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FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2009
Volume 8 Issue 224



Santa Monica Daily Press

PLOTTING A RISKY RETURN
SEE PAGE 11

We have you covered

THE THINKING BIG ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

PATROL PLAN A WORK IN PROGRESS: **SMPD Chief Tim Jackman says response times are shorter thanks to the new 3/12 work week.**

New hours for SMPD

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY In an effort to put more cops on the street at a time when the majority of crimes occur, Santa Monica Police Chief Tim Jackman has instituted a six-month pilot program in which officers work three, 12-hour shifts instead of the traditional 10-hour sift, four days a week.

The switch, which applies to all officers on patrol, went into effect three weeks ago and is already paying dividends in the form of faster response times — around 10 to 25 percent faster — and a savings of $50,000 in overtime pay during the Fourth of July weekend, said Jackman, who admits he is still skeptical about the so-called 3/12 plan and looks forward to thoroughly evaluating it once it ends.

"Going into this I was clear that this had to make good business sense," Jackman said Thursday. "If it was going to cost us money in this economy, I couldn't do it. But it actually looks like it might save money and be incredibly more effective than we thought."

SEE WORK WEEK PAGE 10

Local cop weighs-in on Obama remark

MELISSA TRUJILLO
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON Many police officers across the country have a message for President Barack Obama: Get all the facts before criticizing one of our own.

Obama's public criticism that Cambridge officers "acted stupidly" when they arrested black Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. could make it harder for police to work with people of color, some officers said Thursday. It could even set back the progress in race relations that helped Obama become the nation's first African-American president, they said.

SEE OBAMA PAGE 9

Shoe's on the other foot now

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL When Deputy City Attorney Gary Rhoades isn't prosecuting scams, he's creating them.

While Rhoades, who works in City Hall's Consumer Protection Unit, isn't actually ripping off unsuspecting clients, he has embarked on a new creative venture that through a series of bogus Web sites tells the story of a thieving fictional character named Edgar Scattergood, who dupes grieving families of unpublished poets into paying him for so-called Posthumous Vanity Publishing services.

"I write poetry myself and know other poets," he said. "It seemed like a fun thing to make fun of."

The project involves Rhoades' brother Alex, who designed the sites, and fellow Deputy City Attorney Barbara Greenstein, who has written several posts from the perspective of the fictional Deputy District Attorney Carla Found, who is prosecuting Scattergood and a complicit UCLA English professor, and the defendant's attorney, Simon Singh.

The idea for the dark comedy came more than a year ago after Rhoades, who was curious from prosecuting a number of cases involving scam artists, decided to take on the mindset of such a criminal. An unpublished poet himself, Rhoades spent some time at a hay farm he owns in Missouri with Alex to brainstorm a plot and figure out the best medium to tell the story.

They ended up creating four connected Web sites — www.foreverprized.com, www.thecartooncowgirlforever.com, www.seeminglyforever.com, and www.thehayfieldforever.com. The multiple Web sites are actually an attribute commonly found in scams, Rhoades said.

"Scam artists will create a cluster of Web sites that when people are going through them and clicking on the links, will go to another Web site and get this illusion of depth," he said.

The sites each include a fake press release issued by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office detailing the case and listing the terms of an injunction order by a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge out of the Santa Monica Courthouse, including

SEE WEB SITE PAGE 8

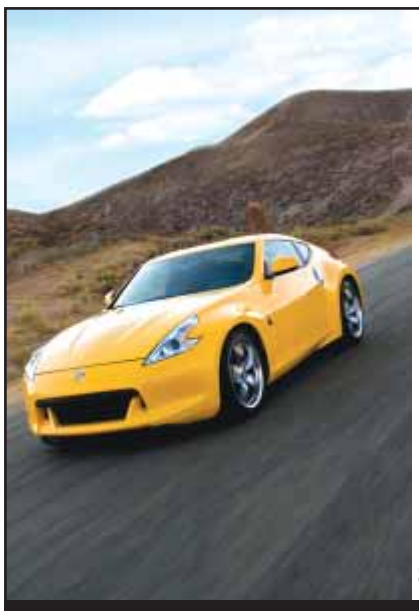
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WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Birth of the cool
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.
Barkley L. Hendricks' first retrospective comprises an exhibition of paintings from 1964 to 2007. Hendricks is best known for his life-sized portraits of everyday African Americans from cities in the Northeast.

Indie concert
McCabe's Guitar Shop
3101 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
Van Dykes Park and Inara George will perform modern torch songs from their new album, "An Invitation."
Admission is $22.50.

Tickling the ivories
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Enjoy classical music from pianist Fuzjko Hemming.

Saturday, July 25, 2009

Farm fresh
Virginia Avenue Park & Downtown
2200 Virginia Ave., 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Purchase fresh seasonal produce directly from California's farmers.

Bike maintenance class
REI
402 Santa Monica Blvd., 8:30 a.m.
Learn how to adjust and maintain your wheels, hubs, brakes and drive train, inspect your frame and clean and lubricate your entire bike.
Tools and bike stands provided.

Urban adventure hunt
Third Street Promenade
1200 Block at Arizona Ave., 11 a.m.
Get to the heart of the community with this oceanfront pursuit — from the Santa Monica Pier to the promenade.
For more information, visit www.racela.com.

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.

In the letters to the editor section of the Thursday, July 23 issue of the Daily Press, it should have stated that the letter entitled "Experiences on the street," was written by Robert Sianez.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ALONG FOR THE RIDE: **Passengers ride a Big Blue Bus down Pico Boulevard on Thursday morning.**

TAKING IT IN

Big Blue busing it

Editor's Note: This is a series in which Daily Press writers overhear and observe happenings around Santa Monica.

BY EMMA TROTTER
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE In the Big Blue Bus Transit Store on Broadway, a customer is surrounded by towels, beach balls, flip-flops, bags, T-shirts, mugs and rubber duckies — all emblazoned with the BBB logo — but all he wants to do is buy a day pass.

"Have a big day!" reads the envelope containing the pass, which opens up the entire city of Santa Monica — not to mention many surrounding areas — to its holder. A bus stop, served by several of BBBs' 21 regular, rapid and mini lines, waits just outside the door.

A man dressed in a blue dress shirt and a knit cap asks people for change — to cover bus fare, he says.

"I'm a student. It's my first day in Santa Monica," he explains. "I never dreamed I'd look like a derelict!"

A man sings softly to his two daughters as he pushes them along Broadway in a double stroller. It's about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday.

The Line 1 bus pulls to a stop, and then the driver takes off, tailgating a black SUV and honking at a silver sedan that cuts him off as he makes a left turn.

"Whoa," says a girl in a bright sundress as the beach comes into view. She and another woman get off the bus at the next stop.

A young girl and her mother examine a map of the city. The girl clutches a pair of bright pink sunglasses.

"This place looks good," she says to her mom, giving her the thumbs up. The woman nods in agreement and the girl pulls a yellow cord to her left.

"Stop requested," a calm female voice intones from speakers near the front of the bus.

Everyone exits the bus at Venice Way and Main Street, just one stop before the end of the line. Indecipherable graffiti is splashed on the grated metal of the bus stop walls.

The bus heading back down Main fills up quickly. A woman in a purple shirt struggles to find the correct change.

Three people exit the bus at Bay Street, a transfer point for lines 7 and 8. A man eats a bag of Fritos at the stop, as Justin Timberlake's "Sexyback" blasts from a passing car. He finishes his Fritos at about 11:15 a.m., just as the Line 7 bus arrives. He fishes in his pocket for change.

"My baby, he's always asleep," comments a woman in a tight pink tank top, settling into her seat. Across the aisle, a man sports a faded dress shirt that hangs open across his chest.

A flood of students gets on at the Santa Monica College stop. One man pushes a stroller and studies the line information.

"Does this go to UCLA?" he asks. His small son makes a few gurgling noises in response.

SEE **BUS** PAGE 10

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Sweatshirts for charity

eBay guru Greg Kusch and his mother Eileen are encouraging their friends and associates to follow in their charitable footsteps — donating $100,000 worth of brand name hoodie sweatshirts to the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club.

"I spent a good portion of my childhood at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica, known as the Boy's Club back then," Kusch said. "To this day, the sports and recreational activities I participated in at that time helps drive my competitive nature and will to succeed."

Kusch is known nationally as an eBay guru, and is among just 23 people in the United States to be a business consultant trained and certified by eBay, having attended the eBay sanctioned university.

An instructor and author, Kusch was recently diagnosed with Sarcoma cancer. Throughout his treatment of the disease, Kusch wants to inspire the people around him to step up their philanthropic efforts and activities.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

For the love of money

Editor:

I'm sure that if President Roosevelt and his Congress could hear what is going on between President Obama and his Congress regarding income tax raises, they would be spinning in their graves. What a horrible time he is having, trying to get an extra 1 percent (!) tax out of our high income people – to say anything about the elusive 5 percent from the top income recipients (I cannot say earners).

Why were people so different during the last depression? I can't remember any nastiness then when our wealthiest people had to pay enormous taxes on their top earnings. My uncle, who was executive vice president of the Bulova Watch Co., when reaching a top tax bracket, distributed more accounts to his lower-income salesman. He still kept his main home on Park Avenue in New York City, his country home in Greenwich, Conn., and his car and chauffeur (in those days, if you had a chauffeur, even a family of five needed only one car). No he didn't have a $5,000 shower curtain, but that was because he wasn't stupid enough to want one. Just as his mode of living did not change, neither would the present CEOs with their added tax.

Where did all the greed come from?

Cecilia Heimlich Rosenthal
Santa Monica

Not a good idea

Editor:

So City Hall is considering removing the crosswalks Downtown on Fifth Street where the post office, stores, banks, etc. are all on opposite sides of the very long blocks. Obviously those who are contemplating this do not walk much around Downtown, and are probably the same out-of-touch-with-reality ones who spout that Santa Monica is a pedestrian-friendly city

But then, let's face it, it's California where cars are king. They might as well remove the crosswalks since cars rarely stop for the people crossing anyway. As you walk across (after waiting until no cars are coming) the cars start zipping past, in front and back of you.

And if the goof-balls who want to remove the crosswalks ever tried walking around Santa Monica they'd know this.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

Priorities

Editor:

Carlos Pineiro is correct regarding the homeless to the extent that he says solving the crisis "takes time and money." It takes money for homes, jobs, and health care for the poor to help them get off the streets and back into society.

Martin Luther King, Jr., said during the Vietnam War alone, let-a-lone our current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, "It is a tragic mix-up when the United States spends $500,000 for every enemy soldier killed, and only $53 annually on the victims of poverty."

Andrew Kay Liberman
Santa Monica

Your column here

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A model of volunteerism

PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS REPEATEDLY called for Americans to participate in community service. We salute those who selflessly contribute their time, abilities and money to help those who are less fortunate. Behind the scenes, many of the less fortunate — some of whom are themselves beneficiaries of community services — are active volunteers.

Every week, I facilitate a writing class at Step Up on Second, a Santa-Monica-based organization that provides housing, meals and an array of support services to people living with severe mental illness. I have been impressed and inspired to find that, despite their own considerable personal challenges, most of our writers are active volunteers in the community. Marsha volunteers at the gift shop of a local hospital, Larry runs a bingo group at a seniors living facility, Alan writes and directs plays on Skid Row, Les teaches computer skills to people struggling with mental illness, Craig feeds the homeless at a local church. And the list goes on.

One of our writers, Jacob Ramsey, is a model of volunteerism. For the past 12 years, Jacob has been a leader, a teacher and source of inspiration for hundreds of people who have come through Step Up's doors.

Jacob is a member and resident of Step Up. Since experiencing a mental breakdown in 1995, Jacob has been living with severe bipolar disorder. He also has muscular dystrophy, which significantly limits his mobility.

"I may be disabled, but that doesn't mean I'm un-abled," Jacob says.

Every week, Jacob teaches eight classes to support Step Up members in their life skills and recovery. He also serves on Step Up's board of directors.

Jacob lives and breathes service to others. He constantly encourages and praises his fellow members for their progress, accomplishments, and most of all, for who they are.

"It's amazing how a small compliment or a little encouragement can help build someone's self-esteem," says Jacob. "Many of the people at Step Up have been homeless or down and out for years. They're accustomed to being stigmatized and shunned. Many of them haven't heard a kind word for years. All people need encouragement and recognition."

In 2001, Jacob began facilitating a weekly self-help support group called Words of Encouragement. As a textbook, he used the popular bestseller "Chicken Soup for the Soul." Every week, the group would read an inspiring story from the book. Then Jacob would go around the table ask people what they took from the story.

The class became popular with Step Up members, so Jacob began adding other classes, including Positive Thinking, How to Tell Your Story, Schizophrenics Anonymous, Community Unity, Dealing with Our Hurts and a Poetry/Karaoke Workshop.

"When you're lucky enough to meet Jacob, as I did on my first day at Step Up, it can transform how you feel about yourself," said Daniel Concharty. "My relationship with Jacob has changed my life. The first time I attended one of Jacob's classes, he changed my view of my life in one hour. I had been down for a long time and needed a lot of help. Jacob made me feel welcome and treated me with dignity. It made a huge difference in my assimilation into the Step Up community. I can't say enough positive things about this great man."

Every year Jacob, who is African American, pays tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King on his birthday by reciting the "I Have a Dream" speech in Step Up's main hall. Jacob is also an ordained Baptist minister and often performs spiritual duties at Step Up, including counseling members and conducting memorial services for those who have passed on.

Asked why he is so dedicated to serving his community at Step Up, Jacob responded, "I came to Step Up in 1997 after a mental breakdown. I was at a low point in my life, crying hour after hour every day. Step Up met me where I was at. They provided me with shelter and sustenance. They helped me deal with my mental illness, reintegrate into the community and start living again. Now, I continue that tradition by giving back to others who face some of the same problems as me. It's my life's mission.

"In addition, serving others makes me feel good. Because of my bipolar disorder, I have unwanted feelings at times. Being of service helps chase away these feelings. Instead of focusing on myself and my problems, I focus on helping others. It is a 'we moment,' not a 'me moment.' I've tried a lot of other things to feel better about my situation, but serving others is the thing that helps me the most. I encourage everyone to reach out and volunteer. Not only will you make a positive difference for others, it will change your own life for the better. I guarantee it!"

PHIL GLOSSERMAN is on the board of directors and a volunteer at Step Up on Second. For more information go to www.stepuponsecond.org.



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Ryan Hyatt, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Merv Hecht, Ron Scott Smith Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp Mariel Howsepian, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, Steve Parker and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERNS
Catherine Cain, Natalie Jarvey, Emma Trotter
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS
Ray Solano, Benjamin Brayfied
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Grace Wang
gracew@smdp.com

Drew Swadling
drews@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Saying good-bye to Uncle Walter

THROUGHOUT HISTORY YOUNGER generations have often accused their elders of ruining the world (or at least, being idiots). Teenagers today could easily make this case if they weren't so preoccupied listening to iPods. The planet is falling apart. Then again, it's remarkable how many songs you can store on an iPod.

This battle even occurred in Socrates' day (469-399 BC). Socrates said the youth were "disrespectful, dressed outlandishly and listened to terrible music." (Imagine if he'd heard Eminem?)

Recently in Staten Island a 15-year-old girl fell into an uncovered sewage manhole while she was texting. She wasn't hurt but did complain that she had lost a shoe. (Would you really want it back?) This reinforces that, as remarkable as technology is, there are definite pitfalls (pun intended).

Somehow I began thinking about this upon hearing of Walter Cronkite's death. If you're under the age of 45, his passing might have little significance. But for those older, Cronkite represented an era in America that, given our polarization (i.e. Obama's birth certificate) we may never see again.

Cronkite was the news anchor at CBS for two decades and was labeled the most trusted man in America. So it was a crushing blow to LBJ when, in 1968, Cronkite claimed, "The Vietnam War was mired down in a stalemate." (I've often thought Iraq could be substituted for Vietnam.)

LBJ told Defense Secretary Robert MacNamara, "If we've lost Cronkite, we've lost Middle America." And they had. If he was anything, LBJ was politically astute. After signing the Civil Rights Act he predicted, "The south will go Republican for three generations." He was almost right on the money.

Within two months of Cronkite's Vietnam editorial, LBJ announced he wouldn't run for a second term. (Unlike Sarah Palin, who leaves office Sunday, he didn't do it in front of wild, honking geese.)

When Cronkite reported on the JFK assassination, for almost eight minutes, he could barely continue. As we wept, we were comforted by his humanity. We valued his integrity, dignity, and above all, humility.

Humility? The word sounds almost archaic. Today who is accomplished, thoughtful and yet humble (other than Joe the plumber)? It's as though humility and success have become mutually exclusive. Forget civility, we're in the era of "tooting your own horn." And the louder the toot (or tweet) the better. Narcissism has become a national disease.

Two days before Cronkite's passing, Fox talk show host Glenn Beck was on the radio with a female caller. They were about to discuss health care but within seconds Beck was screaming hysterically. It was a meltdown the likes of which I've never heard over the airwaves before. (Nor would I care to again.)

Thoroughly unhinged, Beck screamed into his microphone, "Get off my phone, you little pinhead!" (Classy guy!) He repeated it with such insane fury, I thought he was going to have a stroke.

If your child threw a tantrum like Beck's, there'd probably be some extended "quiet time," if not medications. Instead, my hunch is that Beck's ratings will go up. (YouTube: "Get off my phone.") I suppose dignity and humility are so 20th century.

What a life Cronkite led. He reported on the bombings in WWII, the Nuremberg trials, Vietnam, the JFK, RFK, MLK and Malcolm X assassinations, Watergate, the Iran Hostage Crisis and Three Mile Island.

Cronkite also covered the U.S. space program. While we gathered around televisions and watched in awe as Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, it was Cronkite's voice we listened to. He was the only non-NASA recipient of a Moon-rock award. And yet his motto always was "report the news, don't become it."

In 1981 Cronkite retired as CBS had mandatory retirement at 65. Coincidentally, he was married to his late wife, Betsy, for 65 years. They had three children and four grandchildren.

Aboard their sailboat "The Betsy" the Cronkites shared a love of the sea. Betsy once joked, "Errol Flynn had a 70-foot boat and a 17-year-old girlfriend. Walter's got a 17-foot boat and a 70-year-old wife."

In examining America, what's better today than in the past? The economy? Medical science (assuming you can afford health insurance)? The environment (cough)?

Are movies as memorable? Are David and Conan in the same league as Johnny? In music, will hip-hop endure like the Beatles? In 20 years, when they're playing rap "Oldies but Goodies," will a wife lovingly whisper to her husband, "Honey, they're playing our song, 'Back it up, biatch!'"

I miss Uncle Walter. I miss having someone intelligent, kind and trustworthy. Somehow the world doesn't seem the same without him.

Frankly, I don't see much in modern life as being better today than in the past. Except for technology. That is, as long as you stay away from open manhole covers.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Home for the homeless?

The ACLU filed a suit last week claiming City Hall violated constitutional rights by arresting a group of six plaintiffs for breaking a local law against camping when there is a lack of sufficient shelter beds to accommodate the homeless.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What do you think of the ACLU's lawsuit?

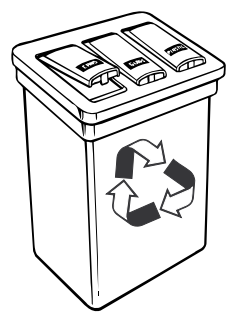
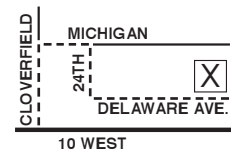
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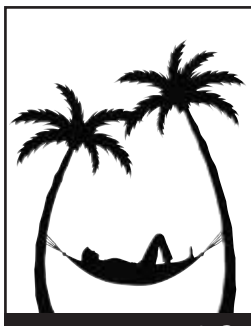
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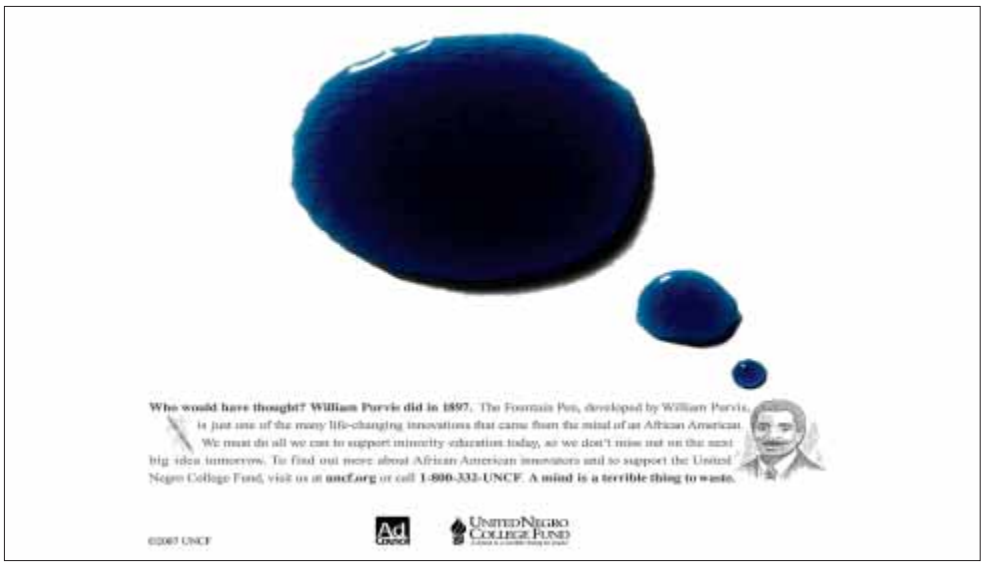
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Date	July 29 Wednesday	July 30 Thursday	July 31 Friday
Day	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Breakfast 8:00 am	Team Orientation	Warm-Up	Warm-Up
9:00 am	Game SMC JAMS	Game SMC JAMS	Game SMC JAMS
Lunch 11:30 am 1:00 pm	Welcoming Ceremony JAMS	JAMS	JAMS
1:00 pm 4:00 pm	Game SMC JAMS	Game SMC JAMS	Game SMC JAMS
4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Leisure	Leisure	
5:00 pm			Award Ceremony

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Stealing is in the air

SUNDAY, JULY 19, AT 1:10 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to Main Street and Ocean Park Boulevard regarding a nuisance. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim, a taxi driver, who told officers that the suspect walked up to his taxi and kicked the passenger side door, creating a large dent. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for vandalism. He was identified as Mark Fabela, 25, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $25,000.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, AT 8:19 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1700 block of the beach bike path regarding a strong-arm robbery that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who told officers that a man approached her and asked her what time it was. She pulled out her phone to look, and the suspect allegedly snatched it and fled toward the Santa Monica Pier. The woman went to the pier to find the suspect and notify police. She saw the suspect on the pier attempting to make a phone call. She grabbed the phone and went to the SMPD sub-station. Police located the suspect and placed him under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Duenta Patterson, 19, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $50,000.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, AT 2 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of the Third Street Promenade — Urban Outfitters —regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with the clothing store's manager who said a woman left the store, setting off security alarms. The woman was asked to come back into the store. She did. The manager told police that the woman had several items from the store inside her bag. The items had not been paid for. During their investigation, the officers found additional items that they believed were stolen from other stores on the promenade. Officers contacted the stores and confirmed their suspicions police said. The items included clothing and various accessories. The value of the items was estimated at $463. The suspect was transported to jail and booked for burglary. She was identified as Olga Selyutina, 20, of West Hollywood. Her bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, AT 4:07 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of the promenade — the Apple Store — regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they spoke with store security who said that the suspect entered the store, selected some expensive headphones, went to the back of the store and placed the item in his pants. The suspect then allegedly left the store without paying for the item, valued at $149. Security stopped the suspect and recovered the headphones. The suspect was placed under arrest for petty theft, violation of probation and possession of a controlled substance. His bail was set at $10,000. He was identified as Aman Teferi, 23, of Los Angeles.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, AT 11:40 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1900 block of Main Street — Star Liquor — regarding a report of a store employee and a man fighting outside. When officers arrived, they found the employee following the man in the 200 block of Pico Boulevard. Officers were advised that the man allegedly entered the liquor store and grabbed a bag of Corn Nuts. When confronted, the man threatened to use mace on the employee. When the man tried to leave, the shop keeper attempted to stop him. The man allegedly removed the mace from his pocket and threatened the employee again. Officers placed the man under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Bryan Jones, 30, a transient. His bail was set at $50,000. The pepper spray and the Corn Nuts, valued at 99 cents, were recovered.

TUESDAY, JULY 14, AT 3:10 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of the promenade — Sephora — regarding a shoplifting suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the suspect entered the store pushing a baby stroller, placed items in an old Sephora bag and then attempted to leave without paying for the items. Security stopped the suspect outside of the store and recovered the items — cosmetics valued at $290. Officers took the suspect, and the stroller, into custody and transported her to the Santa Monica Jail where she was booked for burglary. During a search, officers said they found more stolen items from another store. The suspect was identified as Kris Sugamuta, 40, of Santa Monica. Her bail was set at $20,000.

MONDAY, JULY 13, AT 12:50 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard — Ralphs — regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they spoke with store security who said the suspect entered the store, picked up an item and concealed it under her shirt. As she was exiting, she picked up additional items, failing to pay for them before leaving the store. Security said they watched as the woman placed the items — a bottle of alcohol, charcoal and aluminum tray — in a vehicle in the parking lot. The suspect then came back into the store and attempted to take additional items, but was detained by police. The total value of the items recovered was $73.69. The suspect was identified as Latonia Coleman, 34, from Texas. She was booked for burglary. Her bail was set at $20,000.

Editor-in-Chief Kevin Herrera compiled these reports.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
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Existing home sales show signs of recovery

ALAN ZIBEL
AP Real Estate Writer

WASHINGTON The housing market is finally emerging from the three-year crisis that pushed the nation into the longest recession since the Great Depression.

For the first time in five years, sales of previously occupied homes rose for the third consecutive month in June, while foreclosure sales and the glut of homes on the market both declined.

The figures, released Thursday by the National Association of Realtors, and a string of rosy corporate earnings reports sparked a rally on Wall Street as the Dow Jones industrials rose above 9,000 for the first time since January.

"People believe that the worst is behind us," said Julie Longtin, a real estate agent with Re/Max Professionals in Providence, R.I., an area that has suffered deeply from record foreclosures of risky loans.

Sales also have risen for three straight months in 40 out of 55 major metropolitan areas tracked by the Associated Press-Re/Max Housing Report, also released Thursday. Prices rose during that period in about half of those areas.

Still, unlike past recessions, the turnaround in the real estate sector is likely to have a muted effect overall. That's largely because homebuilders are expected to keep bulldozers idle as long as they face competition from bargain-priced foreclosures. And it's likely to take at least another year before job losses and foreclosures peak.

The Labor Department said Thursday the number of newly laid-off workers seeking jobless benefits rose 30,000 to a seasonally adjusted 554,000 last week, though the government said its report again was distorted by the timing of auto plant shutdowns.

Unemployment insurance claims have declined steadily since the spring, but most private economists and the Federal Reserve expect jobs to remain scarce and the unemployment rate to top 10 percent by year-end.

"We're not going to see much growth in (home) sales until the labor market turns around," said Patrick Newport, an economist with IHS Global Insight. "People don't move as much when they can't find work."

But companies should start hiring as their fortunes improve — and there were some early signs Thursday that's starting to happen.

Ford Motor Co. surprised investors with a profit of $2.3 billion, due mainly to a huge gain for debt reduction, while manufacturing conglomerate 3M Co. and candy maker Hershey Co. raised their profit forecasts for the year.

The Dow Jones industrial average, the stock market's best-known indicator, shot up almost 190 points Thursday to 9,069.29, its highest level since November, and all the big indexes gained more than 2 percent.

Analysts said signs that housing market is finally, gradually turning around could help spur demand as buyers become less fearful of losing their shirts.

"It's been the abject pessimism about house prices that has placed a pall over the housing market," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "As that psychology reverses itself, things start to work in the opposite direction."

Home sales rose 3.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.89 million last month, from a downwardly revised pace of 4.72 million in May. Sales are now around the same level as before last fall's financial crisis.

Foreclosures, however, continue to put pressure on home prices. About one out of three homes sold in June was foreclosure-related, down from nearly half earlier this year.

And despite some buyers' optimism, some still see potential problems ahead. A tax credit of up to $8,000 for first-time homebuyers expires Nov. 30. Mortgage rates are up from record lows reached last spring, and companies are still shedding jobs.

The nationwide median sales price was $181,800 in June, down 15 percent from year-ago levels but up slightly from $174,700 in May. And an Associated Press analysis shows the shows that the gap is narrowing between the sellers' asking price and the final sales price, indicating homeowners have finally accepted that their homes are worth far less today.

Jim Dugan, a 53-year-old plumber, is looking for foreclosures and other low-priced properties in Providence. He wants to buy eight investment properties this year and is slated to close on a small bungalow next week for $62,500.

The property was originally listed for $85,000. But Dugan was able to snare a deal because he didn't need a mortgage, instead tapping a line of credit and his savings.

"Cash talks," he said.

Investor activity is helping to pare the number of homes on the market. Nationwide there are about 3.8 million, or a 9.4-month supply at the current sales pace. When the market balances at a 7-month supply, prices should begin to stabilize.

A healthy housing market is characterized by prices that rise a relatively modest 4 to 5 percent every year. But this year's sales prices are still far lower than last year.

Those low prices combined with mortgage rates around 5 percent and a tax credit for first-time homebuyers have made homeownership more affordable than it's been in decades.

"We are seeing contracts like crazy," said Valerie Huffman, a vice president of Weichert Realtors, in Montgomery County, Md., where home sales are up by 42 percent over last year. "We're having multiple bids on anything that's priced well."





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City Attorneys have fun with new creative writing project

FROM WEB SITE PAGE 1

ceasing all solicitations of new contracts and fulfilling those that have been disputed. Those works are published on some of the Web sites, including a poem on The Cartoon Cowgirl Forever.

One of those cases involves a family from the Missouri Ozarks who paid at least $20,000 to create the Hayfield Forever where their deceased poet's piece, "The Hayfield," was to be published. The UCLA professor also promised to provide annotations and commentary to assist the family in understanding the poem. One of the terms of the injunction orders the UCLA English Department to fulfill that service, forcing Scattergood to pay for scholars to travel to the Ozarks.

Through his online business, Scattergood also offers other services, including eGraves and Grexting, which allows families to send text messages to their deceased loved ones. One of the sites, Forever Prized, includes samples of text messages sent from prior clients, none of which obviously include a response from the decedent.

"I think we've created a new service that people can't do without," Rhoades joked.

Rhoades added that he has not received any e-mails from visitors who thought the services were legitimate.

"We hope that some of the over the top nature of some of the stuff clues them in … that this isn't a real service," he said.

The project is scheduled to last until mid-September when the fictional case is set to conclude. The story will take on several themes, including one comparing country and city life, and another that will be an adaptation of "LOST," instead focusing on a team of scholars stuck out in the Ozarks. Rhoades said the site will remain thereafter as a full story in its finished form.

Greenstein, who works in the municipal law division, said she did some research before taking on the project, talking to Rhoades and several other Consumer Protection attorneys.

"I've been trying to imagine Carla's character and imagine other cases that she's working on," Greenstein, who has been taking creative writing workshops for about seven years, said. "I'm imagining a journal that she wrote when she was 20, trying to fill out who she is as a person, and that is a fun thing to do."

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President in hot water

FROM OBAMA PAGE 1

"What we don't need is public safety officials across the country second-guessing themselves," said David Holway, president of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, which represents 15,000 public safety officials around the country. "The president's alienated public safety officers across the country with his comments."

Gates was arrested July 16 by Sgt. James Crowley, who was first to respond to the home the renowned black scholar rents from Harvard, after a woman reported seeing two black men trying to force open the front door. Gates said he had to shove the door open because it was jammed.

He was charged with disorderly conduct after police said he yelled at the white officer, accused him of racial bias and refused to calm down after Crowley demanded Gates show him identification to prove he lived in the home. The charge was dropped Tuesday, but Gates has demanded an apology, calling his arrest a case of racial profiling.

Obama was asked about Gates' arrest at the end of a nationally televised news conference on health care Wednesday night and began his response by saying Gates was a friend and he didn't have all the facts.

"But I think it's fair to say, No. 1, any of us would be pretty angry," Obama said. "No. 2, that the Cambridge police acted stupidly in arresting somebody when there was already proof that they were in their own home. And No. 3 — what I think we know separate and apart from this incident — is that there is a long history in this country of African-Americans and Latinos being stopped by law enforcement disproportionately, and that's just a fact."

The White House on Thursday tried to calm the hubbub over Obama's comments by saying Obama was not calling the officer stupid. Spokesman Robert Gibbs said Obama felt that "at a certain point the situation got far out of hand" at Gates' home.

Obama himself stepped in Thursday, telling ABC News, "From what I can tell, the sergeant who was involved is an outstanding police officer, but my suspicion is probably that it would have been better if cooler heads had prevailed."

Crowley said he still supports the president, who attended Harvard Law School in Cambridge and garnered 88 percent of the vote there in last year's presidential election.

"I think he was way off base wading into a local issue without knowing all the facts as he himself stated before he made that comment," Crowley told WBZ-AM.

Cambridge police Commissioner Robert Haas said Obama's comments hurt the agency.

"My response is that this department is deeply pained," Haas said at a news conference Thursday. "It takes its professional pride seriously."

Fellow law enforcement officers across the country sided with Crowley.

"To make the remark about 'stupidly' is maybe not the right adverb," said Santa Monica police Sgt. Jay Trisler, who has been in law enforcement for 24 years. "When an incident occurs with a police department, we're not quick to judge."

He lamented negative opinions being directed at police.

"It's unfortunate because there are so many other police cases where an elected official has made a comment that wasn't correct, comments that could have been better worded," he said.

Obama's comments could diminish work done by law enforcement to address racial issues, said James Preston, president of the Fraternal Order of Police Florida State Lodge.

"By reducing all contact between law enforcement and the public to the color of their skin or ethnicity is, in fact, counterproductive to improving relationships," Preston said. "To make such an offhanded comment about a subject without benefit of the facts, in such a public forum, hurts police/community relations and is a setback to all of the years of progress."

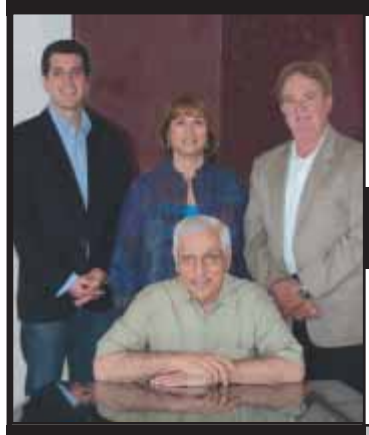
Other officers credited the president with using Gates' arrest to highlight the ongoing national problem of racial profiling.

"It wouldn't make any difference whether it was Barack Obama or John McCain. It's appropriate that the leader of this country should still recognize there are still issues in this country in regards to race," said Lt. Charles Wilson, chairman of the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers Inc. and a 38-year veteran of law enforcement. "This is an issue that occurs in every single place in this country, so it is not a local issue."

Trisler said Obama's remarks ultimately would not affect how police officers do their jobs. Police have weathered problems before — from the King beating to local corruption cases — and still find ways to work with their communities.

"I think police officers are going to be professional enough not to be affected by his comments," Trisler said. "Not even getting into the race issues, police officers are professional here in Santa Monica, regardless of when a comment comes from an elected official. We're going to do our job for the community."

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Big lines for Big Blue

FROM **BUS** PAGE 3

"What did you say?" the man asks. "Are you talking to me?"

Aboard the Line 7 bus going the opposite direction, a man in a Dodgers hat drums a rhythm on his arm rest.

"She likes to talk," argues a woman in a pink shirt with the sleeves rolled up, who happens to be the only one talking on the bus. Her male companion nods in agreement.

Several passengers exit at Lincoln Boulevard. A cool breeze from the ocean gently disturbs an empty coffee cup, which lies next to a dirty blue blanket in an abandoned shopping cart.

Three taxis from different companies pass by, but no one waits at the stop, which is also served by Line 3. All that's changed by 11:45 a.m., though — at least 10 people wait, some more patiently than others.

A woman in a white T-shirt, damp with sweat, feeds Pringles to her young son. He keeps trying to wander off, so she wraps one leg around him to keep him still.

A screech of brakes sounds about three blocks up the street. The offending car soon slides to a stop at the traffic signal adjacent to the bus stop.

"All that to come nowhere, to stop at this red light," comments a man carrying a shopping bag full of minestrone soup and corn flakes.

The Line 3 bus finally arrives — and it's packed. The only open seats are next to a sleeping man. His head droops on his chest, his legs splayed at such an angle that he occupies half the seat space on either side of him.

In the back row, a man signals to a friend standing on the sidewalk outside.

"Robert!" he calls. "I'm on my way to a job interview."

The bus pulls away from the stop, the man strikes up a conversation with a young girl sitting across from him.

"She'll turn 3 next month," says her mom, proudly. She clutches a handful of tissues.

Most riders read, use their cell phones or simply stare into space, waiting for their stops to come up. Some will be riding for a little longer than expected, though.

"Do you know when this stops at Venice Beach?" asks a man in a yellow T-shirt with a towel wrapped around his neck.

"It's back that way," answers a woman in green, pointing. "You should have taken the number 2."

news@smdp.com

Switch raised concerns in L.A.

FROM **WORK WEEK** PAGE 1

With the old schedule, officers would be getting out of roll call and hitting the streets at about the same time their colleagues returned to the station, providing no real overlap in coverage. The new schedule allows for considerable overlap, with two shifts working side-by-side for several hours in the afternoons and evenings when more crimes tend to occur, said SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler, spokesman for the department and president of the Police Officers Association, the union which represents the rank-and-file.

"We had a shortage in patrol and this was one of the ways of making sure that we can get enough people on the streets, and better utilize our resources to have better coverage in the community," Trisler said.

The Los Angeles Police Department moved to the 3/12 schedule in 2001, which raised concerns amongst some City Council members, including former LAPD Chief Bernard Parks, and residents who wondered whether or not fatigue would become a factor because of the long hours, leading officers to make bad decisions in the field. There was also the negative public perception that officers were working less, the average resident unaware that officers on 3/12 have to work an extra, 10-hour shift during the month to reach the appropriate number of hours per pay period.

The Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL), which represents officers, was in favor of the switch, saying that it significantly improved morale and helped retain officers considering transferring to another department. It also cut down on sick time, saving the city money.

"It has been a very successful program in multiple facets," said Paul Weber, president of the LAPPL.

In addition to improving morale, allowing officers to spend more time with family, the scheduled help the LAPD comply with environmental requirements, cutting back on greenhouse gas emissions since officers were not having to drive from their homes to their stations as often as before.

Some officers were able to go back to school and earn degrees, which benefits the employer, Weber said.

As far as fatigue, Weber said during the traditional 8-hour shift he used to work as an officer he would often be forced to work 10 to 12 hours because "police work is not a straight 9 to 5 job."

"As far as public perception and officers only working three days a week, I get that," Weber said. "You can spin it that way. But what does it matter, three days to five days, as long as the guy is putting in the hours?"

A study by the city of Los Angeles in 2006 found that police were responding slower to emergency calls and overtime costs increased, and that other departments that have tried 3/12 found that their officers were less rested and effective, especially at the end of very long shifts.

Jackman said he was concerned about fatigue and hired an expert on the 3/12 to develop a training program for the SMPD. Jackman emphasized the research that went into creating the pilot program, saying he did not enter into the decision lightly. He credits patrol Officer Steve Bickler, a former 3/12 critic, with being the one who thoroughly researched the issue, preparing reports which Jackman presented to his command staff and City Manager Lamont Ewell before making the switch.

The idea for the change came from a handful of rank-and-file officers, Jackman said.

"So far it is exceeding my expectations," Jackman said.

If analysis shows the switch to be a success once the six-month program is completed, Jackman said the department will make a permanent switch next summer.

Jackman said the change was purely about service and not about concerns with morale or overtime.

Ewell said he too was skeptical and concerned about fatigue and a possible increase in on-the-job injuries, but that has so far not

SEE **WORK WEEK** PAGE 11

Deposed Honduran leader prepares for risky return

MORGAN LEE
Associated Press Writer

MANAGUA, Nicaragua Honduras' deposed president headed toward his nation's border Thursday to prepare a risky return home, an attempt to reverse an ouster that is testing the vitality of democracy in Latin America.

The interim government that sent Manuel Zelaya into exile vows to arrest the president if he sets foot in Honduras. Zelaya said he would make a second attempt to return home Saturday, saying U.S.-backed attempts at mediation had broken down.

Accompanied by Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro, Zelaya drove a white jeep out of the Honduran Embassy in Nicaragua, heading toward the northern town of Esteli, where he planned to set up camp and plan his next move. Honduran Embassy officials broke into applause and chants of "Long live Mel!" using his nickname.

It was unclear exactly how Zelaya planned to enter the country — spokesman Allan Fajardo said he could travel by air, sea, or land from any of Honduras' three neighboring countries. He said Zelaya would be accompanied by family, supporters and journalists.

Zelaya, wearing a black leather vest and his trademark white cowboy hat, said he hoped soldiers would stand down when they see him return.

"I think the guns will be lowered when they see their people and their president," Zelaya said at a news conference shortly before leaving.

All governments in the Western Hemisphere have condemned the coup, in which soldiers acting on orders from Congress and the Supreme Court arrested Zelaya and flew him into exile. Nations on both sides of the political spectrum say Zelaya's return to power is crucial to the region's stability.

Latin America expert Vicki Gass said that if Zelaya's opponents succeed in driving him from power, it could have a ripple effect in a region where left-leaning elected governments are challenging elites that have ruled many countries for decades.

"Coups could then happen in Peru, where President (Alan) Garcia has a very low approval rating, or in Argentina or in Guatemala," said Gass, an analyst at the Washington Office on Latin America which promotes human rights and democracy. "Constitutional order and rule of law have to be restored."

Zelaya said the mediation efforts, led by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, had failed after representatives of the interim government flatly rejected the possibility that he might return to the presidency. They say they cannot overturn a Supreme Court ruling forbidding Zelaya's reinstatement.

But Jose Miguel Insulza, secretary-general of the Organization of American States, held out hope that the two sides might still reach a settlement — and called Zelaya's attempt to return without an agreement "hasty."

"He has always wanted to return to his country, but it's important to make an effort to avoid a likely confrontation," Insulza said.

He said that neither delegation had officially responded to Arias proposal, which calls for Zelaya's reinstatement, amnesty for the coup leaders and early elections.

The United States warned of tough sanctions against Honduras if Zelaya is not reinstated, but also said Thursday it does not support Zelaya's plan to return on his own.

"Any step that would add to the risk of violence in Honduras or in the area, we think would be unwise," State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said in Washington.

Zelaya dismissed the concerns of Insulza and the U.S., saying he waited nearly two weeks for the negotiations in Costa Rica to achieve his reinstatement. "Defending our rights is not an act of violence ... we are going to seek dialogue," he said.

In Honduras, Zelaya supporters turned up the pressure, blocking roads throughout the country Thursday and occupying several government buildings in peaceful protests.

The Honduran military thwarted Zelaya's first attempt to return home July 5 by blocking the runway at the airport in the capital, Tegucigalpa. The flight sparked clashes between Zelaya's supporters and security forces in which at least one protester was killed.

Lorena Calix, a spokeswoman for Honduras' national police, said Thursday that officers were ready to detain Zelaya if he makes another attempt to come home.

"When he comes to Honduras, we have to execute the arrest warrant," she said.

Honduras' Supreme Court ordered Zelaya's arrest before the June 28 coup, ruling his effort to hold a referendum on whether to form a constitutional assembly was illegal. The military decided to send Zelaya into exile instead — a move that military lawyers themselves have called illegal but necessary.

Zelaya's opponents, who objected to his populist and socialist policies, have argued the president was trying to change the constitution to extend his term. Zelaya denies that.

If he is arrested, Zelaya faces four charges of violating governmental order, treason and abusing and usurping power that could bring 43 years behind bars.

Shift plan puts more cops on streets

FROM **WORK WEEK** PAGE 10

proven to be a problem.

"I agreed to allow them to try the new schedule for a specific period of time and then they are to fully evaluate it to determine its value to the community," said Ewell, who has family members in the LAPD who are happy with the 3/12 schedule. "They also developed metrics from which its successes or failures are to be measured. … The chief will ultimately review the data and provide his final recommendations for whether or not he supports the use of this schedule permanently."

From the union's perspective, Trisler said the switch is not solely about making members happy. It's about what works for the community as a whole.

"Some of the officers commented that it does take some getting used to because it is a long day, but I think so far people are enjoying the new schedule," Trisler said. "I can say that our response times will be down because we have more people out there."

kevinh@smdp.com



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 69°

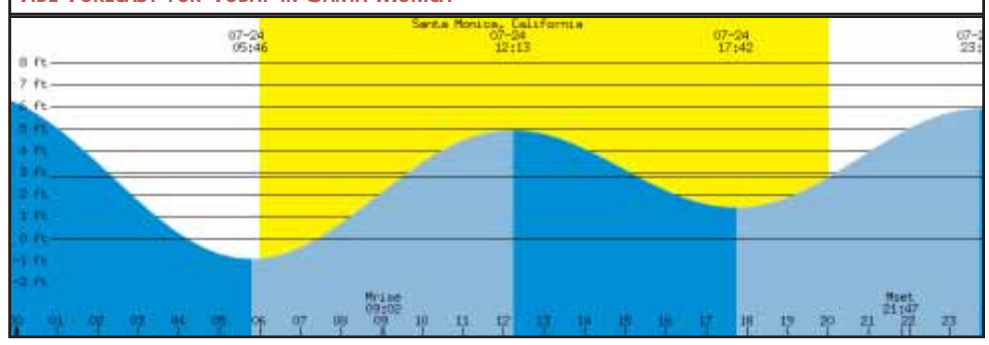
Swell Forecast

Today the size around most south facing breaks should run head high with occasional pluses. Standouts could see set waves running at least a couple feet overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

This weekend head high surf is expected around most all south facing breaks with the better set waves running a foot or so overhead.

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 14, 2009**

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 -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 44 / 44
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 44

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	as
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	as
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks	A+	as
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	as
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	as
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A	as
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	as
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	as
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	as
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	as
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach	A+	as
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A	as
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	as
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	as
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	as
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	as
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	as
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	as
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	as
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	as
Tuna Canyon	A+	as
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	as
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	as
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	as
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	as

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	F	as
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	as
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A+	as
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	A+	as
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	as
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	as
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	D	as
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	as
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	as
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	as
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	as
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	as
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	as
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	as
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	as
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A+	as
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	C	as
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	as
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	as
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	as
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	as
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	as
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	as

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
as -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card℠ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Grease (PG) 1hr 50min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
11:15 a.m., 2:45, 6:15, 9:45

Up (PG) 1hr 36min
11:40 a.m., 2:15, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG-13) 2hrs 24min
12:10, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

G-Force (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15 a.m., 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 9:05

G-Force: In Disney Digital 3-D (PG) 1hr 28min
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05

The Proposal (PG-13) 1hr 48 min
11:05 a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35

Public Enemies (R) 2hrs 23min
12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
10:30 a.m., 12:00, 2:00, 3:30, 5:30, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

(500) Days of Summer (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15

The Answer Man (R) 1hr 35min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

Moon (R) 1hr 37min
1:50, 4:20, 9:30

The Hurt Locker (R) 2hr 7min
1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Orphan (R) 2hrs 3min
1:20, 3:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 11:40

The Ugly Truth (R) 1hr 35min
11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:10, 10:10, 11:30

Bruno (R) 1hr 22min
12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 5:30, 6:50, 8:00, 10:20

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (PG) 1hr 34min
11:40 a.m., 2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20

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

Treat a friend to munchies, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ See the motive rather than the action. Make a necessary adjustment, unless you want to fight city hall. Many will choose just to do their work and get out earlier. Lose stress through doing what you love. Tonight: Go for more of a stress-buster.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Your creativity must come out in order to keep the peace. Though you might not be the issue, somehow you could easily land in the middle of a confrontation. Tonight: Let your imagination rock and roll.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your intellectual acumen is now charged with quickness and possibly sarcasm. A quip from you could do quite a bit of damage. Weigh your words. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Communication flourishes, especially if you muzzle your anger. Deal with feelings at a later point. Partners allow greater flex, but why? Honor questions with openness. Take a walk or a break rather than let tension build. Tonight: TGIF.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Be aware of what you bring to the mix. Listen to another associate who has a transforming view. Conversations with this person could be overwhelming. Your ability to move forward might be derailed by your reactions. Stop. Tonight: Go out and indulge. Treat a friend to munchies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your ability to zero in on a problem could unnerve a key associate. You might not want to restrain your words, but the long-term ramifications could make this discipline necessary. You haven't seen someone's display of anger yet, even if you think you have. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Sometimes you want to vanish, and there couldn't be a more perfect day to indulge in this fantasy. Take some quiet time to go off and do what you want. Whether browsing through bookstores or getting a massage, it will help you more than you realize. Tonight: Don't spill the beans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your fiery side emerges, especially regarding a key project or special friend. Listen to news with a touch of skepticism. Honor what is happening with friends. A meeting could be more important than you realize. The words you speak might not be critical, but your presence is. Tonight: Hang with people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ An issue comes out with a boss or someone you look up to. Assume a leadership role and simultaneously handle a difficult associate or friend. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Find experts and seek out new opinions. Your ability to see through the obvious comes out when dealing with a favorite person. Tonight: Follow the music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You are willing to carry the ball the whole way, but a partner easily could interfere. Knowledge or understanding can help you accomplish what you want without causing a stressful disagreement. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A disagreement on the home front allows greater creativity and higher energy levels. It is as if you need to prove something to a key partner and/or associate. Remember, your judgment here might have more to do with you than with others. Tonight: Go along with another's request.

Happy birthday

This year, you will be able to make a difference, no matter which direction you turn. How you deal with pressure and your ability to communicate could be the two defining indicators of this year. Develop some type of inner release or stress-buster rather than let all this brew up in you. If you are single, meeting people comes naturally this year; choosing the right person is another issue. If you are attached, the two of you will grow together if you keep communication flowing and agree to disagree. CANCER makes a great healer.

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

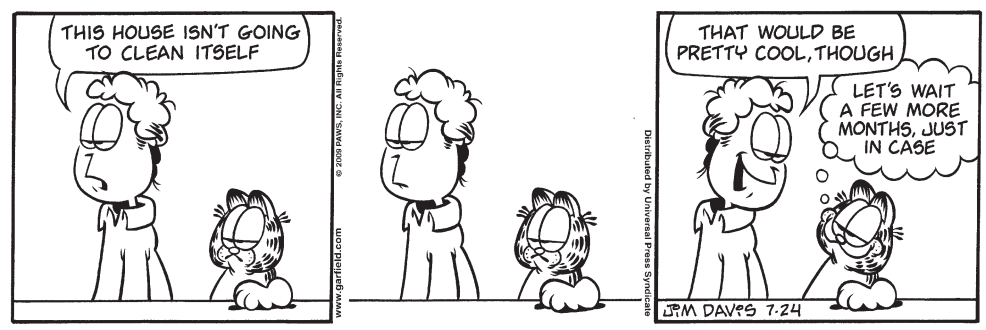
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Santa Monica, CA

Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Flat floater
5 Forbidden act
9 Fairy-tale beasts
11 Surrounded by
13 Site of action
14 Stationery buy
15 Scottish river
16 Island north of Trinidad
18 Benches
20 Grammys category
21 Comical
22 Scottish isle
23 One or more
24 Letter before psi
25 Go by bus
27 Alda and Arkin
29 Casino card
30 Searches the river
32 Shoulder-held weapon
34 Ray-gun sound
35 Golf-bag collection
36 Steakhouse choice
38 Simpleton
39 Because
40 Spots
41 Title page?

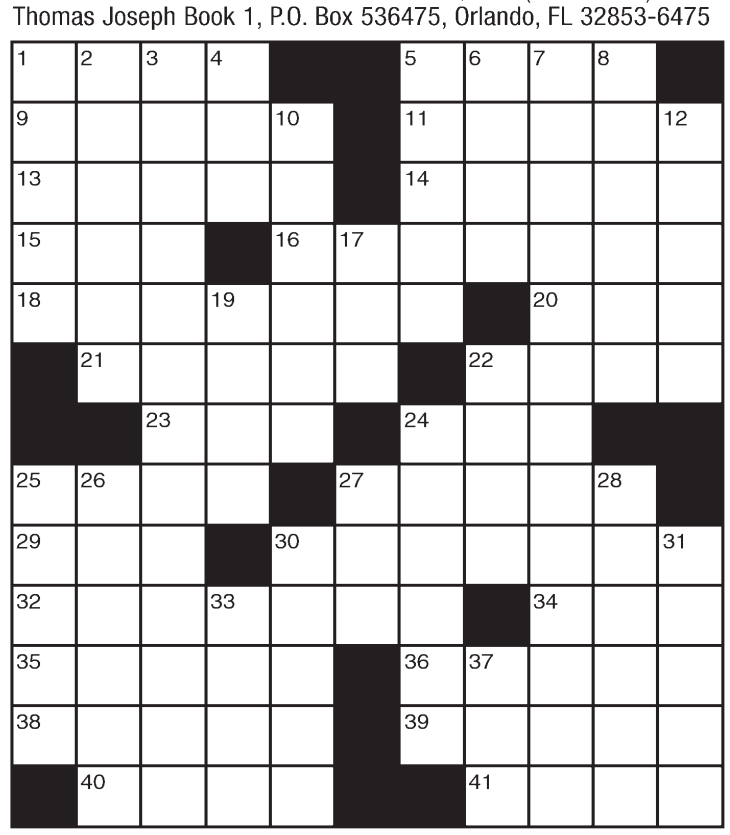
DOWN

1 Map lines
2 In unison
3 Port with no duties
4 Wallet bill
5 Neck parts
6 Yemen neighbor
7 Bad place to leave a car
8 Eventually
10 With wisdom
12 Potential raisin
17 Sem. study
19 Sound
22 Roe source
24 Traction aids
25 Fanatical
26 He flew too near the sun
27 Bible craft
28 Spirit session
30 Rx amounts
31 Alacrity
33 Formerly
37 Auction action

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



7-24

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 3 8 21 50 52
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: $48M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 26 31 32 43 45
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $9M

Fantasy 5: 6 8 27 30 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 6 3
EVENING: 0 4 3

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 07 Eureka!
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.49.78

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

■ Ms. Dyker Neyland is one of the few parents who have successfully challenged a school board's restrictive student dress code for adolescents. Neyland persuaded the board in Irving, Texas, this spring that devout religious modesty (as prescribed in the Bible by 1 Timothy 2:9) should take precedence over the district's no-untucked-shirttails rule, in that the extended shirttail provides additional cover for her 7-year-old daughter's backside.

■ Crisis Intervention: A certain bridge in Ghangzhou, China, has become popular for suicide (12 attempts in a 45-day period in April and May), and with each incident, traffic is slowed or halted for hours while crews attempt to talk the distraught person down or perform rescues. Mr. "Chen" was on the ledge in May, according to an Agence France-Presse dispatch, but he couldn't make up his mind about jumping. One frustrated motorist, Lai Jiansheng, ended the suspense by walking up to Chen and pushing him off. Chen survived, and Lai was arrested.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1783 Latin American revolutionary Simon Bolivar was born in Caracas, Venezuela.

1847 Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived in the Great Salt Lake Valley in present-day Utah.

1858 Republican senatorial candidate Abraham Lincoln formally challenged Democrat Stephen A. Douglas to a series of political debates; the result was seven face-to-face encounters.

1862 The eighth president of the United States, Martin Van Buren, died in Kinderhook, N.Y.

1866 Tennessee became the first state to be readmitted to the Union after the Civil War.

1929 President Herbert Hoover proclaimed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which renounced war as an instrument of foreign policy.

WORD UP!

protean \PRO-tee-un; pro-TEE-un\ , adjective: 1. Displaying considerable variety or diversity. 2. Readily assuming different shapes or forms.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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ALL CASH VENDING! Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for $9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

AT LEAST $2-5,000 A MONTH! Copy this proven 3-step system just once a month and make at least $2-5k! (imagine copying it once a week!) See what other people are making now! www.WinWithRuss.com/cmr 858-472-5714. (Cal-SCAN)

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Yard Sales

Yard Sale - 9am-3pm - NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE. China, household appl., maternity/nursing clothes, bedding, electronics, toys

Charity

Famous maker designer, dress event. Most under $25 Starting July 24th Discovery Shop 920 Wilshire Blvd. SM.. 310 458-4490

Furniture

BEAUTIFUL GLASS dining table, modern, black with four chairs. Almost new, $150. Vintage dresser with glass and two matching side tables, $100. Arm chair, $20. Call 310-508-7075. Louie.

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Everything must go from ART to SOFA to QUEEN BDRM SET (5 pc), SILK/WOOL AREA RUGS and so much more!

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Sale Dates: Saturday, July 25th 8am - 3pm & Sunday, July 26th 9am - 2pm

Location: 310 22nd Street, Santa Monica 90402 (Georgina & 22nd)

For photos visit:http://www.flickr.com/photos/40294550@N02/



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833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2550 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

1 br 1 ba, upper unit, remodeled, comes furnished or unfurnished, hardwood floors, no pets. 1 parking space. Gated building. Available now. 1529/mo. 310-396-0128

12309 CULVER Blvd unit 12, 1bdrm/1bath $1025/mo. stove, fridge, carpets, blind, laundry, utilities included, gated parking, intercom entry, no pets. (310) 578-7512, jkwproperties.com

2478 Corinth Ave. $1675 front unit 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, ceiling fan, onsite laundry, small gated front yard 2 parking spaces, 20 lb. pet OK w/ deposit $500 off move-in (888)414-7778

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501 N. Venice 1+1, #25 $1225/mo stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice unit 10 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

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PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #102 $950 Single, stove, fridge, blinds, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $1095 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3540 Overland units 2 & 5 $995 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $300 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20090921113 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FAY ROSE, 13400 WASHINGTON BLVD., #125, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : FAY SZADZIEWICZ, 13400 WASHINGTON BLVD., #125, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: FAY SZADZIEWICZ
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/18/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 7/17/2009, 7/24/2009, 7/31/2009, 8/7/2009



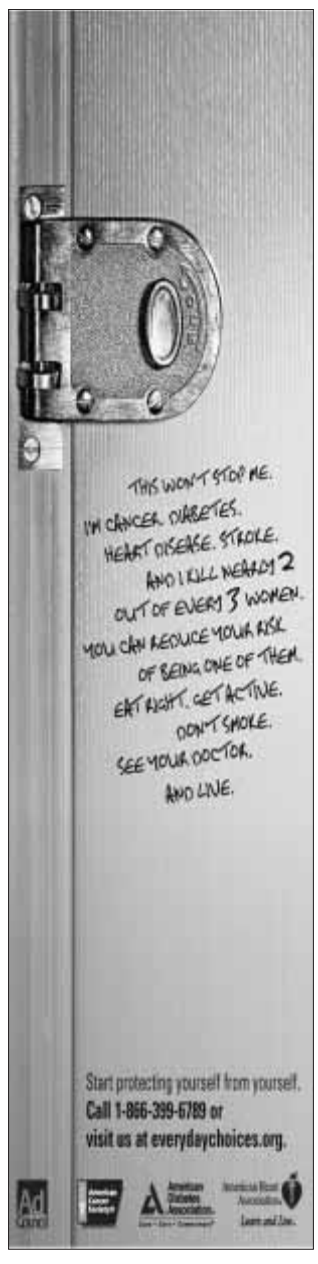
Legal

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Issuance of multifamily housing revenue bonds for Lincoln Walk Apartments, Quonset Court Apartments, Modena, Tuscany and Spoleto Apartments. A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:
Request that the City Council approve a proposed plan of financing providing for the issuance by the California Statewide Communities Development Authority of multifamily housing revenue bonds in one or more series issued from time to time, including bonds issued to refund such revenue bonds in one or more series from time to time, and at no time to exceed $100,000,000 in outstanding aggregate principal amount, to finance the acquisition, construction and development of (i) a 97-unit multifamily rental housing project located at 1447 Lincoln Boulevard, Santa Monica, California and generally known as Lincoln Walk Apartments (the "Lincoln Project"), (ii) a 97-unit multifamily rental housing project located at 819 Broadway, Santa Monica, California and generally known as Quonset Court Apartments (the "Quonset Project"); and (iii) a 78-unit scattered-site multifamily rental housing project located at 711 Colorado Avenue, 1437 5th Street, and 1514 7th Street, Santa Monica, California and generally known as Modena Apartments, Tuscany Apartments, and Spoleto Apartments, respectively (collectively, the "Modena/Tuscany/Spoleto Project"). The Lincoln Project, the Quonset Project and the Modena/Tuscany/Spoleto Project will initially be operated by NMS Properties, Inc., or related entities.
DATE/TIME: Tuesday, August 11, 2009, at 5:45 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard.
LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street Santa Monica, California.
HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment on the proposed financing and the nature and location of any of the Projects at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.
Address your letters to:
City Clerk
Re: NMS Properties public hearing
1685 Main Street, Room 102 Santa Monica, CA 90401
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

CN822946 July 24, 2009





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