimony by the Chairman of the National Intelligence Council that there have been "few appreciable gains," the press ran with the report's glass half-full assessment.

As the Bush administration churned "new realities," Representative Henry Waxman worked diligently within the Republican Congress to expose these false realities with reports on the Bush administration's Iraq lies, politicization of science and overall secrecy. The Democratic victory in November moved Waxman to Chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee and has enabled him and other Democrats to shine a spotlight on Bush's reality machine.

Waxman currently is investigating one of the quintessential administration realities — the death of football star Pat Tillman. The Pentagon claimed that Tillman was killed leading a charge against the enemy; when, in reality, he was killed by friendly fire. The Bush

administration, however, will not relinquish their secrets without a fight, as they have gone to Nixonian extremes in invoking executive privilege to withhold evidence from Congress in the Tillman and other investigations, and even attempted to claim that the vice president was a separate branch of government.

While issues such as executive privilege, the White House's failure to retain presidential records and Bush's order restricting access to his records after he leaves office may appear mundane, Orwell teaches us that this is a much larger and significant battle as the White House is seeking to engrave its manufactured realities in the tablet of history by discarding or eliminating access to the truth. This administration already has demonstrated that it views history as another form of reality to be created when it discarded 300,000 pamphlets on helping children learn history because it embraced historical standards that were "too gloomy" and not white enough for Lynne Cheney.

History matters, since, as historian David McCullough notes, it is about "who we are and why we are the way we are." This explains why history sometimes remains in debate for decades, or even centuries, or is rewritten to fit government propaganda such as in the former Soviet Union, where it was said that "nothing is as unpredictable as the past." Consider the fact that during the past few months alone, Turkey has engaged in diplomatic skirmishes with Canada, Chile and France over their recent recognition of the 1915 genocide of 1.5 million Armenians; while Japanese officials enraged China by seeking to reduce the number of victims of the 1937 "Rape of Nanking" from the historical consensus of 150,000 to 20,000. These examples demonstrate that the "Whitewashing History Club" is a rogue's gallery, not a gentlemen's club, and it is telling that the administration is seeking early membership.

Maya Angelou once said that "history, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again." That is precisely what is at stake in this current battle. Congress must not yield in this fight, since although it cannot undo the cavalcade of catastrophes that have defined this administration, by countering each fabricated reality with the truth and enabling future generations to recognize the charlatan's call, it can ensure that they are not repeated.

BENNET KELLEY is co-founder of the Democratic National Committee's Saxophone Club and the recent winner of an L.A. Press Club award for commentary.

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ARE YOU ENTERTAINING?

THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS IS CURRENTLY **LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS AND INTERNS** TO HELP US AUGMENT OUR **ENTERTAINMENT COVERAGE**. EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD IS GREAT, BUT WE'LL TALK TO ANYONE WITH **A FRESH VOICE AND A WILLINGNESS TO WRITE ORIGINAL AND, AHM, ENTERTAINING COPY**. GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Putting the 'wild' in wildlife for a change

WYOMING GAME AND FISH BIOLOGISTS said last week that the recent hot, dry weather in the West has produced a meager berry crop. As a result, bears are foraging for food at lower elevations, and campgrounds are among the locales being frequented by hungry bruins in search of lunch and dinner. The problem isn't unique to this summer.

Three years ago, just a few months after my husband Rick and I started dating, he suggested we take a trip to climb Colorado's highest peak, Mount Elbert.

"Don't you think it'll be fun?" he asked excitedly.

"Don't they have people who do those things for you?" thought the native New Yorker in me, who, when living in Manhattan, frequently had movies from the Blockbuster across the street delivered to my door. But, as we were still in the early, doe-eyed, fluffy pink cloud stage of our relationship, I put on my finest I-can-be-an-adventurer smile.

To maximize the experience, we (Rick) decided to camp the night before at a site a quarter of a mile from the trailhead. We (I) had mulled staying at the Super 8, an also-convenient 10 or so miles away from the base of the mountain. But in an effort to keep up the aren't-I-an-agreeable-kind-of-girl charade, I stayed mum and tried to come to peace with nature while eating a charred hamburger at the same time an army of fire ants snacked on my ankles.

Shortly after sunset, we were zipped up in sleeping bags, hoping for plenty of rest in advance of the big day. Minutes after clicking off our flashlights, Rick was sound asleep and snoring at a volume just slightly louder than the river raging 20 feet from the tent. Because of the duet, it was a while before my ears adjusted and I noticed a different noise coming from outside.

It wasn't the river. Or the wind. Or a cricket. Or a chipmunk. With every fiber in the Birkenstocks stuffed inside my backpack and the newly purchased hemp pillow upon which my head rested, I knew instantly and instinctively it was a bear. Stalking our tent. Clearly, it was payback for me thinking I could commune with greenery anywhere outside of a salad.

Becoming keenly aware that a thin sheet of nylon and a zipper were all that separated me from Jaws of the Jungle, I started poking Rick.

"There's a bear outside the tent," I whispered.

"Black bears don't attack people, sweetie. Go to sleep," he murmured blearily. I kept poking.

"Even if it is a bear, it'll just take whatever food scraps it can find and then leave," he said. "Try to get some rest."

After hours of listening to the beast pacing back and forth, just waiting for me to have to pee outside the safety of the tent, I finally dozed off, only to be woken up moments later by Rick poking me.

"I hear it now," he whispered. "It is a bear."

"What should we do?" I asked Rick, who had six years of Western living to my 11 months.

"Maybe we should make loud noises and try to scare it off," he said.

"But what if that just makes it mad?" I quivered.

And then we both heard it. It started scratching on the tent. Four inches from our heads. We clung to each other as the noise got louder. We could hear its paw scraping up and down the tent, right in the vicinity of the zipper. And then I felt something on my hair. I sat up with a start and began screaming.

"It's in the tent! It's on me! It got me! Help!"

Rick fumbled for his headlamp and then clicked it on. After a few frantic moments of the light beam shooting around the tent looking for Godzilla, it rested at last on a 2-inch-tall field mouse cowering on top of my sleeping bag. Staring at us with big dulcet eyes, it leapt off the sleeping bag and started racing around the tent like a Matchbox car.

"Get rid of it," I cried.

"I'm trying," Rick yelled, maneuvering awkwardly over and around the sleeping bags and piles of clothes and sneakers crammed into every crevice. Finally, after roughly 19 laps around the track, the mouse tired out and hovered in a corner where Rick was able to coax it into his palm.

"It's actually kind of cute," he remarked, petting it with his pinky.

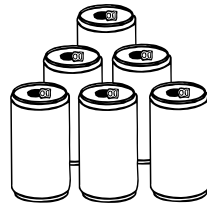
"Get it out of here," I hollered.

It was 4:30 in the morning — 30 minutes before we had planned to start the hike. We got up anyway, while little Mickey watched from a few feet away.

Fortunately, the rest of the day was a cakewalk (relatively speaking). After all, I'll happily tackle a 14,440-foot mountain over a bear-mouse any day.

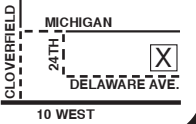
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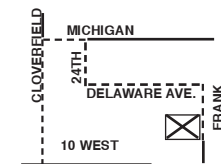
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The Q-Line

Which way, Westside?

Los Angeles city officials are currently debating the possibility of converting Olympic and Pico boulevards into one-way streets to potentially ease traffic congestion between metro L.A. and Santa Monica and other beach communities.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you believe making this pair of boulevards one-way streets is a good measure or just another misguided attempt to fix the area's notorious traffic woes?

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

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: City officials hope to preserve trees located on private property in a move designed to maintain the city's reputation for being a leader in environmental issues.

Tree hugger's delight in SM

City hopes to preserve specimens located on private properties

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE In response to resident complaints regarding the impact development is having on Santa Monica's trees, city staff has proposed several strategies to conserve those rooted on private property.

The proposals range from the creation of an extensive education campaign about the economic and environmental value of trees to the development of a tree canopy conservation requirement that would be part of the building permit process.

The City Council could also go so far as to select certain species of trees or trees of a certain size for protection, prohibiting anyone from removing them unless there is found to be some kind of hardship.

Some communities have done that, focusing on trees native to California or those located in a particular area such as

a scenic corridor or old orchards, said Walt Warriner, City Hall's community forester.

In a city staff report, Warriner said that in developing a private tree canopy conservation policy, "consideration should be given to the development of a proactive, flexible approach that promotes voluntary tree stewardship throughout the community and encourages creative design solutions when construction might threaten existing trees."

Any policy adopted should be rooted in collaboration with residents, the business community and developers, Warriner said.

Currently, there are no regulations governing the removal of trees on private property, except for the Landmarks Ordinance, which has a section set aside for the protection of historic trees that have a unique characteristic that is a familiar visual feature of a neighborhood.

Only four trees have been designated since the establishment of the preservation program in 1976, Warriner said.

Planning regulations do require that a minimum of one tree for every 1,200 square-feet of paved area be provided.

SEE TREES PAGE 7

**Do you know anyone
who has been
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Santa Monica Daily Press

Trees have it made in shade

FROM TREES PAGE 6

Additionally, in residential districts, new developments are required to provide two canopy trees in the front yard and three in the side yard of any project.

Developers are also required to protect trees planted by City Hall during construction. As the community forester, Warriner also reviews plans to determine the impact of a proposed project on existing trees and makes recommendation on which trees should be preserved.

That said, the decision to retain a tree is ultimately left up to the property owner.

The preservation of private trees is crucial to the overall health of Santa Monica, Warriner and tree advocates said. Not only do they beautify neighborhoods and provide shade from the heat, trees also provide oxygen and absorb pollutant gases and filter particulates out of the air. Trees also combat global warming, help residents cut down on their air conditioning consumption, and create economic opportunities.

Most importantly for homeowners, trees have been shown to increase property values by as much as 15 percent, said Laurie Kaufman, director of communications for TreePeople, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit that trains communities to plant and care for trees.

While TreePeople is not in the business of advocating for or endorsing preservation policies, but is more focused on education, Kaufman said it is important for cities like Santa Monica to focus on their urban forests and look at ways to protect



ON ONE SIDE YOU HAVE THE IMPORTANT JOB OF PRESERVATION, AND ON THE OTHER YOU HAVE PRIVATE PROPERTY..."

them for future generations.

"On one side you have the important job of preservation, and on the other you have private property and can the city dictate what private property owners can do," Kaufman said.

"If a home owner wants to take out an 80 or 100 year-old tree, does that tree not belong to the whole community since it is such a resource providing many benefits such as combating green house gases?" Kaufman asked. "It's a tough question to answer but one that needs to be discussed and Santa Monica should be commended for doing it."

Tom Larmore, a land-use attorney and chairman of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, said there are bound to be various opinions about how far City Hall should go in protecting the private tree canopy.

"I don't have a problem with there being some restrictions, but, as always, the details are important," Larmore said, referring to what types of incentives may be offered to residents and developers looking to make changes to their properties.

Several residents living north of Montana Avenue and in Ocean Park seem to be in support of protections and restrictions, as long as City Hall would be willing

Laurie Kaufman, Communications director

to provide assistance in the maintenance of the trees and other incentives, according to surveys that were sent out by two neighborhoods groups, the North of Montana Neighborhood Association (NOMA) and Ocean Park Association (OPA).

Elizabeth Riel Armour, chair of NOMA, said 70 percent of residents who responded to the survey said they would supportive incentives as a way to encourage preservation. Many also felt that education alone would not work.

"I think probably the most interesting thing with the survey was that people liked the carrot and stick approach, but the overriding concern was that people felt like developers are doing irreplaceable damage to the tree canopy and they are very concerned about that," Armour said.

"As homeowners we feel we get the benefits of trees ... and think long and hard before doing damage to a tree if we would do work on our property," Armour added. "Residents feel that it's not us, it's the developers who aren't building homes for themselves, but are building spec houses. They just go in there and clear cut the lot."

kevinh@smdp.com

Strike may have been prevented

FROM AGREEMENT PAGE 3

will allow us to remain competitive in the Southern California marketplace."

Both parties have been battling at the negotiating table since January — two months before the current contract expired on March 5. The current contract has been carried out on a day-by-day basis.

Frustrated with the slow progress of the negotiations, the union authorized a strike last month if talks failed once again.

The union was demanding a repeal of the two-tiered benefit system — separating veteran employees from newbies hired after the 2004 contract — and a wage increase, which the employees haven't received since 2002.

New employees currently have to wait 18 months before they qualify for health insurance and three years before their children can be covered. The union proposed changing the policy to six months to cover the employee and their children.

Grocery workers also said they wanted to see a wage increase comparable to the \$1.25-to-\$1.63-an-hour hike workers received under a new contract signed with Stater Bros. and Gelson's earlier this year.

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Locals have starred on reality TV

FROM REALITY PAGE 1

Davie, who has helped run the kitchen at Josie since its opening on the 2400 block of Pico Boulevard in 2001, was not available for comment.

There is no clear reason as to why Santa Monica produces so many reality stars. Because of its proximity to Hollywood, perhaps the city might be appealing to aspiring actors who see reality television as an easy way to break into the industry.

A contestant on Bravo's search for the next hot fashion designer, "Project Runway," Vincent Libretti doesn't buy into the theory that reality stars come to Santa Monica to break into the entertainment world, but rather came to Santa Monica because it's Santa Monica.

There's a cross-culture and eclectic mix of residents in Santa Monica and among that population are the artsy, creative and daring people who are more likely to be in reality shows, Libretti said.

"I think people are just attracted to and like Santa Monica because it's a pretty cool place. It's got a lot of beat," Libretti said.

Libretti, a native New Yorker who has lived in Santa Monica for the past 14 years, moved to the west coast three weeks after a vacation in the city. He was hooked from the start.

"It's slightly dirty and, to me, being a New Yorker, I'm attracted to that," Libretti said.

Libretti auditioned for "Project Runway" a little over a year ago after cashing in on his 401K to get back in the fashion game.

Competing on a reality show wasn't

something to which Libretti gave much thought, deciding to tryout just one day before the auditions.

The show has opened up a world of opportunities for Libretti, who says he now has a strong following of fans.

"Project Runway' really lifted my rocket," he said.

Other reality television contestants hadn't even considered being a part of the genre until the opportunity presented itself.

Professional actor and singer, Chad Doreck, who lives in the Santa Monica Canyon, was auditioning for the role of Kenickie on the Broadway production of "Grease" when the casting director suggested he would be better suited for the lead male role of Danny Zuko, which was being cast through a new NBC reality show.

said. "It's a perfect location, and for those kind of people, they're more than dreamers because they came out here.

"Those are the same kind of people who would want to have that crazy experience of being on one of these reality shows."

REALITY SHOWS OPENING DOORS

Janine Hayes was no fan of reality shows, especially when it came to stand-up comedy.

"It's so important to me and I don't like it when they take stand-up and change (things around)," Hayes said.

Hayes' perspective changed after her experience on "Funniest Mom in America," being one of three contestants from Santa Monica.

The single mother of four got a call



Photo courtesy

MAD HATTER: Baskauskas is able to support his company Tundra Gear with the aid of his 'Survivor Panama: Exile Island' winnings.

I THINK SANTA MONICA IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE COME TO LIVE IN A DREAM."

Chad Doreck , Professional actor and singer

from one of the show's producers and was convinced to come on board after getting the vibe that the Nick @ Nite reality show would respect the stand-up art form.

She eventually placed fourth on the show and, as a result, won the chance to perform alongside five other finalists as an opening act for Roseanne Barr in Las Vegas in May.

Hayes has pursued a professional

career in stand-up comedy for almost five years and believes her stint on "Funniest Mom" has made an otherwise slim resume more substantial.

"On top of having learned so many lessons about performing that I didn't know before, the experience was great," Hayes said. "My resume is very different now and I've got great stories to tell."

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Writers, studios come out swinging

BY GARY GENTILE
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Hollywood studios came out swinging in talks with film and TV writers, making their proposals public in a rare display of candor.

The two sides began meeting on Monday for what is shaping up to be one of the most contentious contract negotiations in recent memory. The talks, which many fear could lead to a strike, are being closely watched by actors and directors, whose contracts expire next year.

Studios told writers they could either agree to a three-year study on how to share revenue from digital distribution or accept a deal that delays payment until producers have recouped their costs.

Producers also dismissed writers' demands for a bigger share of digital revenue, saying such a system "would impose unreasonable costs and Draconian restrictions."

Typically, labor talks in Hollywood are conducted under a news blackout, with only occasional statements of progress, especially at such an early stage. The Writers Guild of America's contract doesn't expire until Oct. 31.

Releasing detailed proposals on the first day of negotiations is rare and a sign that studios are taking a much tougher stance than usual.

The WGA posted a terse response on its Web site late Monday along with its own list of proposals.

"The conglomerates always try to paint us as unreasonable and bellicose," the WGA statement said. "Our proposals simply try to ensure that writers keep up with the industry's growth. That's fair and reasonable."

The studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, want time to determine which models of digital distribution are likely to be profitable.

Studios stream advertising-supported TV episodes on their own Web sites while also selling episodes for \$1.99 on Apple Inc.'s iTunes store.

Some networks are experimenting with other schemes, including making episodes available for download to mobile phones.

The studios say they should be free to experiment with various means until it becomes clear whether digital revenue is additional profit or simply replacing money lost from more traditional distribution methods.

In a brisk five-page proposal, studios asked writers for a "period of experimentation," during which they want "the unfettered right to distribute and exhibit their theatrical and television motion pictures, in whole or in part, on any and all new media platforms," according to their proposal.

In an alternate 32-page proposal, assuming writers reject a study, studios have laid out a comprehensive plan that would pay writers for their initial work, but delay all other payments, commonly called "residuals" until a movie or TV show recoups its initial costs.

Instead, in its eight-page proposal, the WGA is seeking a bigger slice of the revenue studios get from distributing movies and TV shows downloaded from the Internet.

They're also proposing doubling payments on profits made from DVD sales and providing union pay and benefits to writers working in reality television and on basic cable shows.

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

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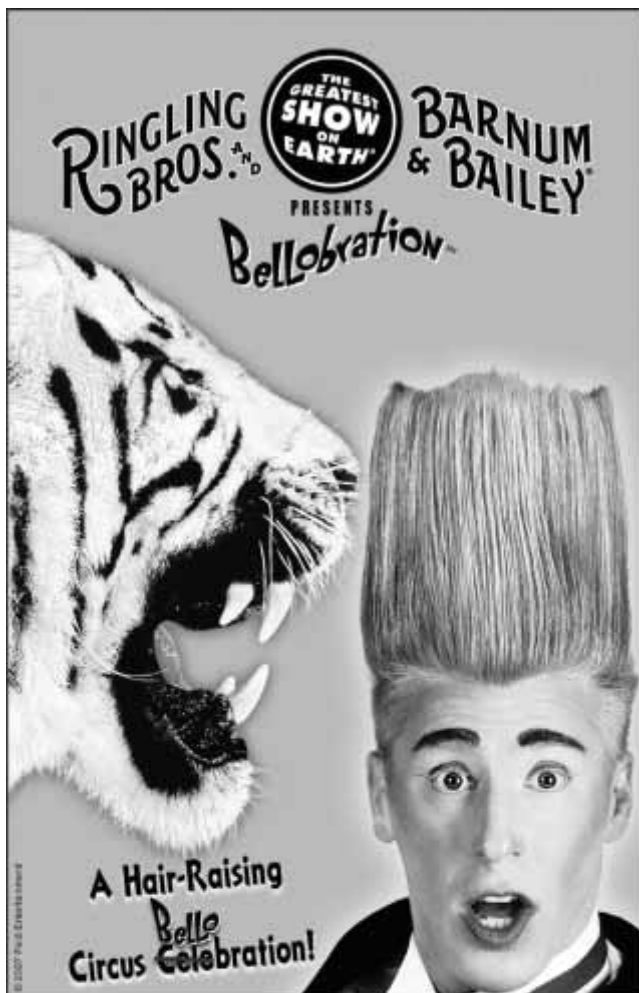


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Public Hearing On Metro Service

Get involved in improving transit service in your community. Metro Westside/Central is holding a public hearing August 8 at 5pm at the La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills, on proposed bus service changes. For information, search for "Metro Westside/Central" at metro.net.



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NOTICE OF CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT:

Consideration of proposed resolution to automatically adjust the Affordable Housing Unit Development Cost for new market-rate multifamily development pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.56.070(c)

WHEN:

Tuesday, July 24, 2007
5:45 P.M.

WHERE:

Santa Monica City Hall, Council Chambers, Room #213
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of a resolution which would automatically adjust the Affordable Housing Unit Development Cost that developers of multi-family projects may pay to the City pursuant to Section 9.56.070(c) of the City's Affordable Housing Production Program. The Affordable Housing Unit Development Cost was originally estimated to be \$239,949 as detailed in the nexus study prepared by HR&A in 2005 to support the imposition of the Affordable Housing Unit Base Fee. The adjusted Affordable Housing Unit Development Cost would be \$265,632.00, effective on October 1, 2007.

The adjustments to the Affordable Housing Unit Development Cost reflect changes in land and construction costs based on a methodology adopted by the City Council on June 13, 2006. An explanation of this methodology and the resulting adjustment to the fee are set forth in a letter prepared for the City by Hamilton, Rabinovitz & Alschuler, Inc. (HR&A). A copy of this letter is now available at the City Clerk's Office in Room 102 of City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California or the Housing Division Office at 2121 Cloverfield Boulevard, Suite 100, Santa Monica, California. This information is also available on the City's web site (Housing section).

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this matter. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment at the City Council's public hearing or by writing a letter.

Letters should be addressed to:

Mayor and City Council
City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the City Housing Division at the address above or by calling (310) 458-8702.

The meeting facility is handicapped accessible. If you have any special needs such as sign language interpreting, please contact the Office of the Disabled at (310) 458-8701.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica, at or prior to the Public Hearing.

ESPANOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para aumentar una tarifa sobre el desarrollo de alojamiento "multi-familiar" en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Ellen Comis en la División de Viviendas y Desarrollo al número (310) 458-8702.

CHANNELSURFING

BY JACK NEWORTH

FX's 'Damages' hurts so good

Welcome to the first of these columns reviewing upcoming TV programming. I confess I'm not a huge fan of TV. But for good or ill, (mostly ill) TV is obviously a huge force in shaping our culture. It's a frightening thought, but Americans watch four hours and 35 minutes of TV every day!

I used to be passionate about movies until they became about super heroes, Harry Potter or animated animals. (It's difficult to be passionate about a talking donkey.) With the cost of the average movie at \$100 million the beneficiary may be television. Reality TV aside, some critics are saying television is in a golden age because of talent moving over from film. Award-winning directors like David Mamet and Barry Levinson, and actors Martin Sheen, Mary Steenburgen and Joe Mantegna, are but a few.

These days most of the best programming is on cable, which seems better able to take artistic chances. (The kicking sounds you hear are all the networks who passed on "The Sopranos.") "The Wire," "Six Feet Under," "Rescue Me," "The Shield," and "Curb Your Enthusiasm," all are cable original series. Another cable original series, airing this month on FX, is "Damages," a legal thriller starring Glenn Close and Ted Danson. Judging from the pilot, the cast top notch, the writing sharp, the production value good, and there are enough twists and turns to keep you away from the remote.

Set in Manhattan, "Damages" deals with the world of high-stakes litigation. It opens on beautiful twenty-something Ellen Parson, (Rose Byrne) who leaves a New York apartment building at 7 a.m. bloodied, disoriented and half-naked under a coat. She races down the sidewalk and into the street, nearly getting hit by a cab. A zombie, she winds up behind police interrogation glass. The bewildered cops have only a single ID which identifies her as a lawyer. The legend on screen reads... "6 MONTHS EARLIER."

We cut to Ellen, fresh out of law school, about to sign paperwork at a prestigious law firm headed by Hollis Nye (Phillip Bosco.) Despite Ellen's lucrative compensation package (five years guaranteed) she suddenly changes her mind. It seems she may have an interview with America's most respected (and reviled) mega-dollar litigator, Patty Hewes (Glenn Close). I didn't buy it, and for that matter, neither did Hollis Nye, who criticizes Ellen for not having told them before this. Good point.

Patty Hewes is representing a class action suit against former Enron-type CEO Arthur Frobisher (Ted Danson) who allegedly bilked his employees out of billions. Frobisher has offered \$100 million, but Hewes is on a vendetta. Ellen goes to the interview but meets with Tate Donavon (Tom Shayses.) The real interview is Saturday but Ellen says her sister is getting married that day! "Do you want this job or not?" an irritated Donovan asks. Choosing family over career, Ellen goes to the wedding with her fiancé, first-year

surgical intern, David Connor (Noah Bean). When she goes to the bathroom she's startled because behind the door, drink in hand, is Patty Hewes. (Who takes their drink into the bathroom? And how long was she planning to wait in there?)

Uninvited, Hewes showed up at the wedding because no one had ever turned her down before. Flattered, Ellen asks if she couldn't please interview again but Patty says it would be, "a waste of both of our time." Smiling, Patty adds, "Besides, I just hired you." I know Ellen's character arc is obviously wide-eyed innocent, soon to be corrupted by ruthless, manipulative Patty Hewes. But frankly, to this point I hadn't any reason why Patty was pursuing Ellen in the first place. Actually, that turns out to be one of many twists.

My minor criticisms aside, "Damages" is fast paced and eminently watchable (not boring.) Co-creators Todd and Glenn Kesler with "Sopranos" and "Robbery Homicide Division" experience, along with Daniel Zelman, may in fact have a hit on their hands. Judging from the glossy press kit and billboards all over town, FX is spending the money. (They've ordered the first 13 shows.)

Close is superb, as in an exchange on the courthouse steps when opposing counsel says, "If you were a man I'd kick the living crap out of you." Close replies, "If you were a man, I'd be worried." Ouch.

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PASSIONATE ABOUT
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TALKING DONKEY.)

Danson is charming, always a plus for your evil bad guy. Actually, the entire cast is excellent. The question is, as with all episodic dramas, do I believe in the writing and care enough about the characters to come back every week? Close was interviewed on the subject and said she'd have to see what the writers give her. I'm in the same boat.

The pilot for "Damages" airs on FX July 24, at 10 p.m.

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



Photo courtrey Todd Stewart
TASTY RHYTHMS: José Conde's Ola Fresca will play the Twilight Dance Series tonight.

Twilight series gets a fresh, new sound

BY EMILY SKEHAN
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER While tonight's two acts share names with dangerous natural phenomena, music fans attending the latest Twilight Dance Series concert need not fear the musical onslaught, nor that involuntary shaking in their legs.

East African and Cuban rhythms will provide the soundtrack in and around the pier planks as the Samba Mapangala Orchestra Virunga and José Conde y Ola Fresca take to the stage for a free open-air concert.

Samba Mapangala, the leader of tonight's headliners, was born in what is now the Congo, spending much of the 1970s playing with various East African groups. In 1981, he formed the Orchestra Virunga, named after a volcanic mountain range in Central Africa. Mapangala and Orchestra recorded the now famous Malako recording "Virunga Volcano" in Nairobi. The album became a worldwide hit in Europe in the mid-1980s and an instant favorite in the global music scene.

Virunga's sound is lean with complex, interlocking guitar lines; rapid-fire bass; light, fast-paced percussion; and horn and sax overlays. Mapangala's voice has been praised by critics as versatile and smoothly pleasing.

Tonight's concert — the first time the band has played in Southern California is part of the group's reunion tour. Orchestra Virunga hadn't played together for more than a decade.

"The mood of the show will be pretty festive," said band representative David Gaar, adding that the band was especially excited to play in the United States after barely clearing immigration. "Samba named the band after the volcanic range because he thinks they have a hot, eruptive sound."

Tonight's opener, Conde, was raised in Miami by Cuban-immigrant parents, from whom he gleaned an appreciation for

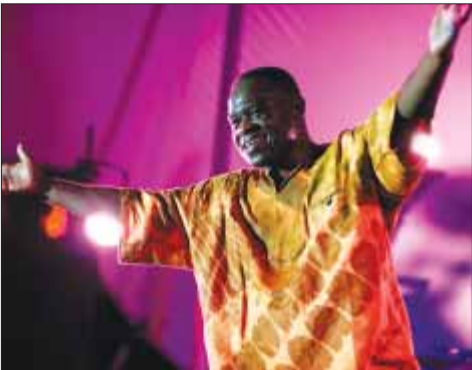


Photo courtesy David Gaar
NIGHT MOVES: Samba Mapangala will be performing at the Santa Monica Pier tonight.

spicy Latin music. After experimenting with jazz, rock, funk and blues, Conde formed Ola Fresca (which means "Fresh Wave" or "Hello Fresh") a group that plays a fusion of Cuban roots and subtle influences from funk, jazz and electronica.

Ola Fresca's self-produced "Ay! Que Rico" showcases the ensemble's smooth, mamba/funk style.

The band has earned a reputation as a showstopper in top U.S. venues such as Hudson Riverfest, Manhattan River-to-River Festival, New York-Miami Latin Funk Festival, Long Island Music Festival and the prestigious JAS Labor Day Festival in Aspen, where they opened up for Bob Dylan and were proclaimed "the festival's biggest surprise" by Dirty Linen Magazine.

"The show will be danceable and rootsy," said Ola Fresca's contact Mel Puljic, "but at the same time, a vibrant, funky take on traditional Latin music styles."

The concert, located on the west lot of the Santa Monica Pier, begins at 7:30 p.m.

For more information on the Twilight Series, visit www.twilightdance.org, or call (310) 458-8900.

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy of Sonic Youth

Sonic Youth set to rock Third Street Promenade

Alternative rock heavyweights Sonic Youth will play an unlikely performance on the Third Street Promenade this weekend, cramming into the Urban Outfitters store along with a few hundred diehard fans (and a few determined shoppers).

The post-punk quartet will play the final show of a 13-city tour of free in-store concerts to benefit KXL 88.9 FM, the campus station for Loyola Marymount University. The New York band is currently celebrating the reissue of their classic 1988 album "Daydream Nation."

Sonic Youth is set to take the stage at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Entry to the show will only be granted to those holding e-tickets, free at www.freeyrradio.com.

MIKE TITTINGER

Rather be a hammer...

Visitors will be serenaded by Castledoor and Low vs. Diamond tonight at the Hammer museum's "Also I like to Rock" series.

Silver Lake's Castledoor has been charming local audiences with its intricate songcraft and ethereal sound. On their sold-out, self-released EP, "Follow the Dove," joyful lyrics float on heavenly waves of vocal harmonies.

Lush, languorous and beautifully bitter-sweet – that's the sound of "Life After Love," the stunning debut EP from Marrakesh recording artists Low vs. Diamond. The intoxicatingly tuneful disc introduces the Los Angeles-based quintet as a band with skyscraping ambition, blending elements of Roxy Music, Smashing Pumpkins and Burt Bacharach to thrilling effect.

Starting at 8 p.m., the free concert event will take place at the Hammer, located at 10899 Wilshire Blvd, 90024.

EMILY SKEHAN

Potter party

Get ready to celebrate the release of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" this weekend with a wizardly bash. Dutton's in Brentwood is hosting a free party complete with Harry Potter-themed games and snacks during the countdown to 12:01 a.m. Doors will open at 11 p.m. Friday.

Dutton's is at 11975 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood. Call (310) 476-6263, or go to www.duttonsbrentwood.com.

ES

Night vision

The MOCA After Dark summer series continues this Saturday, July 21 with live music, exhibitions and light food and drink.

Starting at 6 p.m., the event will feature artists such as KCRW DJs Jason Eldredge and Scott Silva, spoken word from Rubén Martínez, an artmaking workshop with Jamie Sweetman, and screenings of music videos from Film Independent's L.A. film festival.

Featured artist Regan Farquhar, better known as Busdriver, has built an ironclad rep for being a chop-maestro and style monster. Busdriver is a torch bearer for the early '90s Los Angeles underground hip-hop scene. His set will begin at 8 p.m.

MOCA stays open until midnight on Saturday nights through August 11 for art-making, screenings, DJs, live music, spoken word, gallery tours, and a cash bar and light fare at Patinette Café.

After Dark is FREE with museum admission, \$8 general, \$5 for students with I.D. and seniors (65+), and FREE for children under 12 and MOCA members.

MOCA Grand Avenue is located at 250 South Grand Avenue in the heart of downtown Los Angeles with convenient access from the 101 and 110 Freeways and easy surface street access from Mid-City via Wilshire Boulevard or from Silver Lake via Sunset Boulevard.

ES

Open 'Gateways'

Earthwalk Dance Company will perform at Highways Performance Space on Friday July 20 and Saturday July 21 at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$20 – \$15 for seniors, students and Highways members – and can be purchased at www.highwaysperformance.org. Reservations can be made by phone by calling (310) 315-1459.

Gateways Thru Movement is a compilation of dance works inspired by belief structures that have shaped some of today's mythologies. Through self-exploration, one can shed light onto the "shadow" and reveal individuation. Movement as a spiritual communicator; a gateway to the self.

Highways is located at 1651 18th St. in Santa Monica, 1/2 block North of Olympic Boulevard.

ES

'Rosecrans' a local treat

This summer Tim Pape's new three-act play "Rosecrans" premiered at The Other Space in the Santa Monica Playhouse on July 7. The run is scheduled to end August 5 showing every Saturday and Sunday night at 8 p.m. The play focuses on a younger brother who comes to California to spend the summer with his older brother. As the summer goes on, the younger brother becomes involved with a local girl whose presence threatens to rip the brothers apart. As each character's past comes out, a destructive tidal wave begins to take everyone under its current.

The play deals with the lively atmosphere of the South Bay of Los Angeles and is sponsored by many local businesses such as Rock 'N Fish Restaurant and Surfside Smoothie and national sponsors like The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf. Pape, a resident of Hermosa Beach, has incorporated a number of festive activities into the play such as free prize giveaways, a pub-crawl map in every program and the "Rosecrans Shot Girls."

Tickets for "Rosecrans" are currently on sale by phone (866) 811-4111 or online through TheaterMania, keyword Rosecrans. For more information on Rosecrans and future Last Escape Productions go to www.lastescapeproductions.com. The Santa Monica Playhouse is located at 1211 Fourth St. in Santa Monica.

ES

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy Studio Canal

SUMMER HEAT: Laura Dern, left, plays Nikki Grace in David Lynch's 'Inland Empire.'

Heading 'Inland'

At the Aero Theatre for four days, the chance for the Westside to dive into the latest surrealistic-experimental David Lynch feature film Independently produced and distributed, David Lynch had full control over his artistic choices and took two-and-a-half years to complete his vision. The film was shot entirely in digital video and transferred to film.

"Inland Empire" is the story of Hollywood star Nikki Grace (Laura Dern) who, after taking the lead in a film directed by Kingsley (Jeremy Irons), learns the script is based on an old Polish film in which the two leading performers were murdered. Falling for her co-star Devon (Justin Theroux), she realizes that her life is beginning to mimic the fictional film, and Nikki's imagination runs riot. But this aforementioned plot description is only one interpretation of many of this cinematic Rubik's Cube

Thursday, July 19 – Sunday, July 22. Showtimes 7:30 p.m. daily with a discussion following the screening – guest TBA.

ES

Afrofunk for Africa

Returning for a third year, the Afrofunk Music Festival – An Afrobeat music extravaganza benefiting Save the Children Emergency relief fund – comes to Santa Monica this Saturday, July 21 at the Temple Bar.

The genocide in Darfur, Sudan began in early 2003 when Sudanese rebel groups attacked government military installations. In response, the Sudanese government sponsored Arab "Janjaweed" militias to fight back. The Janjaweed began attacking civilians living in areas considered disloyal to the government. With villages leveled to ashes and Darfuris on the run for their lives, the Janjaweed continued their campaign of terror even at the displaced civilians' camps. In 2004, United Nations aid officials called the situation "the world's greatest humanitarian crisis." In June 2005, President Bush declared genocide, and his administration supports international intervention. To date, at least 400,000 people have died, 2.5 million have been displaced from their homes, and 3.5 million are hungry.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Save the Children Fund's Sudan Crisis Relief Fund.

This year's Afrofunk Festival features artists representing a wide diversity of cultures, and traditions: Anyone drawn to gritty, hard-hitting, James Brown-funk will want to hear Sila and the Afrofunk Experience. DJ Nnambi and Drummers of Senegal will also perform.

Temple Bar is located at 1026 Wilshire Blvd. in Santa Monica. For more information and to buy tickets, visit www.afrofunk.org.

ES

tural cocktail and party global style as Summer Sessions continues in the Getty Center museum courtyard this Saturday night, July 21.

From 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., visitors can dance the night away to a multitude of worldly musical guests.

The Aggrolites play an infectious "dirty reggae" beat that honors the roots of soul, African hi-life, dancehall, and dub. Heavily influenced by The Meters, James Brown, and Wilson Pickett, their sound is a thick blend of rhythm and melody, seasoned by years of love. With their latest album, "Reggae Hit L.A.," the Aggrolites pay a rhythmic and soulful homage to the city and culture of Los Angeles.

A Caribbean soul and a California heart have sustained a decade of ceaseless romp-downs and raucous times for L.A.'s veterans of vallenato, Very Be Careful. They've taken their stripped-down Colombian coastal sound all around the world but their latest CD, "Salad Buey," finds the band back in their home town, exploring L.A.'s gritty streets through the sweet and savory sounds of accordion, bass, and percussion.

Carlos Niño is a celebrated producer/arranger/songwriter and host of Spaceways Radio on KPFK 90.7 FM, where he's been programming a soulful mix of music for nearly 12 years.

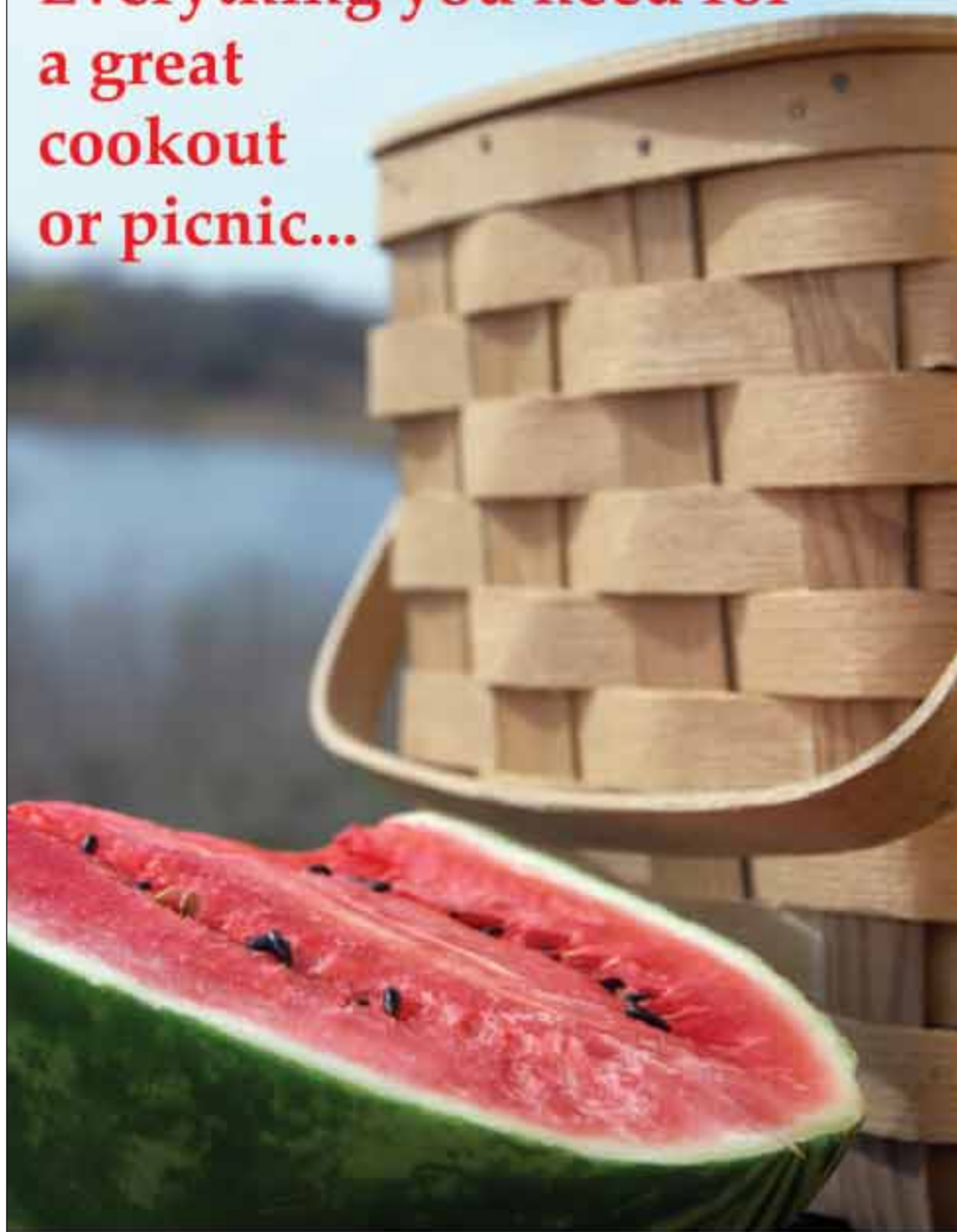
A unique force on the folk and world music scenes, Fishtank Ensemble creates amazing up-tempo arrangements that blend Gypsy, Balkan, flamenco, and klezmer rhythms. Violin, accordion, shamisen (Japanese lute), bass, saw, and voice come together to create a contemporary sound that evokes the smoky cafes of Bucharest and the Gypsy caravans of yesteryear.

The Getty is located at 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles, 90049.

ES

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THE TAMING OF THE SHREW
ALL FEMALE PRODUCTION
Directed by Randolph Curtis Rand
July 14th - July 29th
The Miles Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd.
Corner of Lincoln & Wilshire

TWELFTH NIGHT
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Directed by Vincent Cardinale
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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Paramount

'Black Snake Moan'

A tale of lost love, anxiety, and compassion stars Samuel Jackson as a God-fearing man in the Deep South seeking redemption via the power of the blues and an unlikely friendship with a white-trash nymphomaniac (Christina Ricci). From "Hustle & Flow" writer-director Craig Brewer, the film features blues music as a deeply personal galvanizing force. Scenes include footage of the renowned Delta blues artist, Son House. The film's title comes from a Blind Lemon Jefferson tune composed in 1927. Special features include filmmaker commentary, the film's blues roots, and deleted scenes. (Paramount)

'The Shooter'

Bob Lee Swagger (Mark Wahlberg), a principled marksman living in exile, is asked by Colonel Johnson (Danny Glover) to come back for another government assignment. This time it is to use his expertise to foil a presidential assassination attempt. Swagger is double-crossed and framed so he must go on the run until he can find who set him up. The film is based on a novel by Stephen Hunter, a Pulitzer Prize winning film critic for the Washington Post. Additional material includes a look at the science of distance shooting and interviews with the filmmakers. (Paramount)

'The Verdict' Collector's Edition

Paul Newman stars as attorney Frank Galvin beaten down by life turning to alcohol as a coping mechanism and fumbling legal handouts from friend and seasoned attorney Mickey Morrissey (Jack Warden). Instead of settling a medical malpractice case involving a comatose woman, Galvin takes on the Roman Catholic church and a high-powered law firm (headed by James Mason) salvaging his career and self-respect. Aided by a terrific script from David Mamet based on a novel by Barry Reed, Newman's performance was nominated for an Oscar. Bonus material include features with Newman on acting and Sidney Lumet on directing. (Fox)

'Reno 911! Miami'

The Comedy Central improv mock-reality series goes to the big screen here. Lt. Dangle (Thomas Lennon) takes his crew to Miami to attend the American Police convention. When their credentials can't be found and all the local cops have to be quarantined, the Reno misfits are left to uphold the law on South Beach. Unsurprisingly all hell breaks loose in gator country. Special features include extended scenes and writer/director commentaries. (Fox)

'Extras' Second Season

Popular British comedian Ricky Gervais (The Office) is back for more as aspiring actor Andy Millman working hard to succeed despite being hampered by an inept agent (Stephen Merchant). Guest stars include David Bowie, Robert DeNiro, and Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter). The two-disc, six-episode unit offers more than 100 minutes of bonus material including bloopers, outtakes, cast interviews, and a behind-the-scenes look at the production of the show. Are you having a laugh? (HBO)

'The New Adventures of Superman/Batman'

Sold on separate discs, these DC Comic Classic Collections combined offer over 50 episodes of the popular caped crusaders. In the first Superman project designed specifically for television, this series marked the animated debut of Jimmy Olsen and villains Lex Luthor and Brainiac and contains all 36 episodes from the show's first season. Batman features the voices of the stars from the live action television series, Adam West (Batman) and Burt Ward (Robin). (Warner Bros)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local retail store.

NEW RELEASES

IN THEATERS THIS WEEK



Photo courtesy New Line Cinema

‘Hairspray’

Review by Christy Lemire
The world probably didn’t need another film version of John Waters’ 1988 romp any more than it needed a Broadway musical version of it. The whole cycle reeks of that movie-of-a-stage-production-of-a-movie debacle that has tainted the legacy of “The Producers.” Having said that, this new brand of “Hairspray” is a hybrid of its predecessors: enormously entertaining but with only a touch of Waters’ signature dark, kitschy humor. It is, in a word, safe – one you would ordinarily never use to describe Waters’ work. Director and choreographer Adam Shankman keeps the tone light, the hair high and the pacing snappy, even while delivering the film’s segregation-is-bad message, which seems archaic and obvious 45 years after the movie’s setting. Newcomer Nikki Blonsky is an absolute delight as the film’s plus-sized protagonist, Tracy Turnblad, whose greatest dream is to make it as a dancer on “The Corny Collins Show” – that is, until she discovers the racial discrimination that plagues the program. John Travolta plays it straight in the traditionally draggy role of Tracy’s mother, Edna, but there’s no sense of fun or camp in the performance, and you never forget that you’re watching Travolta in a fat suit. Michelle Pfeiffer, Zac Efron and Queen Latifah are among the ensemble cast. PG for language, some suggestive content and momentary teen smoking. 117 min. Two and a half stars out of four.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

‘My Best Friend’

Review by Christy Lemire
It could have been a Hallmark card of a movie, or perhaps an idea worthy of a Hummel figurine. Instead, Patrice Leconte has taken a story about male friendship, in all its posturing and potential vulnerability, and turned it into a light, smart, crowd-pleasing comedy. Veteran French actor Daniel Auteuil, collaborating with director and co-writer Leconte for the third time following “The Girl on the Bridge” and “The Widow of Saint-Pierre,” is versatile as ever as art dealer Francois. He’s wealthy, stylish and sophisticated, but he realizes during a birthday dinner with his colleagues that he’s reached middle age and has no real friends. His business partner (Julie Gayet) bets him an expensive Grecian vase that he can’t come up with a best friend in 10 days. During his fruitless search he keeps running into chatty cab driver Bruno (Dany Boon), a trivia expert who gets along with everyone and agrees to give Francois pointers on amiability – but as it turns out, he has no close friends either. The climactic conclusion is a massive contrivance, but it does give American audiences the opportunity to see what the French version of “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?” looks like. PG-13 for some strong language. In French with English subtitles. 90 min. Three stars out of four.

AP

‘Sunshine’

Review by David Germain
Director Danny Boyle’s visually radiant tale is two-thirds of a great sci-fi flick, dimming in the final act, when its thoughtful early tone gives way to frenzied action and unoriginal twists. Set in 2057, the film takes place aboard a spaceship whose crew of eight have the most important mission in human history: Save life on Earth by reigniting the dying sun. Boyle quickly establishes an engrossing dynamic among the crew, but the film’s dramatic intensity wanes as the action heats up into a ferocious jumble toward the finish. Cillian Murphy, star of Boyle’s “28 Days Later,” leads the cast, backed by Michelle Yeoh, Hiroyuki Sanada, Chris Evans, Rose Byrne, Troy Garity, Cliff Curtis and Benedict Wong. R for violent content and language. 108 min. Two and a half stars out of four.

AP

Study: Back Pain Sufferers Benefit From New Technology

Santa Monica – “A new study shows that technology may have finally found a non-surgical solution for chronic back pain and sciatica sufferers.”
That’s what Santa Monica Chiropractor, Dr. Tim Bullock is saying about a treatment called Spinal Decompression. Dr. Bullock has been using FDA approved non-surgical spinal decompression in his office for over two years now. This treatment is a drug free breakthrough to treat back pain, disc herniation and sciatica.
“I am amazed at the results spinal decompression gets with patients who were about to give up searching for a solution for their problem. And how safe and easy it is... even for patients who have already had surgery. I am also shocked to learn that so few doctors throughout the country have this new technology available in their office,” commented Dr. Bullock.
Due to the tremendous success in back pain patients using this technology, Dr. Bullock has made a copy of the Study available to anyone suffering from a painful back caused by disc herniation, for FREE!
“I want back pain sufferers to know they have an option other than drugs and surgery... an option that really works. I want to let them know there is finally REAL hope for their condition. Learn all the details in this free report.”
To get your free copy of Dr. Bullock’s recently released Research Case Study report titled, “The Effectiveness Of Spinal Decompression Therapy In Patients With Back Pain, Herniated Disc and Sciatica” just call (310) 562-6700 and listen to the 24 hr recorded message on how to have it mailed to you free. Call now, supply is limited. Or log on to www.lordexsamo.com and click on “Free Report.”

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NOTICE OF CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Consideration of proposed resolution to automatically adjust the Affordable Housing Base Unit Fee for new market-rate multifamily development pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.56.070(b)
WHEN: Tuesday, July 24, 2007
5:45 P.M.
WHERE: Santa Monica City Hall, Council Chambers, Room #213
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of a resolution which would automatically adjust the Affordable Housing Unit Base Fee that developers of multi-family projects may pay to the City pursuant to Section 9.56.070(b) of the City’s Affordable Housing Production Program. The existing Affordable Housing Unit Base fee for new market rate apartments of \$24.10 per square foot would be increased by \$1.21 per square foot of floor area and the existing Affordable Housing Unit Base fee for new market rate condominiums of \$28.15 would be increased by \$1.41 per square foot of floor area. Effective on October 1, 2007, the adjusted Affordable Housing Unit Base fee would be \$25.31 per square foot of floor area for new market rate apartments and would be \$29.56 per square foot of floor area for new market rate condominiums.

The adjustments to the Affordable Housing Base Unit Fee reflect changes in land and construction costs based on a methodology adopted by the City Council on June 13, 2006. An explanation of this methodology and the resulting adjustment to the fee are set forth in a letter prepared for the City by Hamilton, Rabinovitz & Alschuler, Inc. (HR&A). A copy of this letter is now available at the City Clerk’s Office in Room 102 of City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California or the Housing Division Office at 2121 Cloverfield Boulevard, Suite 100, Santa Monica, California. This information is also available on the City’s web site (Housing section).

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this matter. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment at the City Council’s public hearing or by writing a letter.

Letters should be addressed to: Mayor and City Council
City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
Further information may be obtained from the City Housing Division at the address above or by calling (310) 458-8702.

The meeting facility is handicapped accessible. If you have any special needs such as sign language interpreting, please contact the Office of the Disabled at (310) 458-8701.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica, at or prior to the Public Hearing.

ESPANOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para aumentar una tarifa sobre el desarrollo de alojamiento “multi-familiar” en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Ellen Comis en la División de Viviendas y Desarrollo al número (310) 458-8702.



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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 65°

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)

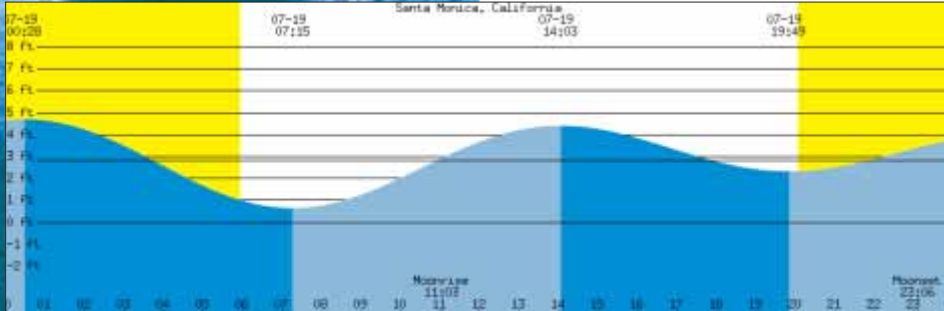
Today the wind swell should pick up slightly, but overall, it's looking like another waist high day most everywhere. Tide is still rather low early, yet winds should be a bit milder than Wednesday.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

SMALL SW THIS WEEK...

SMALL TO MODERATE SW FOR 24TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

July 10, 2007

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 2

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	C	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A+	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A	ns
Puercio State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puercio Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	B	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	B	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	B	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A	ns			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



Heal the Bay

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

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The Art Palette

Hamp Simmons

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Photo courtesy

NUTTY RENDITION: SAMOHI presents ‘You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown’ this weekend.

SM event listings

courtesy of Garrett

This week's selection of cultural highlights comes to you courtesy of our summer intern, Garrett, who has picked out a broad array of arts and culture events that demonstrate the wealth of opportunities that can be found in Santa Monica. There's movies, plays and concerts for every age and every taste.

‘YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN'
Santa Monica High School Theatre
8 p.m. on Fridays
2 and 8 p.m. on Saturdays
Through July 28
601 Pico Blvd.
(310) 458-5939
The kids at SAMOHI become Charles Schultz's famous cast of characters in this delightful 1967 musical. Recently revived on Broadway, the production walked away with two Tony awards. You'll be amazed by what our local young actors are able to accomplish with this Broadway stalwart.

AND AWAAAY WE GO...
Santa Monica Playhouse
12:30 and 3 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays
1211 Fourth St.
(310) 394-9779
Take your family on a magical, musical journey to the land of enchantment. Audience participation makes this captivating Rudie-Carlo Family Theatre event a perfect summer outing for the entire family. Parents and kids help save the fairytale world, solving riddles, predicting the future, traveling through time,

upside down, backwards, sideways and every which way in between.

OKLAHOMA!
Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.
Sundays at 2 p.m.
Through July 28
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd.
(310) 828-7519
This is the show that set the standards and established the rules of musical theatre. We've all seen the movie but the watching live actors take on the spectacular Rogers and Hammerstein score is an experience not to be missed.

MONSTER SQUAD
3 p.m.
Sunday, July 22
Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Take the kids to a classic Sunday afternoon monster matinee this weekend at the Aero Theatre. When Count Dracula returns, accompanied by Frankenstein's Monster, the Wolfman, the Mummy and the Gillman, only The Monster Squad can stand in their way and prevent them from finding the powerful amulet that will grant them power to rule the world.



If you would like to subscribe to the Santa Monica Arts Palette via e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the word “Subscribe” in the subject line to artpalette.mailbox@smgov.net

Don of a new day

Sharpton OK with Imus on the air

The **REV. AL SHARPTON**, who urged the firing of Don Imus, wouldn't object if the radio personality returned to the airwaves. "He has a right to make a living," he said in a telephone interview

Wednesday. Sharpton said he hadn't softened his views about Imus, who was dismissed from his syndicated program (simulcast on MSNBC) in April for calling the Rutgers University

women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos." But he added that, under the right conditions, the radio star's banishment could eventually end. Sharpton said he hoped that any broadcast outlet

that hired Imus would take steps to ensure that he wouldn't return to a brand of humor that included race- and gender-based insults. "We had never asked him to never work again,"

he said, echoing comments he first made to Radar magazine. Imus' attorney, Martin Garbus, wasn't answering questions about his client's future Wednesday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

OPRAH REFLECTS

OPRAH WINFREY is mourning the death of her 2-year-old golden retriever, Gracie. "Weeks have passed," Winfrey says in the August issue of O, the Oprah Magazine. "And the pain has not subsided. Every time I think about it, my heart starts racing and I feel like I just got stabbed in the chest."

On May 26, Gracie choked to death on a plastic ball that belonged to Sophie, Winfrey's 12-year-old cocker spaniel, while out with her dog walker and two other golden retrievers, Winfrey says.

"I don't believe in accidents," says the host of "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

AP

Martha's neighbor writes song to protest her trademark of Katonah

Like many wars before it, the one between **MARTHA STEWART** and some of her Westchester County neighbors has inspired a protest song. Written by Katonah resident Marc Black, the song takes aim at Stewart's attempt to trademark the village's name for use on a line of furniture and home products. That idea has outraged many residents, who say that no one should own the name "Katonah," and some American Indians, who say the name is taken from a beloved 17th-century tribal chief. "The bottom line is, I'm just hoping, I think we all are, that Martha will hear the song," Black said in a video posted on The Journal News Web site. "We love you Martha," sings Black in the video, strumming an acoustic guitar as he lounges in a hammock on his porch. While "Martha" is already endowed with a natural "a" ending, other words have been infused with an "a" to rhyme with Katonah: "And that's why I wrote this song-a. We like you here, you can belong-a. But you just can't buy us, and simply own-a. Somebody should have told you, it's

very wrong-a. To take our name and try to become chef Katonah." A different video of Black performing the Stewart protest song while onstage appears on the YouTube Web site, where it has been viewed more than 200 times. Diane Paterson, a spokeswoman for the domestic doyenne's company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., said Stewart was requesting trademark protection to "prevent competitors from selling knockoffs." "In fact, place-names are commonly used by well-known brands, from Philadelphia Cream Cheese to Nantucket Nectars, without any harm to the residents of those towns," Paterson said. The Village Improvement Society has launched a campaign called "Nobody Owns Katonah" to fight the trademarking of the name. Katonah is about 40 miles north of midtown Manhattan. The Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corp. said the average house price there was \$912,000 in 2006.

AP

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

A must appearance, Capricorn

Happy Birthday!

Your tune about work, life and relationships changes dramatically. Transformation happens through recognizing what no longer works and letting go. Face the music, and you will be happier. Romance knocks on singles' doors toward the close of this birthday year. A bad case of the butterflies might take wing. If you are attached, your sweetie wants to do more together. The quality of your domestic life grows. LIBRA is at home with you.



Born Today

Fabled murderess Lizzie Borden (1860)
Guitarist Brian May (1947)
Artist Edgar Degas (1834)

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ At the last minute you start a project over because of new information. Realize that even though others are challenging, it might have nothing to do with you. Lighten up about a friendship. Tonight: Let events happen. No interference!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your creativity is put to the test. You might want to try something very different. An avant-garde approach might be the only path. Understand what is happening with a child. Tonight: Unwind in your own style.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Build from a basic point of view and elaborate. If someone causes you a great deal of flak, stop. This person might have strong reason for his or her attitude. Plug in some humor and creativity. Tonight: Kick in the weekend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You speak your mind, and others respond. Uproar starts out of the blue. Creativity charges your ideas and builds a stronger project or plan. Slow down as the day becomes older. Take some thinking time. Tonight: Find your favorite pastime.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Work positively with a financial bind. You might need to curb some risk-taking activity or hobby. Discussions later today point in the right direction. Allow your creativity to surface. Tonight: Out and about.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Claim your power knowing your limits. If you push too much with a roommate or family member, know that he or she will push back. A misunderstanding could trigger a lot more than you realize. Talk through a problem. Tonight: Your treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Take your time, hedging rather than answering directly. Given time, others' moods will change and ideas will be more positively received. Later today, your energy soars, and you feel more together and connected. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Don't stop. Take action and keep the ball rolling. The only mistake you could make is to slow down. The daylight hours work well for you. Slow down, as it is natural toward midafternoon. You need time to think. Tonight: Zoom in on what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ By opposing a project, you might be causing a bigger hassle than necessary. Knowing what is going on behind the scenes could make a big difference in your approach. Make allies so that you will have the support you need. Tonight: Follow your friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ By pulling away and understanding the whole situation, you will obviously make stronger decisions. Not everything is as you see it or think it should be. Don't stand on ceremony; understand. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Know when to put your hand up and go "halt." A friend might cross your path and hit you in an emotionally vulnerable area. Know when to stop and reverse gears. Tonight: Follow the music, even if you find yourself in a new place.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Others dominate and could cause you to stumble when trying to be responsible. Avoid a power play at all costs. It simply isn't worth it. Laugh and relax with a dear associate who is also a friend. Tonight: Make time for a key person.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Inland Empire (R)
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Captivity (R)
12:50, 3:15, 5:25, 7:40, 9:50
Live Free or Die Hard (PG-13)
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15
A Mighty Heart (PG-13)
4:50, 7:15, 9:35
Sicko (PG-13)
1:00, 4:05, 7:00, 10:05
Surf's Up (PG)
12:45, 2:50

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Evan Almighty (PG)
11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
Knocked Up (R)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:45
Ocean's Thirteen (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40
Ratatouille (G)
DLP-Digital Projection
11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
Ratatouille (G)
12:25, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15
Transformers (PG-13)
11:15am, 12:15, 2:30, 3:35, 6:00, 7:00, 9:20, 10:20

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Evening (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Joshua (R)
1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

LAEMMLE'S MONICA
FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Once (R)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Rescue Dawn (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
You Kill Me (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:30 10:00

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

1408 (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
DLP-Digital Projection
10:40am, 1:50, 5:10, 8:30
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
11:50am, 12:50, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20, 10:50
License to Wed (PG)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
Nancy Drew (PG)
10:50am, 1:10

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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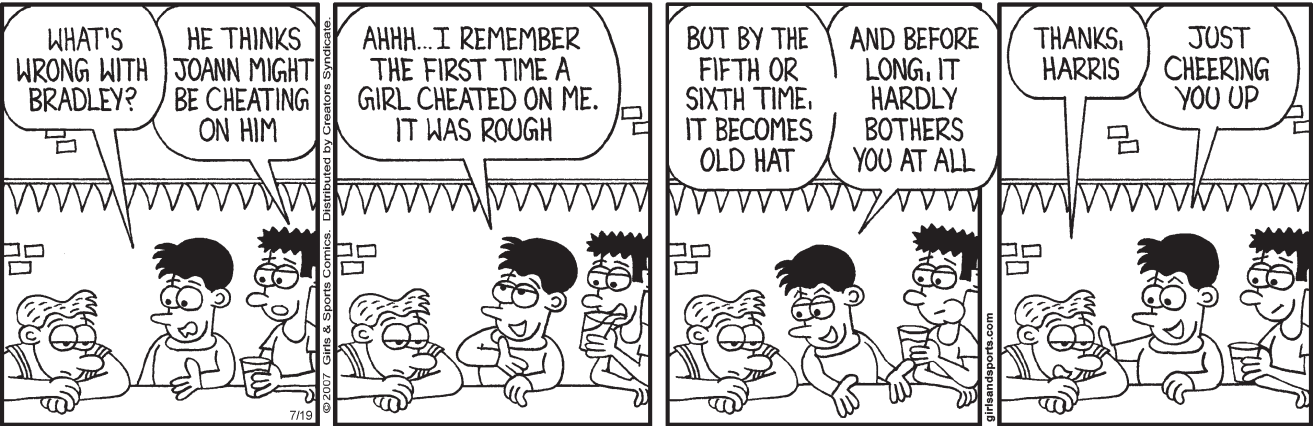
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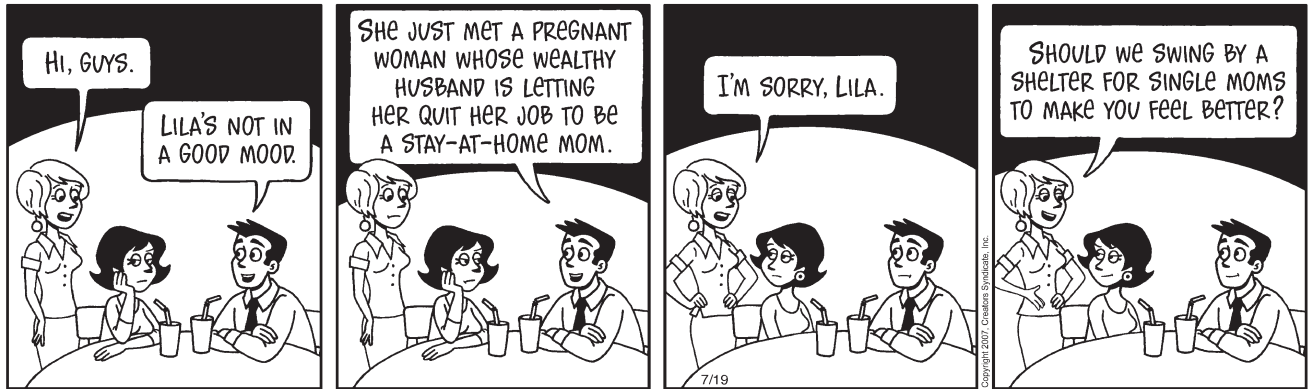
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



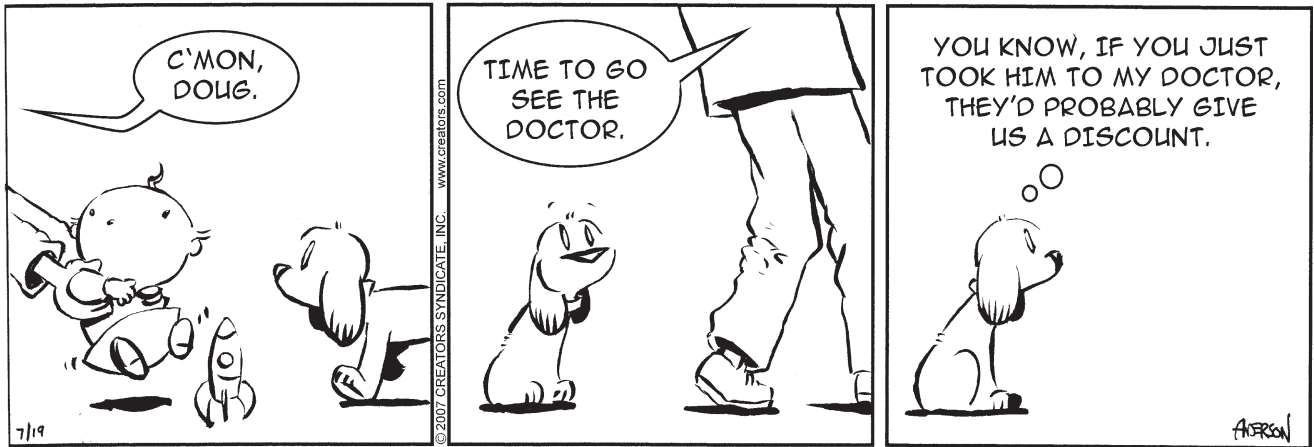
Garfield

By Jim Davis

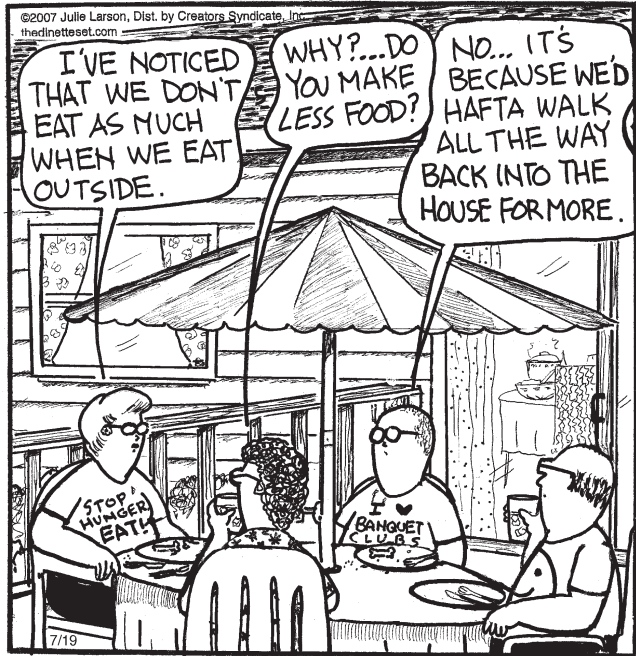


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Like bad excuses
 - 5 Camera setting
 - 10 Alimony payers
 - 11 Caveat starter
 - 12 Actor Guinness
 - 13 Washington neighbor
 - 14 California city
 - 16 Signed appeal
 - 20 Trembling trees
 - 23 Backgammon piece
 - 24 Store events
 - 25 Buffalo team
 - 27 In the past
 - 28 Loathe
 - 29 Funnel-shaped flowers
 - 32 Peevish
 - 36 Attacks
 - 39 Lotion additive
 - 40 Aorta, for one
 - 41 Phone sound
 - 42 Trounces
 - 43 They may be inflated
- DOWN**
- 1 Bound
 - 2 Car part
 - 3 Convene
 - 4 Manhunt target
 - 5 Physicist Enrico
 - 6 Worry
 - 7 Place for a price
 - 8 Gold, in Tijuana
 - 9 Write
 - 11 Ring contests
 - 15 Eye part
 - 17 Doing nothing
 - 18 Artist's medium

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

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Tree house?
- 20 Promptly, in memos
- 21 Wise
- 22 Book basis
- 25 Boyfriend
- 26 "I should be going"
- 28 Tune
- 30 Disturbed
- 31 Ap-proaches
- 33 Sleep like
- 34 Forbidden act
- 35 Pro-shop purchase
- 36 Talker's gift
- 37 Bauxite, e.g.
- 38 Schedule abbr.

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10					11				
12					13				
14				15					
			16				17	18	19
20	21	22					23		
24					25	26			
27				28					
29			30	31					
			32				33	34	35
36	37	38				39			
40						41			
42						43			

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLION 16 30 38 46 51
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: \$26M

Super LOTTO 3 5 18 33 35
Meganumber: 1
Jackpot: \$36M

Fantasy 5 2 10 27 35 37

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 4 0 5
EVENING: 9 2 1

DAILY DERRY 1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1:48.69

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Crime Waves** : (1) In May, a woman in Jacksonville, Ill., reported the theft of a bong from her house; she told police that she valued it because it belonged to her son, who is in prison, and it is all she had to remember him by. (2) The sheriff's office in Clyman, Wis., reported that a man called 911 on April 21, alarmed that he had just paid \$20 to a woman at a club after a lap dance and then realized that she was not the one who had danced for him.

■ **Fetishes on Parade**: (1) Police in Guelph, Ontario, were on the lookout in May for the man they thought responsible for three incidents in which someone approached a woman and asked that she kick him in the groin. A police spokesman said no crime had been committed, but that they are "concerned." (2) In New York City in June, Frank Ranieri, 25, was arrested and charged with impersonating a police officer in order to persuade teenage girls, for money, to let him stab them in the buttocks with a ball-point pen (which is the not-well-known paraphilia called piquerism).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1333 Wars of Scottish Independence: Battle of Halidon Hill - The final battle of the war.

1553 Lady Jane Grey is replaced by Mary I of England as Queen of England after having that title for just nine days.

1692 Salem Witch Trials: Five women are hanged for witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts.

1870 Franco-Prussian War: France declares war on Prussia.

1873 William Gosse becomes the first European to discover Ayers Rock (Uluru) and names it in honour of South Australian Premier Sir Henry Ayers.

1919 Following Peace Day celebrations marking the end of World War I, ex-servicemen rioted and burnt down Luton Town Hall.

1940 World War II: Army order 112 forms the Intelligence Corps of the British Army.

1947 Burmese nationalist Aung San and six of his cabinet members were assassinated.

1964 Vietnam War: At a rally in Saigon, South Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh calls for expanding the war into North Vietnam.

1996 Opening Cermonies of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia.

WORD UP!

bibelot \BEE-buh-loh/, noun: A small decorative object without practical utility; a trinket.

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DIRECTV FREE 4 Room System!
Personal Checks Accepted!
250+ Channels! Starts \$29.99/month!
FREE HBO/Cinemax/Showtime!
FREE DVR/HD Receiver!
We're Local Installers!
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American Cancer Society Discovery Shop, July 20-21, 920 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica. (310)458-4490.

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Call us today at (310) 458-7737

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Bad Credit? No Problem!
No credit check. Name brands.
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Call BlueHippo now for Free bonus.

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QUICKBOOKS BOOKKEEPING service, personal or businesses. Call 310 977-7935

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\$5.50 A DAY LINER ADS! CALL TODAY

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501 N Venice unit 26 \$1250/mo; 1+1, upper, stove fridge, vinyl, carpet, blinds, on-site laundry, utilities included, parking, no pets (310)574-6767 jkwproperties.com

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Studio/1Ba, no pets, ref pool, quiet, utilities \$900/MO
1BD/BA Lower, blinds, PKG, balcony, carpets, parking \$1095/MO
1bd/Ba; pool Laundry balcony, ref stove, PKG \$1295/Mo
We have others From \$650.00
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www.apartmenthunterz.com

BRENTWOOD \$900+
Studio/1Ba, no pets, ref pool, quiet, balcony, carpets, parking \$1300/MO
2bd /1Ba spac. lower unit, carpet. stove, D/W. F/P PKG \$1695/Mo
We have others From \$650.00
310-276-0881
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4 blocks to beach
2BD+2BA shared by 2 seniors—
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for complete
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2 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Twnhse. NO pets,
Stove, Refrigerator, Dishwasher,
Washer/Dryer, Parking, 12048 Culver
Blvd. #203, Open Daily for Viewing
9am-7p. Additional Info in Unit.

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Studio/1Ba, Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym
Pool, \$1250/Mo
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Pool, Cat ok \$1350 /MO
2bd/2Ba Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym,
Pool, Cat ok \$11850/Mo
We have others From \$650.00
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MDR/PLAYA VISTA adjacent. \$825/mo
Large single. Full kitchen, stove, refrig-
erator, carpets. Laundry, parking. No
pets (310)828-4481

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agent.

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ceilings, kitchen w/all appl., den, din-
ing, balcony, F/P, W/D, elevator, park-
ing, pool, spa, new paint & carpets.
http://www.msnusers.com/Prospective-
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\$3,300/month, 1 yr. lease,
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SANTA MONICA \$800+
Studio Lower, Bright, Carpet, ref, stove,
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Studio 1/Ba; No pet, balcony, carpets,
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1bd/BA upper, no pets, ref stove, new
paint SMC, PKG \$1100/Mo
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SANTA MONICA \$2400/mo 12th St. near
Colorado, 3bdm, 1.5 baths townhouse.
Spacious, ample closets, balcony.
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cell

VENICE \$900+
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1BD/BA Sunny upper unit, 1 block from
the beach \$1045/MO
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stove fridge d/w, washer/dryer hookups,
microwave, granite counter tops, tile
and carpet, and hardwood flooring, 2
car parking. \$2450/mo. \$500 off
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WEST LOS Angeles \$750+
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WESTWOOD \$895+
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For Rent

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APR 7.6%

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APR 7.74%

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APR 8.5%

6.25%

6.75%

6.25%

6.25%**

6%**

5.75%

5.5%

1.5**

*Rates subject to change

* As of June 20, 2007

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\$10-17 for 15 min.

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Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No.
1102709-08 APN: 4277-010-117 TRA: - LOAN NO:
XXXX9780 REF: MURANAKA, RIK A UNVER IMPOR-
TANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN
DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED De-
cember 02, 2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO
PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A
PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF
THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU,
YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On August 08,
2007, at 10:30 am, CAL-WESTERN RECONVEY-
ANCE CORPORATION, as duly appointed trustee
under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded

Notices

January 27, 2005, as Inst. No. 05 0200208, in
book XX, page XX, of Official Records in the office
of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County,
State of CALIFORNIA executed by: RIK A
MURANAKA, A SINGLE WOMAN WILL SELL AT PUB-
LIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH,
CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NA-
TIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY
A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSO-
CIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS
BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINAN-
CIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN
THIS STATE: AT THE WEST SIDE OF THE LOS AN-
GELES COUNTY COURTHOUSE DIRECTLY FACING
NORWALK BLVD., 12720 NORWALK BLVD. NOR-
WALK CALIFORNIA all right, title and interest con-
veyed to and now held by it under said Deed of
Trust in the property situated in said County and
State described as: COMPLETELY DESCRIBED IN
SAID DEED OF TRUST The street address and
other common designation, if any, of the real
property described above is purported to be: 928
19TH STREET #103 SANTA MONICA CA 90403 The
undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for
any incorrectness of the street address and other
common designation, if any, shown herein. Said
sale will be held, but without covenant or war-
ranty, express or implied, regarding title, posses-
sion, condition, or encumbrances, including fees,
charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the
trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the
remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured
by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the un-
paid balance of the obligation secured by the
property to be sold and reasonable estimated
costs, expenses and advances at the time of the
initial publication of the Notice of Sale is:
\$914,170.53. If the Trustee is unable to convey
title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole
and exclusive remedy shall be the return of mo-
nies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bid-
der shall have no further recourse. The benefi-
ciary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed
and delivered to the undersigned a written decla-
ration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a
written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The
undersigned caused said Notice of Default and
Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where
the real property is located. FOR SALES INFORMAT-
TION: Mon - Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (714)
259-7850 CAL-WESTERN RECONVEYANCE COR-
PORATION 525 EAST MAIN STREET P.O. BOX
22004 EL CAJON CA 92022-9004 Dated: July 19,
2007 By: S/Authorized Signature Authorized Signa-
ture ASAPH# 874855 07/19/2007, 07/26/2007,
08/02/2007

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Excellent condition. \$6500.00
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'05 G35 Sedan
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Black, Alloys, Moon roof, Lthr, 21K
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\$26,995
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



'06 Honda CRV SE
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
AC, P/W, P/L, Alloys, CD,
Moon Roof, Leather, ABS, Tilt
(P1556A)
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Infiniti Santa Monica
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Leather, Loaded, 32K miles
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'03 BMW 325i
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Alloys, Moon roof, New Tires, 39K
miles! (P80761) \$23,995
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



'05 Ford Mustang 2Dr LX
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
V6, 5 speed, A/C, P/W, P/L,
Alloys, CD, RWD
(I7069A)
\$15,995
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



'04 G35 Sedan
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Nav., alloys, lthr, Moon roof,
loaded! (603264)
\$26,495
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



'05 LS430
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Black, Low 31K Mi. Must See!
Loaded! (024112)
\$41,995
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253



'06 G35 Coupe
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Silver, auto, Bose, 19" wheels,
Moon roof, 3,000 miles
(719308) \$35,995
Infiniti Santa Monica
(866) 507-7253

Working Cargo 1995 Van Ford
F-250. Air conditioned, shelving.
Runs good. \$3450. (310)560-1137

Vehicles for sale



'03 G35 Sedan V6
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Leather, Alloys, Moon roof,
Only 32K miles
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Infiniti Santa Monica
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'05 Ford Taurus
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(Vin #: 101989)
\$9,995
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(310) 395-3712



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4 door, only 63000 miles, one
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1-year, smog cert. Must see to ap-
preciate. \$2500.
(310)392-5715

Trucks/Vans



'02 Ford Ranger PU
6-Cylinder, PS., Air, Clean, Tool Box
(Vin #: PB28443)
\$6,495
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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1992 Dodge Cargo Van B350
1 ton, white, A/C
Vin #: 167697
\$2,595
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
(310) 395-3712



'97 Chevrolet Astro Van
8-passenger, low mileage,
Fully-equipped
(Vin #: B170614)
\$6,495
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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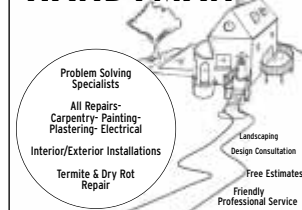
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Handyman

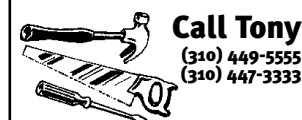
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www.hypnotherapylosangeles.com

SELL YOUR CAR FAST!

Advertise your used car for sale in the
only LOCAL DAILY newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY
\$45

Run it until it sells!*



1964 Pontiac Catalina
New Transmission, new paint job. 150K
original miles. Immaculate condition
inside. Kept in garage for many years.
Must see!
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- FREE online placement!

Call us today at
(310) 458-7737

Take advantage of this great offer.

Santa Monica Daily Press



*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to schedule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renewal is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to annie@smdp.com. Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737





Kate Bransfield

Estates Director
Chairman's Circle - Platinum
(top 2% nationwide)

#1 Santa Monica Prudential Realtor®

310.395.1133



for a Virtual Tour of these Properties, visit:

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

Open Sunday, July 15th
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm



2628 - 29th Street \$1,399,000
Great 4 + 3 Sunset Park Home

Open Tuesday, July 10th
11:00 am to 2:00 pm



1020 Chelsea Avenue \$1,399,000
Charming, Original 2 + 1 Bungalow

Open Sunday, July 15th
2:00 to 5:00 pm



822 - 19th Street Unit C \$1,238,000
Spacious, Remodeled 2 + 2.5 + Den!

In Escrow
Looking for Backup



1018 - 4th Street #203 \$999,999
Spacious 2+2.5 North of Wilshire Condo

Coming Soon!

North of Wilshire Condo
2 Bed + 2 Bath + Huge Patio
Franklin School District

Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Early July 2007

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 3,258,500	No Listings
North of Montana	=	\$ 4,042,682	\$ 2,031,034
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,972,333	\$ 858,093
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 920,571	\$ 667,628
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,421,789	\$ 534,333
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,543,833	\$ 900,182

Statistics updated every Friday

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