

Santa Monica Daily Press

STALKING SCHOOL SUPPLIES
SEE PAGE 6

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE HAPPY BIRTHDAY ISSUE

INVESTIGATION



NO ID, NO PROBLEM

One teenage reporter finds scoring smokes surprisingly easy

STORY BY EMILY SKEHAN PAGE 10

Photo illustration by Michael Tittinger and Tessa Pelias

KCRW preserves its history

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE Deep in the recesses of the KCRW radio offices here is a small walk-in closet-sized room that houses what is considered to be one of the most eclectic collections of music in the world.

The National Public Radio affiliate is pushing to preserve and modernize its musical archive of more than 60,000 individual titles, an accumulation that includes an

assortment of formats from vinyl to cassette to compact discs.

The station is hoping to accomplish this feat by gradually converting the collection to a high quality digital format, which is expected to cost close to \$1 million. Through the recently-launched fundraising efforts, "The Music Match: A Campaign to Save KCRW's Library," the station has secured several supporters, including The Annenberg Foundation and RealNetworks, which produces the online RealPlayer.

Climbing on board last week was BluWave Audio, which has agreed to repair and archive the more than 1,200 exclusive live studio recordings that date back 20 years. A division of Universal Studios Sound Department, BluWave Audio specializes in digital mastering and restoration.

The extensive collection is housed in a cramped 15 by 20 foot room in the KCRW station, which is located in the basement of the Cayton Center at Santa Monica College.

The compilation of musical titles has been building up for the past 30 years, spanning three KCRW music directors, including Tom Schnabel, Chris Douridas and Nic Harcourt. Today, there is very little wiggle room in the music library, stacked high with albums and singles, each aisle just wide enough for one person to try and locate a recording to use on a show.

"Some of the records and tapes are feeling the ravages of time," said Ruth Seymour, the

SEE MUSIC PAGE 9

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Calendar

2

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Tired women unite

1332 Sixth St., 11:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

The seminar "Hope and Help for Women with Fatigue" will be presented by Mathew Lyon. The group will meet in the Santa Monica YMCA De Wind Room. To register, call (310) 393-2721.

Toddler Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

The Ocean Park Library hosts an afternoon of stories and music for toddlers, aged 24 — 36 months, accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. To register, call (310) 392-3804.

'Just Beyond Reach/New Type Windows'

1423 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Tonight's opening reception presents a series of cibachrome photographic prints which are juxtaposed with Elizabeth Paige Smith's film installation of a suburban neighborhood consumed by technological hell and the resulting effort to find sanctuary within.

For more information, call (310) 392-8060.

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2007

Wednesdays have soul

1026 Wilshire Blvd., 8:30 p.m.

Indie Soul night at Temple Bar features Sabrina Vargas, Amber Ojeda, Prince Charles and DJ Dame of Wylde Bunch. Advance tickets are \$8 or \$10 at the door. For more information, visit www.templebarlive.com.

St. Joseph practices Tai Chi

400 W. Pico Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.

St. Joseph Center is holding ongoing weekly Tai Chi classes. These low-impact classes are designed to help individuals improve their overall physical fitness and increase their mobility and flexibility. Classes are free, but enrollment is limited and advance registration is required. For more information, call (310) 396-6468, ext. 307.

Dig the vibes

1432 Fourth St., 9:30 p.m.

Harvelle's House of Vibe night offers soul, funk and R & B for a \$5 cover charge. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.harvelles.com.

Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting

1332 Sixth St., noon — 1:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club holds its weekly luncheon with guest speakers at the YMCA. For more information, call (310) 828-1766.

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.



CORRECTION

In the story "City Hall sues group for 'ethnic cleansing'" that appeared in the Aug. 3 edition of the Daily Press, the term "ethnic cleansing" was mistakenly attributed to a lawsuit filed by City Hall. The term was used in a lawsuit filed by tenants, which was also referenced in the article about the Teriton Apartments.



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

FIRE SCENE: A home at 152 Hart Avenue went up in flames on Friday evening.

Fire damages residence in Ocean Park

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

OCEAN PARK Fire officials are investigating the cause behind a fire last week that nearly destroyed a beach-side home undergoing extensive renovation.

A single-family house at 152 Hart Avenue erupted in flames Friday evening, plumes of smoke pumping out of the home located less than one block from the Ocean Park beach, according to several eyewitnesses. Santa Monica Fire Department responded to the building fire at approximately 9:42 p.m., the blaze extinguished less than an hour later with the help of one Los Angeles Fire Department company, according to news reports.

"That building is a total loss," said Santa Monica Fire Capt. Scott Ziegert on Monday.

According to city building permits, the owner of the home is listed as Benedict Cheyann.

Mike Russo, who lives on the corner of Neilson Way and Hart Avenue, said he smelled a lighter fluid-like scent early Friday evening and shrugged it off, thinking a

SEE FIRE PAGE 11

Win some, lose some

State Supreme Court strikes down part of tenant harassment law

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Attorneys for City Hall can no longer hold landlords accountable for filing bad faith evictions following a recent ruling by the California Supreme Court.

In a 5-2 decision partially affirming and partially reversing a ruling by the Court of Appeals, a panel of seven judges held last week that City Hall may not penalize the bringing of an unlawful detainer action, even if the landlord's motivation is mali-

cious and the allegations made are known to be untrue.

The move was hailed by property owners who challenged the "tenant harassment" provisions of Santa Monica's rent control law, claiming a code section prohibiting the filing of a bad-faith eviction violated their constitutional rights to remove tenants for not paying their rent or for being a nuisance to others.

"It was a terrific win," said Carl Lambert, president of the Action Apartment Association, a Santa Monica-based advocacy group for landlords that filed suit in October 2002 along with Doreen Dennis, an owner and manager of multi-unit apartment buildings in Santa Monica.

"We protected responsible owners' right to file lawsuits and evict tenants when necessary," Lambert added. "This is a right that is important to all property owners."

While property owners celebrated, so did attorneys for City Hall, who pointed to the court's ruling on a second issue challenged by landlords which has to do with pre-litigation tactics. The court ruled that Santa Monica may continue to sanction landlords who serve an eviction notice for an improper purpose and with no intent to actually sue to remove the tenant.

To evict a tenant, a landlord must first serve an eviction notice. If the tenant does not vacate the premises, the landlord can file an unlawful detainer and have his or her day in court. Often times a tenant is reluctant to fight the unlawful detainer out of fear of retaliation or are unable to hire an attorney.

Adam Radinsky, an attorney for City Hall's Fair Housing Unit said the ruling was

SEE LAW PAGE 11



BY A NECK

The World Guitar Show, staged at the Santa Monica Civic Center over the weekend, attracted music enthusiasts from across the region.

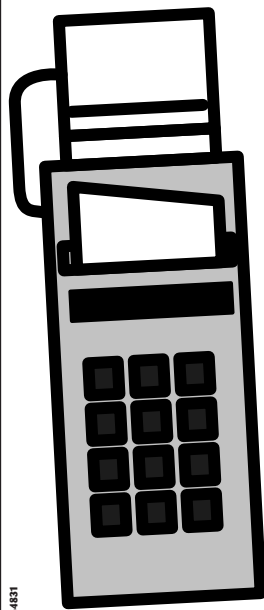
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Finish the job before throwing a party
Editor:

(Re: Venice Beach, take two," Aug. 3)
\$6.2 million!
To begin with, this project was supposed to be completed (according to signs that were just taken down a week ago) in the winter of 2006! This project is still not complete.

The new restrooms in the parking lot at Venice Boulevard and Ocean Front Walk are still not open to the public. Port-o-potties are still there and are the only facilities available. There is still construction going on in the parking lots at Washington and at Venice boulevards.

Councilman Rosendahl and Supervisor Yaroslovsky apparently danced and had a good time without asking why things weren't finished and what the time and cost overruns were.

Can someone explain the value to the public of new parking attendant structures? Will this increase the parking, decrease the price or improve the flow of traffic? I don't see it, but maybe I'm missing something.

I would ask any taxpayer to stroll the boardwalk and find the \$ 6.2 million that has been spent on this incomplete project. I find it frustrating that a reporter would cover this "ceremony" and not report on the lack of finished product.

The LA County Department of Beaches and the LA City Recreation and Parks Department were apparently asleep at the wheel as this project dragged on for years.

Ron Gregg
Venice

Proud pedophile needs our help
Editor:

Yes, we all know that Jack McClellan is a human being with a sick/disturbed mind ("Pedophile threatens litigation," Aug. 3). How is it then humanely impossible to offer this man (citizen of United States) medical help? He has broken no laws and even admits he is a pedophile. Is there no cure for pedophilia?

We spend millions and millions of dollars on illegal aliens (health, welfare, etc.) What is the problem with helping one of our citizens.

If Mr. Jack McClellan does not accept help/therapy, then God Bless, may he rot in hell.

Geno Schotte
Santa Monica

- LOL:

laughing out loud
- BRB:

be right back
- MUSM:

miss you so much
- A/S/L:

age, sex, location
- BF:

boyfriend
- OLL:

online love
- LULAS:

love you like a sister
- POS:

parent over shoulder
- WTGP:

want to go private?
- LMIRL:

let's meet in real life
- HDOP:

help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The issue is not the issue at times

WE'RE FUNNY CREATURES, WE HUMANS. We have an amazing ability to hide the truth of our lives, or a situation, for a very long time. We can deceive others and, more importantly, ourselves with surprising dexterity.

There are several examples of this type of behavior, and frankly, we all engage in it to a degree. Whether it is the "that little piece of chocolate cake wont hurt me" or the "I'm only underreporting my income a little to the IRS," the fact is that we all have our moments of untruthfulness.

The thing is, we generally find that we have to defend those positions — mostly out of a sense of ego, and a fear of being "found out." It happens when I gain an extra few pounds and blame the dry cleaners for shrinking my pants. Now the fact that the same dry cleaners has been washing the same pair of pants for a year, and it's never been a problem before is pretty much irrelevant when I have to look in the mirror and decide to accept the blame for my overeating, or place the blame on someone else.

We love to take the easy route out, I see it all the time. Heck, I do it a lot of the time.

I was in court on a custody matter, and the mom didn't want the dad to have a two-week vacation with his 13-year-old son. She claimed it was "uncomfortable for him" to be around dad's new wife — except that the son spends every weekend and most Wednesday evenings with Dad and his new wife, and has for a year. Then it was, "we have a family trip planned," which wasn't planned and was only a day trip to Lego Land, that she hadn't bought the tickets for.

This continued, and I'll spare you're the truly gory details, but the truth of the situation eventually revealed itself to be this — Mom can't let go of her baby. Even though Dad is a good dad, and the kid is safe in his care.

Once the real issue is revealed, we can then deal with it, but until it becomes clear to everyone, well, everyone but Mom, that she is just not ready to let go, the real issue cannot be dealt with.

We have several scandals going on in the Southland, and in the world. There is the wandering eye (and more) of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and the turning a blind eye of the City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo to the infractions in his own home.

Both of these men have done the obligatory, "I take full responsibility" speeches that their political handlers have told them they must do in order to get past the scandals. Personally, I'm getting tired of people taking full responsibility, when in reality, what they are doing is making a sacrifice to the media gods so that they can get back on the campaign trail to continue doing what they just took full responsibility for.

To me, this is another example of the "issue is not the issue." I frankly don't really give two hoots in hell about whose bed Villaraigosa's shoes are under, or that the City Attorney of Los Angeles has such a for-

getful wife. What I do care about is the fact that they are allowed to be deceitful and that we give them a pass on it, once they do the "Full Responsibility" speech.

Does anyone really know what that speech means? In theory, if you are taking responsibility for something you also intend to take some action in regards to what it is you are responsible for. But you must first acknowledge your behavior and your true motivations in order to do so.

I FRANKLY DON'T REALLY GIVE TWO HOOTS IN HELL ABOUT WHOSE BED VILLARAIGOSA'S SHOES ARE UNDER ... WHAT I DO CARE ABOUT IS THE FACT THAT THEY ARE ALLOWED TO BE DECEITFUL AND THAT WE GIVE THEM A PASS ON IT, ONCE THEY DO THE "FULL RESPONSIBILITY" SPEECH.

Like the mother in my custody case, until the "responsible parties" get down to the real issues, it doesn't make much difference if they take responsibility or not, if they don't know what they are responsible for. Villaraigosa took responsibility for his cheating on his wife, but that's not the issue we should care about — the issue is his deception of the electorate — making those who voted for him think he was something he's not. Same thing goes for Delgadillo. He ran as a law and order guy, but he's not enforcing it in his own home.

The list could go on, like I said, we all do it to some degree. The question is this, what issues are really important that our leaders need to take responsibility for, and what issues are non-starters.

For me, I don't care who a politician is knocking boots with, I do care about who is paying for their campaigns, and can they keep their promises. But I suppose, if they can't figure out what they are responsible for in their personal lives, I shouldn't expect them to know what to be responsible for in their professional lives.

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Guest Commentary

Adam B. Summers

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fixing California's pension problem

PENSION REFORM MIGHT NOT BE THE sexiest of political issues, but it may well be one of the most important. California state and local governments continue to struggle with the high cost of employee retirement benefits. While some officials have tried to blame the problem on such things as poor stock market (and thus pension fund) performance, the real cause is simply the unaffordable increase in employee benefits.

The argument of generations past that government must offer greater benefits than the private sector to offset smaller salaries clearly no longer applies. Today, government employees receive significantly higher benefits and salaries than their private-sector counterparts. According to a 2005 study by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, public-sector employees earn 40 percent higher salaries and 60 percent greater benefits than private-sector employees.

Despite strong pension fund investment performance in recent years, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) currently has a long-term unfunded liability of \$26 billion, and the state teachers' retirement system has a deficit of nearly \$20 billion.

To address the state's public pension problem, former Assemblyman Keith Richman has formed the California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility (CFFR), which is trying to place a pension reform initiative on the ballot in 2008.

The CFFR's initiative focuses on bringing the state's traditional defined-benefit (DB) system more in line with private-sector compensation. It would amend the state constitution to limit pension and retiree benefit levels and would cover local government agencies as well as the state's. Among the initiative's provisions:

- Retirement age for new, nonsafety employees would be aligned with Social Security requirements (65-67 years for most; public safety workers such as police and firefighters would be eligible to retire at age 55).

- Pensions (including any Social Security payments) would be capped at between 60 to 67 percent of an employee's final compensation.

- Pension calculations would be made based on the average salary of the five highest earning years (California is the only state in the nation that bases its pensions on just the single highest earning year, which

encourages "pension spiking").

- Pension calculations would only include base salaries (no adding in accrued vacation time or overtime to boost pension payments).

- Local governments could still increase benefits with a two-thirds vote, and the state by a three-fourths vote.

The proposal is expected to produce savings of \$500 billion over 30 years. The savings come largely from encouraging employees to work longer, which affords them greater income in the long run and reduces the amount of time (and costs) the government must pay for their post-retirement health benefits.

The CFFR's plan would be a huge improvement over the current system, although I believe that nothing short of switching to a 401(k)-style defined-contribution (DC) plan for new government employees will really solve things in the long run. The private sector has recognized that DB systems are unpredictable and, ultimately, unsustainable, which is why private companies have been switching from DB plans to DC plans for the past 30 years. Under a DC plan, the government's contribution would be a fixed percentage of payroll, so it would be predictable and the state would have to come up with the money to pay its share immediately. By contrast, the current DB system relies on all sorts of actuarial assumptions that can be fudged or erroneous. The fact that the state must try to guess what its costs and investment returns will be up to several decades in the future means that it can make dumb decisions (such as taking contribution holidays or issuing a "13th check" when pension fund returns are "excessively high") and pass along the costs of these decisions to the next generation.

Nevertheless, the CFFR initiative would be a big step in the right direction. There are many things the government should not be wasting our tax money on. But if those tax dollars must be taken from us, they should be used to provide actual services to the taxpayers, not line the pockets of overcompensated government employees.

ADAM B. SUMMERS is a policy analyst at the Reason Foundation. He has written extensively on privatization, government reform, law and economics.

Federal Consumer Protection has confirmed the fuel saving described in this advertisement.

Device may increase gas mileage by 22%

BOSTON - National Fuelsaver Corp. has developed a low cost automotive accessory called the Platinum Gas Saver which is guaranteed to increase gas mileage by 22% while meeting all emission standards.

With a simple connection to a vacuum line, the Gas Saver adds platinum vapor economically to the air and fuel entering the engine.

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Unfortunately, the converter's platinum burns this fuel outside of the engine, where the heat and energy produced from this fuel cannot give you more miles per gallon.

But when the air and fuel carry the platinum into the engine, 22% more of each gallon burns inside the engine so that 22% fewer gallons are required to drive the same distance.

After a five year study, the government concluded: "Independent

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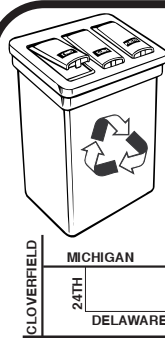
than the 22% claimed by the developer."

In addition, the Gas Saver has received patents for cleaning out carbon and raising octane, making the higher cost fuel unnecessary for most vehicles.

Joe Robinson, the developer, commented: "Since the government concluded its study, we have sold a half million Gas Savers. To our surprise, more people buy the Gas Saver because it extends engine life by cleaning out the carbon than buy it to increase gas mileage or to raise octane."

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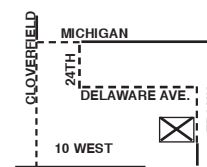
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The Q-Line

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All points bulletin

The Santa Monica Police Department recently took the unprecedented step of warning the public about a known pedophile who was recently spotted in the neighborhood. While he admits to being attracted to children, he has yet to act on it.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you think that SMPD went too far or did they do the right thing in issuing the warning to the public?

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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Finding supplies no easy task

Fights in the aisles can lead to going to war over wish lists

BY MEGHAN BARR
Associated Press Writer

The hunt begins with shopping carts, rolling down the aisles of a mammoth office-supply store. Following in their wake are sticky, complaining kids. They're not ready for summer to be over, but they're clamoring for new back-to-school stuff to cram in their desks and backpacks.

Ah, but that's where the fun begins — it can't be just any stuff, of course.

Take Jennifer Bowman, whose 4-year-old son is starting pre-school. She's already scoured four different stores in Cape Coral, Fla., frantically trying to collect everything on his teacher's school supply list.

"They want specifics, and they run out in the stores. Like the sizes of glue sticks, or the round scissors rather than sharp scissors," Bowman says. "You've got 500 children looking for red folders in the area."

Even as retailers attempt to tame the process by customizing shopping and partnering with local schools, parents still find themselves caught up in a special sort of August madness. They struggle against competing tides of chaos: crushing crowds, a child's desires ("I want a 'High School

Musical' notebook!") and a teacher's picky shopping list.

Back-to-school spending is expected to hit \$18.4 billion this year, according to the National Retail Federation. The average family will likely spend \$563.49 in stores, up from \$441.60 in 2002.

Nancy Owens, a special education teacher at Chippewa Elementary School in Holtsville, N.Y., remembers one particularly bad season at an office-supply retailer recently: "They locked the doors because they couldn't let any more people in," she says. "That's what happens."

Teachers say they are simply trying to maximize instruction time by demanding standard materials. Children often waste precious minutes searching for things in their desks, Owens says. That's why color-specific items often dominate teachers' lists.

"If everyone knows that science is red, that makes it easier," agrees Dorothy Kuda, a fifth grade teacher at Dennis B. O'Brien Elementary School in Rockaway, N.J. "So if I see someone's Bratz folder, I'm gonna be like, 'What subject is that?'"

Durability is another issue: many teachers prefer plastic folders over paper ones.

"Parents think they buy it once in September and they're done, but in fact those folders fall apart," says Owens. "The plastic ones do last longer."

Other teachers ask for specific types of glue sticks, boxes of tissues for each child; some educators even photocopy pictures of requested supplies.

Oversized binders are banned at the

Conchita Espinosa Academy in Miami because parents always eventually complain about backpacks that are too heavy, says fourth-grade teacher Monica Valdes.

Many educators also prohibit mechanical pencils, a source of distraction and annoyance in the classroom.

"They run out of lead and then (the kids) have no other pencils," says Valdes. "The time it takes them to find lead...I don't allow them."



THEY WANT SPECIFICS, AND THEY RUN OUT IN THE STORES. LIKE THE SIZES OF GLUE STICKS, OR THE ROUND SCISSORS RATHER THAN SHARP SCISSORS. YOU'VE GOT 500 CHILDREN LOOKING FOR RED FOLDERS IN THE AREA."

Jennifer Bowman, Mother of a 4-year-old son that is starting pre-school

To make everyone happy, some parents end up buying two of certain items — one to satisfy the teacher, the other to please a Bratz-hungry child.

Monica Hoherchak, of Stamford, Conn., mother of four, assigns each of her children a budget to purchase their supplies for the year.

"So if they want to splurge and get the fancy pencils, they can," she says.

Most children need a take-home folder for homework assignments, or a notebook used as a journal: A perfect opportunity for

kids to express their personalities, teachers and parents agree.

Purple pens — "the new red," as Ryan Vero, chief merchandise officer for Office Max calls them — represent another frivolous item kids may prefer to a No. 2 pencil.

But the choice between the fun accessory and the practical item — rainbow highlighters or standard yellow? — is never easy for the hassled parent navigating a crowded store aisle.



THEY WANT SPECIFICS, AND THEY RUN OUT IN THE STORES. LIKE THE SIZES OF GLUE STICKS, OR THE ROUND SCISSORS RATHER THAN SHARP SCISSORS. YOU'VE GOT 500 CHILDREN LOOKING FOR RED FOLDERS IN THE AREA."

Jennifer Bowman, Mother of a 4-year-old son that is starting pre-school

The scene has gotten so crazy that Crayola is dispatching teachers to 1,500 Wal-Mart stores this month to advise parents on school supply purchases (and not just Crayola, they promise). Good marketing? Sure, but they're clearly tapping into a real parental anxiety.

"It's amazing how many parents — especially that mom who comes in with a cart full of four kids — say, 'Please, help!' "says Sonia Pace, of Spring, Texas, who has served as a Crayola Teacher Coach for four years.

FPB&T Santa Monica Office Relocation Required Public Notification

Effective September 17th 2007, First Private Bank & Trust (FPB&T), a member of the Boston Private Wealth Management Group (NASD: BPFH), will be relocating its Santa Monica office from 720 Wilshire Blvd, Santa Monica, California, 90401 to 520 Broadway, Santa Monica, California, 90401. FPB&T is committed to the community of Santa Monica and is demonstrating that commitment with a new larger office. Any person wishing to comment on this notice may file his or her comments in writing with the regional director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) at the office located at 15 Braintree Hill Office Park, Braintree, Massachusetts 02184 no later than fifteen days after the final public notice. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request.

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RETRO FLYING

Damon Freijomell, 16, who is visiting from Florida, skates down the notorious Bicknell Hill on his vintage Zephyr skateboard on Friday.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com



Dear Dorie

Dorie Meek

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Share your troubles with someone, mom

Dear Dorie,

I have one fantastic little girl (toddler) whom I adore. I do my best to be a good parent and, most days, have a pretty good experience. But I feel like my stress level is higher than it has been my entire life. My day-to-day worries can't be good for her but what am I supposed to do about it?

Supportively Stressed

Dear Stressed,

Thank you so much for admitting what every parent already knows: This job is harsh. When you first brought your beautiful baby girl home, our society assigned you the role of parent. They didn't tell you how to do it so you had to do the best you could on your own for the most part. Sure, they showed up a little in the beginning but then they left it to you. The message was, "Have fun, it's going to be the best time of your life." Even the worst corporate jobs have a better new employee orientation than this.

Now fast-forward to the toddler years where your child is beginning to explore the concept of independence in ways that may or may not be palatable to you and what do you get? Stress. One of my favorite quotes about parenting reads, "To

love a child this much is both courageous and ridiculous. Dread steals your breath away, then hope swells you drunk with gratitude. Every day is a huge bungee jump. The intensity either kills you or saves your life on a daily basis."

Here are some ideas on how to "save your life" by lowering your stress level:

- Take care of yourself: Eat right, try to sleep right (ha!) and drink plenty of water.

- Take a break: Schedule some "Mommy" time to do whatever you want to do ... alone.

- Lose control: Do it her way whenever possible – allow her to be a toddler even if it's messy or embarrassing.

- Talk about it: Admit to your spouse, friend or family member that it is challenging to be a good parent.

- Brag about it: When you have those great parent days – share them with anyone willing to listen ... you deserve the acknowledgement

Above all, know innately that you are not alone. Parenting young children is the most difficult job in the world and it requires more support than one person can provide. "It takes a village to raise a child" may be an African proverb but it is a global reality. Good luck.

Dorie



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Tales from the crib

Angie Wagner

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Having another baby to rekindle the thrill

I MISS HAVING A BABY.

Of course I still have a baby. Only she's 20 months and keeps growing. I can't stop it.

I miss that smell of a newborn, how they cuddle up in your arms and make the sweetest baby sounds.

Don't get me wrong, though. I definitely don't miss round-the-clock feedings or that horrible lack of sleep.

We decided to have two children. It was decided way before we ever had our first.

I grew up with just a brother, so two was what I knew. My husband was an only child.

Two sounds nice.

When our first daughter started getting older and passing through the baby milestones, I don't remember being that sad because I knew I would have another one and we would see these stages again.

But now the baby is a toddler. She wants to do things herself like put her shoes on and feed herself. She doesn't want me to rock her. Now when I go to cuddle her up, she wriggles out of my arms and runs away.

So should we, do we dare, rock the boat? Two is a handful, especially with our little one. She is a climber and might be insane. I can't be sure.

My friend is about to have her first baby. She calls to share the news, and I have to admit I'm a bit envious. It's just that I remember how special, how wonderful that time was. The baby was still inside, we were clueless and it was so exciting planning for this little baby.

Sometimes I wish I could go back and do it all over again. Heck, I even liked the hospital when I gave birth. And I was so enamored with my OB/GYN I could have been labeled a stalker. Now I only see her once a year. I sit in the waiting room and glance around at all the women with their swollen bellies and smile.

Another friend just had her third baby. I kept counting them to make sure, and yep, there were definitely three.

She seemed to be in complete control, and chaos never ensued when I was there. It might have been a good day.

My husband and I are celebrating our 10-year wedding anniversary this month. I jokingly mentioned that we should have one more child.

Then he told me something surprising. If I wanted to have a third child, he would because I wanted one.

"WHAT? But I thought we agreed on two!"

Him: "Well yes, but I'm saying I could do three. I love kids."

I'm completely confused.

I thought this was a joint decision. We agreed to only have two children.

I remember some of the things my friends have told me about having more than two children.

"Oh you remember my friend? That third child just sent her over the top."

Or this: "Well, once you get more kids than parents, you're in trouble."

Exactly. That is the deal.

Do I admit that secretly I have considered it? Shortly after this conversation, my toddler

'WELL, ONCE YOU GET MORE KIDS THAN PARENTS, YOU'RE IN TROUBLE.'

climbs onto the bathroom counter, takes all the Q-tips out and spreads them all over the bathroom like confetti. Then she eats part of a bar of soap. For lunch, she puts raviolis on her head and declares them her hat.

My older daughter tries to put the baby in time out, then while the baby is asleep lies to me and tells me the baby colored all over her leg. Funny how she could do that when she was asleep.

At the grocery store, the baby runs away and I find her on the toilet paper aisle about to pull down a load of it. She refuses to take a nap.

I tell them they are driving me crazy. I wonder if there is a limit on how many times I can say that?

Nope. We are definitely not having any more kids. I'm good with two.

Yes, I know that newborns are just SOOOO adorable. But we have moved passed formula, bottles and soon, diapers. Soon there will be no more crib and maybe one day, no more tantrums.

So it's decided.

Two is it.

I think.

ANGIE WAGNER is a writer for the Associated Press.

Bitch! Whine! Complain!



Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 5

Santa Monica Daily Press Visit us online at smdp.com



Photos courtesy KCRW

SAFE FOR THE AGES: KCRW is in the midst of a project to preserve its considerably eclectic archive of music. Much of the radio station's collection consists of vinyl albums.

KCRW aims to preserve its vast musical library

FROM MUSIC PAGE 1

station's general manager. "They are deteriorating and there is no room to add things that are being produced today and there is no way for the DJ to get to them apart from climbing tall ladders."

DJs occasionally run into the problem of being unable to locate the album of their choice, sometimes because another DJ is using it for their show or because they forgot to return the item, said Eric J. Lawrence, the station's music librarian. Modernizing the collection and placing it on an internal hard drive will enable the DJs to access the music without making the trip to the library.

Lawrence's desk is piled high with several hundred CDs. The corner of his office is stacked with bins containing several hundred CDs each, which the station receives every week. They include albums from the well-known artists to the unknown aspiring musicians that created a CD in their own bedroom.

The station plays an eclectic mix of music, but if KCRW ever decided to switch

to an all jazz or classical music format, it has the capacity to do so thanks to its extensive collection, Lawrence said.

"It's a unique setting," Lawrence said. "There's no other place that has the range of our library."

Seymour estimates that the collection can be modernized in the next six to eight months.

The live collection can be digitized in about eight to 10 weeks, said Tom Regal, BluWave's director of audio restoration and preservation.

A long-time KCRW fan, Regal was listening to the station when he came across an advertisement for the music library campaign. He called into the station to see if he could somehow lend a helping hand.

"Having met everyone there and seeing the library and their passion for music, it's something that's amazing to be a part of," Regal said.

melodyh@smdp.com

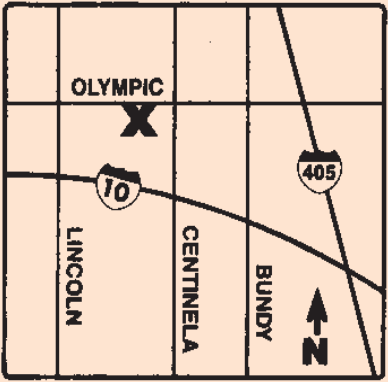
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Who needs an ID?

One teenage reporter finds scoring smokes surprisingly easy

BY EMILY SKEHAN | Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Being one of those kids who always looked considerably younger than my age, I've grown accustomed to the humiliation of being talked down to by middle schoolers, snickered at by club bouncers, even booted from the diving board at the UCLA pool. Understandably, I was a bit hesitant when I set out to affirm my right — as a barely legal adult — to give myself lung cancer, and maybe even crack down on some irresponsible businesses.

The plan: Venture out into Santa Monica — sans California state ID — and see what random liquor stores, supermarkets and tobacco suppliers would let me buy a pack of smokes without carding me.

At 18, I'm just past the point of being legally able to purchase tobacco, and a good seven years younger than those official-looking little stickers on store windows threaten to have someone carded.

Originally, I was under the impression that this would be a covert, sneaky operation that could potentially get some vendors in trouble, because those pesky stickers seem to imply that it's a crime not to card anyone who's lived less than a quarter century.

However, my hopes of a sting operation were quickly dashed by SMPD Lt. P.J. Guido.

"While we suggest to card everyone, each establishments can set up their own system for determining how to not sell tobacco to minors" said Lt. Guido. "It's not technically illegal not to card an 19-year-old."

**ONCE THEY KNOW
YOUR FACE, THEY DON'T
BOTHER ASKING HOW OLD
YOU ARE."**

Unnamed Samohi sophomore

Turns out that none of the targeted stores was committing an offense by hooking me up with my tobacco fix. Still, it's pretty gray territory.

"It's definitely a difficult issue," he said, "if you're even a day younger than 18, it's illegal."

I have plenty of friends who smoked in high school, none of whom ever seemed to have a problem acquiring their nicotine. And let's face it, I look about 16, so if I'm not getting carded chances are some hairy-lipped eighth graders aren't either.

"It's not that it's easy to buy cigarettes," said one Samohi sophomore, who says she picks up a pack a week, "but if you try a couple places, usually someone will be chill about it."

"Once they know your face, they don't bother asking how old you are."

THE QUEST

Armed with a student day pass on the Big Blue Bus and the excuse, "I left my wallet in the car," I targeted nine stores across the city, to test just how hard it is for a teenager to get some cancer sticks.

Though Santa Monica is known as a relatively health-

conscious — smoking unfriendly city — the undeniable "cool" factor of lighting up doesn't go unnoticed in Los Angeles. We may eat organic food and do yoga on weekends, but Santa Monica's teenagers are still willing to blacken our lungs, especially if it makes us thinner and hipper.

"Santa Monica has always been on the leading edge of promoting a smoke-free environment," said Robert Berger, who works for the Santa Monica-based Healthier Solutions, a health advocacy organization that worked with the city to implement recent smoking bans, "but I still think that teens — even here in Santa Monica — are still vulnerable to media influences and peer pressure."

Over two days, I hit nine tobacco providers and scored cigarettes from four of them. I was asked for my ID card five times, but never took it out — if a store refused to buy my contrived excuse, I walked out.

My first stop was a grocery store on Ocean Park Boulevard, near John Adams Middle School, that boasted foreboding signs like "Under 18, no tobacco" and "Buying for minors could cost you." Although my checker asked for my ID, he seemed unfazed by the fact that I "didn't have it on me." After asking me if I was 18, he handed over a pack of Parliament Lights without further ado. Trusting guy.

Buoyed by my immediate success, I strode out of the sliding glass doors with a surprised, newly confident air. For once, someone hadn't questioned my age. He even asked if I wanted to take some matches for my smoking enjoyment.

My next two stops were liquor stores on Main Street, where I wasn't even asked my age. One store owner gave me a bit of a hard time about my pretend smoking habit, but neglected to check that I was legal.

"Hi, can I grab a pack of Parliament Lights?" I asked.

"Are you sure?" he quipped. "They're bad for you."

I laughed and nodded.

"What do you think?" he said, turning to his co-worker. "Should I sell them to her?"

"Yeah, but I'd tell her they're gross."

He turned back to me and bagged the pack with a grin.

"Now you know what kind of a store we are," he said. "The kind that gives you a lot of grief."

But not the kind that asks you how old you are. I took the bag and walked out of the store, ID still untouched in my wallet.

NO BUTTS ABOUT IT

By this point, I'd become a little cocky. Never before had my age been accepted so easily. I decided to test my luck with a formidable obstacle — the AM/PM on Pico Boulevard and Fourth Street — a store with both corporate policies and employees who had surely grown wary while working across the street from a high school.

The cashier, a middle aged woman who stood her ground firmly in front of the shelves of Marlboros, Mistys and Camels, looked me up and down when I asked for a pack.

"You got ID?" she asked.

"Um, I left it in the car."

"Uh huh .." she rolled her eyes, "No ID, no cigarettes."

I bought a packet of gum to cover my shame and walked out with my head hung. The familiar feeling of rejection rushed back into my stomach and tinted my cheeks pink. My only comfort was that I hadn't decided to affirm my right as



Michael Tittinger miket@smdp.com

SUCCESS: Emily skehan, 18, enjoys the fruits of her labors.

an adult to buy, say, pornography.

Perhaps it was my new unsure attitude, but I hit a losing streak for the rest of that day. I was rejected once I failed to show identification at liquor stores on Montana Avenue and Second Street, a Vons supermarket and a cigar shop near the Santa Monica Place mall. My only consolation came from a friendly, homeless transvestite who offered to buy a pack for me.

"Sweetie," he whispered, batting his glitter-bedecked eyelashes at me while leaning out the door of a liquor store. "Do you want me to get those for you?"

I declined gratefully, and walked away.

Like a gambling addict on a losing streak, I just couldn't give up until lady luck (or lady I don't card minors) glanced my way. Just one more store, I kept telling myself. For a non-smoker, I was getting a pretty bad case of tobacco withdrawal.

Finally, I got my fix again at a convenience store right near SMC. The checker didn't even look me over as he slipped the \$5 bill from out of my hand and pushed a plastic-encased box across the counter. This time, I took the matches as well.

With a 44 percent success rate, I decided to call it quits — comforted that I appear my age, but also a little cynical of local store policy. My ability to buy tobacco without much hassle might have boosted my ego a little, but it also made me wonder: Will stores sell cigarettes to any teenager just to make a buck?

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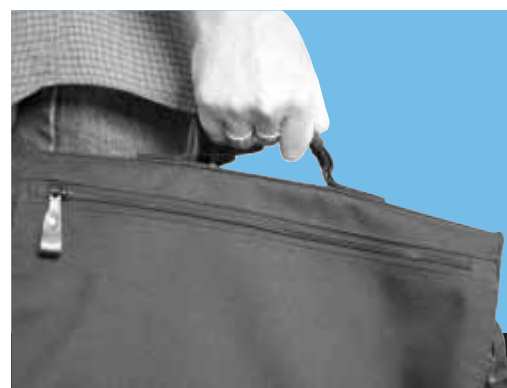


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Landlords can't be held liable for evictions

FROM LAW PAGE 3

a victory for City Hall and tenants because it reversed an earlier decision that struck down the entire code section, leaving tenants with few options to protect themselves against wrongful evictions.

"The section is still valid and still on the books so each case must be looked at individually to determine if the landlord really intends to go to court, and the (Supreme Court) said the landlord must have a good-faith intention to go to court to get the tenant out or otherwise they can be cited."

The City Council passed the anti-harassment provisions of the rent control law in 1995, largely in response to the state Legislature's enactment of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, which eased some of the

burdens on landlords in Santa Monica and other rent controlled cities. The law imposed "vacancy decontrol," meaning that if a tenant leaves or is evicted, the landlord can then raise the rent for that unit to market rate.

Recognizing that this created incentives to evict tenants, lawmakers preserved the right of cities to regulate or monitor the grounds for eviction.

The section challenged in court bars landlords from maliciously interrupting services, failing to perform repairs, threatening or verbally abusing tenants or taking action to terminate a tenancy "based upon facts which the landlord has no reasonable cause to believe to be true or upon a legal theory which is untenable under the facts known to the landlord."

It makes violation of the law a misde-

meanor and permits either private parties or City Hall to bring civil action and authorizes injunctions, civil penalties and damage awards.

In writing for the Supreme Court, Justice Carlos Moreno said the law, to the extent that it penalizes the filing of an unlawful detainer action, "would cut against the litigation privilege's 'core policy' of protecting access to the courts" and if allowed to continue would "have a chilling effect on landlords pursuing evictions through the courts."

The litigation privilege applies to publications made in a judicial proceeding and it has been held in the past to cover both pleadings and pre-litigation communications.

It is essentially a type of immunity given for certain acts and statements taken in connection with the pursuit of a lawsuit. It generally covers such things as liable and defama-

tion.

Moreno did say that in regards to filing an eviction notice or other pre-litigation tactics, a landlord is only protected under the privilege if he or she is pursuing litigation in "good faith and under serious consideration."

Now that the decision has been handed down, attorneys for City Hall will be reviewing their options.

Lambert said he hopes City Hall will do the right thing and honor the judgment, striking the code section found to be preempted by state law.

"The city should amend the ordinance to remove the unconstitutional parts," Lambert said. "Whether they will or not remains to be seen."

kevinh@smdp.com

Neighboring homes sustained minor damages from fire

FROM FIRE PAGE 3

neighbor was having a barbecue.

After returning from a walk with his wife and dog in the neighborhood shortly after 9 p.m., Russo's living room was illuminated with red light from a fire truck. Surprised, he went outside and saw that a building just three doors down was covered in flames.

City Hall building inspectors deemed the structure as unstable on Saturday, ordering the adjacent neighbors to vacate their residences until further notice. Unable to reach the building's owner, city officials went ahead and contracted Har-Bro Construction to stabilize the building. The neighbors were allowed back in on Sunday, according to Ben

Yousefi, the assistant building official.

The company boarded and shored-up the building, said Mark Savinsky, the director of business development for Har-Bro Construction.

Following the fire, neighbors speculated the cause of the fire, some believing it was a homeless man who had been living in the home and started the blaze when he was cooking. Others believe the fire was a result of arson after learning a gasoline can was discovered on site.

A neighbor who lives directly across the street reportedly saw a suspicious individual leaving the site before the fire, Russo said.

Fire investigators haven't determined whether the fire was the work of an arsonist. Ziegert added that it isn't uncom-

mon to find a gas can on a construction work site since much of the equipment does operate on gas.

Dorothy Thatcher has lived in a single-family home directly west of the scene of the fire for the past 41 years. She too smelled a lighter-fluid type stench in her living room.

She wasn't aware of the fire until another neighbor — who lives directly to the east of the home — came banging on her door.

None of the neighboring homes sustained serious damage with the exception of a multi-unit condominium, whose windows facing the fire were broken.

"It's a miracle," Thatcher said on Monday.

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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS

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SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)
Today when our next SW swell is due. This will build a tad on Wednesday the 8th. This is from a system we started tracking nearly two weeks ago that broke off Antarctica south of New Zealand but with a less than favorable trajectory resulting in a high degree of angular spreading decay. This and the fact that the storm's seas only maxed out at 24 feet means we're in for waist to at times chest high waves with 14-16 second periods.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 3

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / ns

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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	A	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	A	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	F	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	C	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	F	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach 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	A	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	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 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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Strip club’s request denied by Nevada

BY BRENDAN RILEY
Associated Press Writer

CARSON CITY, Nev. The Nevada Tax Commission rejected arguments that a state entertainment tax unconstitutionally targets strip clubs and refused Monday to refund nearly \$1.8 million in such taxes collected from six Las Vegas clubs in early 2004.

Attorneys for the strip clubs appealed the imposition of the 10 percent entertainment tax on admissions, drinks and food, arguing that strippers’ dancing is a form of constitutionally protected freedom of expression that should be tax-exempt.

The clubs’ appeal, rejected on a unanimous commission vote, was filed after the state Taxation Department denied the requested refund of January-April 2004 taxes on grounds the dancing fit the definition of taxable entertainment.

The businesses originally filed suit in federal court, arguing they were exempt from the tax. Taxation Director Dino DiCianno said a judge directed the clubs to first pursue “administrative remedies” with the state.

Attorney Brad Shafer, representing the clubs, argued that commissioners could “bury your head in the sand all you want,” but it’s clear that the tax is invalid because it discriminates among types of live entertainment.

Shafer noted the tax doesn’t apply to live entertainment in a nongambling facility that seats less than 200 and exempts certain sporting venues such as boxing, minor-league baseball and NASCAR races. The exemptions are “content-driven” and tend to favor family entertainment, he said.

“This was to get the adult cabarets and everything else was exempted out,” Shafer added, noting the state law has more than two dozen exemptions.

Attorneys Dennis Belcourt and David Pope, representing the Taxation Department, countered that the tax was an existing levy that was broadened by state lawmakers in 2003 to include the strip clubs and other forms of entertainment, and didn’t amount to unconstitutional censorship.

Pope called the levy “content-neutral,” and said that of the more than 50 non-casino businesses and enterprises subject to the tax, only 11 were strip clubs. However, Shafer said the strip clubs accounted for most of the non-casino entertainment tax revenue.

The clubs appealing the taxes are the Spearmint Rhino, Treasures, Sapphire, Jaguars, Olympic Garden and Crazy Horse Too.

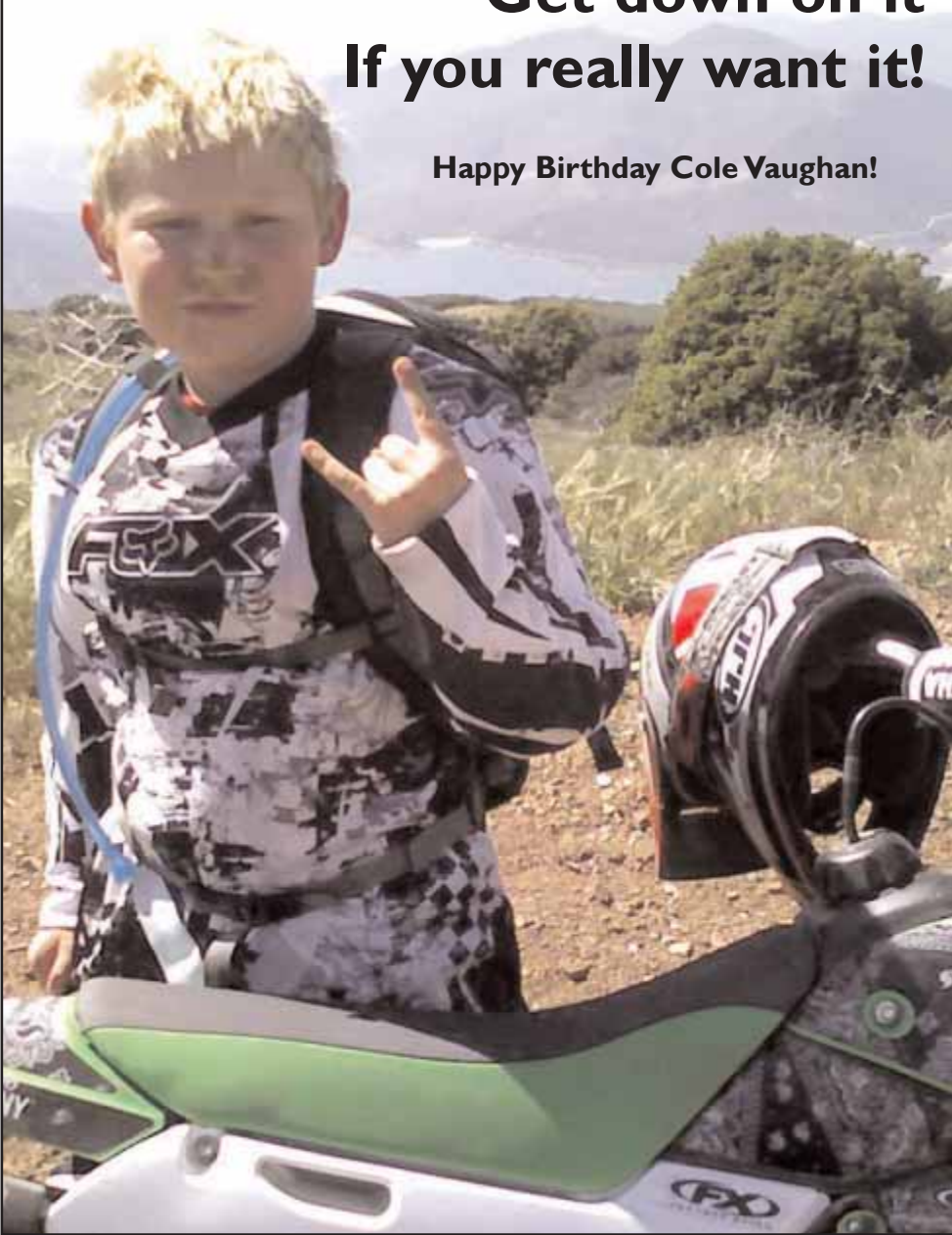
 **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

 Send letters to editor@smdp.com

Get down on it

If you really want it!

Happy Birthday Cole Vaughan!



Man and wife Usher and fiancée were recently married in Atlanta

USHER AND TAMEKA Foster, who are expecting their first child together, have tied the knot. "I exchanged vows with Tameka Foster in Atlanta on Friday and we are happily married," the 28-year-

old singer tells Usmagazine.com in a story posted Monday. According to the magazine, a small, private ceremony was held in the office of Usher's lawyer and that his mother and

former manager, Jonetta Patton, was in attendance. Publicist Patti Webster referred to the *Us Weekly* story when asked for comment from *The Associated Press*. Usher and Foster

called off their July 28 wedding amid reports that Foster had checked into a hospital because of problems with her pregnancy. He told *Us Weekly* last week: "Everybody's fine."

Tameka and the baby are fine." They announced their engagement earlier this year, and later, that Foster was expecting Usher's first child.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOPEZ FIRES BACK

Talk about togetherness. **JENNIFER LOPEZ** and husband **MARC ANTHONY**, who co-star in the new movie "El Cantante," will go on a concert tour together starting next month. The 14-date tour will open Sept. 29 in Atlantic City, N.J., and wrap up Nov. 2 in Miami. It will be Lopez's first concert tour. She will perform songs from her Spanish-language album, "Como Ama una Mujer (How a Woman Loves)," which was mainly produced by Anthony. Anthony just released the soundtrack to "El Cantante," a biopic of salsa legend Hector Lavoe, which opened in theaters last Friday.

AP

Sean Penn makes visit to Venezuela Last week's trip illustrates idealism through activism

SEAN PENN, who visited Venezuela last week, shows idealism through political activism. Sean Penn has experienced backlash for talking openly about his political beliefs, but sees such discussion as more respectable than promoting movies. "There's baggage attached to coming out publicly on stuff, but there's baggage – in my view, more damaging baggage – to goin' and (appearing) ... on Jay Leno's show, philosophizing about 'Uncle Buck' or whatever you're hawkin'," the Oscar-winning actor tells *Esquire* magazine in its September issue, on



newsstands Wednesday. Penn, 46, has bitterly criticized President Bush, toured Iraq to observe the war there and helped rescue workers with door-to-door searches for survivors after Hurricane Katrina swamped New Orleans. "The exemption they make for actors – because

you occupy the position they only dreamed about as a child, you can't be an American too," he says. "You don't get both, because that's just too much." When asked if he wants the United States to win the war in Iraq, Penn replies: "I think we're past that point in

human evolution where there's such a thing as winning wars." He met with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez last week, the latest in a series of celebrities and public figures to visit Chavez, including Danny Glover, Harry Belafonte and Cindy Sheehan, who became a peace activist after her soldier son was killed in Iraq. During his trip to Venezuela, Penn said he was visiting "as a journalist and so I owe it to that medium to wait until I've digested, fact-checked and finished my journey here" before saying more. He thanked Chavez for the visit.

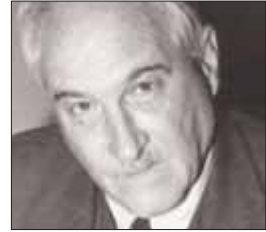
AP

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

Happy Birthday Tommy Martinez

Happy Birthday!

You often think of your friends this year, as well as those who play instrumental roles in your life. Knowing when enough is enough could be very important. Your ability to pull back and create positive situations marks your life. How you decide what you want and where you are heading might be more important than you realize. If you are single, your life could take on a new flavor or direction. If you are attached, your life opens up together, especially if you focus on the same traditions and issues.



Born Today
Anthropologist Louis Leakey (1903)
Actor David Duchovny (1960)
Actress Charlize Theron (1975)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You not only know what you want, you seize the moment and take action. Because of this trait, right now you are as unstoppable as a charging bull. Know what you are doing; know where you are heading. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Expenses are always a concern to the security-oriented Bull. You might want to rethink a situation far more deeply, if possible. You might feel like you are carrying the weight of the world. Remember, you are not. Tonight: Pay bills.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Do you feel the energy? As you step forward, you sense that the Force is with you. Not everyone is easy to deal with, but if there is a way, you will find it. Let your magnetism speak. Don't keep it a secret! Tonight: Just ask, and let the rest happen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★ Sometimes you might not be as sure of yourself as you might like. Never fear. Take a step and follow through on what you deem important. If you're expecting kudos, forget it – what you are doing is for you. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might want to approach a situation in a more dynamic manner. Think in terms of possibilities, and make them so. Your high energy helps you manifest more of what you want. Let your smile do most of the work. Tonight: Where your friends are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Others look up to you. They think in terms of dynamic possibilities. Understanding emerges from another direction and points to change. You'll discover just how much is possible if you relax and flow. Tonight: Be willing to step up to the plate one more time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ How you view someone could change dramatically. Your perspective will open up if you listen to the other side and imagine how that person feels. With that insight, you can go far. Tonight: Try out a new place.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Investigate possibilities with an eye to what can happen if you open up. Explore options rather than eliminate them. Anything is possible with a great attitude. A partner plays a most significant role. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Others can and will prove to be challenging, whether you like it or not. Move in a new direction; do something very different. For now, let others play a larger role in your life. What might have seemed impossible no longer is. Tonight: Go along for the ride.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Sometimes people have strong expectations and desires. Right now you see this attitude. If in the past you had difficulty working with someone, you could revisit this same issue. Tonight: Easy does it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Sometimes you need to kick back and simply have more fun. You will encounter a situation that lights up your life and invites you to join in. Let go and take the day off if you can. Your spirit will renew itself. Tonight: Have a good time!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might want to work from home if possible. Too much comes down your path, and you have a lot to handle. Loosen up and understand where someone else might be coming from. Touch base with a family member. Tonight: Try easy.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Trapped Ashes (NR)
6:00 pm

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

Bourne Ultimatum, The (PG-13)
1:15, 4:05, 6:55, 9:50
BRATZ (PG)
1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55
Knocked Up
1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
The Simpsons Movie (PG-13)
1:00, 3:25, 5:55, 8:15, 10:35

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

The Bourne Ultimatum (PG)
11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
Hairspray (PG)
11:05am, 1:55, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45
No Reservations (PG)
11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
Ratatouille (G)
DLP-Digital Projection
11:30am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25
The Simpson Movie (PG-13)
11:45am, 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Transformers (PG-13)
12:45, 4:05, 7:20, 10:35
Underdog (PG)
10:50am, 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Sunshine (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Talk to Me (R)
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

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

Arctic Tale (G)
1:45, 4:00, 6:15
Becoming Jane (PG)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Goya's Ghosts
(Los Fantasma de Goya) (R)
8:30
La Vie en Rose
(La Mome) (PG-13)
1:20, 4:45, 8:10
The Ten (R)
12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00

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

El Cantante (R)
11:10am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
12:10, 3:10, 6:30, 9:50
Hot Rod (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
I Know Who Killed Me (R)
11:00am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:10
I Now Pronounce You
Chuck & Larry (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
Live Free or Die Hard (PG-13)
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 10:10
Who's Your Caddy? (PG-13)
11:40am, 9:40

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

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

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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

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

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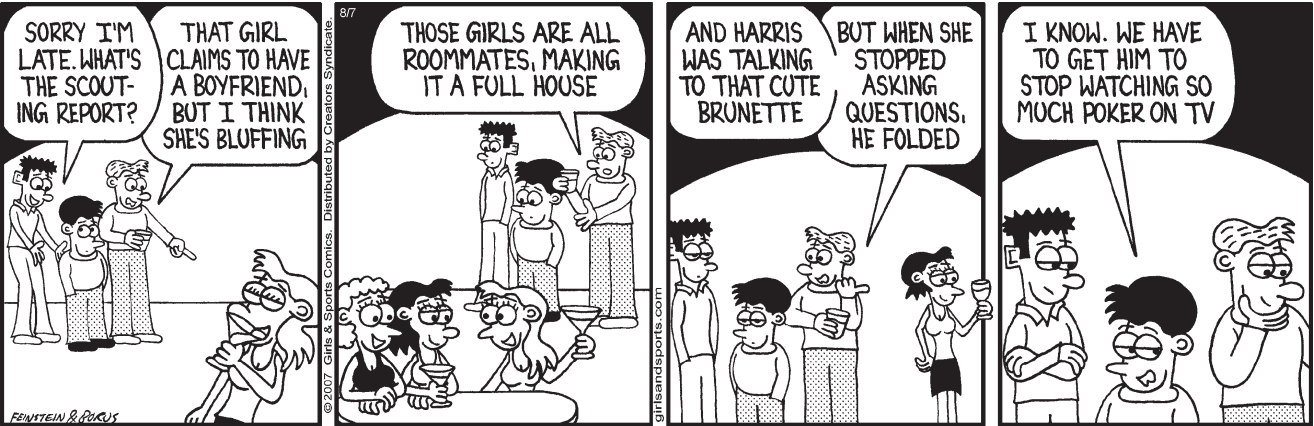
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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



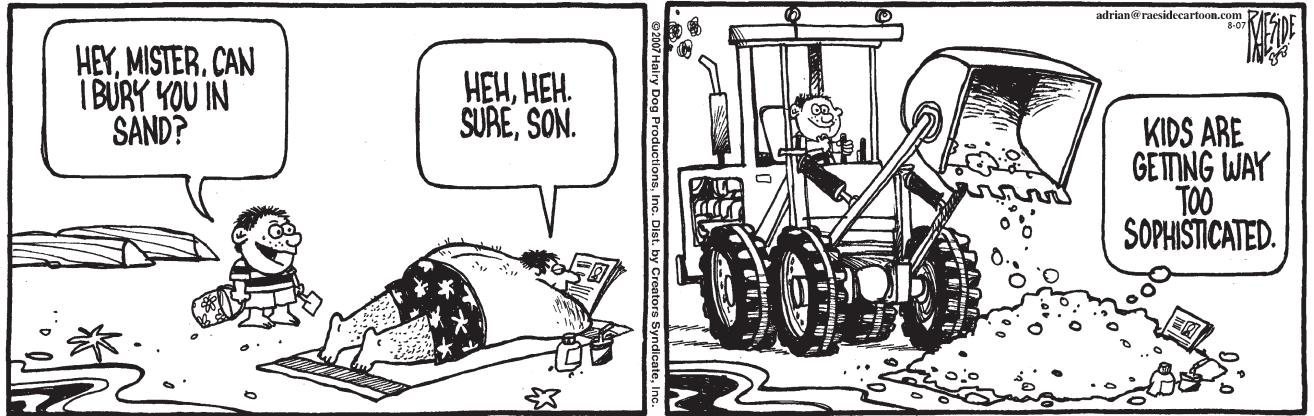
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



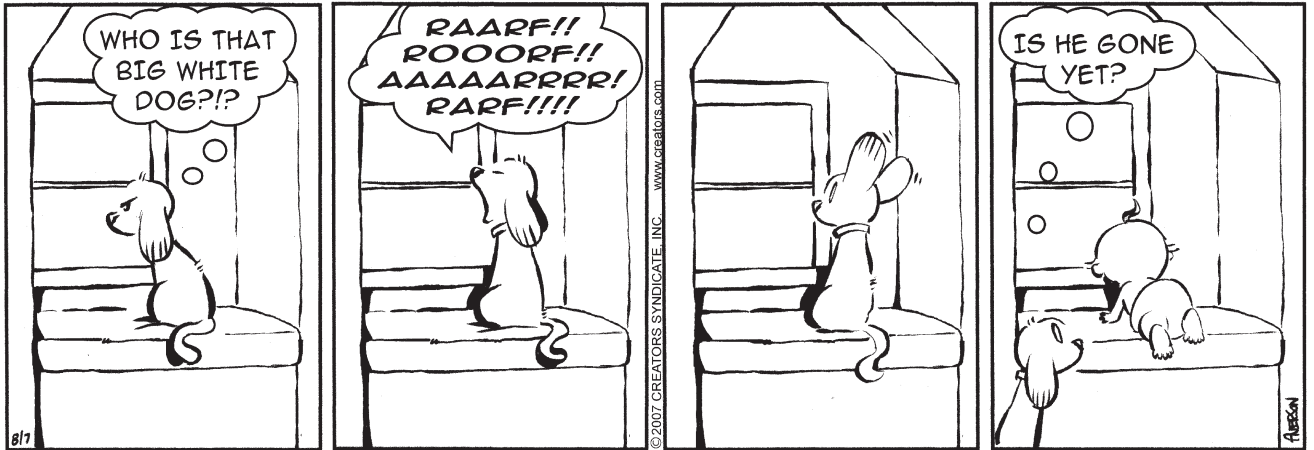
Garfield

By Jim Davis

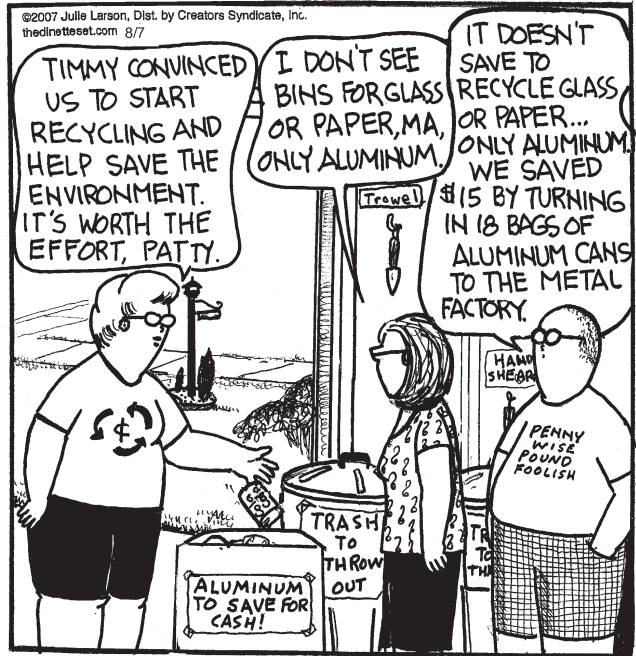


Dog eat Doug

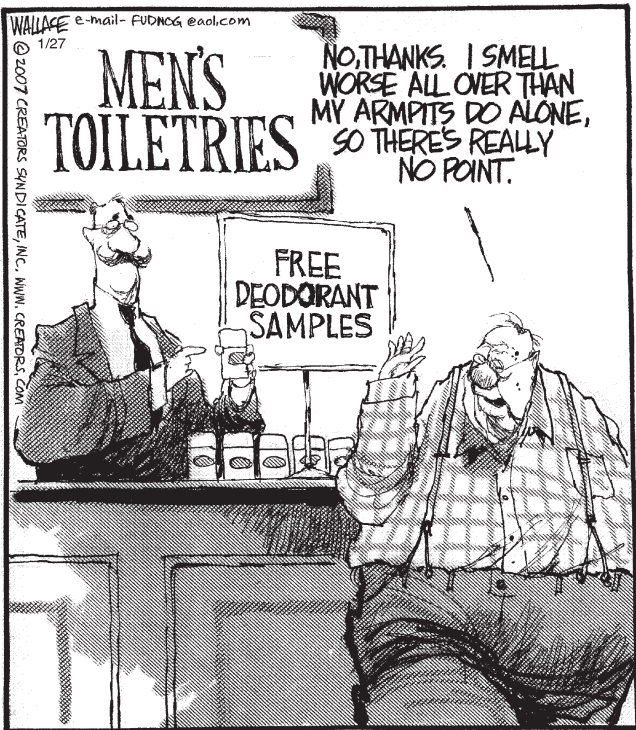
By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@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 42 Scout shelters
5 Range 43 Marries

- DOWN 1 Surprise win
2 Like some prunes
3 Like some garages
4 Cal. neighbor
5 Petty argument
6 Nasty dog
7 Willing to consider
8 Load, as a van
9 Queen of mystery

- 10 Some ever-greens
12 Eye part
13 "The Office" actor
15 List abbr.
16 Deteriorate
17 Maiden name lead-in
18 Puzzle
20 Agitate
21 Guzzled
22 Theater award
23 Treat the turkey
25 From a distance
28 Casual talks
31 Pilaf need
32 Charitable aid
34 Small worker
35 Twisty fish
36 Sch. subject
37 "The Office" actor
40 Audibly
41 Ton part

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

Yesterday's answer

- 11 Venus' sister
14 Sommelier's tool
19 Buffalo skater
20 Filch
24 Durocher
25 Turkish peak
26 Closer
27 Director's cry
29 Gift box liner
30 Brief time
33 Locates
35 Terminates
38 Bolt connector
39 De-pressed

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 MILLIONS 16 29 42 46 51
Meganumber: 40
Jackpot: \$89M

Super LOTTO 2 3 36 39 46
Meganumber: 7
Jackpot: \$56M

Fantasy 5 4 15 18 24 25

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 7 6 6
EVENING: 7 3 4

DAILY DERRY 1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:46:90

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In May, one of the world's Christian "dental healers," the interdenominational Rev. Steve Jones, set up his latest revival tent, near Bradenton, Fla., and began not only allegedly curing toothaches but growing teeth and turning amalgam fillings into gold, according to the Sarasota Herald-Tribune. The reporter described a parade of witnesses claiming to have been healed and to have seen their crooked teeth straightened. Laying his hand on the jaw of one local resident, Jones assured the crowd, "You can see gold coming (into the filling)."

■ Sandy Sabloff had been scheduled to receive a kidney from Australian Ashwyn Falkingham in April, at Toronto (Ontario) General Hospital, but the hospital canceled it at the last minute, apparently acceding to pressure from Falkingham's mother, who said her son had been brainwashed by a "cult" called Jesus Christians, which she said is obsessed with donating kidneys as a test of spiritual devotion. (Ashwyn Falkingham said he remained eager to donate.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1794 Whiskey Rebellion begins: Farmers in the Monongahela Valley of Pennsylvania rebel against the federal tax on liquor and distilled drinks.

1944 IBM dedicates the first program-controlled calculator, the Automatic Sequence Controlled Calculator (known best as the Harvard Mark I).

1947 Thor Heyerdahl's balsa wood raft the Kon-Tiki, smashes into the reef at Raroia in the Tuamotu Islands after a 101-day, 7000-km (4375-mile) journey across the Pacific Ocean proving that pre-historic peoples could have traveled from South America.

1964 Vietnam War: The U.S. Congress passes the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution giving US President Lyndon B. Johnson broad war powers to deal with North Vietnamese attacks on American forces.

1966 Race riots occur in Lansing, Michigan.

1973 NBC airs the final day of the Watergate hearings on U.S. daytime television.

1981 The Washington Star ceases all operations after 128 years of publication.

1991 World Wide Web debuts as a publicly available service on the Internet.

WORD UP!

quixotic \kwik-SOT-ik\, *adjective*: 1. Caught up in the romance of noble deeds and the pursuit of unreachable goals; foolishly impractical especially in the pursuit of ideals. 2. Capricious; impulsive; unpredictable.



**Happy 5th
Birthday
Maya!**

Santa Monica Daily Press

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 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT \$12-13hr construction co in SM seeks candidate to answer phones, process documents, file, data entry, strong organization/computer skills. Call 310-453-4289 or see barringtonstaffing.com

AUTO MECHANIC (with min. 4 years exp. & min. 1 yr. Auto tech school) Hours: 8:00am to 6:00pm (40 hours + 10 overtime) \$10.00 per hour & \$15.00 overtime

Plans work procedure, using charts, technical manuals and experience. Raises vehicle, using hydraulic jack or hoist to gain access to mechanical units bolted to underside of vehicle. Removes unit, e.g., engine, transmission or differential, using wrenches and hoist. Disassembles unit and inspects parts for wear, using micrometers, calipers, and thickness gauges. Repairs or replaces parts, such as pistons, rods, gears, and valves, and bearings, using mechanic's hand tools. Overhauls or replaces carburetors blowers, alternators, distributors, starters and pumps. Rebuilds parts, such as crankshafts and cylinder blocks, using lathes, shapers, drill presses, and welding equipment. Rewires ignition system, lights and instruments panel. Relines and adjusts brakes, align front end, repairs, or replaces shock absorbers and solder leaks in radiator.

 Attention D-05187-00492
700 North Pearl, suite 510
Dallas, TX 75201
Or by Fax to:
Fax: 214-237-9116

 All applicants must include A/B Job Order Number 500487815
And ETA Case Number

CASHIER / RETAIL SALES Seeking energetic individuals. F/T including Sat. Some experience, a plus. Bldg Materials location. Will train. Apply in person: Bourget Bros. 1636 11th St. Santa Monica, CA 90404

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Employment

CO-OPPORTUNITY NOW HIRING!

 Janitorial Assistant
Go to www.coopportunity.com for more info or
stop by the store at 1525 Broadway for an application.

DESIGNER: UTILIZE skill in graphic design to assist creative director to create & develop graphic contents for new product lines. Prepare concept boards, sketch styles & prepare full color presentation boards using CAD software. Job site: Santa Monica, CA. Send resume to SBH Intimates, 1411 Broadway, NY, NY, 10018. Attn: HR

EXPERIENCED LINE cook wanted for the Shack at 2518 Wilshire, SM. (310)449-1171.

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

GENERAL OFFICE help for Swartz Glass Co., permanent position, full-time. w/ benefits. (310)829-0251

HIRING DISPATCHERS and drivers for a tow company in WLA. 2200 Centinela Ave. 90064, cross st. Olympic. (310)923-8888

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HOUSEKEEPER OCEAN House, an elegant assisted living community, is looking for an ideal candidate with a positive attitude to provide housekeeping services for our elderly residents. Prior hotel or senior living community experience a plus. Job duties include daily cleaning of apartments and common areas. The position is full time and benefits eligible after 90 days. Meal plan is available as well. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405.

JANITOR Ocean House, an elegant assisted living community is looking for an ideal candidate with a positive attitude to provide janitorial services to our elderly residents. Job duties include maintenance of common areas, carpet cleaning, window washing and light maintenance. The position is full time and benefits eligible after 90 days. Meal plan is available as well. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405.

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 RECEPTIONIST \$10-11HR property management office in SM seeks friendly voice, answer multi-line phones, file, copy and fax documents, greet clients. Call 310-453-4289 or see barringtonstaffing.com

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APR 7.5%

6.25%**

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6%**

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APR 7.6%

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1.5%**

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Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TSG No.: 3306430 TS No.: 20079070801116 FHAA/PMI NO.: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 04/15/2005 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 08/13/2007 at 10:00 AM, FIRST AMERICAN LOANSTAR TRUSTEE SERVICES, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 04/28/2005, as Instrument No. 05-0987680, in book, page, of Official Records in the Office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California. Executed by: Steven Zeoli, a married man as his sole and separate property, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check / cash equivalent or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b). (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States) at the West Entrance to the Los Angeles County Courthouse, Southeast District, 12720 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA. All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: as more fully described in the above mentioned Deed of Trust APN# 4287-026-064. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 521 Pier Avenue #3, Santa Monica, CA 90405. 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 made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s), secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid 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 \$667,259.93. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration 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. First American Title Insurance Company LoanStar Mortgagee Services, L.L.C. 3 First American Way Santa Ana, CA 92707 Date: 07/24/2007 Authorized Signature: Teresa Marianos For Trustee's Sale Information Please call 619-590-1221 LoanStar Mortgagee Services, L.L.C. may be acting as a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 07/24/07, 07/31/07, 08/07/07 R-146238

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD NORMAN MILLER CASE NO. BP105908 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors,

Notices

contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of RONALD NORMAN MILLER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by AURORA R. MILLER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LISA MILLER HACKETT AND ANGEL STRATFORD be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 09/05/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner MARSHAL A. OLDMAN OLDMAN, COOLEY, SALLUS, GOLD ET AL. LLP 16133 VENTURA BLVD., PENT. A ENCINO, CA 91436-2447 8/7, 8/8, 8/14/07 CNS-1177433# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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2:00 to 5:00 pm



1333 - 18th Street # 2
\$979,000
3 + 2.5 **Remodeled** TownHome

Open Sunday, August 12th
2:00 to 5:00 pm



511 San Vicente # 302
\$649,000
Top Floor, 1 + 1.5

Open Sunday, August 12th
2:00 to 5:00 pm

852 - 21st Street Unit D
\$1,059,000

Updated 2 + 1.75 Condo
with **Huge, private** Patio
(pictured to the right)

One-of-a-Kind!



**In Escrow
Looking for Backup**



2628 - 29th Street
\$1,399,000
Spacious 4 + 3



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

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

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,372,000	No Listings
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,739,238	\$ 1,985,265
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 2,997,444	\$ 867,599
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 972,000	\$ 677,713
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,494,250	\$ 677,290
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,929,727	\$ 933,556

Statistics updated every Friday

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