

Santa Monica Daily Press

August 26-27, 2006

A newspaper with issues

Volume 5, Issue 246

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 3 4 5 7 36
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: \$51M

Super LOTTO 11 13 23 28 43
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: \$60M

Fantasy 5 6 13 16 32 33

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 6 0 7
EVENING: 1 5 8

DAILY DERRY 1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 07 Eureka!
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:49.38

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

News of the Weird has mentioned several times those "yogic fliers" (who sit cross-legged and, by Transcendental Meditation, "fly" by levitating their posteriors). In July, two weeks after Israel began its retaliatory attack on Hezbollah, a former Israeli army colonel, Reuven Zelinkovsky, was critical, alleging that a squadron of yogic fliers could provide a "shield of invincibility" around the country, just as effective as a military campaign. TM experts use the formula of the square root of 1 percent of a country's population as the critical mass of fliers necessary to affect the national spiritual consciousness (for Israel, 265 fliers).

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 238th day of 2006.
There are 127 days left in the year.

1920 The 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women the right to vote, was declared in effect.

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A Twilight Dance

Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press
Kiran Ahluwalia performs at the Santa Monica Pier on Thursday as part of the summer-long Twilight Dance Series. Next Thursday will conclude the series with a performance by the David Grisman Quintet.

SM: A city of three top cops

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — In the interest of fairness, City Manager Lamont Ewell has decided to let the Santa Monica Police Department's three top cops serve at the helm until a successor to Chief James T. Butts Jr. is found.

"Because there are several of our command staff within the department who are desirous of becoming the city's next chief of police, and in an effort to demonstrate fairness, beginning this weekend, Deputy Chief Phil Sanchez will begin serving as interim chief for the next 30 days," Ewell wrote Friday in an e-mail addressed to the mayor and City Council members.

SMPD Capt. Mark Smiley, who is in charge of the office of operations, will serve as chief during the second 30-day period, with Capt. Jacqueline Seabrooks, head of the office of criminal investigations, serving during the final shift.

Sanchez, who heads the office of administrative services, is responsible for SMPD's planning and

See **CHIEF**, page 7

Squirrels scurry 'Lefty' and right

City-paid exterminator on the job; rodents trapped in public safety scare



Kevin Herrera/Daily Press

GETTING SQUIRRELY: Lefty Ayers catches squirrels on Palisades Bluffs overlooking the PCH on Friday. LA County has mandated that the city reduce its squirrel population.

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

PALISADES PARK — It's a dirty and often thankless job, but someone's got to do it.

That someone is Lefty Ayers, a tall, friendly middle-aged man out of Kern County who was hired by City Hall for an estimated \$19,000 to trap and kill ground squirrels that are running rampant along the bluffs here, digging holes and making babies at a clip that has county health officials concerned about public safety.

For the last two weeks, Ayers, 51, who owns the pest control company, Heritage Wildlife Management, has

See **TRAPPED**, page 5

On guard



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

The color guard runs through some drills during band camp at Santa Monica High School on Friday, the last day of the two-week long camp. Check inside today's edition for the first-annual Back to School issue.

Warning: Don't swim near the pipe

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

SM BEACH — For the sixth week in a row, a handful of popular Southern California beaches have

broken the law by not meeting federal clean water standards, according to weekly statistics compiled by Santa Monica-based environmental organization Heal the Bay.

Some of those beaches are in

Santa Monica's backyard — just south of the pier, as well as Topanga State Beach and Pacific Palisades.

"Almost one-third of the beaches

See **DIRTY WATER**, page 6

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Eddie Guerboian



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FROM SM

Horoscopes

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Not to be found, Scorpio

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)

★★★★★ Others hold the keys to where you want to go. You know how to work with people. Do just that. Eye a concrete product of your creativity. A serious talk with a loved one needs to happen. Don't shy away. Tonight: Say yes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Deal with the practical issues in your life and don't get caught up in the trivial or unnecessary. A decision surrounding your domestic life or property will work out, though you could feel very serious. Tonight: Invite friends over.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Your imagination combined with your wit make you close to irresistible. Just the same, you might have to have a serious discussion about money or recent events. Trust your judgment. Let go when you can. Tonight: Fun comes easily.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Use discretion with your finances. You need to weigh the pros and cons of an investment. This "deal" might take much longer to come to fruition than you'd like. Patience will be a virtue, but at the same time, veer away from a problem. Tonight: On cruise control.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might be overly serious about an emotional matter. You might think you are right, but you are coming from a pessimistic perspective and not a realistic one. Allow more feedback. Many care about you. Tonight: Hang out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Expenses easily could be a problem. Take your time, as you might be reacting to an emotional issue and allowing frivolous spending to happen. Take a walk or go to the gym. Don't make major decisions right now. Tonight: Your treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Finally, you can express who you are and where you are coming from. Someone you meet could be overly serious or heavy. The bond could also be karmic. Be careful before you leap. You have many options and people in your life. Tonight: What would put a smile on your face?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★ Know when to cut out. You cannot avoid responsibility, as it comes down on you before you know it. Your best spent time would be away from the crowds, walking in the country or taking a drive. You can gain more insight this way. Tonight: Not to be found.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Surround yourself with the people you most enjoy and in a situation you love. You might have a serious talk and gain understanding of another's limits. Broaden your horizons. Accept an invitation that has the potential for meeting new people. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might be more in touch with a partner's limitations and needs than he or she is. Take a stand and bring others together. Others trust your leadership. If you are tired of leading, then back away. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might want to deal with others individually. Take the high road when relating, and give others the benefit of the doubt. A friend or loved one might be overly difficult or uncomfortable. Tonight: Follow the music.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Someone makes it clear that he or she wants your company. Why not? You do need some downtime to relax. You could be more tired than you are aware of. Stop pushing yourself so hard. Let others do the work for a change. Tonight: Add more snap, crackle and pop to a relationship.

BORN TODAY Singer **Bob Cowsill** (1949), actor **Macaulay Culkin** (1980)

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Students sell their stuff



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Zehra Karim, 19, a Vikings Inn clerk, sells merchandise during the store's busiest day of the year at Santa Monica High School on Friday. The Vikings Inn was expected to sell \$14,000 in merchandise. The store sells, shirts, hats, sweat pants and tops, locks, school supplies, and more. The store is operated by project ECHO, an entrepreneurial student group which recently won an international award in China for its business plan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

A day to celebrate women

By Daily Press staff

As a woman voting in the last presidential or California election, were you spit upon, beaten, scorned or jailed as you cast your ballot?

More than likely, the answer is no. And for that, modern women can thank and celebrate the courageous suffragettes of years past who fought for the right to vote. Throughout the country Aug. 26 women and men will be celebrating Women's Equality Day to commemorate and reaffirm a woman's right to vote.

"Although Women's Equality Day is largely symbolic, I hope that it reminds women everywhere that one of the most powerful things they can do to make their voices heard and change the course of history is to vote," said Andrea Lipton, chair of Santa Monica's Commission on the Status of Women. "Twenty-two million single women voters have failed to vote in a presidential election. If they had, we might be looking at an entirely different world."

In support of women's rights, the Santa Monica City Council recently joined Westside Cities Council of Governments colleagues in West Hollywood to become founding members of the Pro-Choice City Campaign. The action came at the request of Councilman Kevin McKeown at the council's Aug. 8 meeting.

Joining the Pro-Choice City Campaign with West Hollywood, "reaffirms our support of women's reproductive rights, including women's right to choose," McKeown said at the meeting.

"A whole generation of women in our country have grown up with the assumption that they will have the choice on their own bodies," McKeown said. "Every now and then, we have to reaffirm that."

The Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women works to enhance the status of women in the community. The Commission promotes those goals through investigation of, advocacy for and policy development regarding issues relevant to women and girls, and by creating leadership and career advancement opportunities for women and girls in the community.

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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 66°**

SWELL FORECAST (4-6 FT)
We will still see some surf from both Ileana and the southern hemi swell, but size is expected to drop down to around chest high or so. Note that early AM sessions can still expect to see some head high sets. West facing breaks will continue to see only minor wind swell with waist high surf, bigger though at dual exposure breaks able to pull in a bit of the southerly swells.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SOUTHERN HEMI AND HURRICANE SWELLS PEAK ON FRIDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

08-26				08-27			
05:54 AM	11:33 AM	05:28 PM	11:19 PM	06:33 AM	11:54 AM	06:06 PM	11:17 PM
8 Ft.	7 Ft.	6 Ft.	5 Ft.	4 Ft.	3 Ft.	2 Ft.	1 Ft.
0 Ft.	-1 Ft.	-2 Ft.	-3 Ft.	-4 Ft.	-5 Ft.	-6 Ft.	-7 Ft.

The **Q**Line

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The QLine responses are in!
Check out page 4!

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The Q-Line

PIER BOATING HAS RESIDENTS FLOATING

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you support revitalized water activities off the pier? Why or why not?
Here are your responses:

© "I certainly do not support this idea. A squadron of boats coming and going would pollute our bay area even more than it already is. Secondly, our nightmare traffic and parking problems would also be made worse by all the additional cars bringing people to the area. There are other less environmentally destructive ways to clean up and enhance the pier."

© "Yes, I think it would be an absolutely wonderful idea to revamp the Santa Monica Pier. It will bring people from all over the world to participate in water sports and, of course, needed revenue for the city of Santa Monica."

© "If the Santa Monica Pier and downtown Santa Monica is revitalized more than it has been, there will be standing-room only. The human and automotive traffic is overwhelming. An Asian statistical account with an abacus should do a head count on the amount of people who visit the Santa Monica Pier on an annual basis as the pier stands now, compounded by the Third Street Promenade. The count will easily be in the millions. I consider that plenty and enough revitalization."

© "The sign at the entry way to the pier does say (something) about boating and fishing. So if they have the sign, they might as well actually have something with boats there. Something people can actually use. Take a few people to Tijuana or Catalina and leave them there."

© "Revitalize the pier. Remove all the rides except the carousel. Put good restaurants there. Fix the walk. Give the pier back to the Santa Monica residents. We no longer enjoy it. We can't walk there. There are too many people. There is too much confusion. There's a lot of theft and noise. We like to sit and look at the water. We don't need anything else."

© "As if developing all quality of life out of the

city on land wasn't enough, now City Hall wants the ocean too. They will further tell us that the scheme actually cleans the bay. Read the fine print. The proposed water tax will make us pay for this stinker to boot."

© "If this idea is to completely undo what little progress we've made in cleaning up the bay, then I'm all for this increased commercial activities. This idiotic idea is the latest example of why we can't trust the City Council, as well as quasi-governmental bay groups that protect the local environment."

© "As far as supporting revitalized water activities off the pier, I remember when we did have that, and my answer would be 'no' I don't support it. We have problems keeping water and beaches clean. You guys have to stop and start doing something right."

© "I'm excited by the prospect of resumption of boating activities from the pier. The pier for the most part has been turned over to kids activities. The addition of boating would give residents and visitors something to do besides stare at the water. By the way, city officials, any chance in having an indoor roller skating rink on the pier as it was in the past?"

© "You've got to be kidding. The pier is a money-sucking hole derelict. How many millions have we dumped into it already? Don't forget the \$14 million for a new breakwater. The few businesses on the pier are all getting a free lunch off the taxpayers. Only a rube from Kansas would bother to visit it. Demolish the pier and have a continuous beautiful beach. We got rid of Ocean Park pier and it had way better rides. Look how nice the beach is in that area. The dolts in this town will approve anything bought off with second-rate free movies and third-rate free bands and non-profit parties. If Yankee Stadium can be demolished, so can the decrepit Santa Monica Pier."

Real estate puts the family unit in a new dysfunction



MODERN TIMES
BY LLOYD GARVER

Want to sell your house? Before putting it on the market, you'll probably want it to look as good as possible. So, you'll do a few things like paint the gutters, fix that leaky faucet, and finally throw away all those piles of papers you're never going to look at. But that's the old-fashioned way. Today, the business of getting a house to look as good as possible before you sell it is much more sophisticated. In fact, there are professionals you can hire to do this for you called "home stagers." They'll toss your old furniture in storage and rent you better looking stuff, they'll place beautiful plants all over the house, and they'll hang impressive paintings on the walls. When I first learned about this, it seemed a bit excessive, but I figured "business is business." That was until I heard about the latest thing that home stagers will do to make your house seem more appealing — they'll hire actors to be a fake happy family in your home.

Since I live in the city built on fantasy, I assumed that this "home staging" was just an LA thing. But it's happening all over the country. I can't speak for the rest of the world, but if it's going on in Tupelo, Miss., can Paris be far behind?

There is even an organization that trains and "accredits" home stagers. Their Web site explains that an "ASP (an Accredited Staging Professional) is a professional who has completed a rigorous three-day training program that teaches specific techniques and concepts in home presentation and staging. This includes one day of classroom instruction and another day of actual hands-on staging in a real home on the market for sale."

Wow, after that impressive training, I'm surprised these people aren't performing brain surgery on the kitchen table when prospective buyers come by. Oops, maybe I shouldn't have put that idea out there.

Now that we know that the house might be filled with actors, how do we know that the "owners" we're introduced to aren't just hired by the owners? How do we know that

the "grandma" who's sobbing about moving out of a place that has been "more of a member of the family than just a house" isn't an actress? And how do we know that couple that's ooh-ing and ah-ing about the house and loudly shouting that they're going to put in a bid today aren't really actors?

At least one Southern California company likes to stage a phony birthday party while prospective buyers look at the house. That way, the would-be buyer can see a crowd of happy people having a good time in the home. Some stagers make sure there's a fire in the fireplace, install a good swing set in the backyard, and put romantic, scented candles in the master bedroom. As UCLA's assistant marketing professor, Ely Dahan says, "It's all about appealing to the emotions of the buyers, subtly suggesting things to help them envision themselves living in this house."

Well, if that's the goal, I think the actors they hire should be conveying more inviting images than just a birthday party. When a couple walks into a house they're thinking about buying, they should hear things like: "You know, you look so much thinner in this house." Or, "You really look like you have more hair in this house." Or, "I've heard all the kids in this neighborhood are very respectful of their parents."

If they really want to attract buyers, maybe the phony "owners" should stage a conversation like this: "Honey, I can't believe it! We won the lottery!" "And we're the third family on this block to win!"

But these companies have to make sure they stay away from hiring actors who like to perform in a more realistic style. Otherwise, when the prospective buyers walk into the master bedroom with the scented candles and see the actor couple in that antique king-sized bed, they're likely to hear something more realistic like this:

"This never happened in our old house," followed by: "I'm sorry, but I just can't get in the mood while I'm worrying about making the mortgage payments on this place."

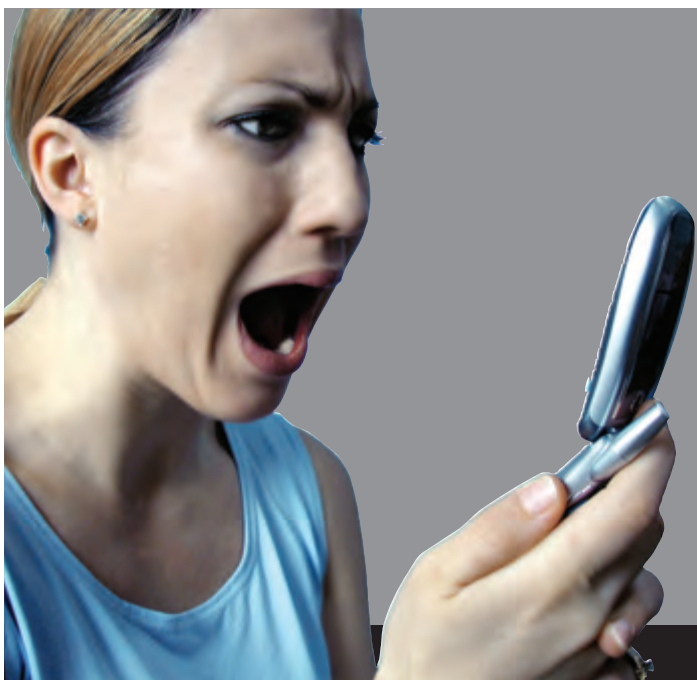
(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He also has read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.)

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Squirrel hunting is a risky job in animal-loving SM

TRAPPED, from page 1

been using metal traps he welded himself to capture the critters, which are then euthanized with carbon dioxide in a large chamber off site. The carcasses transported to a wildlife rehabilitation center at Cal State Bakersfield. There they will be stored in a freezer and fed to raptors before they are released into the wild.

As of Friday, Ayers said he trapped more than 80 squirrels and believes the population, at least in the area between Arizona and California avenues, has been reduced to safe levels.

The Los Angeles County Health Department, which forced City Hall to remove the squirrels, has the final say. The acceptable number of squirrels is no more than three visible for every two acres, which only represents a small portion of the total population, county officials said.

Once the population is under control and to ensure that no more squirrels will be exterminated in the future, female squirrels will be sterilized to control the rodent population, part of a more humane approach taken by City Hall, Ayers said.

It's not a pretty picture, but one that county health officials say is necessary because the squirrels carry fleas which can lead to bubonic plague. There also is concern about the stability of the bluffs, where squirrels have been burrowing like prospectors during the gold rush.

Flanked by two Santa Monica Police officers and a pair of park rangers, Ayers hopped out of his gray pickup Friday, threw on his coveralls and a black baseball hat with flames across the front, and headed out to a series of traps he'd hidden along the bluffs, each one filled with feed, water and a piece of watermelon.

Ayers, who arrives in Santa Monica about 5:30 a.m., checks the traps twice a day and packs them up at 4 p.m.

"Anywhere else, I could set the traps and leave them overnight, but not in Santa Monica," Ayers said. "Here, people are really passionate about this."

So much so that the police had to be called in to protect Ayers from animal activists, some of whom have vandalized his traps and set squirrels free. One man damaged three traps before he was cited, Ayers said, while another tried to steal supplies out of his truck.

"This is a business where people will resort to violent action," Ayers said. "Luckily nothing bad has happened to me, but others have had their cars and homes vandalized, their families threatened. It can get pretty serious."

"I'm not about killing squirrels. I'm about preventing disease," Ayers added. "I know there are a lot of people who don't like what I'm doing, but what about the cop who pulls over 50 people a day for speeding? He's disturbing them, but giving tickets is a matter of public safety. Same thing here."

Most of the steel cages Ayers inspected Friday were empty, with some showing signs

of a recent visitor who somehow escaped through the one-way door.

Three traps contained one squirrel each, not a great number, but it was still early in the day.

"Wait until it gets a little warmer out," Ayers said. "That's when we usually see more activity."

Some people stop and stare. Others approach and ask questions. If he has time, Ayers stops to talk. One woman seemed offended by Ayers' task, while another praised him for taking action, having seen the number of squirrels grow to unsafe levels.

The situation is not new. City Hall has been out of compliance with county health standards before and the growing squirrel population has been an ongoing issue for several years. Acting on residents' concerns over the ethical treatment of animals, city staff have pursued alternatives in reducing the population without killing the squirrels.

But those methods have failed.

The most recent case was in January when City Hall was served a summons from the county health department regarding non-compliance with the health and safety code. City Hall was ordered to kill the squirrels or face legal action. The squirrels were poisoned with aluminum phosphide, which began Feb. 6 and lasted for four days.

Immediately following, a pilot program aimed to control the rodent population without killing them was introduced, according to city officials.

The education and birth control program created by Mary Cummins of Animal Advocates called for the treatment of remaining squirrels for fleas to prevent disease, installing signage to advise against feeding animals and distributing immuno-contraceptives.

But in the eyes of county health inspectors, it hasn't worked. During a routine inspection in Palisades Park a few months ago, they found the ground squirrel population well above acceptable numbers. In June, county officials counted 175 squirrels in the 1.5-mile stretch of the park.

As a result, county and city officials met to devise a plan to reduce the squirrel population.

Enter Ayers.

"We believe the methods we are using now are the most effective and the most humane," Ayers said. "The city has done its best to respond to the residents' concerns and they have even set aside a room for me to euthanize the squirrels that is out of site of the general public and other city employees."

Ayers will be back Monday morning to set traps. He believes he's captured about 50 percent of the total squirrels necessary to bring the city into compliance.

"We are trying to take into consideration other people who are concerned that we are killing the squirrels," Ayers said. "For some people, we understand that no matter how much we explain what we are doing, this is always going to be an issue. I really don't know what to say about it. It's a tough issue."



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City asks residents to OK fee increase

DIRTY WATER, from page 1

tested in Santa Monica Bay have exceeded the new beach bacteria standards in violation of the Clean Water Act, demonstrating how widespread this problem is," said Mark Gold, executive director of Heal the Bay. "We urge the coastal cities responsible and LA County to protect public health by immediately posting warning signs at the beaches, to come forward with plans to clean up these beaches and do everything possible to comply with the law as soon as possible."

The other beaches that have repeatedly violated the Clean Water Act include the area 100 yards south of the Redondo Pier, Marie Canyon at Puerco Beach in Malibu, the Castlerock storm drain in Pacific Palisades and Dockweiler State Beach at the Ballona Creek mouth.

With the new addition this week of Malibu Point and Playa del Rey opposite the Hyperion Treatment Plant, 21 of the 65 beaches tested in Santa Monica Bay have violated the Clean Water Act since the July 15 deadline to enforce clean water standards at area beaches. A total of four beaches exceeded the standards in the past week.

Heal the Bay has been issuing press releases highlighting the region's worst beaches ever since the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) decided to postpone a vote to make water quality standards more easily enforceable

beginning July 15. The board rescheduled its vote for a Sept. 14 meeting.

However, the board has begun sending letters to LA County and various cities violating pollution standards, asking them to identify the source of the pollution and provide other information within two weeks.

Originally scheduled for the board's July 13 hearing and removed from the agenda just two days prior, the motion would have required local cities and LA County to comply with new beach water quality standards every day during the summer months. Failure to comply will result in a \$1,000 per day fine.

The new standards, called Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), require beach waters and discharges from storm drains to be free from unhealthy levels of fecal bacteria. They would apply to all Santa Monica Bay beaches from the Ventura County line south to Palos Verdes during dry weather between April and October, when tens of millions of residents and visitors use the beach.

The hundreds of thousands of beachgoers that visit these shorelines face a potential health risk from exposure to ocean water contaminated by fecal bacteria.

People who swim in contaminated water are far more likely to develop ear infections, sinus ailments, upper respiratory problems or stomach cramps, diarrhea and vomiting. The resulting health care costs were estimat-

ed to be \$21--\$51 million annually in Southern California, according to a recent UCLA study.

Beach water at 65 locations in Los Angeles County is monitored by the LA County Department of Health Services, the city of LA's Environmental Monitoring Division and the LA County Sanitation District.

Heal the Bay recommends beachgoers check the Beach Report Card at www.healthebay.org before heading into the surf at their favorite beaches.

In 1999, Heal the Bay, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Santa Monica Baykeeper went to court to fight for — and won — water quality pollution limits for in Los Angeles and Ventura County. The beach bacteria limits for Santa Monica Bay were established in 2003.

Even with three years of lead time to the bacteria TMDL's July 15 compliance deadline, many of Santa Monica Bay's beaches still have elevated bacteria levels. In order to be easily enforceable, the bacteria pollution limits need to be incorporated into the LA County Storm Water permit by the RWQCB, environmentalists said.

The decision is expected to be made on the morning of Sept. 14 at the Metropolitan Water District in downtown Los Angeles. Last week, Governor Schwarzenegger expressed strong support for the more enforceable water quality standards.

On the local level, the support for cleaner waters runs deep in Santa Monica.

A polling of 400 residents throughout the city in January indicated that most property owners would support the local government increasing their annual stormwater fees from \$36 to \$100. That's for a single-family parcel — multi-family and commercial properties could be more or less, depending upon acreage and usage. The fees would be adjusted for inflation. Currently the stormwater fee generates \$1.25 million a year. Following the increase, officials estimate the fees would generate more than \$3 million a year — \$40 million over the next 10 years.

City Hall hired the Santa Monica-based opinion research firm of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates for \$25,000 after officials began weighing their options in determining how to pay for the city's first-ever watershed protection plan — a 15- to 20-year road map on how to prevent bacterial, chemical and solid waste from entering Santa Monica Bay through its stormwater system.

The watershed plan has been in the works for years, the result of the RWQCB's new standards for pollution control.

The new, stricter requirements could cost the city tens of millions of dollars in capital improvements, as well as ongoing maintenance costs. The City Council earlier this month approved putting a bond measure on the Nov. 7 ballot, which will ask residents to approve doubling the stormwater fee.

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Environmentalists worry condo hotels skirt Calif. coastal protections

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ

Associated Press Writer

ENCINITAS, Calif. — On a sandy bluff overlooking the Pacific, surfer Mark Massara sees a developing threat to a California amenity: guaranteed beach access for average families.

Luxury hotel builders are hovering over the coastline, hoping to expand to California's shores the nationwide trend of developments split between high-priced hotel rooms and privately owned condominiums.

Where developers see opportunity in "condo hotels," Massara and others see a legal loophole that lets private buyers snap up parts of the coast which are supposed to remain public. And that, he fears, will make getting to the beach harder.

In this low-key northern San Diego County surf town, dunes and ice plants are being cleared from land designated for public use to make way for 100 condos that will sell for an estimated \$1.5 million each and 30 hotel rooms that will go for up to \$600 a night.

Because the project includes hotel rooms, it is deemed to be for public use, satisfying the requirement for public access.

"It's like a knife at the throat of the Coastal Act," said Massara, a lawyer for the Sierra Club.

Condo hotels have gained popularity in recent years, thanks to the real estate boom. There are currently 225 such developments in the pipeline nationwide, with Chicago, Miami and Las Vegas the current hotspots, according to the newly formed National Condo Hotel Association.

Along California's coast, where demand for real estate is so intense that the city of

Santa Barbara may build affordable housing for families earning \$160,000 a year, as many as 10 condo hotel projects are pending.

Since 1989, the state Coastal Commission has approved nearly a dozen projects, including developments built in Half Moon Bay near San Francisco, Pismo Beach on the central coast and the Los Angeles County town of Hermosa Beach. In the past five months, the commission has green lighted projects in Encinitas and one in Rancho Palos Verdes.

In such quasi-residential developments, condo owners can use their rooms for a maximum of 90 days each year and are expected to rent them out the rest of the time. Developers say owners have incentive to make rooms available to the public during peak seasons because they can charge more.

Just who can afford these largely luxury accommodations — and how to police whether owners are staying year-round rather than the 90-day maximum — are questions the Coastal Commission tackled this month. The regulatory panel is entrusted with upholding the 1976 Coastal Act, which requires affordable accommodations be protected and encouraged.

"The working stiff in Bakersfield who has a family of four — he is not coming to these five-star hotels," environmental attorney and former Coastal Commissioner Dwight D. Worden told commissioners.

For many, a California beach vacation already is out of reach. Barely 10 percent of coastal accommodations are considered affordable — that is, cost less than \$100 a night. That means of the 1,600 RV parks, campsites and hotels, only 134 are low-cost, according to the Coastal Commission.

New SM police chief sought

CHIEF, from page 1

research, crime analysis, finances, fleet maintenance, personnel and training, department payroll, crime prevention and community relations, property, and animal control.

Smiley's duties include the preservation of peace and the protection of life and property. He is essentially in charge of patrol officers, who enforce laws, conduct preliminary investigations and the apprehend criminals.

Seabrooks oversees the SMPD's detectives and is responsible for the recovery of stolen property, the preparation and preservation of evidence in criminal court cases, as well as the apprehension of criminals at large.

"All are in agreement to be supportive of one another to ensure that the interest of the department and the city resident's remain a top priority," Ewell wrote.

In his e-mail, Ewell did not say if any of the three mentioned have submitted resumes to the Sacramento-based search firm of Peckham & McKenney, hired earlier this month for \$17,500, plus expenses, to conduct a national search for candidates.

There has been talk within the department of a desire to hire from within, however, Ewell said he is open to all candidates that come before him.

Peckham & McKenney is assembling three panels comprised of residents, the business community, and three high-ranking city officials to give input on what qualities the next police chief should possess.

The firm, which recently helped the city of Menlo Park in San Mateo County select its new chief, will then look for candidates from across the country who exhibits those traits. Members of all neighborhood associations will be consulted, Ewell said, along with the Human Relations Commission.

Ewell said he is looking for applicants who are community oriented, with experience in neighborhood policing, as well as those who understand the importance of tourism to the local economy. They must also appreciate and respect the importance of being a team player.

Butts, 53, will lead the Los Angeles World Airport police and security forces assigned to four airports in three cities, as well as assume a pivotal role in collaborating and coordinating law enforcement and security duties performed by more than 4,000 federal and local officers. The largest of these outside agencies include the Transportation Security Administration, which has 2,000 transportation security officers, and Customs and Border Protection, which has 800 sworn officers.

Butts announced his decision to leave the SMPD May 24. Before being selected as chief of Santa Monica in 1991, Butts served nearly 20 years in the Inglewood Police Department as a police officer, sergeant, lieutenant, captain and deputy chief.

Salary for the next police chief ranges from \$151,856 to \$187,476.

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Let the truth be known in casualties of war

BY SCOTT LINDLAW
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — The Army is taking new steps to ensure it gives the families of soldiers killed in combat accurate information about how their loved ones died.

As part of a broad review of casualty reports, top Army officials are preparing to send a memo to battalions worldwide, directing them to notify headquarters when discrepancies appear in combat death investigations. If an investigation's findings differ from what a family has been told, the Army intends to return to the family with the new information.

The measures are meant to avert the kind of high-profile mistakes that have left some families distrustful of the Army.

It took the Army two years to tell the families of Lt. Andre Tyson and Spc. Patrick McCaffrey, two California National Guardsmen, that they were murdered in June 2004 by the Iraqi civil-defense soldiers they were training. The Army initially told the families the two men were killed in a conventional ambush.

Nadia McCaffrey, the mother of Patrick McCaffrey, welcomed the Army's efforts but said she was cautious in her optimism because the Army has moved slowly to inform her in the past.

"So now again we have to see how long it

takes for people to act on it," she said from her home in Tracy.

The best-known case is that of Cpl. Pat Tillman, the one-time NFL star from San Jose, Calif., who quit football to join the U.S. Army Rangers and was killed by friendly fire in Afghanistan in April 2004.

Tillman's family originally was told he had been killed by enemy fire. Five weeks later, they learned he was shot dead by fellow Rangers after an ambush.

The military suspected it was a friendly fire death within hours, but failed to tell the Tillmans despite a regulation on the books directing it to do so, said the soldier's mother, Mary Tillman.

She called the move positive, but she said the Army must follow up and deliver any new information to surviving family members.

"People will be able to come to terms with the truth, but if you were lied to once, then you're always going to be distrustful," she said in a telephone interview.

The Army has quietly been reviewing casualty reports on American soldiers killed in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere, according to two senior military officials and memos obtained by The Associated Press. The Army has not publicized the effort or disclosed the results.

"We are actively screening every Criminal Investigation Command report to ensure

that there were no disconnects with the Casualty Reporting System," one of the memos states. "We are about half way through with that mission."

For weeks, the Army has been tinkering with the draft of the directive to units involved in Operation Enduring Freedom — the campaign in Afghanistan — and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In coming weeks, the Army will issue a directive on the review, the military officials said. One spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity because officers at the highest levels of the Army are still making minor changes. The other described the initiative in the memos obtained by the AP.

Col. Dan Baggio, an Army spokesman, said that because of the constant turnover of units in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is important to remind troops that the casualty reports must agree with the actual events that occurred when a soldier is killed.

"It's important to reinforce that the information we provide the families is accurate," he said.

Brig. Gen. Anthony A. Cucolo, who heads the Army's public affairs office, said the Army's review of casualty reports is not new but a continuing "rigorous and routine review of current casualty cases with outstanding issues."

The Army is not reinvestigating the deaths of all soldiers killed in action, but it is

revisiting them to reconcile early investigative findings with the latest ones, and to ensure families are given accurate information.

The memo now in draft form directs Army units down to the battalion level to dig up so-called 15-6 investigative reports routinely conducted after combat deaths. Battalions that have been or are in Iraq or Afghanistan are being directed to ship copies of the casualty reports to top Army officials.

If the Army finds a discrepancy between what a family was told and what an investigation found, it will reappoint a casualty notification team, prepare a new report for the surviving family members and revisit the family to make personal notifications, one official said.

A soldier's death may result in multiple investigations for a number of reasons. Follow-up inquiries are often launched when a first layer of military investigators concludes they need to probe more deeply. For instance, sometimes a crime is suspected but investigators in the field do not have access to resources such as ballistics testing.

Follow-up inquiries are commonly conducted by the Army's Criminal Investigation Command and by the Combat Readiness Center.

(Associated Press writer Lolita C. Baldor in Washington contributed to this report.)

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PASADENA

Who took the electric car?

As of this week, city officials can no longer brag about the number of electric cars they have in their arsenal of municipal-owned vehicles.

Eleven were removed from a Public Works yard by auto manufacturer Nissan on Wednesday where they had been stored since late July. Nissan owned the zero-emission cars and wanted them back because a five-year contract lease agreement is about to expire.

Pasadena Water and Power had been leasing the Hyperminis from the Japanese auto manufacturer and wanted to keep them. City officials offered to purchase the cars, or at least renew their original agreement, but Nissan representatives said that wasn't possible because temporary waivers from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration to operate the cars on U.S. roads are about to expire.

The first attempt to retrieve the cars by Nissan on Aug. 8 proved unsuccessful. Citing procedural reasons, city officials said they could not release the cars to them.

But Nissan did not back down and finally picked up the cars, leaving the city with just three other all-electric vehicles.

HESPERIA

Wanna-be cop nabbed

A man dressed as a cop and driving a black SUV with a flashing blue-and-red light bar was arrested on charges of impersonating a peace officer.

Michael Vasquez, 27, of San Bernardino was arrested Wednesday after a sheriff's deputy saw he had pulled someone over and stopped to help. Vasquez was wearing a blue jumpsuit with the word "sheriff" on the back in big black letters.

Sheriff's Deputy John Hayes became suspicious, however, when he saw that Vasquez was not wearing a gun and didn't act appropriately while examining the man's driver's license, Sgt. Rick Ells said.

Hayes called a supervisor and a check of Vaquez's license plate confirmed that he was not a law enforcement officer.

Officials said Vasquez may have been attempting to rob people he pulled over.

"We suspect he's been doing this a while," Ells said. "We have received information that he has stopped other people."

HEMET

Firefighter feels heat for co-worker's death

Prosecutors have filed vehicular manslaughter charges against a firefighter who was driving an engine when it plunged down an embankment in a rainstorm, resulting in the death of his co-worker.

California Highway Patrol investigators found that Michael Lawrence Arizaga, 47, was at fault in the accident because he failed to turn off a special engine brake that was not to be used in rain or snow; because he was driving too fast in bad weather; and because he didn't make sure his co-worker was wearing a seatbelt.

Christopher Kanton, 23, of Temecula died in the crash in August 2005.

The engine was responding to a call near Banning when Arizaga slowed to round a curve on Interstate 10. The engine brake cut in, causing the truck to lose traction and spin out, authorities determined. It hit several trees and rolled down the embankment.

Arizaga, who works for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, could face up to a year in county jail if convicted. A court hearing is set for Sept. 12.

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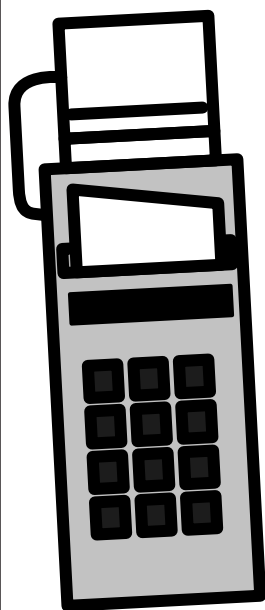
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Housing and fuel strain shoppers

BY CHRISTOPHER LEONARD

AP Business Writer

ST. LOUIS — Fresh evidence shows that high energy prices and sagging home values are pinching the main driver of the U.S. economy — the Average Joe's wallet.

Retailers and economists say many Americans are waiting to buy big-ticket items and cutting back on frills. Homeowners are shelving plans to remodel kitchens. Families are dining out less and tightening their budgets.

"People are taking funds from one area and committing them to another, gasoline and utilities in particular," said Gregory Miller, chief economist at Sun Trust Bank Inc. He predicts growth in consumer spending will fall from a rate of 2.5 percent to around 1.5 percent during the second half of this year, bringing down overall economic growth at the same rate.

At the same time, homeowners are seeing a key source of their wealth lose value as housing prices fall in some parts of the country.

Psychologically, this creates the opposite of the "wealth effect" that kept upbeat consumers spending as stock prices rose in the late 1990s and real estate boomed after the recession in 2001, said Robert Weagley, chair of the personal financial planning department at the University of Missouri.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that new home sales fell 4.3 percent last month, while the inventory of unsold homes on the market rose to a record high and median home prices slipped between June and July.

At the same time, orders for durable goods such as cars or expensive appliances dropped 2.4 percent in July. That reflects what economists say is consumers' hesitation to buy big-ticket items in a tighter economic environment.

Several retailers have warned that the change in consumer behavior was hurting sales and have seen their stock prices slide as

a result.

Home improvement chain Lowe's Cos. warned Monday the slowing housing market will hurt its earnings for the rest of the year, its stock tumbled 10 percent this week. Shares in Williams-Sonoma Inc. fell to a new 52-week low Thursday after the home furnishings retailer cut full-year guidance because of the slowing economy.

More than half of U.S. households said gasoline prices, which have average \$3 a gallon in some parts of the nation, caused them to cut back on discretionary spending during August, according to a survey released Tuesday by the International Council of Shopping Centers. Miller and others say gas prices don't seem likely to drop significantly.

Meanwhile this week's housing numbers show that the real estate market is likely to decline further as the number of unsold homes grows, further pressuring prices downward.

"I rarely find myself in a position where a single data release really snaps my head around," Miller said. "I'm beginning to question my assumption that this housing correction will continue to occur in a controlled fashion."

So what does that mean for a small business owner like Beth Ruppel? Leftover yogurt-dipped dog treats.

Ruppel owns Wolfgang's Pet Stop in St. Louis. Customers still bring their dogs in for grooming, but they're passing on home-made treats or faux-pearl dog collars in the gift shop upstairs, she said.

"Customers are still buying what they need," Ruppel said. "But they're not buying the accessories and the other items that are not necessarily practical."

Consumers still spend freely on the things that are important to them, said Patricia Edwards, managing director and retail analyst at Wentworth, Hauser & Violich in Seattle. But when it comes to impulse buys or simple household goods,

See **CASH FLOW**, page 11

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Strapped for cash

CASH FLOW, from page 10

people are cutting back or buying cheaper products than before.

Mike Schwarm, a 42-year-old plumber from St. Charles, Mo., said he's cut back on taking his wife and kids to Applebee's and Romano's Macaroni Grill Inc. restaurants, from twice weekly to twice monthly. His son Samuel has been begging to go to Walt Disney World Resort this summer. The family visited a museum in Springfield, Mo. instead, Schwarm said.

The pullback was evident in Applebee's International Inc.'s results. The company reported last month that sales dropped 1.8 percent during the second quarter while profits fell 26 percent to \$20.4 million. On the more affordable end, McDonald's Corp., the world's largest restaurant company, posted its strongest quarterly results in more than three years, with net income jumping 57 percent to \$834 million.

Consumers tend to change their spending habits slowly when economic conditions change, Weagley said.

"Psychologically, it takes us a while to make the decision to make an adjustment, and once we make the decision it takes us a while to implement the adjustment," he said.

"A lot of people like me have an old gas-guzzling Ford Explorer, but they keep driving it because it's paid for," Weagley said. To compensate, consumers nibble around the edges, making fewer trips to Wal-Mart and compiling a list before they go, he said.

That's been the case at the eight Wal-Mart stores managed by Cindy Galati in suburban St. Louis.

Galati said customers have been ringing up bigger purchases, indicating they are bundling more shopping into each trip. That's not necessarily bad news. Galati said Wal-Mart's low-price focus puts it in a strong position to capitalize on bargain shoppers.

"It's going to be the day-in and day-out staple items that we know our customer is going to need," Galati said. "That's how we're going to drive sales through the quarter."

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. reported its first quarterly profit decline in a decade this month. Much of the loss came from costs associated with closing operations in Germany. But Chief Executive Lee Scott said disappointing sales were partly due to customers cutting back because of higher energy prices.

"Customers tell us they are most concerned about gas prices," Scott said in a message for investors. "This has been consistent

every month this quarter."

While midpoint and discount chains are feeling the pinch, luxury retailers continue to outperform them, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers' monthly surveys of about 60 retail chains.

Business is booming at nine high-end shopping centers owned by Evanston, Ill.-based Davis Street Land Company, said managing partner Bob Perlmutter.

Luxury outlets like Tiffany & Co. and LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA are expanding in wealthy neighborhoods like Belle Mead in Nashville, where residents are less affected by higher gas prices, he said.

Still, some of the well-heeled are tightening their belts.

"Compared to a few months ago, I'm spending less," said Niria Arvizu, an attorney who was recently shopping at a mall in downtown Los Angeles.

The 29-year-old from Marina Del Rey is saving money to buy a condo and a new car. She said she used to spend \$500 to \$600 a month on clothes and shoes. Now she spends about \$200.

"I'm saving on luxury items, like clothes, dinners, going out," she said. "I go to the grocery store more, and bring my lunch to work everyday."

Overall, shoppers are likely to bargain hunt and put more of their income into savings accounts later this year as the housing market continues to weaken, said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PNC Financial Services Group.

Beyond the psychological impact, lower home values cut into consumers' ability to borrow money, Hoffman said. Since the real estate boom started, homeowners borrowed against the increased value of their houses.

Losing that borrowing power could take tens of billions of dollars out of the U.S. economy this year, although that remains a tiny fraction of overall spending, Hoffman said. The shift is likely to have the biggest effect on home improvement retailers, as people scale back investment in their houses, he said.

That's not news for David Richardson, the 50-year-old co-owner of Rothschild's Antiques and Home Furnishings in St. Louis. After two strong years of sales, business has slowed dramatically this summer.

"Look around," Richardson said, gesturing to an empty store. "I'm scared. I don't know what's the right thing to do. Do you stand by the tried and true, or do you move on?"

(Associated Press writer **Solvej Schou** in Los Angeles contributed to this report)

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Mountain retreat smack dab in the desert

BY CAROLE ORLIN

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY PRESS

If you are looking for an extraordinary adult adventure, fitness and health destination that is easily and inexpensively reachable by air or automobile, I found a location in southwestern Utah made for you.

Red Mountain Spa and Resort is located in Ivins, Utah, just 10 minutes from the St. George Airport. With daily non-stop flights from LAX to St. George, it is a short flight on a puddle jumper plane. It also is a two-hour drive northeast of Las Vegas. Once you enter Red Mountain Spa, you'll find yourself nestled at the foot of dramatic red sandstone cliffs and lava beds adjacent to the 10,000-foot peak of Pine Valley Mountain and near the entrance to the beautiful Snow Canyon State Park. You will find yourself in a completely different world.

Red Mountain Spa has 82 rooms and 12 luxury villas. Our room was small but beautifully appointed, and our view of the red rock was spectacular. We were just a few steps away from a meditation labyrinth built in the lava beds, which I used every day. We were greeted each morning by baby rabbits and exotic lizards a few steps outside of our door.

It's difficult to know where to begin in an attempt to adequately describe Red Mountain Spa. It is one of the largest destination spas in the country and is renowned for its outdoor recreation and adventure sports — hiking, kayaking, mountaineering, rock climbing, mountain biking and back-country wilderness trips, to name a few.

They offer more than 30 hikes for all lev-



"It's difficult to know where to begin in an attempt to adequately describe Red Mountain Spa."

Photo courtesy

els of fitness and over-50 classes. But no worries, they work closely with guests to help decide which classes and activities are most suitable for you. Two classes that I can personally recommend are the chi ball class and NIA. The latter is a form of creative free-style dance. I enjoyed it so much that I have located some NIA classes in Los Angeles. Unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be any in Santa Monica. One adventure that I did not have time to explore but will definitely schedule on a return visit is a kind of high-tech treasure hunt called "geocaching." It involves hand-held global positioning systems (GPS), where the guests are taught how

to read and log in coordinates to find hidden "treasures" on the property. It involves hiking hills, crossing streams, scrambling and more.

Red Mountain is relatively close to Zion, Snow, and Bryce Canyon National Parks, and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. We went on a wonderful day trip to Bryce Canyon, which was about a two-hour drive. Fortunately, the Red Mountain staff drove and we got to sit back and sightsee. We hiked two of Bryce's many trails, including the Queens Garden Trail. We had a lovely lunch and returned exhausted but exhilarated. Zion is only about an hour away. They also

offer a two-day, 26-mile hike from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon to Phantom Ranch at the bottom of the canyon on the Colorado River and back out the South Rim.

However, for those of you who just want to relax, eat healthy and receive top notch — and I mean top-notch spa treatments — Red Mountain Spa is perfect for you. We saw many people with books in one hand and a glass of wine in the other stretched out on the many hammocks scattered around the property, just taking it easy. We were surprised to see that all the food on the menu

See DESERT OASIS, page 13



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DESERT OASIS, from page 12

had the calories, fiber and fat listed. The food is very healthy — Southwest inspired — and many people come there for their detox program. This means detox from caffeine, sugar, etc. They make it very clear that it's not a detox for drugs or alcohol. They have a seven-night package for "purifying the body, mind and spirit." We did not partake in that option, but nevertheless, it was one of the first times I have gone on vacation, ate well and did not gain weight.

Their Sagestone Spa opened just this past January. It's a breathtaking three-story geodesic dome, which is packed with a wide range of body treatments. The spa menu is so large — over 70 treatments — that we needed serious help in deciding which treatments to select. The staff was very knowledgeable about which treatments would be appropriate for each person. I trusted their guidance and went with the Arnica Friction Bolus Massage. I didn't know what to expect, and I probably would not have picked it as a treatment, but I have to say it was the best body treatment I ever experienced. My husband had the Red Rock Hikers Massage, which I thought didn't sound too exciting, but he said it was outstanding.

Red Mountain also has its own on-site chiropractor, Dr. Brad Crump, who gives health lectures and treatments. They even do bone density testing on site.

I recommend that anyone interested in going be certain to take the time to review all they offer, even if it is time consuming, and to contact them ahead of time with any questions.

We left Utah relaxed and renewed. With the tremendous range of activities, along with the dramatic topography of the area, this spa-destination resort is really in a class

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Distance is approximately 400 miles (approximately six hours).

Red Mountain Spa

(www.redmountainspa.com; 800-407-3002)

of its own. I have to give particular credit to the staff. Running an operation of this magnitude cannot be an easy task, yet it's done very well. The only drawback I can see is that we did not allot enough time to do everything we wanted to accomplish. I would suggest planning to go for at least a week, or even longer — if possible.

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

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Security breaches blow lid off airport operations

BY KRISTEN HAYS

AP Business Writer

HOUSTON — A college student's checked luggage on a Continental Airlines flight from Argentina contained traces of dynamite, authorities said, in one of six security incidents Friday that caused U.S. flights to be diverted, evacuated or searched.

Federal authorities were investigating why the student, who got off the Continental plane in Houston before it continued to Newark, N.J., had the explosive residue, FBI spokeswoman Shauna Dunlap said.

Houston Fire Department Assistant Chief Omero Longoria said the man told authorities he works in mining and often handles explosives. Longoria said federal officials were investigating whether the explanation was true.

IN OTHER INCIDENTS:

■ An American Airlines flight from England to Chicago was forced to land in Bangor, Maine, in response to an unspecified threat, authorities said. Passengers deplaned and were led to a holding area, said airport manager Rebecca Hupp. The jetliner was on the tarmac with its engines shut off.

"Given the current threat level, the agency, in conjunction with other federal authorities, took prudent action to assure the safety of the passengers and crew," the federal Transportation Security Administration said in a statement.

■ A U.S. Airways jet was diverted to

Oklahoma City after a federal air marshal subdued a disruptive passenger who had pushed a flight attendant, the FBI said.

■ A Continental Airlines flight from Corpus Christi, Texas, to Bakersfield, Calif., was held in El Paso, one of its scheduled stops, after the crew discovered a missing panel in the lavatory, authorities said.

■ A utility knife was found on a vacant passenger seat of a U.S. Airways flight traveling from Philadelphia to Bradley International Airport in Connecticut, state police said.

■ An Aer Lingus flight from New York to Dublin was evacuated Friday morning during a scheduled stopover in western Ireland following a bomb threat that turned out to be unfounded, officials said.

In Houston, the dynamite residue was found during a luggage search in a federal inspection station at Bush Intercontinental Airport shortly after Flight 52 landed at about 6 a.m. Marlene McClinton, spokeswoman for the Houston Airport System, said a bomb-sniffing dog "had a hit" on explosive residue during a further search.

She said Customs and Border Patrol and the FBI shut down the customs area and began questioning the passenger who had the luggage.

Dunlap confirmed that the explosive was dynamite. Dunlap also said the man, one of 173 passengers on the flight, was from Connecticut and attends Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. After landing at Newark Liberty

International, the plane was kept from the terminal as a precaution, authorities said.

In Connecticut, authorities said they received an emergency call at about 8:25 a.m. reporting that a passenger on U.S. Airways Flight 554 had found the knife and reported it to a flight attendant. When the plane arrived at Bradley, state troopers boarded the aircraft, seized the knife as evidence and interviewed passengers.

No arrests were made and there were no threats involved, said Master Sgt. J. Paul Vance, state police spokesman.

Authorities do not know yet whether a worker inadvertently left the knife on the plane or a passenger brought it on, Vance said.

The FBI was also involved in the investigation.

In another incident, Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Arlene Murray said American Airlines Flight 55 out of Manchester, England, was diverted to Bangor for security reasons.

"The TSA learned of a reported threat to the aircraft while it was en route," TSA spokeswoman Andrea McCauley said, declining to give further details.

McCauley said FBI agents were interviewing passengers and crew. She added that officers with dogs trained to detect explosives were also checking the plane.

The Boeing 767 carrying 167 passengers and 12 crew members was diverted at the request of the Transportation Security

Administration, airline spokesman John Hotard said.

Hotard declined to say whether any passengers were removed from the flight, but he said the crew needed to be changed because of restrictions on how many hours they can work.

In Oklahoma City, the passenger who pushed the flight attendant on the U.S. Airways flight was taken into custody after the plane landed at Will Rogers World Airport, FBI spokesman Gary Johnson said. He was undergoing a mental evaluation, and authorities had yet to determine what criminal charges he might face. The twin-engine jet returned to flight three hours later on its trip from Phoenix to Charlotte, N.C.

Back in Texas, the crew of Continental Airlines Flight 2258 discovered a missing panel in the lavatory, and passengers were being screened and interviewed upon landing in El Paso, the TSA's Amy von Walter said.

The Air Transport Association, a lobbying group that represents major airlines, said the diversions are necessary for safety reasons.

"Decisions to divert aircraft for security reasons are made for a wide variety of reasons, the ATA said in a statement. "While the reasons for these decisions will vary, the common factor is the overarching importance of assuring the safety of our passengers and crews."

(Associated Press Writer Leslie Miller in Washington contributed to this story.)

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Salty methane water may grow timber on dry Wyoming plains

BY PETER GARTRELL

Associated Press Writer

LINCH, Wyo. — The green oasis next to the coal-bed methane water reservoir stands out from the sagebrush prairie. Over a rise on the road, in a valley just north of nowhere, the grove attracts hundreds of rabbits with a landscape feature unique in these parts: Trees.

But not a single one of the 2,100 trees covering the three-acre spread in carefully planted rows would be there if it were not irrigated by coal-bed methane water, the salty and bedeviling byproduct of drawing natural gas from coal beds.

"What we started was what we consider a pilot project," said Patsy Ballek, an environmental specialist with Windsor Energy Group, an Oklahoma-based company with coal-bed methane operations in the Powder River Basin.

Now the trees — poplars bred by an Iowa company to soak up large volumes of salty water — appear to be thriving. Some have grown more than 2 feet since they were planted in late April, giving Ballek and others involved with the project hope that the technique might be used in other parts of the basin to sop up the vast quantities of salty water that accompany coal-bed methane development.

"We were looking to use our water for beneficial use, and one of our consultants came up and said they had been investigating some stuff with trees," Ballek said.

The investigation began when Chris Ewart was a graduate student in Portland, Ore. Now an engineer with CBM Associates in Gillette, Ewart thought trees he had seen planted on top of capped Oregon landfills might be a solution to water management issues in the Powder River Basin.

Ewart found the trees were planted by Ecolotree. Owned by Lou Licht, the North Liberty, Iowa, company uses trees to reduce pollution by minimizing seepage into the water table at 85 sites in 22 states across the country.

The Johnson County project has gone as well as could be expected, Licht said. Only a handful of trees have died, failed to grow or withered when the saline water from the sprinklers landed on their leaves.

"Better than I thought it would be," Licht said last month as he stood under the blazing July sun during a break from an inventory of the trees.

The trees are watered for two to three hours a day by coal-bed methane water that is piped to sprinklers. Cow manure is spread as fertilizer, and a mixture of gypsum and sulfur is used to neutralize the naturally alkaline water. Grass is grown to choke out weeds, and all the trees are male to keep them from germinating and taking seed outside the irrigated area.

It has created an oasis. Kenneth Anderson, a retired farmer who cares for the trees during the week, said he has seen sage grouse in addition to the rabbits that hop through the field. Antelope and cattle have been attracted to the spruced-up area, but are kept out by a fence.

"It has worked as well as we'd hoped," Ewart said as he bounced along in a pickup truck, traveling along the 22-mile dirt road to the site at Jepson Draw.

"If this area were conducive to growing trees, there'd be trees in all the draws," he said.

Bureau of Land Management officials have toured the site and came away impressed. However, Mike McKinley, a hydrologist with the Buffalo Field Office, said it was not a complete solution because it uses relatively little water.

Licht estimates the site will use up to 1.3 million gallons of water annually. More than 544 million gallons were pumped from the basin's coal seams last year.

Based on previous experience and experiments he's done at his Iowa farm, Licht said the trees can grow 40 feet tall and up to 24 inches in diameter. When harvested, the wood has been used for baseboard siding and paper pulp. But the main task is to sop up water.

"We do not plant trees for landscaping. Every tree we have has a permit attached to it," he said. "I believe these trees multitask. You can do more than just grow wood."

The system is attractive at this point because the trees use more water than irrigated crops, Ballek said. She and Ewart agreed that if the trees prove successful, they eventually could be an option for private landowners. However, hurdles remain before the test site can be declared a success.

The first frost of the fall and last of the spring will be major tests of hardiness for the trees. And although the trees have responded well to the methane water so far, Licht said there is still tweaking to be done.

"We decided on a small project because it would be more like a study," Ballek said. "We want to be environmentally friendly, and we want to use our landowners' property, but we want to do it in the right way."

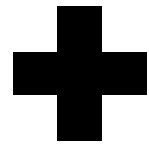
Ewart is hopeful.

"We're using the water to grow trees in Wyoming. We're finding out if it's good science," he said.

Those at the site agreed: It looks good so far.

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Syria takes hard line against border with Lebanon

BY STEVEN R. HURST

Associated Press Writer

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Israel is demanding that U.N. troops patrol the Syria-Lebanon border to prevent Hezbollah from receiving arms shipments. But even if Israel overcomes Syrian objections to the idea, policing the mostly mountainous frontier could prove nearly impossible.

The controversy has developed as the United Nations tries to muster enough

peacekeepers to serve as a buffer force between Israeli troops and Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon's south.

Israel, which accuses Syria of supplying arms to Hezbollah, refuses to lift its sea and air blockade of Lebanon unless U.N. troops also deploy to the far larger Syria-Lebanon border.

It's a tall order. Syria borders Lebanon both to its east and north, with four official crossings, including one on the road between Beirut and Damascus. But there are

dozens of dirt tracks running between the countries through a mountain range, routes that have been used for centuries by smugglers and many of them able to carry modern-day vehicles.

It's unclear, moreover, how much Hezbollah is in need of a weapons resupply. Although Israel said Hezbollah fired about 4,000 rockets into northern Israel during the 34-day war, the guerrillas were believed to have an arsenal of more than 12,000 of the weapons when the fighting started.

There has also been wide speculation that the Syrian army left behind a huge weapons supply for Hezbollah as it withdrew from Lebanon in April 2005. Hezbollah draws primary backing from Syria and Iran, which established the guerrilla group and its political arm in the Bekaa Valley in 1982.

Syrian President Bashar Assad on Thursday called Israel's demand a "hostile" move aimed at damaging relations between the neighbors. He said it was unprecedented for international forces to police a border between two countries that have not been at war.

Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni dismissed Assad's objections Friday, saying Syria must respect Lebanon's sovereignty and an arms embargo imposed on Hezbollah after the war, which ended with an Aug. 14 cease-fire. Syria virtually controlled Lebanon for nearly three decades before its troops pulled out last year and has threatened to close the border if internation-

al forces take positions there.

"It's about time that Syria give Lebanon the freedom and ability to be an independent and sovereign state," Livni said in Tel Aviv. "We expect and I believe the entire international community expects the Syrian government to respect the decision of the international community."

Caught in the middle, Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora said he called U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan late Thursday to ask for help in lifting Israel's blockade. Lines reappeared at Lebanese gas stations Friday, signaling renewed shortages after a brief respite when a fuel tanker was allowed into the Beirut port.

Although Lebanon has not explicitly rejected the idea of deploying U.N. forces to the Syrian border, Saniora stressed his government has already sent troops there.

"We have no intention of showing any hostility toward Syria," he said. "We want cordial relations with Syria and we are taking care of the issue of the border to prevent any infiltration into Lebanon."

Lebanon's Cabinet called on the international community Thursday to send forces to free up the Lebanese army to patrol its frontiers. It did not directly address the issue of U.N. troops on the Syrian border. Information Minister Ghazi Aridi, however, said the government would ask Germany for technological help in controlling Lebanon's borders.

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He's a Jew but not for Jesus

Saying he's "as Jewish as a matzo ball or kosher salami," **JACKIE MASON** filed a lawsuit against Jews for Jesus for using his name and likeness in a pamphlet. The \$2 million lawsuit seeks the immediate destruction of the pamphlet, which members of the missionary group have been handing out at various points around New York City.

"While I have the utmost respect for people who practice the Christian faith, the fact is, as everyone knows, I am as Jewish as a matzo ball or kosher salami," the 75-year-old comedian said in documents filed in state Supreme Court in Manhattan. Founded in the 1970s, Jews for Jesus practices Judaism but regards Jesus as the Messiah. The pamphlets feature an image of Mason next to the words "Jackie Mason ... A Jew for Jesus!?" with information inside that outlines the similarities

between Jews and Christians. "The pamphlet uses my name, my likeness, my 'schtick' (if you will), and my very act, which is derived from my personality, to attract attention and converts," Mason said in an affidavit. Susan Perlman, a spokeswoman for Jews for Jesus, said the pamphlet was "good-natured." "Shame on him for getting so upset about this," she said Friday. Mason has starred on Broadway and in films including "Caddyshack II."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bardot barks back at Geneva muzzle law

BRIGITTE BARDOT has condemned a new Geneva law requiring all dogs to be muzzled in public parks, adopted this week after a pit bull attacked a toddler. "I don't think a Yorkshire terrier or a lapdog constitute any great danger to the population," Bardot, a former French film

star known for her animal rights activism, said in a statement published Friday in the daily Tribune de Geneve newspaper. "Unfortunately it's always the dogs paying the price for their masters' ignorance, irresponsibility and bad behavior," said Bardot, 71.

The new law, announced Monday, came after an 18-month-old boy was attacked by a pit bull in one of the city's parks, leaving the child badly disfigured. It applies to all the city's 30,000 dogs. Owners face fines if they are found in breach of the new law. "If I owned a dog in Geneva I would

simply ignore the ruling," said Swiss animal rights campaigner Franz Weber, who has worked with Bardot to protect baby seals from Canadian hunters. "To muzzle an animal amounts to mistreating it. It loses its dignity and its pride."

AP

Aerosmith rocker recoups after radiation

Aerosmith bassist **TOM HAMILTON** is recovering from radiation treatment for throat cancer and will skip the beginning of the band's upcoming tour, the band's publicist said. Hamilton, 55, will be recovering with

his family after a seven-week radiation treatment he just completed, publicist Marcee Rondan said Thursday. He will join the "Route of All Evil" tour in mid-October. Rondan said she had no further infor-

mation about Hamilton's condition. David Hull, a longtime friend of the band who played in the Joe Perry Project, will fill in as bassist, she said. The tour is set to launch Sept. 5 in Columbus, Ohio, according to the band's

Web site. Hamilton has played with Aerosmith since the band's inception in 1969, according to the Web site.

AP



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Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

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Friday
The Day the Earth Caught Fire / Last Man on Earth 7:30
Saturday
Beach Party / The Girls on the Beach 7:30
Sunday
Viva Las Vegas / King Creole 7:30

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1310 3rd Street
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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

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
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(310) 458-6232

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 (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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Friday, Saturday, and Sunday:
The Quiet (R)
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15
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)
12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10
Friday:
Wrestling with Angels: Playwright Tony Kushner
11:30 a.m.
Saturday and Sunday:
Wrestling with Angels: Playwright Tony Kushner
10:00 a.m.
An Inconvenient Truth (PG)
11:00 a.m.
The Celestine Prophecy (PG)
11:00 a.m.
Crossing the Bridge: The Sound of Istanbul
11:00 a.m.

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(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

More information email news@smdp.com

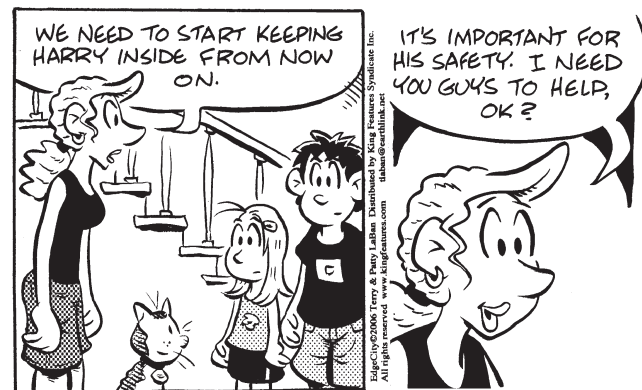
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by Julie Larson



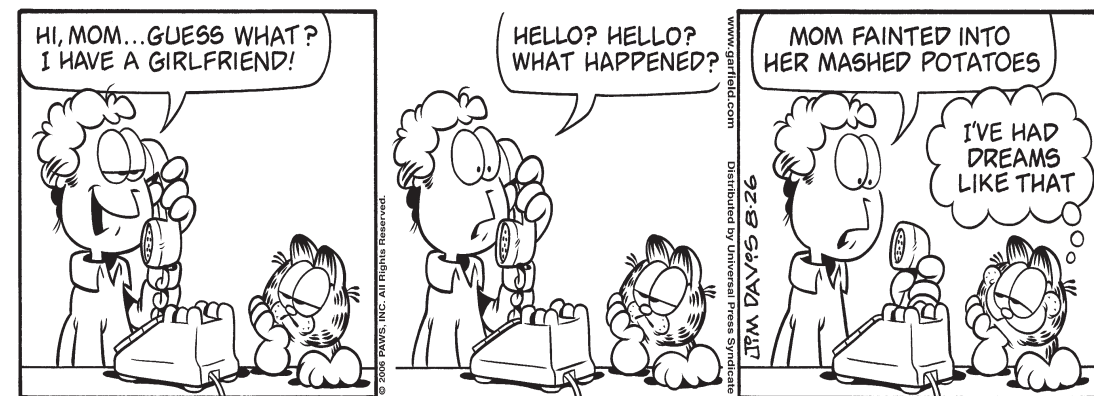
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- 9 Heist
- 10 Pillages
- 12 Band-leader Shaw
- 13 Old market
- 14 Popular
- 16 Beer bash sight
- 17 Recent: Pref.
- 18 Summer quencher
- 20 Straying
- 22 Bumbler's word
- 23 Horn sounds
- 25 To boot
- 28 Fried chicken choice
- 32 Diver's place
- 34 Compete
- 35 Clamor
- 36 Petrified Forest setting
- 38 Lusitania sinker
- 40 Clark's partner
- 41 In itself
- 42 Clear the slate
- 43 Hip-hop songs

44 Audition goal

DOWN

- 1 Sock fixer
- 2 Choose
- 3 Friend of Luke and Han
- 4 Golfer Lee
- 5 Trumpet output
- 6 Record
- 7 Became fond of
- 8 "Silk-wood" star
- 9 Queeg's ship
- 11 Heroic tales

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	S	E	E	S			W	A	D	S

Yesterday's answer

- 15 Harvest month
- 19 Rx amount
- 21 On the roof of
- 24 Movie preview
- 25 Make sense
- 26 Stoller's song-writing partner
- 27 Lady of Spain
- 29 Oath
- 30 Gary of "CSI: NY"
- 31 Rib
- 33 Ap-peases
- 37 Goose egg
- 39 Pharaoh's symbol

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

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1bdm/1bthrm Carpet Floors, laundry, stove, refrigerator, unit, blinds, unfurnished. parking, carpets, garbage disposal water /trash paid **REDUCE YOUR RENT !!!** We have others From \$600.00 Visit Our Website \$10.00 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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LOCATION 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90405

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Classifieds

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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For Rent

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1bdrm/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

SANTA MONICA \$1250/mo
1bdrm/1bath, Flexible lease, Carpet Floors, refrigerator, stove, yard, washer/dryer hookups. (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1495/mo
2bdrms/1Bath, Carpet/Tile Floors, Garage parking, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, private patio, (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$950/mo single/1bath, hardwood floors, refrigerator, stove, controlled access building, eat-in kitchen (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1100/mo
Single/1Bath, Tile Floors, laundry, small kitchen with refrigerator and microwave (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1250/mo
1BDRM/1BATH Month-to-month lease, Carpet Floors, Parking, laundry, dishwasher, Paid water/trash/gardener (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1400/mo
1bdrm/1Bath guest house Will consider pet, Tile Floors, dishwasher, patio (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1400/mo
1bdrm/1Bath guest house Will consider pet, Tile Floors, dishwasher, patio (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1625/mo
2bdrms/1Bath, Carpet Floors, refrigerator, stove, Partial Ocean Views. Freshly painted. (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 \$2700/mo
3bdrms/2Baths, Hardwood/Carpet Floors, parking, laundry, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer hookups (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$850/mo
Bachelor/1Bath, No pets, Carpet/Tile Floors, quiet neighborhood, central heat (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

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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 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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

For Rent

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 closets, water /trash removal
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 Discount Code SMDP2006 www.apartmenthunterz.com 310-276-0881

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 Completely Refurbished unit! Granite Counter tops. New Appliances. Furnished Available, Private Balconies/ Patios, Dishwasher, Carpeted Floors, Ceiling Fan(s), Microwave, Refrigerator, parking air conditioning
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Gated estate 1/2 block/golf course. Fully furn. 2br Peaceful/park like yards. Gourmet kitchen. Sliding glass balcony/private 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

Houses For Rent

CRAFTSMAN HOUSE, 2 bed, 1 office, 2 bath, hardwood fl., appliances inc., 2 car garage, garden. 1132 Nowita Place, Venice. (310) 418-5900

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FREE HOUSING SERVICE

⇒ Need a little extra income?

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Quite, Professional, 100+sf,
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Full service incl.
internet, phones etc.
Additional amenities available,
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\$1200-\$1400
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SM SMALL office space for lease. 127 Broadway 2nd floor office with operable windows. \$950-\$1875/month. Par Commercial (310) 395-2663 ext 101

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

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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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Condos for Sale

LUXE FOR LESS. WLA near Santa Monica/Brentwood 2+2. High ceilings, marble 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

Real Estate Wanted

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ALL CASH, AS-IS, FAST CLOSE
David (310) 308-7887

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

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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

Yard Sales

GARAGE SALE 11607 La Grange Ave WLA furniture, electronics, household goods Sat only 8am-6pm.

GARAGE SALE Sat. 7am-4pm vintage clothing, furniture, kitchen items, lots of cool stuff! 10944 Palms Blvd, just East of Sepulveda

MOVING SALE, couch, tv desk, swing chair, kitchen stuff, purses, shoes, caps, hats, jewelry, lots of clothes. Everything goes. 1008 apt A Euclid alley off Washington, North of Wilshire. 9am-3pm Sat-Sun Aug 26-27 no early birds! Cash only.

PARKING LOT sale, behind 854 Pico Blvd, near 10th in SM. All kinds of stuff.

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

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24HRS.

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877-396-2742

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\$\$ CASH FOR CARS \$\$
All makes & models, all cars considered. Honest professional buyer.We come to you and handle all paper work.

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'04 Sienna XLE \$22,995

LLLoaded, Leather, Moonroof

Vin #: F4S084068

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

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Vehicles for sale

'04 XC70 WGN \$24,995

Third Seat, Leather, Mnrfr, Lo Miles, Gorgeous (41155266)

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

'04 Beetle \$19,995

Convertible, Loaded! Auto, Leather, Lo Miles. Stock #: PT4849

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

'99 Toyota Tacoma Xtra Cab \$10,990

SR5, Auto, A/C, Alloys, Full Power, 6Cyl. Vin #: FXZ572996

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

'04 Tundra \$21,995

V8, Access Cab, Auto, Alloys, Full Pwr, Xlnt! Vin #: 4S446299

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

'04 Cayenne \$42,995

Pearl White, Call Us Before Shopping Porsche Dealers. This Price-Out. Vin #: 4LA69663

Toyota Santa Monica

(800) 579-6047

'00 MUSTANG \$8,995

CONVERTIBLE, Wht/Tan, Lthr, Super Clean (YF150840)

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'05 Dodge Durango...\$21,995

Low Miles, 3rd Seat, Best, Best Buy Stock # T9935

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White with tan, leather, loaded, immaculate.
Stock # PT4942
Toyota Santa Monica
(800) 579-6047



'05 Chrysler Town & Country \$14,995
Auto, 6cyl, AC, Best Buy, Full Power Pkg. Stock #: PT4964
Toyota Santa Monica
(800) 579-6047



03' Toyota Tundra SR5
Black Step Side
\$19,981 (25390808)
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com



'04 C230 Coupe
RED/Pano Roof /cd
(4A600085) \$21,981
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com



'04 GX470 \$39,981
Blur/Tan, DVD
N/C Trade (40034945)
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www.wisimonson.com



'03 C230WZ \$19,981
Pewter/Blk
(3A111795)
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com



'03 Range Rover
Silver/Black, Navi
\$46,982 (3A111795)
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www.wisimonson.com

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Vehicles for sale

'01 E430 \$25,981
Black/Black, Navigation
(1x061487)
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com



'04 Grand Prix
Slvr/gray, N/C Trade
\$11,981 (41110793)
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com



'04 Pilot EX \$25,981
White/Tan, only 6KMi!!
(4H605035)
800-784-6196
www.wisimonson.com

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'02 Ford Explorer Sport Trac
Stock #: L15502
Price: \$13,950
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'97 Lexus SC 300
Stock #: L15491
Price: \$14,950
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'03 Infiniti G35
Stock #: L15498
Price: \$20,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
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'00 Saturn S-Series SL1
Stock #: L15436
Price: \$5,950
Back to School Special!
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Vehicles for sale

2002 Lexus ES 300 – Sedan
Mileage: 49,317
Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15357
Price: \$18,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
(800) 406-7782



2000 Lexus RX 300 – 4dr SUV
Factory Certified Preowned
Mileage: 66,851
Exterior Color: White
Stock #: PL15390
Price: \$16,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
(800) 406-7782



2004 Nissan Quest – Passenger Minivan
Mileage: 45,041
Exterior Color: Silver
Stock #: L15419
Price: \$19,950
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
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
(800) 406-7782



2003 Audi A4 – Sedan
Mileage: 39,037
Exterior Color: Navy Blue
Stock #: L15433
Price: \$19,950
Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned
(800) 406-7782



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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Vehicles for sale

'01 Grand Marquis
Maroon
Mileage: 56853
\$10,988
Stock #: P504
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



1997 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN
Loaded, dual air, quad seating
VIN 465049
\$3,595
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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1998 BUICK REGAL GS SEDAN
Loaded, leather, one owner
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Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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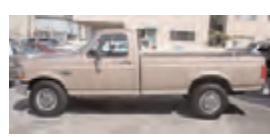
2001 DODGE 15 PASSENGER VAN
Dual air, many extras
VIN 543782
\$8,750
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2004 DODGE 1500 4 X 4 QUAD CAB
Hemi 4 x 4, leather, loaded, low miles. VIN 229561
\$22,995
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2006 LINCOLN TOWN CAR
Signature limited edition, loaded
VIN 610 802
\$29,995
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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1997 FORD F250 PICK UP
Clean, low miles
VIN C05788
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Vehicles for sale

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VIN # 155659
\$9,995
Claude Short Auto Sales Dealer
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White
\$9,988
Stock #: P599
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'04 Scion XB Wagon
\$11,988
Stock #: P501A
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'02 Ranger Super Cab Certified
\$13,988
Stock #: R565
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'02 Mitsu Lancer OZ
\$10,988
Stock #: 55643A
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'03 Harley Davidson F150 Certified
BLACK / SILVER
\$29,988
Stock #: R541
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford

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Vehicles for sale

'05 Mustang Saleen Certified
Must See
Stock #: R573
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'03 Chrysler 300 M
SILVER
\$17,988
Stock #: P587
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'06 Dodge Magnum
\$18,988
Stock #: P593
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'05 Crown Vic Ford
Certified
\$18,988
Stock #: R588
(310) 451-1588
Santa Monica Ford



'05 ACCENT \$8,995
GLS, Auto, Lo Mil, Full Power
(U671255)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
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'04 Wrangler X \$16,995
Only 14K Miles, Columbia Edition,
(P726470)
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'03 ECLIPSE \$14,995
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Vehicles for sale



'02 JETTA GLS \$12,495
Sedan, 4DR, Auto, Air, Pwr Steering (M035074)
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'01 ECLIPSE GT \$8,995
Coupe 2DR, V6, FWD, Air, Pwr Package (VIN E152902)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
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2002 Santa Fe GLS
Auto, 4WD, Fully Loaded (U175332) \$12,995
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'05 Santa Fe GLS . . \$18,495
16K miles, Loaded, CD, Silver Vin#: 935352
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'05 ECLIPSE GTS \$15,995
Coupe, Auto, Low Miles, Loaded (E165370)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'05 SPORTAGE EX \$19,995
Sport Utility, 4DR, Auto, V6, Kml (041210)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



2001 XG300 L
Priced to sell, Fully Loaded (PH1290) \$9,995
Hyundai of Santa Monica
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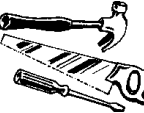
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