

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL FRIENDSHIP WEEK

DAILY LOTTERY

3 4 5 7 36
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: \$47M

7 23 25 34 41
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: \$49M

1 19 21 32 37

MIDDAY: 9 4 3
EVENING: 7 4 6

1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:43.66

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Eighty such themes have occurred so frequently that they have been “retired from circulation” since News of the Weird began publishing in 1988, and for the next few weeks, they’ll be reviewed here. Among the first group were stories of mix-ups between phone-sex hotlines and churches, charities, etc.; suspicious packages that bring an office or a city block to a standstill but turn out not to be bombs (and the more harmless the contents really are, like a buzzing personal vibrator, the better); robbers on getaway who hail the first passing car, which turns out to be an unmarked police car (or, in one case, a marked police car); and the political candidate who wins the election even though he died well before election day. They certainly used to be weird, but no longer.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 235th day of 2006.
There are 130 days left in the year.

1927 Italian-born anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in Boston for the murders of two men during a 1920 robbery. (Sacco and Vanzetti were vindicated in 1977 by Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis.)

1926 Silent film star Rudolph Valentino died in New York at age 31.

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Election has fewer hopefuls

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — The competition for three seats on the City Council looks to be considerably lighter than in prior elections with 10 candidates officially qualified for the November ballot.

That’s in contrast to elections over the past three decades, which have seen an average of 13 candidates per election.

In 1975, there was a record-setting 32 candidates, according to the City Clerk’s office.

The current council hopefuls

include: three incumbents, Mayor Bob Holbrook, and council members Pam O’Connor and Kevin McKeown; two candidates from prior elections, Linda Armstrong and Jonathan Mann; and newcom-

See **COUNCIL RACE**, page 5

Running low at polls

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

NORWALK — While recognized as a bastion for civic participation and community activism, Santa Monica also is known among elections officials as a tough place to recruit poll workers.

At least that’s the case so far.

Officials with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder have placed Santa Monica as one of the top cities desperately in need of poll workers for the upcoming election in November, with an estimated 75 positions still vacant. Santa Monica has 71 polling places and needs an estimated 500 people for the Nov. 7 election. The Registrar-Recorder oversees elections locally and must hire 20,000 to 30,000 poll workers to meet demand.

Vanessa Brown-Lawrence, head of poll officer recruitment for the county, said that number could increase as past poll workers opt out in favor of other commitments.

“Santa Monica poses a problem for us nearly every election,” Brown-Lawrence said. “We find it very difficult to recruit people. But that’s true in other places as well. People just don’t seem to be

See **POLLS**, page 5

Taking a bite out of crime



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica Police Explorers escort crime-fighting dog McGruff during a community picnic at Virginia Avenue Park.

City Hall grants permission to doggie debris do-gooder

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Raise a stink and you might just succeed in getting what you want here.

Or in Valerie Hiss’ case, her efforts to reduce the stink throughout Santa Monica have gotten her far with city officials, who originally turned their noses up at her community project that involved attaching “doggie houses” to neighborhood trees.

Hiss’ three-year effort of reducing what she calls “doggie debris”

throughout the city was put in jeopardy earlier this month when her project became public and city officials abruptly put an end to it, citing a concern for the health of the trees.

Hiss has spent \$5,000 affixing 60 make-shift miniature houses to trees. The houses dispense plastic bags so pet owners can pick up remains left by their pooches. But Hiss was informed by city officials that she was violating an ordinance that prohibits objects from being placed on trees. Officials said the

See **DOG DEBRIS**, page 6



File photo



Connie Sommerville/Daily Press

CIVIC DOODY (Left) One of Valerie Hiss’ dog bag dispensers, which she has placed throughout Santa Monica. (Right) A city-funded dispenser at Pines Park in Dana Point.

Gary Limjap

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Eddie Guerboian

Horoscopes

2

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2006

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Take some time, Libra

Santa Monica Daily Press

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Use the first part of the day for interactions with people and anything that might touch on your creativity. You'll discover how receptive of an audience you have. In the afternoon, whatever you touch seems to work. Tonight: Is it time for a new workout?



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Getting going might take some talent, as you could be way too comfortable at home. Calls keep waylating you, especially in the morning. Touch base with your creativity and plug this talent into your life. Tonight: How about some romance?



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You can chat up quite a storm. Your sign is known for its verbal gifts. What also might be important is knowing when to be quiet or when to let go of an issue. Add silence and centering to your communications. Tonight: Seriously consider a new purchase.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might be a touch indulgent right now. If the end results don't please you, make a resolution to change this habit. Excellent communication surrounds your day. A new car or computer could be waving hello to you. Tonight: Stop at a favorite spot. Yes, it might even be the gym!



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Use the morning hours for what might be particularly significant. Your personality is in fifth gear, and others will respond. A decision surrounding finances draws positive results. You will be able to carry it through. Tonight: Say yes.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Handle background details or do research. Actions taken on the basis of solid information will succeed. A new beginning becomes possible in any area you choose. Use this New Moon for making wishes. Tonight: Go for what you want.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Aim for more of what you want and deal with others head-on this morning. Success results. Use the afternoon to do much-needed research. You don't need to put your two cents in. Tonight: Take some personal time.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Others seek you out for advice. Do you sometimes get tired of this role? Be willing to say no more and do what you like more often. You might need a timeout from other people's needs. You know what to do. Tonight: A friendship stars.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Decide on a course of action, not from an emotional level but from detachment. You will gain as a result. Act in the afternoon. Career and community issues take priority. With your energy, new professional beginnings are in the offing. Tonight: A must show.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ A partner or associate demands your time this morning. Be smart about your choices with this person. Together you make sound decisions. Read between the lines with news. You want the full story, don't you? Tonight: Be willing to try something new.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Others seek you out. Whether you choose to join in on a proposition or invitation is your call. Many options could head down your path. Make time for a key person this afternoon. Talks could be important. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Dig into work; you'll accomplish a lot. Network and socialize in the afternoon. People seek you out. You have some important choices to make. Mellow out on what you want. A relationship could have a new beginning. Tonight: Say yes to an invitation.

BORN TODAY Drummer **Keith Moon** (1946), record producer **Mark Hudson** (1951)

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Jurassic 5, Jonny Lang to rock the beach during clean-up

By Daily Press staff

Clean up the beach and then reap some rewards yourself. On Sunday, Aug. 27, there will be a beach clean-up day followed by a rocking thank-you concert by Jurassic 5 and Jonny Lang. Help “Re-Boot & Rock the Beach” starting at 10 a.m. with the beach clean-up on Venice Beach, followed by the concert at 12:30 p.m. at the Windward Plaza at Venice Beach.

“Re-Boot & Rock the Beach” will be hosted by Heal The Bay and Arrowhead Brand Mountain Spring Water. Heal The Bay, founded in 1985, is a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds safe, healthy and clean.

This event is free to the public, and the first 500 volunteers on the beach will win prizes. There is no need to pre-register, just show up and pitch in. It’s a natural way for locals to do a little good for the beach and themselves.

“Arrowhead Re-Boot Stations” will be springing up all over Southern California over the next couple of months. To find out when one will pop up near you or to find out more information on “Re-Boot & Rock the Beach,” visit www.rebootnaturally.com.

Children showcase summer art

By Daily Press staff

This summer has seen a group of young artists bloom, thanks to St. Joseph Center. St. Joseph Center transformed its general activity room into an art gallery earlier this month to showcase the creative talent of youth from the Santa Monica and Venice communities. Eleven children ages 6 to 12 spent three days a week for five weeks exploring various mediums, including beadwork, Chinese scroll painting and tie-dye.

Led by St. Joseph Center staff member Joshua Fontanez, the children built vejigante carnival masks, dragon-like papier mache creations from southern Puerto Rico. With the help of local poets Marc Wiseman and Michele Carter, the children wrote, illustrated and bound shorts books of poetry.

“It was a chance for the children to explore cultural traditions and combine them with their own imagination,” said Fontanez, who organized the summer art classes.

St. Joseph Center’s Family Center offered the summer arts program free to low-income families. Year-round, the Family Center serves more than 800 working poor families with multiple programs for children including after-school tutoring and mentoring for teenage boys and girls. For more information, visit www.stjosephctr.org.



Photo courtesy (From left to right) Yesenia Palacios, Alondra Mendez and Jesus Palacios in front of vejigante carnival masks.

The sea is falling

By Daily Press staff

Due to a leaky roof, Heal the Bay’s Santa Monica Pier Aquarium is closing for two months for renovation. The Pier Aquarium will be closed to the general public from Sept. 5 until Oct. 31 for a roof reconstruction project. During that time, the aquarium won’t be offering field trip education programs or birthday parties.

Aquarium staff began earnestly documenting its leaky roof problems two winters ago, when the second soggiest winter on record forced staff to sandbag around the doors, strategically position buckets over tanks and computers, and constantly run dehumidifiers and fans to dry out soggy carpets.

This spring, leadership at the Pier Restoration Corporation and the city of Santa Monica’s Resource Management Department recommended the Santa Monica City Council approve a \$240,000 expenditure to replace the roof above the aquarium. The

See BRIEFS, page 5

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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 66°

SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)
It should start to see a slight pickup in size as some forerunner energy from the swell due Thursday-Friday makes its way into the region. This though will likely be small, even though it has some long, 20-second energy to it. Our call for Wednesday is for wave heights running waist high at south facing breaks with few waves per set and noticeable lulls.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SOUTHERN HEMI SWELL HITS THURSDAY, FRIDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

Time	08-23 04:11 AM	08-23 10:32 AM	08-23 03:43 PM	08-23 09:56 PM
High	5.0 ft	5.0 ft	5.0 ft	5.0 ft
Low	-2.0 ft	-2.0 ft	-2.0 ft	-2.0 ft

The **Q**Line

City officials are seriously considering restoring commercial boating by building a gangway at the Santa Monica Pier, where visitors would be able to embark on sight-seeing boat tours and sport fishing excursions. The concept is to revitalize the pier so it can stay competitive with other cities and tourist destinations.

So this week’s Q-Line wants to know:
“Do you support revitalized water activities off the pier? Why or why not?”
Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we’ll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missed opportunity in the mail

Editor:

Our mail delivery in the Sunset Park area of Santa Monica has been "intermittent" for many months now, but today's delivery wins the prize. Today, Aug. 21, we returned from delivering our son to UC Berkeley, where he is beginning his freshman year. When I went to pick up our mail, which had been on vacation hold at the Seventh Street office of the Santa Monica Post Office, I was given a Priority Mail Package for my recently departed Berkeley student, postmarked March 23, 2006. I opened it to read: "Dear David: Congratulations. I am pleased to inform you that your application to the freshman class entering the School of Engineering at Vanderbilt University for the fall of 2006 has been approved." Some months ago yet another notification of admission for our son was delivered to neighbors blocks away, who were kind enough to personally deliver it to our doorstep at that time. There are many important documents, such as college acceptance notifications, that the post office should deliver reliably, in a timely manner. What a shame that we can't rely on this basic service in our community. When I have a choice, I use Fed-ex.

Tiiu Lukk
Santa Monica

A test of the heart unveils true thankfulness



**THE
WITNESS
STAND**
BY CLIFF NICHOLS

The other morning I was approached by a man at the gas station who wanted a cup of coffee and asked me if I could spare some change to help him get one. When I gave him the money I looked at him, but then I saw something else. Over his shoulder I locked eyes with a woman standing beyond him who was giving me a look of absolute disgust. It was obvious she held me in contempt for giving the money as much as she did the man to whom I was giving it.

My rule about giving handouts to people on the streets is they have to ask. Either silence or words written on a piece of cardboard will not do. But when I am actually approached by a person with far less than me, I really feel it's a duty to respond in some meaningful way, if at the time I have the ability. The reason? I feel the condition of my heart is being tested.

I know the clichés about not encouraging them and what they really want the money for. But I know just as surely that there are some instances in which these old saws do not apply, and I for one am unable to sort

them out based on that criteria. I have neither the knowledge nor the insight necessary to determine what events in their life led them to be where they are today. More importantly, however, I know that in my life there was a time when I was very much in need of assistance of others due to circumstances absolutely beyond my control, and I am eternally grateful that they were there when I needed them. I often think about what if, for whatever reason, they had not been there. The answer is simple. I, too, could have easily slipped through the net and found myself on the street.

A good thing about an experience like that is the tremendous appreciation it gives people for those in their lives who are actually willing to stand with them in tough times. In fact, there probably is no better way to find out very quickly who your true friends really are, and perhaps more importantly, who aren't. I found that the vast majority of people have a tendency to flee from people in need — unless they can see it placing them in an advantageous position in some way, that is. Few and far between, however, is the person who will actually take his or her time to be of some practical assistance.

Most people who have been forced to succumb to adversity against their will already feel like — and in a tangible way probably also actually believe — that they are losers, regardless of what may be the

objective truth of the matter. Therefore, such people do not need to be told so.

When their lives are viewed from that perspective, I become very thankful even for little things I enjoy that they do not. I am thankful for the shower I was able to take this morning, the clean clothes I was able to put on, the breakfast I ate in a local diner and, yes, even for the cup of coffee I could afford to buy. Although I have faith that such amenities will continue to be available in my life, that faith is coupled with my knowledge that circumstances could quickly reverse to take away what I have always taken for granted in the twinkling of an eye. Impossible, you say? Ask the millionaires who jumped out windows to their deaths when the stock market crashed in 1929.

But that's not the end of it. Consider this: What value is my faith that such a fate will never be mine, if that faith is not manifested by my actions? That is why, when a person tells me that he is either hungry or cold, I feel I must send him away with more than just some platitude about how I wish him well, especially when it is within my ability to help him or her in a meaningful way.

(Cliff Nichols is an attorney practicing criminal defense in Santa Monica. He may be contacted at either (310) 917-1083, cliff@cliffnicholslaw.com or www.cliffnicholslaw.com. You may join his blog at www.thedailystand.com.)

Bitch!
Whine!
Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 3.



75 workers needed

POLLS, from page 1

willing to give their time as much as they used to."

Often compared to jury duty, volunteering to serve as a poll worker commands long hours in exchange for little pay. With the job also comes an immense responsibility — ensuring the fairness and accuracy of the electoral process.

Even with a pay increase that went into effect in June, which has attracted new recruits, many are turned off by the thought of dedicating 14 to 15 hours of their lives for less than minimum wage, Brown-Lawrence said.

A poll officer makes \$80 for one day of work, with a \$25 bonus for attending an hour-and-a-half training session. Election inspectors, who serve as supervisors at polling places, earn \$100 per election, with a \$50 bonus for picking up supplies, such as ballot boxes, and \$25 for the training session.

"You have to look at the people in Santa Monica," Brown-Lawrence said. "For the most part, everyone's working and can't afford to take a day off. Many are college students or young professionals who may not be registered to vote or perhaps not interested. There's really various reasons why people don't participate."

To serve as a poll worker, one must be a U.S. citizen registered to vote in California and be at least 18 years old. High school students who are at least 16 also can participate but only if they have been nominated by their school and are enrolled in an official Student Poll Worker Program.

Those who are bilingual are in high demand, particularly those who can speak Cantonese, Japanese, Mandarin, Korean, Tagalog or Vietnamese.

With many poll workers being senior citizens, there is hope that the increase in pay will attract a new batch of seasonal employees to replace those who are no longer able.

"I'm worried about Santa Monica," said Thea Brodtkin, an election assistant with the Registrar-Recorder and the voter service director for the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica. "Every time we have an election in Santa Monica, I see that we are very short of poll workers... What surprises me is that in our politically active city, with so many community members volunteering for various boards and commissions, we can't find civic-minded folks to ensure our elections run smoothly and efficiently."

TO VOLUNTEER

To become a poll worker, call 1-800-815-2666 ext. 7, or go to www.lavote.net.

Voters will choose among 10 candidates

SCHOOLS, from page 1

ers Gleam Davis, Terence Later, Jenna Linnekens, Mark McLellan and Terry O'Day.

Holbrook and O'Day, a planning commissioner, have been endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce, while McKeown, O'Connor and Davis, an attorney, have been backed by Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights (SMRR), an influential tenants group that has had a hand in driving public policy for the last 30 years, as it has held a majority on the council for decades.

Santa Monica has built a reputation for fielding a long list of council candidates, more so than most neighboring cities, said Bob Stern, director of the Center for Governmental Studies, which studies the electoral process and advocates for campaign finance reform.

"Santa Monica has much more of a competitive City Council race, at least for cities without term limits," Stern said. "That's because you have some very active organizations and the citizens of Santa Monica are much more politically aware."

Stern said Santa Monica's size also contributed to the bulging ballots of the past because it is large enough to field a wide range of candidates, but small enough that the city isn't broken into council districts, which may exclude many because of residency requirements.

Another reason for the high number of participants could be the relative ease by which candidates can qualify for the ballot. There is no cost involved. Those looking to run simply must collect 100 valid signatures from voters registered in Santa Monica.

That may be a challenge for those without a large network of supporters, which could have contributed to the lower number of candidates who qualified this time around, said City Councilman Ken Genser, who has served on the council since 1988.

Out of the 23 people who pulled nomination papers, 12 returned them, two of whom failed to collect the correct number of signatures, according to the City Clerk's office.

"We're also talking about only three seats instead of four," Genser said. "That could be a factor."

Councilman Richard Bloom is concerned that the cost of running a campaign may have become a deterrent along with a voter-approved initiative — Proposition LL — that strictly prohibits accepting gifts or employment from those who have received a benefit from the council, such as a "yes" vote for a particular construction project. Council members are not full-time, and many have jobs that call for them to interact frequently with those who

have business before the council.

"Our campaign contribution limit hasn't changed in many years, and I think there's this 100-pound guerilla representing independent expenditure campaigns that have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in recent years. That can be very intimidating," Bloom said. "I think that scares people away, as does (Prop. LL)."

A successful campaign can cost anywhere from \$70,000 to \$100,000, political pundits said. Campaign contributions are capped at \$250 per person.

"This may be a little self serving, but perhaps people are not as unhappy as they used to be," Genser said, offering reasons as to why the ballot will look a little shorter this year compared to others in the past. "I think overall we have a high amount of civic participation, and it makes the job more time consuming and that might discourage people, or there are so many people involved — more people speaking out — that they feel their voices are being heard and that's why they've chosen not to run."

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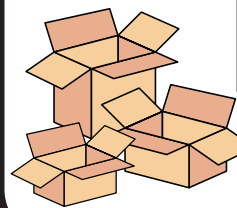
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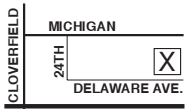
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

City Council approved the proposal in June, and architectural plans were developed along with a request for bids with the goal to begin the project Sept. 1.

Heal the Bay will contribute funds toward the roofing project, using a portion of a \$650,000 State Coastal Conservancy grant awarded in April for the aquarium's renovation. The funds will be used over a three-year period to improve the aquarium's marine life support system, conduct a feasibility study and plan for a possible building renovation, as well as to plan for new aquarium exhibits and improve signage and Aquarium presence on top of the pier.

More information is available by calling (310) 393-6149. Visit www.healthebay.org/smpa for updates and further details.

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Personal intervention keeps poop off the streets

DOG DEBRIS, from page 1

screws used for the dispensers create holes in the tree trunks, which lead to infestations of pests and fungus.

"It is indicative unfortunately of the way the city reacts; it's very abrupt and very aggressive," Hiss said. "They just charge in ... there needs to be a conversation first."

Hiss was ordered to remove her doggie houses, which were provided upon request by pet owners living in all areas of Santa Monica. City workers removed at least two, and a few more have gone missing since Hiss' project was first made public at the begin-

ning of August.

But City Councilman Kevin McKeown, Hiss' next-door neighbor, stepped in and helped devise a solution. This week, Hiss will be granted permission to attach the doggie houses using aluminum screws on certain types of trees. According to city ordinance, permission to attach an object to public trees must be granted by City Hall's director of community and cultural services, Barbara Stinchfield.

Stinchfield confirmed this week that she will allow Hiss to continue her efforts, with some conditions — such as using only aluminum screws and not attaching the houses

to soft tree trunks like palm trees. She will also need to get consent from adjacent property owners where a doggie house would be attached.

But it isn't without stress and frustration that Hiss has gotten her wish to keep the city free of doggie debris.

Initially, city arborist John Aguila left her a voicemail message telling her to remove the trees immediately. She called him back numerous times in hopes of finding a solution and to ask him for suggestions. She received no response.

"He never called back, and more days passed, and I started realizing that the doggie houses were coming down," Hiss said.

She took the issue to a higher level and fired off an e-mail to City Councilman Bobby Shriver, who immediately responded by suggesting she contact City Manager Lamont Ewell because he was out of the country. She also e-mailed City Councilmen Herb Katz and Kevin McKeown, who also responded promptly. Katz asked her to bring a doggie house to his home so he could see the product.

But it was McKeown who invited Hiss to a City Council meeting, where he introduced her to Ewell — who happened to be a user of her product. Living just down the street, Ewell uses the doggie bags to clean up after his schnauzer, Colby.

"What seemed unnecessary to me was the bureaucratic tenor of the city response to the situation," McKeown said. "And I live directly between Valerie and Lamont, within shouting distance ... I decided to simply call us neighbors together."

Before she knew it, Hiss had a meeting with Ewell, open space management staff and the city's urban forester, Walter Warriner. It was decided that all was needed was a letter authorizing her to mount the doggie houses on city parkway trees, so long as it is deemed safe by arborists.

"I'm thrilled because it wouldn't have happened without that personal contact," McKeown said. "This is a complete success in working one-on-one at a human level instead of letting the bureaucratic machine lurch forward unattended."

Hiss knows all too well about the bureaucratic machine. A few years ago, Hiss was

one of 3,000 residents who received threatening letters from City Hall warning her that if she didn't clip her hedge to the levels specified in a 56-year-old ordinance, she would face up to \$25,000 in fines.

So when she decided to start her doggie house project, Hiss was leery of asking anyone at City Hall for guidance. And city staff's initial reaction backed up her original fears.

"I never thought about going to the city because I was pessimistic about how they would react," Hiss said. "I felt very negative that they wouldn't support my program ... I just didn't feel good about going to them."

Shriver was one of those hedge owners who was threatened as well, which prompted him to run successfully for City Council in 2004. He campaigned on restoring customer service at City Hall, which is why Hiss volunteered on his campaign.

And after educating himself on Hiss' problem, McKeown jumped into the fray to prove that dealing with city government doesn't always have to be a bureaucratic headache.

"I realized we could do better and that we had committed to doing better," he said. "This is at least one good story about city bureaucracy."

Now that Hiss went directly to elected officials and has met with city staff, she has a new outlook on city government in Santa Monica.

"(The city staff) were very open in talking about ways we could continue the program," Hiss said. "I felt the city councilmen totally came to my aid, and it proved that my project was worthwhile."

Since Hiss' effort became public in the Santa Monica Daily Press, she said she's had 12 requests from residents who want doggie houses for their neighborhoods.

McKeown said the next step is to possibly have City Hall provide biodegradable bags.

"When I read Nora Casey's pieces in the Daily Press, it was immediately clear to me that Valerie had a great idea, was providing a needed service and that controlling doggie debris was absolutely congruent with city policy on urban runoff and protecting the bay," he said. "We spend so much time, energy and money in cleaning up the bay, but we need to get at the source."

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- Σ John Fishel, President of the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles
- Σ Rabbi Stanley Davids, President, Assoc. of Reform Zionists of America
- Σ Rabbi Mark Diamond, Executive VP of the So. Calif. Board of Rabbis
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RIALTO

Wildlife officials reject insect protection

Federal wildlife officials have turned down a request by environmental groups to grant endangered species protection to 16 insect varieties in a desert area popular with off-roaders.

The groups’ petition lacked enough information about the insects for the agency to consider the issue further, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Jane Hendron said Monday.

The groups sought to restrict recreational use of the insects’ habitat, but officials found that they did not demonstrate direct evidence that off-road vehicle use at Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area specifically threatens the creatures, Hendron said.

Riding enthusiasts said they were pleased the request was turned down.

It was an attempt to “use the Endangered Species Act as a tool to close public land, and we’re pleased the federal government made a sound, scientific analysis,” said dune-buggy shop owner Grant George.

But the environmentalists said they will likely challenge the decision. “Common sense tells you, they are threatened by the intensive off-roading at the dunes,” Center for Biological Diversity member Daniel Patterson said.

ALTADENA

Permits considered for surviving cabins

Officials have proposed renewing use permits for cabins in the San Gabriel Mountains that survived forest fires nearly four years ago, but delayed a decision for cabins burned in the blazes, officials said.

Forest officials plan to complete an environmental analysis on the impact of issuing 20-year permits for 465 cabins in Angeles National Forest, Forest Supervisor Jody Noiron told cabin owners late last month.

But District Ranger Marty Dumpis said this week that the decision to issue permits only applies to standing cabins. Owners of cabins that burned could be offered lots elsewhere in the forest, he said.

RIVERSIDE

Husband, wife charged in prostitution ring enter pleas

Two people accused of participating in a multistate prostitution ring pleaded not guilty to felony charges.

Boaz Benmoshe, 44, and wife, Melanie Ann Smith, 24, entered their pleas Monday to charges of filing a false tax return, perjury, pimping, loan fraud and grand theft.

Arraignments for co-defendants Ofer Lupovitz, 43, Eliran Vintrov, 28, and Moti Vintrov, 33, were postponed until Sept. 5.

As many as 11 people have been charged in connection with the Palm Springs-based ring that is said to have employed more than 240 women across several Western states and generated millions of dollars, officials said.

LOS ANGELES

Staples Center to get more than 700 neighbors

A New York-based real estate developer announced plans to build two condominium towers, shops and restaurants across the street from the Staples Center.

Moinian Group, one of the country’s largest privately held real estate firms, said Monday that it paid \$80 million for four acres and plans two residential towers of 45 stories and 33 stories with more than 700 units combined.

The land, sold by Staples owner Anschutz Entertainment Group, is across the street diagonally from the \$2.5 billion L.A. Live housing, retail and office development under construction north of Staples.

“We have a great deal of faith in the redevelopment of downtown Los Angeles and we think we can add to what is happening in a significant way,” Moinian development director Oskar Brecher said.

Company officials said they expect to break ground in 2007 and complete the nearly 2 million-square-foot project within three years.

RIVERSIDE

Home sellers seek divine intervention

Home sellers trying to unload property as real estate markets weaken have started resorting to a centuries old-ritual: They are burying statues of St. Joseph in their lawns or under “For Sale” signposts.

St. Joseph is the patron saint of families and home sellers. Figurines of St. Joseph have become hot sellers at religious stores and real estate supply shops, shopkeepers said this week.

“More people are buying them because the market has changed over the last few months,” said Deena Parry, who sells the statues in her real estate supply business.

Home sellers using the figures typically bury the 4-inch statuettes underground and pray over them.

“A little bit of divine intervention never hurts,” said Karen Nelson, chairman of the Southwest Riverside County Association of Realtors. “When you have so many houses on the market, people will try anything.”

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION ON THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF 1632 -1636 5th STREET, SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA BY THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA

TO: Concerned Persons

FROM: The City of Santa Monica



PROJECT TITLE: Property Acquisition of 1632-1636 5th Street, City of Santa Monica, California

PROJECT LOCATION: The property to be acquired is located at 1632-1636 5th Street, situated on the west side of 5th Street in the block south of Colorado Avenue and north of Olympic Boulevard.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: An Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration have been prepared and are available for your review and comment. The Initial Study examines the environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition of 1632-1636 5th Street by the City of Santa Monica, California. The project is the acquisition by the City of Santa Monica of the property as described below:

- 1632-1636 5th Street property is a rectangular shaped, single parcel with a total gross site area of nearly 8,800 square feet or 0.202 acres. The parcel is improved with a four-story, 15,800 square foot, single tenant creative office building that is 100% leased. The property contains a total of 34 parking spaces.

The City intends to purchase the site with the purpose of achieving various public purpose goals and objectives. There is currently no building demolition being contemplated and no plans for reuse or redevelopment have been prepared. The property will remain in its present condition and will be leased back to the current occupant until such time as plans are developed and approved by the City. Any future re-use or re-development of the site will be subject to separate review for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

No project-related environmental impacts have been identified in the Initial Study. The sites to be acquired by the City of Santa Monica are not included on any lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code regarding hazardous waste.

HOW TO COMMENT ON NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION: The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration on the proposed project are available for your review at the address below in the Office of the City Clerk and the City Planning Division public counter. A copy of the Initial Study may be obtained at the City Planning Division public counter and is available for review at the Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401

All documents that are referenced in the proposed Initial Study are available for review at the City Planning Division public counter, Room 111, City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA.

DUE DATE FOR COMMENTS: September 12, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE TO SEND COMMENTS: City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California 90401-3295. Telephone: (310) 458-8341. Attention: Paul Foley, Principal Planner [e-mail: paul.foley@smgov.net]

Español: Esto es una noticia de un estudio preliminar y declaración negativa sobre la adquisición de propiedad por la ciudad de Santa Monica. Este estudio preliminar y declaración negativa han sido preparados y están disponibles para su revisión y comentario. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutierrez al numero (310) 458-8341.

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California law used to target businesses

BY PETER PRENGAMAN

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Frustrated businesses are taking their fight against illegal immigration to court, filing the first in a series of lawsuits accusing competitors of hiring illegal workers to achieve an unfair advantage.

Anti-illegal immigration groups said the lawsuits were an attempt to enforce immigration law by creating a deterrent against hiring illegal employees.

In the complaint filed Monday, a temporary employment agency that supplies farm workers sued a grower and a two competing companies.

Using California's unfair competition statutes, the plaintiff claimed the competitors gained an unfair advantage by hiring undocumented immigrants who accept lower wages and don't demand pensions or workers compensation.

Similar cases claiming violations of federal anti-racketeering laws have seen mixed results. The California suits are believed to be the first based on a state's unfair competition laws, legal experts said.

National anti-immigration groups are helping finance the legal actions, believing businesses in other states with similar laws will use the tactic and spark a national wave of litigation that could become a major deterrent to hiring illegal immigrants.

"We see the legal profession bringing to this issue the kind of effect it's had on consumer product safety," said Mike Hethmon of the Immigration Reform Law Institute, a Washington D.C.-based anti-illegal immigration group backing the California suits.

Filed in Kern County Superior Court by Santa Monica-based Global Horizons, the lawsuit claimed Munger Brothers, a grower, hired illegal immigrant workers from Ayala Agricultural Services and J & A Contractors. All the defendants are based in the farm-rich Central Valley.

The suit alleges that Munger Brothers had a contract with Global Horizons to provide more than 600 blueberry pickers this spring but nixed the agreement so it could hire illegal immigrants.

"Competitors hiring illegal immigrants is hurting our business badly," Global Horizons President Mordechai Orian said. "It's to the point that doing business legally isn't worth it."

Ayala Agricultural Services manager Javier Rodriguez hadn't seen the suit but said the company doesn't hire undocumented immigrants.

"If somebody doesn't have a green card or work documents, we don't hire them," he said.

Messages left with Munger Brothers and J

& A Contractors were not immediately returned.

The suits are the latest attempt by anti-illegal immigration groups to do what they claim the federal government isn't — enforcing immigration law. In recent years, activists have staged protests at day labor sites, set up Web sites to post the names of companies suspected of hiring illegal immigrants, and assembled civilian patrol groups to watch the U.S.-Mexico border.

With an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States, undocumented workers are a large part of the nation's work force.

Immigration law enforcement at work sites, however, is limited. In fiscal year 1999, there were 2,849 work site arrests compared to 1,145 last year, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

To prove competitors hire illegal immigrants, businesses could use public records involving prior violations, testimony from former employees who have worked alongside illegal immigrants, and recovered W-2 tax forms that show people working under fake names and Social Security numbers, said David Klehm, the lead lawyer for cases in Southern California.

Companies planning to file additional lawsuits include farms and factories that depend heavily on immigrant labor, Klehm said.

Legal experts said the cases could be difficult to win. Under the California statutes, plaintiffs must prove a competitor's activity directly harmed their business.

"Unless you've got smoking gun evidence, it's hard to tie economic loss of one business to another's practices," said Niels Frenzen, a law professor at the University of Southern California.

He believes it's the first time the unfair competition law has been used to target illegal immigration.

The Global Horizons lawsuit came after a settlement was reached in a Washington state class action suit in which employees of Zirkle Fruit Co. sued their employer for driving down wages by hiring undocumented workers.

Based on federal anti-racketeering laws, the suit was settled for \$1.3 million in January after the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a lower court decision to dismiss it.

Howard Foster, the lead plaintiff lawyer in the Washington case, said he expects such suits to multiply.

"So many people talk openly about using false documents to assemble an illegal work force," Foster said. "And when you have IDs with upside down numbers and backward pictures, you know they are fake."

Federal judge rejects Bush plan

BY TERENCE CHEA

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge ruled Tuesday that a Bush administration plan to allow commercial logging in the Giant Sequoia National Monument violates environmental laws.

U.S. District Judge Charles R. Breyer sided with environmental groups that sued the U.S. Forest Service over plans to manage the 328,000-acre preserve, home to two-thirds of the world's largest trees.

In the lawsuit filed last year, the Sierra Club and other conservation groups said the forest management plan was a scientifically suspect strategy meant to satisfy timber interests under the guise of wildfire prevention.

In September last year, Breyer issued a preliminary injunction to halt further logging in the national monument created by President Clinton in 2000.

The Forest Service had said the plan to allow thinning of some trees was aimed at meeting fire prevention goals.

Senate immigration bill's cost pegged at \$127B over decade

BY SUZANNE GAMBOA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate's immigration proposal would cost \$49 billion over the next five years and \$127 billion over the next decade, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

The majority of the costs would be for increased enforcement, such as hiring more Border Patrol officers and building more detention facilities.

The legislation would offer a chance at citizenship for millions of immigrants. Spending on government benefits programs, including refundable tax credits for the working poor, would rise by \$16 billion for the years 2007-11, and by \$48 billion over the decade, the CBO said in a report released over the weekend.

Legalization of now illegal immigrants would increase spending on Social Security and Medicare benefits by \$10.5 billion over the next 10 years, the CBO said. Eligibility by many of them for refundable earned income tax credits aimed at helping low-income families would cost another \$24.5 billion.

The CBO forecast only modest increases in other popular benefit programs as a result of illegal immigrants and new guest workers acquiring legal status.

"We estimate that enrollment in child nutrition, food stamp and Medicaid programs ... would each be about 2 percent to 3 percent higher in 2016 than under current law," it said.

In the written proposal, federal revenue would be reduced in the next five years. But the CBO said a technical change to a tax provision would increase federal revenue by about \$44 billion over the next 10 years through payroll taxes, visa fees, fines and penalties assessed immigrants.

"Clearly the biggest-ticket items are the enforcement programs, building fences and increasing the number of Border Patrol agents," said Benjamin Johnson, executive director of the Immigration Policy Center. "Legalization is nearly a wash in terms of costs and revenues." Johnson's center rejects an enforcement-only solution to U.S. immigration problems.

More than 16 million people would become legal residents or adjust to some other legal status through 2016 under the Senate bill, the CBO estimated. Of that number, about 9.5 million are already in the country or will enter in the next decade under current law.

Steve Camarota, research director for the Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates strict immigration laws, said the numbers make a case for restricting legal immigration as well as cracking down on illegal residents.



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In the 'hood: The middle class has moved on



DAYS ON THE MARKET

BY JODI SUMMERS

Just as you might suspect, middle-income neighborhoods are becoming rare in the nation's metropolitan areas. And, just as the prices in Palmdale keep rising, a recent report by The Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program finds that middle-income quarters also are declining in suburban areas.

The report, "Where did they go? The decline of middle-income neighborhoods in metropolitan America," is based on a study of U.S. Census data from 1970 to 2000 for families and neighborhoods in the 100 largest metropolitan areas, and in the cities and suburbs of 12 selected metropolitan areas. The 12 selected areas are: Atlanta; Baltimore; Chicago; Denver; Indianapolis;

Los Angeles-Long Beach; Louisville, Ky.; Oakland, Calif.; Philadelphia; San Antonio, Tex.; San Francisco; and Washington, D.C. The study draws some very interesting conclusions:

■ Middle-income neighborhoods — as a proportion of all metropolitan neighborhoods — declined from 58 percent in 1970 to 41 percent in 2000. This dramatic decline far outpaced the corresponding drop in the proportion of metropolitan families earning middle incomes, which went from 28 percent in 1970 to 22 percent in 2000.

In Los Angeles, we saw a dramatic 24 percentage-point decline in the share of neighborhoods with middle incomes over the study period, accompanied by a 14 percentage-point rise in higher income neighborhoods. As you might expect, our skyrocketing real estate values have redefined middle-class neighborhoods.

Conversely, a middle-income neighborhood drop-off in Baltimore yielded a 17 percentage-point rise in the share of neighborhoods with lower incomes. Oakland and

Atlanta areas shifted toward upper-income neighborhoods, while the San Antonio and Indianapolis areas acquired lower-income neighborhoods.

■ Between 1970 and 2000, lower-income families became more likely to live in lower-income neighborhoods, and higher-income families in higher-income neighborhoods. Only 37 percent of lower-income families lived in middle-income neighborhoods in 2000, down from 55 percent in 1970.

Would the LA definition of a low-income neighborhood be somewhere where the price of a house is below \$400,000? With our real estate prices, what category would our low-income home prices fall into in another metro area?

The report states that the LA metro area saw an 18 percent rise in the share of very high-income neighborhoods from 1970 to 2000 — highest among the selected 12 areas. LA's share of moderate-income neighborhoods and high-moderate income families each dropped 13.8 percent during that period.

Conversely, the Atlanta metro area experienced a 21.3 percent decline in the share of high-moderate income neighborhoods from 1970 to 2000 while its share of low-income neighborhoods gained 17.4 percent.

■ The proportion of neighborhoods that were middle-income shrank faster than the proportion of families that were middle-income in each of 12 large metropolitan areas examined.

The degree to which middle-income families and neighborhoods "disappeared" in those 12 metros reflects differing rates of family income polarization and changes in income segregation across their neighborhoods.

As of 2000, in the LA area today, 28 percent of neighborhoods are either moderate- or high-moderate income compared to 41 percent across the 100 largest metro areas. The LA-Long Beach metro area had the lowest share of middle-income neighborhoods, at 28.3 percent, followed by New York, N.Y., at 29.6 percent; Memphis, Tenn., at 29.7 percent; Houston, Texas, at 30 percent; and Newark, N.J., at 30.4 percent.

San Antonio was the lone metro area among the 12 selected areas to see both a decline in its share of low-income neighborhoods and a decline in its share of very-low-income families from 1970 to 2000.

Changes in the income profile of families and neighborhoods in a particular metropolitan area do not necessarily indicate that the area itself has grown richer or poorer compared to others. It is relative to each area's median family income. As poverty in the Los Angeles area increased over the past three decades, the median income that measured families and neighborhoods grew more slowly than in other parts of the

nation.

■ Only 23 percent of central-city neighborhoods in the 12 large metropolitan areas had a middle-income profile in 2000, down from 45 percent in 1970. A majority of families — 52 percent — and neighborhoods — 60 percent — in these cities had low or very low incomes relative to their metropolitan area median in 2000.

Blame our lack of integration on the Watts riots. In addition, once a community gets gentrified, the economic group that lived in that area tends to cash out and move away. Notice that nobody in Venice has the cars they are working on sitting on blocks in the driveway, street or yard anymore.

■ A much larger proportion — 44 percent — of suburban neighborhoods in the 12 metropolitan areas had a middle-income profile in 2000. This proportion fell over the 30-year period, from 64 percent in 1970, accompanying a smaller decline in suburban middle-income families. Suburban middle-income neighborhoods were replaced in roughly equal measure by low-income and high-income neighborhoods.

The largest suburban increases in lower-income families occurred in the Atlanta and San Francisco metro areas, while the largest suburban increases in higher income families took place in the Indianapolis and LA metro areas.

Although middle-income families have declined considerably as a share of the overall family income distribution, the report finds it particularly noteworthy that middle-class neighborhoods have disappeared even faster in metropolitan areas. Lower-income families are moving into formerly middle-income neighborhoods, suggesting increased segregation of high- and low-income families into neighborhoods that reflect their own economic profiles. It also notes that there are fewer new developments designed for middle-income families.

Gentrification that is converting formerly middle-income areas to higher-income areas, and the flight of high-income families from formerly middle-income neighborhoods are considered to be possible contributors to the shrinking middle-class. The resulting disparities among neighborhoods create new challenges for policies to enhance household mobility, improve the delivery of key public services and promote private-sector investment in struggling locales.

For information on Southern California investment properties, there is a great blog at www.socalindustrialrealestateblog.com.

(Jodi Summers is director of the investment division at Boardwalk Realty. For your real estate needs, e-mail Jodi Summers at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com, call (310) 309-4219, or visit her Web site at www.santamonicalandmarks.com.)

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THE HOA ADVISOR

BY MICHAEL CHULAK

HOA considerations for hiring help

Q Our homeowners' association board filed a large claim with our property insurance carrier several months ago. We cannot get the insurance company to respond. We are not sure whether to hire an attorney or public adjuster to assist us. What are your thoughts?

A Both attorneys and public adjusters can adjust claims for their clients. However, only attorneys can file lawsuits and provide legal advice. Also, only attorneys may pursue claims for emotional distress and bad faith. Thus, attorneys are sometimes able to resolve insurance claims for an amount above the cost to repair, which in some cases may exceed the policy limit. For these reasons, I believe experienced attorneys are usually a better choice. In any event, remember that fees charged by attorneys and public adjusters are always negotiable.

Q Who can call for a special meeting of the members of a homeowners' association?

A A special meeting can be called by the board, the chairman of the board, the president or any group of members, consisting of at least 5 percent.

Q The management company for our homeowners' association is constantly calling an attorney for advice of a general nature. Our association is being billed for the advice, which is very expensive. Is this to be expected and what advice can you offer?

A Management companies should not have their association clients billed for general legal advice. General legal advice should be paid for by the management company, if required. Specific legal advice that addresses a unique set of facts, concerning an association, should be billed to the association. Many management companies retain attorneys for a flat monthly fee at their cost to answer general legal questions. Other management companies have in-house legal counsel to provide the same service. Since legal fees can be one of an association's largest expenses, it makes sense to explore all of your options by comparing the services available.

Q The management company for our townhouse association gave our board of directors some very bad advice that resulted in our association losing several thousand dollars. Our association law firm refuses to get involved in a suit against the management company. Our board is finding it difficult to find an association law firm that will sue any management company. Is this common?

A Yes. Most association law firms get the vast majority of their business from management companies and thus, most of these law firms refuse to represent associations against management companies. Your board should continue to interview association law firms. If they are diligent, they will find a competent firm.

(Michael T. Chulak is the founder of Michael T. Chulak & Associates, a Law Corporation, based in Agoura Hills. Questions can be sent by e-mail to info@MTCLaw.com. Answers are general in nature. An attorney should always be consulted when legal advice is needed. For more information visit www.MTCLaw.com and www.HOAQandA.com. Chulak also schedules free legal seminars throughout Los Angeles and Ventura counties. To look for a legal seminar, visit www.LegalSeminars.net.)

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Bump up your IRA through real estate



IN YOUR SPACE

BY ROB ROSE

With historically lower rates on fixed-income investments and a volatile stock market, many investors are seeking meaningful alternatives.

An often overlooked and little understood option for IRA holders is adding investment real estate to their IRA plan. To do that, investors need to locate an independent IRA custodian who allows real estate investments.

While there are a number of rules that have to be carefully followed when investing in real estate, using your IRA for long term appreciation and investments with attractive cash flow should not be overlooked.

A few key areas to consider when using your IRA to invest in real estate are as follows:

- You can own virtually any type of investment real estate. That would range from vacant land, residential rental property to commercial and industrial property.

- You can use leverage to buy the real estate. The borrower is not the IRA owner but rather the IRA trust.

- You cannot live in or lease the property to your business.

- You cannot buy the property from a related party, such as a family member, or yourself.

The entire transaction must flow through the IRA account. Only Qualified Plan or IRA funds may be used as

good faith deposits, down payments or purchase money.

- You can withdraw real estate from your IRA when you reach retirement age — age 59 or older for a penalty-free withdrawal. You can do that by having the IRA sell the property or take an in-kind distribution of the property. Under this arrangement, the IRA custodian assigns the title to the property to you.

The tax consequences of your withdrawal will be dependent on the type of IRA you held the real estate in. Each plan has its pluses and minuses. Below is a brief summary:

- Traditional IRAs let you deduct your annual contribution from your income tax, but you will be taxed on distribution.

- Roth IRAs give you no deductions on your current contributions but do allow you to withdraw funds tax free on retirement. This is probably the best option if you expect a substantial increase in property value.

- SEP-IRA is designed for self-employed individuals and small companies. Withdrawals from SEP-IRAs are treated like those of traditional IRA for tax purposes.

To find an independent IRA custodian, search the Web for "real estate IRA" or "self-directed IRA." It is important that you and your CPA carefully review the company you select to be your independent IRA custodian along with any real estate investments you are considering for appropriateness.

(You can reach Rob Rose at 1-877-4 TM 1031, or e-mail at rob@tm1031exchange.com to discuss your specific needs. TM 1031 Exchange assists investors in planning and executing successful real estate investment strategies. Visit www.tm1031exchange.com for a complete list of investment properties and to download the TM 1031 Tool Kit.)

No bubble bursting in SM

By Daily Press staff

Despite concerns about the imminent implosion of the high-end housing markets in California, Santa Monica continued to show strength in the first half of 2006.

That is according to a report issued by The Kirshner Group, a westside residential real estate team operating out of the Brentwood office of Coldwell Banker Previews.

According to Wendy Kirshner, the team's vice president, a total of 151 homes were sold in Santa Monica in the first half of 2006. The total dollar value of those transactions was \$295,410,913, an 18 percent increase over the \$250,730,113 reported in the same period in 2005.

"The median price of Santa Monica homes also appreciated," Kirshner noted. "In June 2005, the median price was \$1,835,000. At the end of June this year, that had risen to \$2,345,000, a gain of approximately 27 percent, indicating a continuing strong market."

Kirshner, however, said there was evidence of a perception shift taking place in all the housing markets west of the 405 freeway.

"Homes are definitely staying on the market longer," she said. "Those Santa Monica homes sold during the first six months of this year were on the market an average of 30 days; now that has increased to 48 days."

"Thus, the inventory of unsold homes has stretched to

between four and six months as compared with less than two months at the beginning of this year."

Kirshner also pointed out that the days of multiple offers from potential buyers, which drove up prices of homes well above asking price, were probably at an end.

"Between January and June of this year, selling prices of Santa Monica homes averaged 98.42 percent of asking price, much more in line with historic market conditions," she said.

Sales of Brentwood homes also saw appreciation during the first half of the year, rising approximately 23 percent from \$328,299,413 in 2005 to \$403,021,750 in 2006. The median price rose to \$2,453,000 this year from \$1,997,500 last year. Of the three westside markets tracked by The Kirshner Group, only the Pacific Palisades saw a decline of 16 percent in home sales volume from \$465,707,583 in 2005 to \$389,077,968 this year. Nonetheless the median price of Palisades' homes rose from \$1,835,000 to \$2,345,000.

"With the economy beginning to show signs of slowing, concerns about international events making the stock markets nervous and the likelihood of interest rates continuing to rise, we think sellers need to understand that the home sales markets are changing and adjust their thinking accordingly," Kirshner said. "At the same time, potential buyers who've been sitting on the sidelines might take this opportunity to re-enter the market."



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Former high-powered investment banker settles case with government

BY LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Former star banker Frank Quattrone reached a deal with the government Tuesday that allows his criminal case to be dismissed without a third trial. The pact would close a three-year effort to prosecute a man who earned \$100 million in a single year as he commanded his investment firm's technology portfolio at the height of dot-com mania.

U.S. District Court Judge George B. Daniels approved a one-year deferred prosecution agreement, calling for the charges to be dismissed if Quattrone stays out of trouble for one year.

A jubilant Quattrone said outside the courthouse in lower Manhattan that he was "very pleased that the case will be concluded" and looked forward to the dismissal of the charges.

"I plan to resume my business career," Quattrone said.

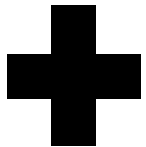
The judge signed off on the deal during a brief hearing in which Quattrone smiled as the agreement was approved.

Prosecutors declined immediate comment.

For a time, it seemed the government had succeeded when a jury convicted Quattrone of charges he obstructed a government probe of stock offerings as he supervised 400 technology investment bankers from the Palo Alto, Calif., offices of Credit Suisse First Boston, which has since changed its name to Credit Suisse (USA) Inc.

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Iran says it is ready for 'serious negotiations'

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's top nuclear negotiator said Tuesday that Tehran was ready to enter "serious negotiations" over its disputed nuclear program but did not say whether it was willing to suspend uranium enrichment — the West's key demand.

The negotiator, Ali Larijani, hand-delivered Iran's response to a six-nation package of nuclear incentives aimed at persuading it to suspend enrichment. He gave the reply to ambassadors from Britain, China, Russia, France, Germany and Switzerland, state-run television said, without disclosing details.

"Iran is prepared as of Aug. 23 to enter serious negotiations" with the countries that proposed the package, state-run television quoted Larijani as telling the envoys.

Iranian officials close to the meeting said Iran offered a "new formula" to resolve the dispute as part of its formal response to the incentive package. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the information.

"Iran has provided a comprehensive response to everything said in the Western package. In addition, Iran, in its formal response, has asked some questions to be answered," one official said, without elaborating.

European Union officials declined to comment, saying they needed to study the Iranian offer.

Their response was likely to depend on how far Tehran was ready to go in suspending uranium enrichment — the cornerstone demand of the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany, the six powers that agreed to the package of incentives if Iran compromises and punishments if it does not.

At U.N. headquarters in New York, U.S. Ambassador John Bolton said the United States is prepared to quickly submit elements of a new Security Council resolution that would impose economic sanctions on Iran if it does not accept "the very, very generous offer" from the five permanent council members and Germany.

"We will obviously study the Iranian response carefully, but we are also prepared if it does not meet the terms set by the permanent five foreign ministers to proceed here in the Security Council, as ministers have agreed, with economic sanctions," he said.

"If, on the other hand, the Iranians have chosen the path of cooperation, as we've said repeatedly, then a different relationship with the United States and the rest of the world is now possible," he said.

Iran says it wants to master the technology to generate nuclear power. But critics say it is actually interested in

enrichment because it can also be used to make the fissile core of nuclear weapons.

State-run television said Iran's response meant Tehran was committed to its promises.

"Iran's response suggests Iran is committed to dialogue and its promises. ... It is in contrast with America's policy of unilateralism," the television said.

The six powers — five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council plus Germany — offered Iran the package in June.

The United States is represented by Switzerland, which looks after U.S. interests in Tehran because it has not had diplomatic relations with Iran since 1979 when Muslim fundamentalists overran the U.S. Embassy.

Mohammed Saeedi, deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, said in comments published Tuesday that Tehran's response would provide "an exceptional opportunity" for a return to the negotiating table for a compromise.

"Iran's response to the package is a comprehensive reply that can open the way for resumption of talks for a final agreement," Saeedi said.

Even so, Iran on Monday twice showed its determination to push ahead with its nuclear program, which continues under the possible threat of economic and diplomatic sanctions imposed by the U.N. Security Council if it does not halt uranium enrichment by Aug. 31.

It turned away International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors from an underground site meant to shelter its uranium enrichment program from attack and its top leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, declared that Tehran will continue to pursue its nuclear activities.

Iran has rejected the resolution passed by the council last month as "illegal," saying a compromise can only emerge from talks.

Likewise, Saeedi's optimistic words Tuesday were tempered by his assessment of the proposed package as containing "serious ambiguities" that need to be clarified in talks.

The package does not mention the part of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty that affirms signatories' right to pursue nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, Saeedi said.

The United States and some of its Western allies accuse Iran of seeking nuclear weapons. Tehran has denied the charges saying its nuclear program is merely aimed at generating electricity, not bombs.

The Islamic republic has repeatedly said it will never give up its right to enrich uranium and produce nuclear fuel but has indicated it may temporarily suspend large-scale activities to ease tensions.

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DIDDY will be a daddy again.

Sean "Diddy" Combs and longtime girlfriend, model Kim Porter, are "happy to confirm that they are expecting their second child together," Combs' representative, Keesha Johnson, told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

"The couple is thrilled about the news," Johnson said.

Combs, 36, and Porter, 35, have an 8-year-old son Christian. Combs has a 12-year-old son Justin from a previous relationship.

The hip-hop mogul's new album, "Press Play," is slated for release in October.

AP

Keane postpones tour

A planned U.S. tour by **KEANE** has been postponed while singer Tom Chaplin is being treated for drug and alcohol addiction, the British band said Tuesday.

In a statement posted on the band's Web site, Chaplin, 27,

said he was "having to deal with an increasing problem with drink and drugs, and the time has come to get the professional help I need to sort myself out."

The tour had been due to start in Chicago on Sept. 7.

"I feel desperately disap-

pointed to be letting down our fans, but I want to get myself right now so that I can be back on the road for the rest of the year," Chaplin said.

Keane had already canceled several appearances, citing Chaplin's "exhaustion."

The trio released their melodic debut album, "Hopes and Fears," in 2004. Their second album, "Under the Iron Sea," entered the British album charts at No. 1 when it was released in June.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma's essence captured in song

VINCE GILL and **JIMMY WEBB** have written a song to celebrate Oklahoma and its people as the state nears its centennial.

Gill wrote the music and Webb wrote the lyrics for "Oklahoma Rising," which is intended to complement the state's official song, "Oklahoma!" from the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical.

The song remembers Oklahoma's early days and explores the promise of the 21st century. It also touches on difficult periods, from the Dust

Bowl to the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

"In the days and weeks following the bombing, Oklahomans came through as generous, brave, noble people," Webb said from his New York home. "The whole country had to bow in deference to that. In our heartland we showed that we have a great state and a great reservoir of courage. It made me proud to be an Oklahoman."

"Oklahoma Rising" will debut Sept. 11 at a private event at

the Civic Center Music Hall, said Centennial Projects and Events Chairman Lee Allan Smith. The 100th anniversary of the state's admission to the union is Nov. 16, 2007.

"We both love our state, and our hope with this anthem was to epitomize and crystallize the character of Oklahomans for the world to see," Webb said. "I really tried to connect with what it means to be an Oklahoman."

Webb and Gill have known each other for years, but this marks their first professional

collaboration.

Gill is a Norman native who grew up in Oklahoma City. The 49-year-old country singer's hits include "When I Call Your Name," "Don't Let Our Love Start Slippin' Away" and "I Still Believe in You."

Webb, 60, a native of Elk City who grew up in Laverne, has hits including "By the Time I Get to Phoenix," recorded by Glen Campbell, "Up, Up and Away" (The Fifth Dimension) and "MacArthur Park" (Richard Harris).

AP

Bam Margera's uncle charged with groping child

Bail has been set at \$50,000 for **VINCENT MARGERA**, uncle of "Viva La Bam" star Bam Margera, on a charge of sexual assault on a child.

Vincent Margera, 50, was arrested Friday in the Denver

suburb of Lakewood.

Lakewood city spokeswoman Stacie Oulton has said he is accused of two incidents of sexual assault on a child involving inappropriate touching. During his court hearing

Monday, prosecutors claimed he had "groped" a 14-year-old.

Vincent Margera had come to Colorado to film promotional material for ManiaTV.com and was arrested after a skateboarding event at a mall.

ManiaTV.com founder Drew Massey said Margera had finished his work before the arrest.

Vincent Margera had not posted bail by mid-afternoon Monday, and officials at the Jefferson County jail in Golden

did not answer after-hours calls.

The MTV show "Viva La Bam" focuses largely on Bam Margera playing practical jokes on his parents and uncle, whose dialogue is often unintelligible.

AP

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MOVIEGUIDE

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The Day the Earth Caught Fire / Last Man on Earth 7:30
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Sunday
Viva Las Vegas / King Creole 7:30

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SNAKES ON A PLANE

Accepted (PG-13)
11:45, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40, 11:30
Snakes on a Plane (R)
11:00, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30, 12:00
Step Up (PG-13)
11:55, 2:30, 4:55, 7:35, 10:05
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals (PG)
11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:20
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13)
11:40, 2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13)
11:50, 3:20, 6:45, 10:00

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YOU ME AND DUPREE

Miami Vice (R)
11:30, 3:00, 10:05
You, Me and Dupree (PG-13)
11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 10:00
Scoop (PG-13)
11:45, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15
The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13)
11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30

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FACTOTUM

Factotum (R, No Passes)
11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
The Illusionist (PG-13, No Passes)
11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50

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Trust the Man (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45
Quinceanera (R)
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10
Little Miss Sunshine (R)
1:45, 2:45, 4:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
An Inconvenient Truth (PG)
12:15, 5:20

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

Material Girls (PG)
11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
Pulse (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Zoom (PG)
11:40, 2:10, 7:00, 9:20
World Trade Center (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30
The Descent (R)
12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
Monster House (PG, No Passes)
11:30, 2:00, 4:40

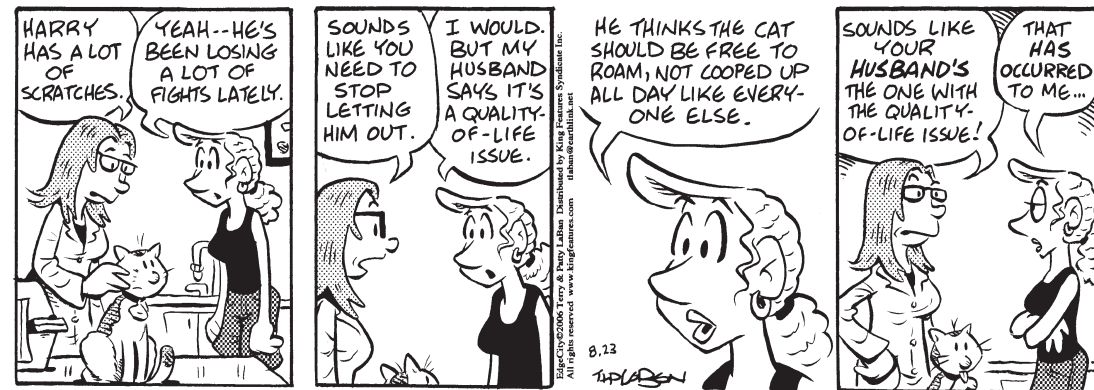
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by Julie Larson



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by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



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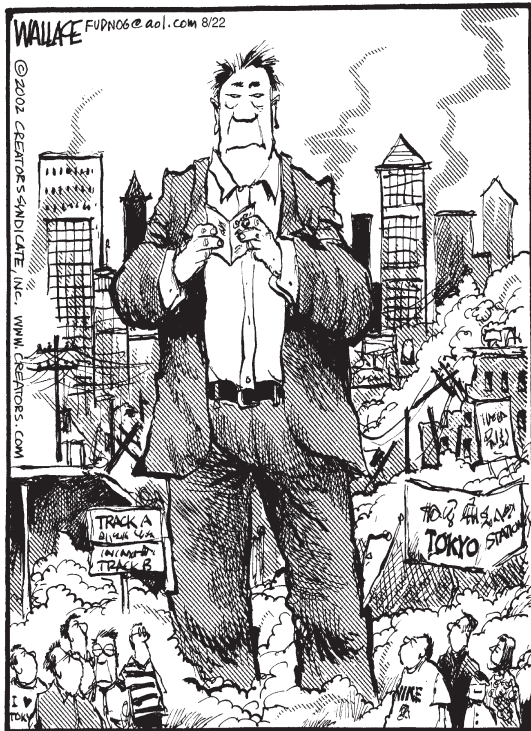
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ACROSS

- 1 Havana honcho
- 7 Tolerate
- 11 Old fridge
- 12 Car part
- 13 Not nervous
- 14 Went 90
- 15 Prom tux, usually
- 17 Good pair
- 20 Up in the air
- 23 Go a round
- 24 Symbol of might
- 26 Strike caller
- 27 Ripen
- 28 Tax org.
- 29 Betrays, in a way
- 31 Singer — King Cole
- 32 Fur wrap
- 33 Hideous
- 34 One of Santa's team
- 37 Disfigure
- 39 "An Inconvenient Truth" star
- 43 Arm bone
- 44 Log-on need
- 45 Periodicals, for short
- 46 Rodeo ropes

DOWN

- 1 Langley org.
- 2 Perform
- 3 Take in
- 4 Ski resort sights
- 5 Lover's gift
- 6 The yoke's on them
- 7 Igneous rock
- 8 Marco Polo's forte
- 9 Tavern quaff
- 10 Roulette bet
- 16 Confiscated
- 17 Touches on
- 18 Another of Santa's team
- 19 Blowing up
- 21 Wild
- 22 Peevish
- 24 Desert stops
- 25 In the past
- 30 Andean animals
- 33 Yens
- 35 Carry
- 36 Movie lion
- 37 Silent
- 38 Copying
- 40 Hosp. areas
- 41 Carnival city
- 42 Harris and Bradley

P	I	P	E	S		L	U	R	E	D
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AVONGARD PRODUCTS USA, Santa Monica seeks a Market Research Analyst: Collect & analyze data to evaluate existing & potential service markets. Develop communications materials to implement the marketing strategy. Coordinate with clients, animators. Req: BA in Biz + 1 Yr Exp. Send resume to: Linda Strause @ info@avongard.com or Fax to 310-319-2305, EOE

YOUR AD COULD RUN HERE! CALL US TODAY AT (310) 458-7737

BARBER WANTED for Santa Monica shop. Great environment. Reasonable rent. Call Don (310) 315-1098

CAREGIVER TO work nights/days in Pacific Palisades for an older couple. References required. (310)826-7956

CASHIER for health food market on Main St. Contact Tony (310)392-4501

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

PSYCHIC BOOKSHOP opening shortly. Readers wanted (310)375-4316

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Employment

INVESTMENT SALES:

**OIL AND GAS.
DRILLING AND OIL
PRODUCTION IS
PAYING HIGH RETURN
TO INVESTORS.**

*Great Santa Monica Offices
*Bigger than Real Estate
*Great Qualified Leads
*Great \$\$ support system & staff
*Office is open 9-6, M-F & Sat
*Here's the catch:

“For Closers Only”

**Potential Earnings, 15-20K
per month**

**CALL MR. GREY
(310) 394-9800**

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Call us today at (310) 458-7737**

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

An innovative, high growth leader in the kitchen cabinet industry is seeking a Regional Sales Manager to provide management leadership to the dealer sales channel in the Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, and Bakersfield geographic area. This position will develop and execute annual sales plan; target and develop strategies to grow customer base and develop new business; provide product training; lead quotation/bidding process; and manage commitments to ensure effective customer service. Candidate must demonstrate track record of successful sales and account management. Demonstrated ability to design kitchens using 20/20 and/or Cabinet Vision software is preferred. Must be a team player and self-motivated with outstanding communication skills. Salary commensurate with experience and education. Independent representatives will also be considered.

Outstanding Benefits - Medical, Dental, Vision Paid Holidays & Vacations, 401K with match

Send resume, cover letter and salary history to:
Fax: (206) 674-0803
Phone: (206) 674-0930
E-mail to: Humanresources@canyoncreek.com

Mail/Apply in Person:
Canyon Creek Cabinet Company
Attn: Human Resources
16726 Tye St. SE
Monroe, WA 98272

www.canyoncreek.com
Drug Testing Required
EOE

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SECURITY

**Beach Area Jobs
Current guard card
Apply online LANTZSECURITY.COM
or call (800) 870-4357**

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

Employment

**CUSTOMER SERVICE
LIVE TV BROADCAST**
Live telethon hosted by Jewish non-profit organization needs 50 people to answer calls from donors and input payment information into a database. \$10/hr. Call Sarah (310) 453-4289 **Bar-rington Staffing**

CUSTOMER SERVICE/RECEPTIONIST for small recording studio. Attention to details, self-starter, proficient computer required. \$11/hr. wilderbros.studios@sbcglobal.net

DENTAL ASSISTANT position available in a Brentwood office. Experience required. Call Lisa (310) 820-0093 or fax resume to (310) 820-0494

**Your ad could run here!
Call us today at (310) 458-7737**

DINING ROOM Supervisor
Ocean House, a senior living community, is looking for a part time Dining Room Supervisor to oversee operations in the dining room during meal times. Qualified applicants must have restaurant experience and strong customer service skills. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. Please apply in person at 2107 Ocean Ave. or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356

DISPLAY AD sales rep. for Malibu Newspaper/Magazine. F/T. Flexible hours. Draw/commission. Experienced preferred. Resume w/cover letter to barbara@malibutimes.com, or fax 310-456-8986.

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DRIVERS:
YOUR own vehicle F/T P/T
\$10-\$13/hr. 800-617-9949

EARN \$60K - \$400K
Sales
Santa Monica – One of the nation's oldest/largest precious metals co. seeks sales pros. No cold calling or license required, paid training & full benefits. (310) 395-0762
www.Goldline.com.

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

REAL ESTATE Opportunity. Real Estate broker needs sales person/personal assistant. Needs fluent English. Part-time, small salary plus commission. (310)820-6059

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Employment

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the housekeeping department of Century City Doctors Hospital. All shifts available, PT/FT. Hospital housekeeping preferred. Call (310) 557-7194 for interview.

MEDICAL TANSSCRIPTIONIST. Work from home, work PT/FT work delivered. Great Pay, training available. TNI's Jobline (425) 334-5978

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

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**PART TIME
LIVE TV BROADCAST**
Live telethon hosted by Jewish non-profit organization needs 50 people to answer calls from donors and input payment information into a database. \$10/hr Call Sarah (310) 453-4289 **Bar-rington Staffing**

RADIO INTERVIEW booker, part-time Santa Monica (310) 998-8305 xt 82

S.M. BASED Prop Mgmt. Co. seeks exp. Skilled maintenance staff w/ own tools & truck for routine maintenance/repairs/make-ready/renovation of vacant units. FT, wages based on exp. Benefits include vacation & med/dental insurance. Please fax resumes to (310)899-9470

SANTA MONICA Downtown hair station rental, facial/massage room rental. Manicurist wanted. (310) 260-3906

SEEKING STYLIST for Santa Monica salon. Great environment. Reasonable rent. Call Don (310) 315-1098.

SIGN SPINNERS
Great weekend job! \$10/hr holding signs for new Santa Monica housing developments. Must be energetic, have transportation. Call 1-888-618-7888

STAFFING COMPANY Seeking SERVERS, BARTENDERS and KITCHEN STAFF- One year experience needed. Call (310) 391-7700

VERY BUSY upscale women's consignment store in Santa Monica is seeing inventory Processor/ Sales Help. detail oriented and very organized with knowledge of woman's clothing brands, positive energy and upbeat personality. Email resume to

Employment

fashionista8520@aol.com or fax (310)451-4340

For Sale

RETAIL STORE fixtures. Floor racks, showcases, display tables, lights, etc. Lightly used. 310-926-8786 or email sjooma@msn.com

SPA/HOT TUB 2006 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5750, sell for \$1750 (310) 479-3054

Pets



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Wanted

**WANTED
Teen-Age/Children
Clothing**
Name Brand, Good Condition
WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR

**Call Mr. Olmstead
(310) 395-9490 mgcmirror@aol.com**

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"BOOKKEEPER'S R Us" Personal Book-keeping Service
Bill paying, bank/credit card rec's, bank deposits etc for your personal bills. Quicken/Quickbooks \$25 per hr (310) 849-5472

NANNY AVAILABLE excellent references \$15/hr. Available 9/15/06 Monica (310)828-4331

For Rent

\$1845/MO DELUXE 2bdrms/1.5baths private balcony, carport, carpeting, stove, refrigerator. 9th St. North of Wilshire. Open Sunday 9am-11am (310) 552-9600, (310) 395-5133, or (310) 993-1484

\$2250-\$2350 2+2 penthouse UN-OBSTRUCTED OCEAN/MARINA VIEWS. 2 sundecks. Top of hill. Small pet ok. (310) 390-4610

BRENTWOOD \$1275 1bdm/1bath carpet, blinds, stove, dishwasher, refrigerator, patio, pool, laundry, controlled access, subterranean garage parking, garbage disposal, water/trash removal paid We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

**HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310) 869-7901**

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Townhouse \$2500/mo,
3bdrm/2bath \$2900/mo 1 block
South of Montana.
Laundry on property.
All buildings are pet friendly.

**PLEASE Visit our website
for complete
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www.howardmanagement.com**

MARINA DEL REY \$1150/mo
One/Two/Three bedrooms Surrounded by creeks, beautiful waterfront views. Cats Only. \$35/month pet rent, covered parking, laundry facilities, fireplace, garbage disposal, spa pool
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PALMS \$995/MO
1bdm/1bath. pool, laundry, quiet neighborhood, stove, courtyard view, parking central a/c, garbage disposal, hardwood floors, large closets, cable tv available, bus/public transit,
We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

CULVER CITY \$1250/MO 2Bdrm/1Bdrm apartment. upper, bright, new carpets desirable school district. South of Washington Blvd and West of Centinela. parking stove, cable tv available, We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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Rentals available
No Pets Allowed

SANTA MONICA

1323 12th St. \$1450

Lower 1 bed, hardwood floors, New paint & tile, parking included

845 20th St. \$2300

Lower 2 bed, 1 _ baths, Pergo floors, Patio, close to Montana Ave.

WESTSIDE

10908 S.M. Blvd., West LA \$950

Lower single, new carpet, Fridge & stove, near UCLA

3502 Vinton, Palms, \$1150

Lower 1 bed, parking, Gas stove, fresh paint, laundry room

1317 Federal, West LA, \$1250

Upper 1 bed, fridge & stove, Parking, laundry room, near UCLA

1692 Manning, Westwood, \$2300

Lower 2 bed, 2 bath, hard-wood floors, New kitchen counter & floor tile

FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO
WWW.ROQUE-MARK.COM

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CULVER CITY \$795/mo Studio apart-ment. no pets, laundry bright, gas range, carpets, large closets, cable tv available water paid, trash removal paid . EASY QUALIFY We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apart-menthunterz.com 310-276-0881

FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals. Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90403.

FRONT APT. Very large lower 2 bed., 2 bath. Hardwood flooring, front & back-yards. Pets negotiable. Close to 3rd St. Promenade & beach. 310.395.1495

MAR VISTA \$1800.00 2bdrms/1bath "Rear Unit" Appliances, Washer/Dryer, Patio, Parking, NO pets. 3573 Centinela Ave, Los Angeles 90066 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit

For Rent

MAR VISTA \$995/mo single/1bath bright, laundry facilities on the prem-ises, garbage disposal, stove, cable available, water /trash paid We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www . apartment hunterz . com 310-276-0881

MAR VISTA: 12450 Culver Blvd. unit 323, \$995/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, car-pet, blinds, utilities included, intercom entry, laundry, gated parking, no pets. (888) 414-7778

MARINA DEL REY \$1000 (Studio) THE GREATEST VALUE ON THE WATER! easy freeway access. parking, laundry facilities, balcony, garbage disposal, gas, near mass transit. We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apart-menthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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PALMS \$850/MO

Studio, full kitchen, hardwood floors, laundry, refrigerator, stove, paid utilities, laundry, garbage disposal, bus/public transit, water/trash removal included We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apart-menthunterz.com 310-276-0881

PALMS \$900/MO

1bdrm/1bthrm Carpet Floors, laundry, stove, refrigerator, unit, blinds, unfur-nished. parking, carpets, garbage dis-posal water /trash paid

REDUCE YOUR RENT !!! We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apart-menthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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SANTA MONICA \$1213/mo

1bdrm/1bath, hardwood floors, parking, washer/dryer, walking distance to beach, yard (310) 395-RENT www.west-siderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$925/mo- studio/1bath beach cottage, hardwood floors, laun-dry, light/bright, refrigerator, stove, patio (310)395-RENT www.westsider-entals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1195/mo

1bdrm/1bath, hardwood floors, will con-sider small pet, refrigerator, stove (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1250/mo

1bdrm/1bath, carpet floors, Carport, laundry, refrigerator, stove, patio, quiet, upper (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1600/mo

2bdrms/1bath, Cat ok, carpets, 2-car parking, laundry, stove, dishwasher (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1695/mo

2bdrms/1bath, No pets, hardwood floors, street parking, laundry, quiet. (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1700/mo

2bdrms/1bath, Carpet Floors, laundry, refrigerator, close to SMC, excellent neighborhood (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

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TODAY AT
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For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$2200/mo

3bdrms/2baths, Carpet Floors, Parking, laundry, quiet neighborhood, stove, dishwasher, balcony (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2350/mo 12th St. near Colorado, 3bdrm, 1.5 baths townhouse. Spacious, ample closets, private patio, large closed garage.Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, attractive garden courtyard property, no pets (310) 828-4481

SANTA MONICA \$2550/mo

3bdrms/2baths, Cat ok, Hardwood Floors, Garage, laundry, quiet, refrigera-tor, dishwasher (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$725/mo

Bachelor/1Bath, No pets, Hardwood Floors, laundry on site, no kitchen (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

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SANTA MONICA 301 Ocean Ave corner of San Vincente with ocean view, newly renovated, hardwood floors, 2bd/1bath fridge, stove, intercom entry, laundry room. \$2500/mo (310) 458-6760

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Live in a BEAUTIFUL apt/suite in Beverly/Fairfax or Santa Monica: **Starting at \$430/month** (323) 650-7988

VENICE \$995/MO

1bdrm1bath apartment, no pets, stove, carpets, laundry, gas range, garbage disposal, large closets, cable tv, bus/public transit, water/trash paid EASY QAULIFY We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Dis-count Code SMDP2006 www.apartmen-thunterz.com 310-276-0881

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(310) 458-7737

VENICE: TWO units 2308 Pacific Ave 2+2 \$2795/mo, 3+2 \$3095/mo, newly remodeled, stove, d/w, microwave, granite counter tops, hardwood floors, no pets, two car parking, washer/dryer hookups. (310) 578-7512 www.jkwprop-erties.com

W.L.A \$995/MO

1bdrm/1bath apartment. pool, laundry, quiet neighborhood, stove, low deposit OAC, courtyard view, parking available, central a/c, hardwood floors, large clos-ets, water /trash removal

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WESTWOOD \$950/MO

single gated entry, swimming pool, laundry facilities microwave, hotplate, refrigerator, walk-in closet. No pets. laundry facilities, gas range, garbage disposal. We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

WLA \$1095/MO 1bdrm/1bath apt, Gated entry, parking space, stove, water/trash, laundry facilities on the premises, gas range, garbage disposal, cable tv available. We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Dis-count Code SMDP2006 www.apartmen-thunterz.com 310-276-0881

WLA \$2495 Large 3+2 3patios and gar-dens. Top of driveway, top-of-hill, small pet ok (310)390-4610

For Rent

WLA \$1295/MO 1bdrm/1bath parking, laundry, gas range, A/C, balcony/deck/pat, carpets, dishwasher, fireplace, garbage disposal, ceiling fans, microwave, refrigerator, stove, walk-in closets, cable tv available. We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

WLA \$1900/MO 2bdrm/2bath Com-pletely Refurbished unit! Granite Counter tops. New Appliances. Furn-ished Available, Private Balconies/ Patios, Dishwasher, Carpeted Floors, Ceiling Fan(s), Microwave, Refrigerator, parking air conditioning

We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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WESTCHESTER: CONDO type apts. Gated estate 1/2 block/golf course. Fully furn. 2br Peaceful/park like yards. Gour-met kitchen. Sliding glass balcony/pri-vate patio, hardwood floors. Laundry rooms \$1995/mo-\$2250 included all but clothes and toothbrush. N/pets. Utilities and DSL paid. Kitchen utensils, bedding. 6686 W. 86th Place. Please call 310-410-2305 www.westchestergardenapts.com

Roommates

FREE HOUSING SERVICE

⇒ Need a little *extra income*?

⇒ Need *help around the house*?

We help match seniors with other seniors or mid-age/younger people.

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Alternative Living for the Aging
A Non-Profit of 27 years

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FOR LEASE OCEAN VIEW OFFICES

Quite, Professional, 100+sf, 1 or 2 offices available Full service incl. internet, phones etc. Additional amenities available, parking etc. Call for details \$1200-\$1400 100 Wilshire Blvd. SM 310-395-9922

GROUND FLOOR Retail/Office space to share. (Desk Rental Preffered)/Great Santa Monica Location 2nd st between Santa Monica & Bway. Rent negotiable from \$400.00+ Contact Dave 310-383-6855

SM SMALL office space for lease. 127 Broadway 2nd floor office with operable windows. \$950-\$1875/month. Par Com-mercial (310) 395-2663 ext 101

SOUTH SIDE of Pico, East of SMC. Ground floor, central a/c and heat. 1500+ sqf. \$2600/mo (310)450-9840

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FOR ONLY

\$45

Run it until it sells!*

1964 Pontiac Catalina

New Transmission, new paint job. 150K original miles. Immaculate condition inside. Kept in garage for many years. Must see!

\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

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■ Large format photograph.

■ 20 word description.

■ **FREE** online placement!

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Discover

AMERICAN EXPRESS

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

Real Estate

PAC WEST MORTGAGE

2212 Lincoln Blvd in Santa Monica

1-888-FOR-LOAN

310 392-9223

VERY AGGRESSIVE
RATES
TIME FOR A 30
YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

30 YEAR FIXED 6.5%

10 YEAR/1 ARM 6.375%

7 YEAR/1 ARM 6.25%

5 YEAR/1 ARM 6.0%**

3 YEAR/1 ARM 5.875%**

1 YEAR/1 ARM 5.625%

6 MO./6 MO. ARM 5.375%

1 MO./1 MO. ARM 1.0%**

*Rates subject to change
* As of August 14, 2006
** Denotes an interest only loan

NEW CONFORMING
LOAN AMOUNTS

1 Unit \$417,000

2 Units \$533,850

3 Units \$645,300

3 Units \$645,300

4 Units \$801,950

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BROKER

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BROKER #01218743

Condos for Sale

LUXE FOR LESS. WLA near Santa Mon-ica/Brentwood 2+2. High ceilings, mar-ble entry, laundry, central air. Monthly hoa only \$365. Priced to sell at \$639,000. Agent (310) 866-9306

MULTI-LEVEL TOWN house, Brentwood adj. 3 bed, 2.5 ba. Corner, tons of light, wood floors, 2 story ceilings, \$699,000. Agent 310.420.7861 Portnoy Properties

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Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it.

Classifieds

Prepay your ad today!

**(310) 458-7737****CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!**There is no more convincing medium than a **DAILY** local newspaper.\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words,
20 cents each additional word.**Real Estate Wanted**

WE BUY HOUSES,
APTS, & LAND!
ALL CASH, AS-IS, FAST CLOSE
David (310) 308-7887

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BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue. BodyWave, Sports. Strictly non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$60.00/1hr. Lynda, L.M.T. (310) 749-0621

BODYWORK BY fitness trainer: hands & feet, arms & calves. Deeply relaxing. Nonsexual. \$45/65min. Paul: (310) 741-1901.

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing body work by mature European. Very Professional, Sonja (310) 397-0433.

Business Opps

VENTURE CAPITAL Wanted 12 products- mfg. /market avenues in place. (John Deere One Source etc.) 10k/day possible return on 2.5 mill. Qualified only -for meeting at AA Equip. 951/522-7336

Lost & Found**LOST CAT**

British short hair, answers to the name of FREDDY. Weighs 16lbs, beige and white with yellow eyes... round head (805) 455-1115

Notices**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:**

RUTH RITTER HUMPHREYS
CASE NO. SP006919

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of RUTH RITTER HUMPHREYS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LaVERNE HANELL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LaVERNE HANELL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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 10/27/06 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

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
DAVID A. OGDEN
OGDEN & MOTLEY
1670 CORINTH AVE
LOS ANGELES CA 90025
8/23, 8/24, 8/30/06
CNS-1010561#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 1083854-01 APN: 4270-010-033 TRA: 008604 LOAN NO: XXXXX8525 REF: Power, Brian IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED November 15, 2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On August 29, 2006, at 10:00am, Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded November 22, 2004, as Inst. No. 04-3017251 in book XX, page XX of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, executed by Brian Power, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state: At the West side of the Los Angeles County Court-house, Southeast District, 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, California, 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: Completely described in said deed of trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2405 34th Street 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 held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust to wit: \$499,843.25 with interest thereon from January 01, 2006 @ the rate of 7.500% per annum as provided in said note(s) plus cost and any advances with interest. ESTIMATED TOTAL DEBT: \$528,089.10. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. 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. For sales information: Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm (619) 590-1221. Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, 525 East Main Street, P.O. Box 22004, El Cajon, CA 92022-9004 Dated: August 05, 2006 Trustee Sale Officer: Matthew E Johnson. (R-129241 08/09/06 08/16/06 08/23/06)

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'01 ECLIPSE GT \$8,995
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Hyundai of Santa Monica
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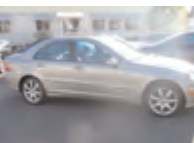
'02 JETTA GLS \$12,995
Sedan, 4DR, Auto, Air, Pwr Steering (M035074)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
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'02 Lexus RX 300...\$24,900
White with tan, leather, loaded, immaculate.
Stock # PT4942
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(800) 579-6047



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(4A600085) \$21,981
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www.wisimonson.com



'04 Grand Prix
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\$11,981 (41110793)
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(4H605035)
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www.wisimonson.com



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Hyundai of Santa Monica
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'04 XC70 WGN \$24,995
Third Seat, Leather, Mnrf, Lo Miles, Gorgeous (4115266)
Toyota Santa Monica
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GLS, Auto, Lo Mil, Full Power (U671255)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'05 Dodge Durango...\$21,995
Low Miles, 3rd Seat, Best, Best Buy Stock # T9935
Toyota Santa Monica
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'05 PRIUS \$25,989
Lo Lo Lo Miles, Economy Ecology, All The E's (53024380)
Toyota Santa Monica
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'05 QX56 \$43,981
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Blk/Blk (5N804497)
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(866) 309-6705



'06 ES320 Diesel \$57,981
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Pano Rf (6A935727)
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VIN C05788
\$5,995
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1998 BUICK REGAL GS SEDAN
Loaded, leather, one owner
VIN 458427
\$4,995
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1999 Audi A4 – Sedan
Mileage: 55,635
Exterior Color: Black
Stock #: L15353
Price: \$9,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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1999 GMC Suburban – 4dr SUV
Mileage: 72,887
Exterior Color: Pewter
Stock #: L15403
Price: \$10,995
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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2003 Audi A4 – Sedan
Mileage: 39,037
Exterior Color: Navy Blue
Stock #: L15433
Price: \$19,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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2001 DODGE 15 PASSENGER VAN
Dual air, many extras
VIN 543782
\$8,750
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Vehicles for sale



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Factory Certified Preowned
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Stock #: L15430
Exterior Color: Silver
Price: \$19,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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2001 Lexus RX 300 – 4dr SUV
Factory Certified Preowned
Mileage: 66,851
Exterior Color: White
Stock #: PL15390
Price: \$16,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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2001 Lexus RX 300 – 4dr SUV
Mileage: 66,806
Exterior Color: Blue V.
Stock #: L15418
Price: \$17,950
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\$9,995
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2002 Lexus ES 300 – Sedan
Mileage: 49,317
Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15357
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2002 Santa Fe GLS
Auto, 4WD, Fully Loaded
(U175332) \$12,995
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Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15236
Price: \$11,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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2003 BMW 5 Series – Sedan
Mileage: 49,184
Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15245
Price: \$22,950
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2004 DODGE 1500 4 X 4 QUAD CAB
Hemi 4 x 4, leather, loaded, low miles. VIN 229561
\$22,995
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2004 Nissan Quest – Passenger Minivan
Mileage: 45,041
Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15419
Price: \$19,950
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VIN 610 802
\$29,995
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1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

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

Extras (Additional 20 cents/word):
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☐ Box (.50/day) ☐ Reverse(\$1/day)

Payment:
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Check

Exp: _____ **I 20** **Check #:** _____

Make checks payable: Santa Monica Daily Press

NO CASH PLEASE

Signature: _____

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1427 Third Street Promenade
Suite 202
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Fax.
Fill out this form and fax to:
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ATTN: Classifieds

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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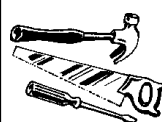
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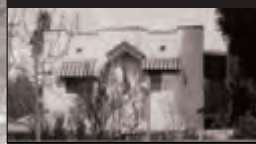
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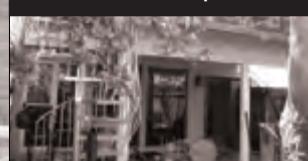
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