

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

4 5 15 32 42
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: \$13 Million

FANTASY 5

4 22 35 36 37

DAILY 3

Daytime: 4 9 5
Evening: 4 6 7

DAILY DERBY

1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 01 Gold Rush

RACE TIME: 1:44.69

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Chicago lawyer Stephen Diamond has filed about 100 lawsuits since 2002 against companies for failing to charge him sales tax on items he bought, earning himself about \$500,000 in settlements and judgments, according to an October Wall Street Journal report. Diamond has exploited a law in Illinois that allows citizens to receive part of the proceeds from certain law violations, including from companies that might be authorized to collect sales tax on Internet purchases but have chosen not to because the law is not completely settled. (Tennessee and Virginia, which have similar laws, have amended them to prevent lawsuits like Diamond's.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 325th day of 2005.
There are 40 days left in the year.

On Nov. 21, 1877, inventor Thomas A. Edison announced the invention of his phonograph.

In 1789, North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We are always doing, says he, something for posterity, but I would fain see posterity do something for us."

JOSEPH ADDISON
ENGLISH ESSAYIST AND POET (1672-1719)

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Illuminating wishes



Photo courtesy

Jimmy Quaintance places the last of 6,000 blue light bulbs on the Ferris wheel at the Santa Monica Pier in preparation for "Blue Monday," the kickoff of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Los Angeles' holiday season campaign, "A Season of Wishes." Lighting on various Los Angeles landmarks will be changed to blue in support of the campaign, which promises to grant 100 additional wishes for children with life-threatening medical conditions. "Blue Monday" is today, and the wheel will turn blue for the first time at the ceremonial lighting event, complete with the granting of a child's wish. The event will be set to music by the UCLA marching band, which will fill the Ferris wheel. The event is open to the public, and it costs \$5 to park.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

COMMUNITY PROFILES IS A WEEKLY SERIES THAT APPEARS EACH MONDAY AND DELVES INTO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY IN SANTA MONICA.

John Bourget: Success in building family business



Photo courtesy

John Bourget (left) with his brothers.

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

Success in business often depends on the ability to adapt.

Often the companies of today are won or lost — raised or razed — over the simple issue of change, says John Bourget.

The youngest of four brothers

and one sister, Bourget is a chief partner in the Bourget Brothers, a Santa Monica-based regional lumber retailer.

It's also a family business Bourget's father started in 1947.

Having dabbled in the sale of building materials, construction, stone and tile work — even jewelry — Bourget says doing good business sometimes requires change, and the changes at Bourget Brothers keep coming.

"Here, we're doing what we can to maximize customer service," Bourget said. "I'm changing many aspects of our operation just so (delivery) trucks can get in and out of here with a faster turnaround time."

See PROFILES, page 8

OBITUARY

Aloha, Mr. Kramer

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL —



teacher on Saturday.

Family, friends, colleagues, neighbors and former students — almost half of whom were wearing Hawaiian shirts — filled Lincoln Middle School's auditorium on Saturday afternoon to celebrate the life and mourn the passing of Stephen Max Kramer.

Kramer, 63, died suddenly on Thursday, Nov. 10, due to complications from a heart

See KRAMER, page 9

MTBE lawsuit costing millions

(Editor's note: This article is one in a multi-part series that details the ongoing legal fees dispute between City Hall and three prominent law firms that represented it in its water contamination case against oil companies. On Tuesday, read about the future of a water treatment facility that will clean up seven of Santa Monica's drinking wells.)

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Attorneys here are embroiled in by far the largest and most bitter legal battle the local government has ever faced, with hundreds of millions of dollars in taxpayer money hanging in the balance.

The public attorneys and contingency lawyers who represented Santa Monica in its litigation against 18 oil companies for allowing MTBE to contaminate drinking water are set to wage war at a trial in February. At issue is just how much City Hall owes its team of contingency lawyers for securing a \$121 million cash settlement plus the promise from oil companies to build a water treatment facility to clean up seven water wells.

The case was set for trial last month but was delayed until Feb. 6. Attorneys on both sides were in court last week when it was determined that the case is effectively stayed while the city's motion to amend its complaint is heard by the Court of Appeals.

The amended complaint — which has been submitted to Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Minning four times and denied each time — claims that the lead contingency attorney, Fred Baron, had a conflict of interest

See LAWSUIT, page 10

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HOROSCOPE

Gather bills, Cancer

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)

★★★★★ You certainly wake up on the right side of the bed, even if it is Monday! You might leap out of your cozy nest, with so much to do. Though we do not doubt the complexity of your day, you might be making yourself a little crazy by overthinking things. Tonight: Do something light.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ No, no one is working against you. What is happening is that many people have their own style and ideas. Ask questions and be efficient in whatever you dip into. Your temper comes out when you feel bullied. Tonight: Do what you want.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You move quickly, but you don't have to charge ahead. Yes, you have a lot to do, and of any sign, you are capable of succeeding. Just worry less and start moving. Once more, be careful with spending. Tonight: Visit with a friend.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Even though a risk seems very tempting, be careful with your money. The bad news is, this risk could backfire. Rather than get distracted, do exactly what you need to do. Think positively. Money doesn't grow on trees. Tonight: Gather your bills.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ With the Moon in your sign, it's like you have an entire football team behind you. Remember, though, to direct your energy properly. A boss or authority figure could get to you. Detach and think. Tonight: The Lion roars, if he or she so chooses.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Though everyone likes to please others, there are times when you cannot win for losing. Today is one of them. Your best bet is to close your door and detach. Consider why people are doing what they are doing. Why are you reacting? Tonight: Early to bed.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Investigate different styles, ideas and ways of handling problems. You don't have to decide which way you are going; you are simply gathering facts. Someone could be touchy and grumpy, if he or she feels slightly off in any way. Tonight: Find your friends.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Sometimes you want to walk away from a certain difficult associate, but you can't. What you can do is assume your natural leadership role and take charge. What happens will be more to your liking. Tonight: Push till the wee hours.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Look for diversity and different types of ideas. Keep your head out of the clouds, and don't get into petty matters. Be logical and empathetic simultaneously. Remember, even you have limited energy. Tonight: Start thinking about the holidays and those at a distance.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Work with others, and you'll gain. You can't always be the head honcho. Your creativity flows, especially when you hit a roadblock. You might also choose to bypass a difficult person. Tonight: A quality talk.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Others run with the ball. Stopping them is impossible, so be the ethereal Aquarius and enjoy your life and do your thing. Ideas come through discussions with friends. A family member might want to rearrange the furniture. Tonight: Just go with the flow.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You need to ignore what is going on with others, though it might be difficult with them in your face. You have energy and drive. Concentrate on what you must. Being fatigued or overwhelmed could stop you. Tonight: Find your favorite spot.



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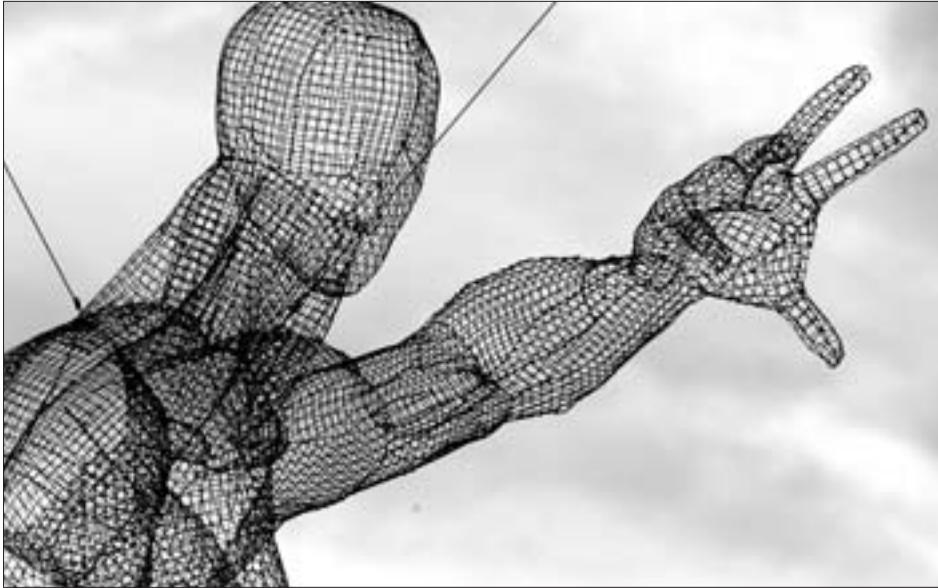
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LOCAL



Mystery photo



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

The first person to identify where this photo was taken will win a prize. E-mail answers to editor@smdp.com.



Grant Woods is last week's mystery photo winner. Woods accurately described that this photo was taken at the eastern end of the Santa Monica Pier. Check out today's edition for this week's mystery photo contest.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Bubba Gump gives back

By Daily Press staff

Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., which opened its doors to the public on Nov. 5, raised \$16,000 for local schools.

The restaurant, located on the Santa Monica Pier, donated half of the proceeds from the opening day's sales to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's equity fund.

Take a look at the effects of Latinos in politics

By Daily Press staff

Just what does it mean now that Los Angeles has a Latino mayor?

Santa Monica College will present "Fluid Borders: Latino Power, Identity and Politics," a lecture examining the significance of Latino life and politics in the wake of the recent election of Antonio Villaraigosa as Los Angeles mayor. The lecture is scheduled for 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 1.

The free talk by Dr. Lisa Garcia Bedolla, a political science professor at the University of California at Irvine, will be held in room 111 of the business building, 1900 Pico Blvd.

The title of the talk comes from Bedolla's new book, "Fluid Borders: Latino Power, Identity and Politics in Los Angeles." A book signing follows the lecture, and books will be available for purchase.

See BRIEFS, page 6

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SURF REPORT

Monday we're expecting the WNW swell to back down toward the waist-high zone with similar size around south-facing breaks. Tuesday we have some SW from the southern hemisphere, angled from around 200 degrees from a New Zealand originating system. This should help south-facing breaks see waist- to possibly chest-high sets. NW energy is looking week, around knee to waist.

Today the water is:

63°

Write us at alex@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.



LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
MONDAY	4:59	3.5	7:57	0.6	3:22	3.5	11:33	4.8
TUESDAY	7:20	3.6	8:58	0.8	4:26	3.7	12:41	4.3
WEDNESDAY	9:37	3.3	9:50	0.9	4:53	4.0	2:15	4.0
THURSDAY	10:52	2.8	10:32	1.1	5:14	4.3	3:45	3.8
FRIDAY	11:39	2.5	11:04	0.7	5:41	3.9	4:17	3.2

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The **Q**Line

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Some local skaters recently have voiced frustrations over the limited weekday hours of operation at the new \$550,000 skate park, the Cove, located at the corner of Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street. The park, typically open about two hours a day during the week, is not equipped with lighting, meaning skaters have to pack it up once the sun goes down.

City officials say they'd like to be able to give residents more access to the park but the current budget does not provide for the needed staffing.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "How can City Hall increase access for residents to the new skatepark without putting a strain on its budget?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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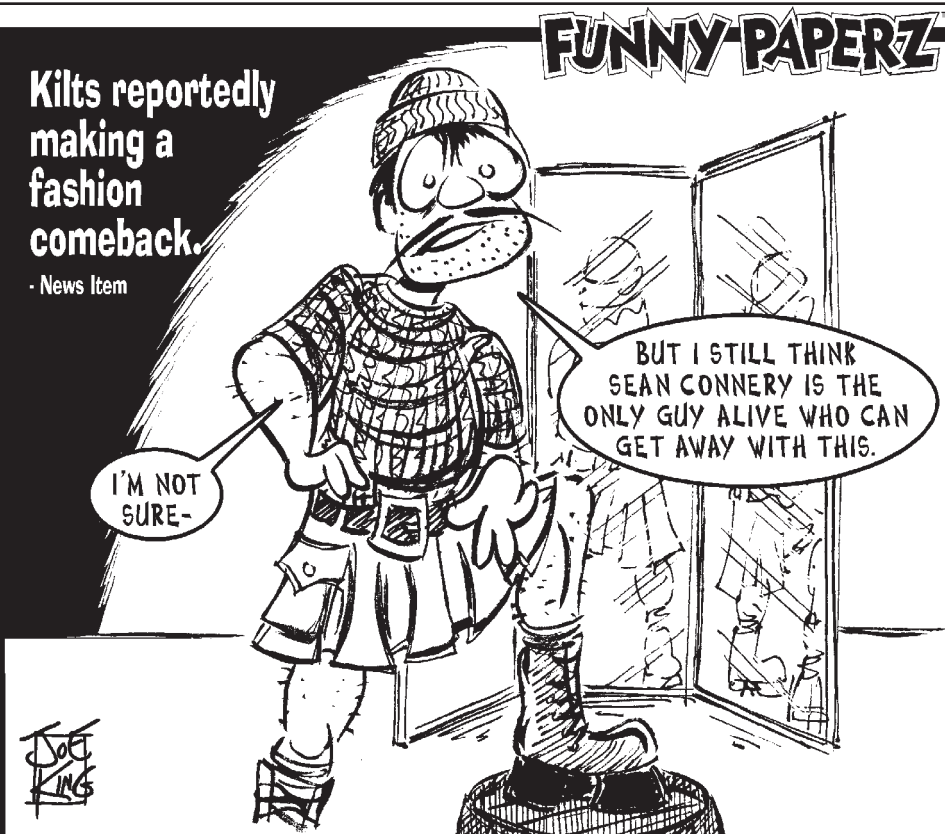
"There are waffles with hot banana topping in heaven."

OPINION

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Kilts reportedly making a fashion comeback.

- News Item



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Playing favorites?

Editor:

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, we will see if the Unitarian Church of Santa Monica controls the City Council as it controls the Planning Commission. We all know with the parking situation in our neighborhoods that never would anyone be allowed to do a 3,400 square-foot addition to a building without the required 14 additional spaces. But the Planning Commission has forgotten their job and done just that.

Is it right to be voting on a church project when you and a fellow commissioner were married there? That's not a conflict of interest, is it? I sure hope the council members were not married there. This will be one council meeting to see if we have backscratchers on our City Council too.

The church's main reason they cannot install parking is that they could not afford to put it in. Can you imagine if a developer or homeowner tried to use that excuse? They would be laughed at and told "if you can't afford parking you can't afford construction." Why doesn't the church just try and raise the extra money and do things right and truly be a good neighbor?

Blair Calderhead
Santa Monica

Non-action speaks louder than speeches

Editor:

Santa Monica director of environmental and public works management Craig Perkins may talk a lot about a "sustainable city" and environmental awareness, but what has he really done? Just giving speeches is not enough, though apparently it is enough to satisfy the writers of the Nov. 16 (SMDP, page 4) letter to the editor supporting Perkins. The City Council is correct to disagree with them and look outside the city for new leadership.

On Yale Street, we learned the disappointing reality behind director Perkins' happy talk when Perkins and his department attempted to bulldoze the trees lining this street. At City Hall, the council learned the shocking reality behind his talk when Perkins managed to plunge the city's environmental funds from a surplus of tens of millions of dollars into a multimillion-dollar deficit in only a couple of years. Heal the Bay sees the depressing reality behind the talk when, despite years of feel-good speeches, pollution still closes our beaches with alarming regularity.

And the people of Santa Monica have learned the painful reality behind the talk of our environmental director as our utility bills rocket sky-high while service stagnates.

The reality is that the city staff need new leaders. Remember director Perkins' actions in February? He responded to those residents interested in the repairs to the Santa Monica Canyon stairs by saying (in the pages of this paper) that "if any fingers need to be 'pulled out' you will find them at Los Angeles City Hall." That's the level of service he provides — a dismissive and hostile attitude. As I wrote back then, his department is not about public service. What they are about is disdain, disregard, arrogance and passing the buck. Most city staff are indeed good people, but they have bad leadership, except in the police and fire departments.

The City Council is right to bring in new leadership from outside. Perhaps the Nov. 16 letter-writers need to pay more attention to actions and less attention to feel-good speeches. Then Santa Monica could actually enjoy a sustainable environment, instead of paying through the nose to hear speeches about it.

Frank Jones
Santa Monica

Council has a chance to redeem itself with its church neighbors



MY WRITE

BY BILL BAUER

Another chapter in the debate over how much development can be tolerated in the face of increasing traffic and parking demands will play out Tuesday night in City Hall.

The City Council will hear the neighbors' appeal of a recent Planning Commission's unanimous approval of the Unitarian Universalist Community Church's conditional use permit for expansion and a parking variance.

The Unitarian Universalist Community Church, at the corner of 18th Street and Arizona Avenue, was granted approval this past July to build a two-story addition and other new space to an existing "educational" facility, as well as increase space and seating capacity in their main sanctuary, remodel an adjacent single-family residence at 1248 18th St. and add two parking places. The requirement for 12 additional on-site parking spaces as required by code was waived by the granting of a variance.

Because of its long-time, legal nonconforming use over the last 70 years, the church has ignored parking needs. So, it now provides only one parking space when, by today's standards, it should have approximately 85 parking spaces as required by city code.

Traffic and lack of on-street parking is a major quality-of-life issue for neighbors who view this proposal as the "straw that broke the camel's back." Myopic planning and unregulated growth has created heavy traffic and severe parking shortages resulting from expanded Santa Monica Boulevard car dealerships, two major hospitals on Arizona Avenue, the Wilshire Boulevard commercial corridor and a flock of nearby "underparked" medical buildings and convalescent homes.

Maybe the city planning staff and planning commissioners think bad planning should beget even more bad planning. Amazingly, staff concluded that 4,237 square feet of new space wouldn't increase usage, traffic or parking demand. It's this kind of sloppy work and faulty reasoning that has created and perpetuated citywide problems to begin with.

Any development that increases traffic and street parking problems, especially in residential neighborhoods, is clearly not in the best interest of the community. If this were a theater or another nonprofit, let alone a commercial business, this expansion would be dead as a doornail — but

this is a church with a "noble cause of human spirituality."

Aren't the city of Santa Monica and Santa Monica College still fighting about street access at the Santa Monica Airport because of traffic concerns arising from Sunset Park neighbors' complaints? Didn't this lead to road restrictions from SMC's new Bundy campus via Airport Avenue and Donald Douglas Loop South and a nasty, mean-spirited spat?

Isn't this a situation wherein concerns about traffic are taking precedence over the "noble cause" of education?

This church operates seven days a week with its own activities as well as meetings, seminars and events held by outside organizations, nonprofits and even commercial businesses that lease space. This constant activity draws upwards of 100 attendees who congest neighborhood traffic and gobble up street parking day and night.

The church's "Sunday morning only" agreement to use parking space at UCLA-Santa Monica Hospital could be terminated at any time, and there's no contingency to mitigate parking or traffic issues aside from asking parishioners and guests to take the bus.

This issue is simply one of good urban planning and neighborhood livability. However, supporters cite the church's positive contributions to the community, inspirational roll, social activism supporting homeless, social justice, and other favorite City Hall causes as reason to reject the appeal.

This is not about history or mission, community service, whether renovation is necessary or how lovely the architect's designs are. Almost everything contributes positively to the community, so by what standard do we measure the worthiness of that contribution and how much community livability do we trade off? And if we're injecting "purpose" into planning codes, aren't we creating a double standard that is arbitrary and unfair?

I'm concerned when governing bodies like the Planning Commission demand that a project's tenants negotiate labor union contracts as a condition for approval. We're on thin ice when personal agendas override good urban design, public safety and livability issues.

This appeal is about quality of life for hundreds of Santa Monica families and how detrimental even this modest expansion will be for neighbors.

Hopefully, the City Council will decide on what's most important to the future of our city's livability: Good and fair planning, or the arbitrary personal agenda of politicians and bureaucrats.

(Bill Bauer is a longtime Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer.)

Tell Santa Monica what you think!

...write a letter to the editor

**Email to: editor@smdp.com
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Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMENTARY



It's hard to soar like an eagle when you live amongst turkeys



COMMON SCENTS

BY CAROLE ORLIN

I am certain that the editors of Time magazine have started their search for the 2005 Person of the Year. This annual event since 1927 will feature a profile of the man, woman, couple, group, idea, place or machine that "for better or worse, has most influenced events in the preceding year."

Since Thanksgiving arrives on Thursday, my thoughts have turned to turkeys. Not the bird — I am talking about the other kind of turkey. You know, the human kind that should be served up on a platter instead of the Butterballs that you are planning on eating this coming Thursday. Since it appears that the competition is fierce, I decided to get a head start with my nominations for the 2005 Santa Monica Common Scents Turkey of the Year award.

My first nomination goes to our City Council, which for years has done absolutely nothing about the vagrants who flock to our city in disproportionate numbers. These same vagrants represent a disproportionate percentage of those arrested for criminal offenses in our city. The City Council seems to forget their campaign promises to the voters. Many taxpaying citizens regularly complain of the negative impact on themselves, their families and their businesses. This is the constituency who pays taxes to help support the operations of city government. They also do not seem to convert their alleged concern about our ever-increasing problems of congestion and traffic to remedial and decisive action. Will we ever have a City Council that responds to the needs of our city? I've been here for more than five years, and I have to say that my original good feelings about the City Council as the guardian of our rights and needs has been replaced with a feeling that they all too often act as a self-serving committee that seems to exist only to meet the needs of special interest groups in Santa Monica. If there are City Council members who are concerned about the welfare and future of Santa Monica, they are greatly outnumbered and rendered helpless.

My next nomination is for the turkeys that encourage the vagrants to pick through our trash by leaving tempting things next to the trash cans like sneakers or other articles of clothing. Do you really want to take away any dignity the vagrants may have left by encouraging

them to root through the trash? There are plenty of agencies and church groups that give clothes away, and stores like Goodwill and other second-hand stores that sell clothes for next to nothing so the vagrants do not have to trash-dive. While we're on the subject, how about the turkeys who root through our trash and leave it strewn around the alley? The alleys are always littered with trash that has been picked through and rejected by the vagrants. C'mon guys, please put back the stuff you don't want. I know your mama raised you better than that.

My next nomination goes to the turkeys that drive Hummers. I understand they have a great need for attention, but must they do it at the expense of the rest of us who want to reduce our dependence on foreign oil? Why not try therapy to meet those needs instead of polluting our environment and increasing our need for foreign oil?

Next on my turkey list are people who ignore red lines and block driveways. There have been so many times that I have left my place, with just minutes to spare to get to a meeting or appointment, only to find someone blocking my driveway. It has gotten to the point where I have to take a picture of it, with a newspaper showing the date, so people will believe me when I say I am late because my driveway was blocked. I have heard these offenders give excuses like: "I had nowhere else to park," or "I'm not from here." Does that make it OK to block me in? Is there a place on the planet where it's OK to block someone's driveway? I don't think so.

OK, I'm on a roll now. Next on my turkey list is the person or people who stole all my plants from my porch. I took my dog for a 15-minute walk and when I got back all of my plants and beautiful planters were gone. They even took my watering can. I thought of replacing them, but plants with chained planters are just not very attractive. So my porch remains bare.

Last on my list is my neighbor, who during the day is actually a good neighbor. But unfortunately at night he turns into a mad party monster. The police have been to his place for disturbing the peace on more than one occasion. I swear I have never called them, so other neighbors must have him on their turkey list as well.

The foregoing is just an abridged version of my turkey list. I could go on and on. You might find it helpful to make a turkey list of your own this week. It's fun and helps release the frustrations of life in the city.

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



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Border Patrol follows migrants to mountain east of San Diego area

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

DULZURA, Calif. — Immigrant smugglers once avoided the rugged, chaparral-covered canyons east of San Diego for easier crossing points — but now the Otay Mountains are one of the busiest areas along California's border with Mexico.

As smugglers try to stay a step ahead of the law, the U.S. Border Patrol has followed with its only unit of agents who are ferried around in helicopters and then set out on foot in search of illegal immigrants.

The Border Patrol formed its Air Mobile Unit in 2003 to monitor remote parts of western California, where tens of thousands of immigrants cross each year.

Increased enforcement in San Diego and El Paso, Texas, has squeezed border crossers into less hospitable corridors, including deserts where hundreds die each year. The Otay Mountains are not the deadliest point along the 2,000-mile border, but they are treacherous.

Dehydration threatens as summer temperatures race past 100; hypothermia is a danger during winter. Broken wrists and twisted ankles are common and it's easy to get lost on the lattice of trails. In the last year, 23 migrants have been reported dead in the Border Patrol's San Diego sector, which includes Otay (pronounced OH-tie).

Given their outdoor office, the agents must be fit.

Mark Cary, a former Marine, once took nine hours to trek seven miles from the dilapidated border fence to the nearest major road, California Route 94. Migrants typically take two days to cover the same route, he says.

All but two of the Air Mobile Unit's 54 agents are men. All but one is under 40 years old — and he's a supervisor with a desk job.

One recent evening, two of the agents broke thick sweats as they sped downhill over granite boulders and branches burned during California's 2003 wildfires.

It was hardly more than an hour before they found what they were looking for.

One agent pointed excitedly to the right, stepped off the narrow trail, clutched his rifle and peered through the

dense brush. Within moments, 14 Mexicans were in U.S. custody.

The agents' shift began shortly before sunset at San Diego's Brownfield Municipal Airport, where nearly every night Black Hawk helicopters take agents into mountains where one canyon is known among migrants as "La Espina del Diablo" — the devil's spine — and trails are named Dead Cow and Tequila Draw.

Though flying saves time, noise from choppers hovering ahead can alert smugglers to hide.

Just outside Dulzura, a hamlet about 25 miles east of San Diego, Cary and fellow agent Jeff Mielke struck out on one of the countless footpaths blazed by migrants.

Words were few and flashlights kept off to avoid drawing attention. After hitting a plateau midway down the canyon, the agents found the 14 migrants — their guide has abandoned them — resting on rocks near one of the makeshift shrines scattered along the border.

The shrine — a cave-like boulder formation just over a mile from Mexico that can fit one squatted adult — contained three burning candles, dozens of extinguished candles and hundreds of prayer cards. One card bore Santo Toribio Romo, the Mexican patron of migrants.

"You're all illegals?" Cary asked in Spanish, as he emptied backpacks of tuna cans, water jugs, pills and prayer cards and frisked each person for weapons. Several nodded yes. Cary said everyone was under arrest.

All told, the two teams arrested 64 people, adding to the unit's total of about 16,000 to date.

Typically, nearly all migrants return voluntarily to Mexico without facing charges, escorted in vans to the main border station at the Tijuana-San Diego crossing. This night is no different.

One Mexican had been deported three times before. Another said he was a foot guide for the smugglers and was to be paid \$200 a person. Neither met federal prosecution guidelines.

"That's what's so demoralizing," said Chuck Albrecht, the Air Mobile Unit's field operations supervisor. "You know a lot of them are just going to try again eight hours later."





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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Bedolla is a prominent political scientist who has authored numerous journal articles and book chapters, as well as her new book. She has made presentations throughout the nation on a wide variety of topics, many of them involving the Latino community.

She has won numerous grants and fellowships from such organizations as the James Irvine Foundation, Yale University and the American Political Science Association. She is also active in many service and professional organizations.

Bedolla graduated summa cum laude in Latin American studies and comparative literature from the University of California at Berkeley and received master's and doctorate degrees in political science from Yale University.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the SMC Associates, a private organization that funds speakers and special programs on campus, and the University of California Press Associates, which provides support to the prestigious University of California Press.

For information, call (310) 434-4303.



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



'Know before you go' is a weekly update on construction projects throughout Santa Monica. Here are the projects initiated by governmental agencies for the week of Nov. 21:

Alley resurfacing

Alleys on the 1000 and 1100 block of Harvard Street will be resurfaced and closed from Nov. 14 to Nov. 23. No-parking signs for street cleaning or permits will not be enforced on the 1000 and 1100 block of Harvard and Yale streets to allow for ample street parking for residents during alley resurfacing. For more information call (310) 863-6774 or (310) 434-2604.

Santa Monica Airport Park

Excavate, haul off and dispose of impacted soils to construct a new park. Project is scheduled to begin on Nov. 2 and end on Dec. 2. No vehicular traffic will be impacted by the project. Follow posted caution signs at construction site.

Fourth Street fiber optic communication

Fiber optic cable and conduit installation and splicing termination on Fourth Street, between California Avenue and Olympic Drive. A minimum of one lane in each direction on all streets will be maintained. Follow posted street closure signs.

Pier structural rehabilitation

Structural upgrade of municipal pier roadway and miscellaneous repairs on Newcomb Pier. On Nov. 7 to Dec. 16, vehicular access to the pier on Ocean Avenue will not be allowed and the deck parking lot will be closed.

Storm drain repair

Install low-flow diversion unit on Ashland Avenue, between Main Street and Neilson Way. There will be detour signs posted around the work area.

Montana Avenue storm drain repair

Repair of an existing outlet structure, several drainage facilities and approximately 200 square feet of asphalt near the 1550 beach parking lot. The project will include construction of 24-inch and 63-inch reinforced concrete pipes. Portions of the bike path will be used during construction. Follow posted detour signs.

Marine Street utility undergrounding

Relocation and undergrounding of electric, phone and cable facilities on Marine Street, between Lincoln Boulevard and Prospect Court. Parking limitations will be posted daily and detours may be announced as necessary.

Cingular telecommunications lines

Cingular is installing telecommunication lines on San Vicente Boulevard from 17th to 19th street; San Vicente Boulevard from Fourth Street to 100 feet west of Fourth Street; and Fourth Street from San Vicente Boulevard to the alley south of San Vicente Boulevard. There will be detours around the work areas.

Civic Center parking structure

Construction continues on a new 900-space Civic Center public parking structure, located on Fourth Street next to the Public Safety Facility. Construction will require the closure of Avenida Mazatlan and the Fourth Street sidewalk. One lane on southbound Fourth Street is subject to closure while work is occurring. There also may be delays entering the Civic Center parking lot from Fourth Street. Use the Main Street entrance.

Electrical vault installation

Southern California Edison will be installing an underground vault in Santa Monica Boulevard at Seventh Court. There will be detours around work areas. Follow posted signs.

Gas company main replacement

Southern California Gas Company is replacing a 4-inch main on San Vicente Boulevard, between 17th and 16th streets.; 17th Street, between San Vicente Boulevard and Georgina Avenue; Georgina Avenue, between 17th and 16th streets; and 16th Street, between San Vicente Boulevard and Georgina Avenue. There will be detours around work areas. Follow posted signs.

Main Library

Construction is near completion on the new main library, located at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. During construction, visit the temporary library at 1324 Fifth St. or any of the branch libraries. Vehicular traffic patterns and parking availability have been restored on Sixth and Seventh streets, between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Avenue. However, temporary no parking will be permitted on the northwest side of Santa Monica Boulevard, between Sixth and Seventh streets.

Memorial and Los Amigos Park building replacement

Demolition of existing park buildings and construction of new restrooms, concession stands and storage buildings. Park buildings will be inaccessible during construction. Memorial Park is located at Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street, and Los Amigos Park is located at Fifth Street and Hollister Avenue.

On-Fiber telecommunications lines

On-Fiber is installing telecommunication lines on 26th Street from north of Colorado Boulevard to Pennsylvania Street. There may be detours around the work area.

Street and park lighting project

Work continues on upgrading street lighting with new fixtures and circuits. The contractor is installing new poles and lights. Construction for the project occurs in the sidewalk areas and may impact pedestrians, vehicles and park visitors. Parking restrictions also will be in place immediately adjacent to the work areas. The work is currently scheduled to occur on 23rd Street from Santa Monica Boulevard to Arizona Avenue; California Avenue from Second to Seventh streets; and Ocean Avenue from Montana Avenue to California Avenue; as well as Marine, Clover and Douglas parks.

Traffic signal upgrade

The transportation management division is upgrading traffic signals on Ocean Park Boulevard at Cloverfield Boulevard and at 23rd Street. There will be detours around the work area. However, the contractor will maintain at a minimum one lane in each direction on all streets. For information call (310) 458-4982.

(For more information, log on to http://santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug_project_list.asp or call 310-458-8721.)



FOR INCLUSION IN THIS GUIDE, PLEASE CALL (310) 458-7737

ANNA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT-Celebrating its 36th anniversary, Anna's has become a landmark in West LA with its famous pastas, pizza, veal, prime beef, chicken, seafood, appetizers and salads all at surprisingly reasonable prices. A must try is the minestrone soup, considered the best around. Owners Andy and Tony are always on hand and many of their friendly staff have been with them since their opening in 1969. Come and experience the best in Roman cuisine (Southern & Northern Italian). Full selection of beer, wine and cocktails. Lunch: Monday-Friday 11:30-4pm, Dinner: 4:30pm nightly. 10929 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles. (310) 474-0102.

BENIHANA-For more than 40 years Benihana chefs have been cooking up a feast on the hibachi grill. Steak, chicken, seafood and vegetables are all prepared teppan-style "right before your eyes". Start your meal with a sushi appetizer, then relax and enjoy the show while sipping exotic cocktails served in collectible ceramic mugs. Open every day for lunch and dinner, valet parking nightly at the corner of 4th and Broadway. 1447 4th St., between Broadway and Santa Monica Blvd. (310) 260-1423.

BIG DEAN'S CAFE-Where the 'locals' meet and the 'fun-loving' tourists always return! Come enjoy our highly acclaimed beach fare, beer, and wine at the best people watching place on the beach. Music, satellite sports, 2 outdoor patios, and smoking allowed. This nostalgic eatery has been here since 1902! The prices are reasonable and children are welcome. Now serving breakfast. Also serving lunch and dinner. 1615 Ocean Front, Santa Monica. (310) 393-2666.

BRITANNIA PUB-This English pub has a traditional charm with a Californian flair. Traditional British breakfast is served all day along with all your American favorites. Fish & Chips (our biggest seller) is a must try along with Bangers & Mash and Shepherds Pie or go American with our assortment of appetizers, burgers, salads, soups and sandwiches. We also serve our own hand cut fries. Join us after the restaurant closes for Quiz night, Karaoke, and DJ nights. We now have a late night menu available 10pm-1:30am. Outdoor patio, pool table, full bar, Gold Award from Guinness. Hours: 11am-10pm Monday-Friday, 9:30am-10pm Saturday and Sunday. 318 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica. (310) 458-5350.

BUCCA di BEPPO-gets to the heart of Southern Italian cooking with authentic, family-style recipes like Chicken Parmigiana, Shrimp Scampi, and Tortelloni. Dishes are available in Buca Small portions for 2 or more people, and Buca Large for 4 or more. The full menu is available for curb-side take out; we'll deliver your order right to your car! Located one block off the Promenade at 1422 2nd St, Santa Monica. Call 310-587-EATS for reservations and take out.

CASA ESCOBAR-This family owned institution in Santa Monica has been serving excellent food since 1965. A friendly bar and dinner house frequented by the "locals" and tourists alike. We feature the best Mexican dishes in town. Among the favorites are the crispy beef tacos, spinach enchiladas and our house-cut NY Strip steaks on the grill. Our full bar is home of the famous Casa Escobar Margarita-a winner! While at the bar, enjoy our classic piano bar along with cable TV. Valet Parking available. All major credit cards. Open lunch and dinner. 2500 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. (310) 828-1315.

GLADSTONE'S MALIBU-One of SoCal's busiest seafood restaurants; a million visitors each year. A landmark known for its fresh seafood, live lobsters and crab, and its famous Mile High Chocolate Cake. Gladstone's ocean-front location offers diners huge portions and a casual atmosphere. Dine inside or on the outside deck with unbelievable views and waves of fun. Gladstone's "Good Vibrations" Live Music, 6pm-8:30pm every Friday night, all summer long. Lunch, dinner daily; Saturday and Sunday brunch. 17300 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu. (310) GL4-FISH.

JOHNNIES-The Best Little Neighborhood Italian Restaurant. Come in to our new location and enjoy Traditional or Stuffed pastas, Mile High Salads, Grinders, Roman Style Sandwiches, Hearty Calzones, and New York Style Thin Crust Pizza, in a relaxing neighborhood setting. When you're looking for a reasonably priced, traditional Italian meal with authentic New York attitude, Johnnies delivers. Hours: Sunday-Thursday 11am-10pm and Friday and Saturday 11am-11pm. Dine In, Take Out and Delivery. 1456 Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica. (310) 395-9062.

OVERUNDER SPORTS GRILL-Located on the corner of 14th Street and Santa Monica Blvd., OVERUNDER features 12 draft beers and a fine selection of wine making it a great place to watch any and all of your favorite teams. The house specialty is the Philadelphia cheese steak. OVERUNDER also offers great burgers, salads, Mexican food and more. OVERUNDER is the viewing home for the Cleveland Browns and strongly supports the Lakers, Clippers, Dodgers, and Kings. Frequent food and beer specials are also offered at OVERUNDER Sports Grill. All football, baseball, and basketball games are televised via satellite for every team. 1348 14th Street, Santa Monica. (310) 576-9913.

PANINI GARDEN-This authentic European eatery serves traditional Italian and French style food. Panin style sandwiches grilled on a cast-iron panini grill that seals all the savory flavors inside a bread envelope of your choice, from very soft and thin like the tramezzini, soft and crispy for the al forno and crusty for the rustico. A large selection of meats and cheeses, organic produce, fresh and healthy combinations of menu items to enjoy everyday have made PANINI GARDEN the local's favorite. In addition, delicious crepes are served all day, for breakfast or just dessert, it is always a treat. The setting is quiet in the lavender garden with the bubbling fountain. Hours: 8am-9pm Sunday-Thursday, 8am-10:30pm Friday and Saturday. 2715 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 399-9939.

THE GALLEY-Rediscover Service - Rediscover The Galley. Visit Captain Ron at what Zagat Guide refers to as the place to go for "marvelous" steaks and "stiff drinks". NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH ON THE WEEKENDS AT NOON featuring 1/4 lb. Kosher hot dogs with fries served at the bar for \$2.00 until July 31st. GREAT PATIO DINING. All fresh fish from Santa Monica Seafood and the best tuna salad sandwiches you will ever get at any restaurant! Capt. Ron will walk the plank if you don't agree! Hours: 5pm-until Capt. Ron gets tired Monday-Friday, noon until the party stops Saturday and Sunday. 2442 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 452-1934.

THE OMELETTE PARLOR-For 28 years The Omelette Parlor has been offering the finest in breakfast fare. With high fluffy omelettes, super sandwiches, and the freshest of salads, it's more than breakfast. Enjoy your day on our garden patio and experience the friendliness of service. Quality and value prevail forever at The Omelette Parlor. We open everyday at 6am. Come early! Hours: 6am-2:30pm Monday-Friday, 6am-4pm Saturday and Sunday. 2732 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 399-7892.

THE SLICE-A true neighborhood pizzeria serving authentic New York pizza & buffalo wings. We also offer a selection of hot & cold subs, pastas and salads. You can also create your own calzone. Eat in, take out, or delivery. Catering is available. Hours: open daily 11am-9pm. Visit one of our three locations: 915 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica (310) 451-7542, 1622 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica (310) 399-4060, 13151 Fountain Park Drive, Playa Vista (310) 437-7499.

VIOLET-At Violet restaurant the atmosphere is casual, comfortable, and, like its cuisine, is uncluttered. Chef Jared Simons' flavorful small plate fare has something to suit everyone, from light eaters to those with a taste for a more robust fare. The Braised Short Ribs with Shallot Potatoes (\$14.50) melt apart while the Multi-Colored Beet Salad with Eel delights with Kumquat and Ginger Vinaigrette (\$9) and the favorite among the regulars is the Baked Macaroni and Gruyere Cheese with Serrano Ham (\$7.50). Unique selection of new and old world wines by the bottle, glass or flight as well as an impressive list of domestic & imported artisan beers. Hours: Lunch: Tuesday-Friday, 11:30am-2pm. Dinner: Tuesday-Friday, 6pm-10pm & Saturday and Sunday, 5:30pm-10pm. 3221 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. www.violetrestaurant.com (310) 453-9113.

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Former middle school students remember teacher

KRAMER, from page 1

irregularity, attendees said.

He taught history for 35 years at Lincoln and had been retired for two years at the time of his death.

At his wife Bonnie's request, friends and colleagues were invited to wear Hawaiian shirts, a Kramer fashion favorite.

An upbeat buzz stirred in the auditorium building up to the service. Old acquaintances and colleagues — some of whom said they had reunited for the first time in decades — gathered around several collages situated on the stage, containing photos and newspaper clippings.

The photos, many of them black and white, followed Kramer through the years of his life. They included a toddler with a missing tooth, a youngster with brownish hair and freckles, and an adult resembling actor Richard Gere teaching his first classes at Lincoln, back in 1969.

The photos also included a mature man with silver hair escorting his daughter, Stephanie, at her wedding.

Newspaper clippings, concerning Kramer's educational exploits, also appeared.

Kramer — known for his remarkable ability to captivate and inspire students — was described as humorous, kind-hearted and an extremely well-read educator who had a handyman's skill.

Terry Frank, a student of Kramer's 30 years ago, said her mother had read about his death in the newspapers and informed her about the service, prompting her to attend.

"She asked me if I knew him, and I said 'of course,'" Frank said. "You always remember your great teachers. And Kramer was one of the great ones, that's for sure."

Born on April 20, 1943, in Berlin and sharing the same birthday as Hitler, German authorities attempted to name Kramer "Adolf," as required by law, but his family refused.

Kramer's father, a scientist, emigrated to the United States in 1948, settling with his family in Pacific Palisades in 1951.

Kramer and Bonnie have lived in Brentwood for the past 33 years. He retired from Lincoln in 2003 and has since been enjoying life with his wife and friends.

He is survived by Bonnie and their children, Christopher Kramer and Stephanie Bowen. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, Max and Amara, friends said.

Eight people spoke during the service, relaying tales about Kramer and the impact he had on their lives.

Neighbor Lance Kinsey talked about how the Kramers quickly befriended Kinsey and his family when they moved in across the street.

The Kinseys' own children, when they weren't at home, were often visiting the Kramers.

"The Kramers were our family, too," Kinsey said.

Kinsey said his only contention with Kramer had to do with the teacher's amazing ability to fix things. It made him a little jealous, he joked.

"He had a tool for everything," Kinsey said.

Kinsey relayed how he often heard Kramer working on his home across the



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

(Top) Hundreds of friends, family and colleagues pack Lincoln Middle School's auditorium on Saturday to pay their respects to former teacher Stephen Kramer, who died on Nov. 10. **(Bottom)** A garden behind the school has been dedicated to Kramer. It bears a sign with a favorite saying of Kramer's: 'Aloha.'



street during the weekends. Kinsey said his wife would often gaze through the living room window.

She watched Kramer and sighed.

"She said, 'I wish you could be more like Steve,'" Kinsey said. "I said to her, 'I can't be like Steve. I don't have any tools.' Then we'd both hear Steve yell from across the street, 'You can borrow mine.'"

"That's just the kind of guy Steve was, always thinking of others," he added, followed by a round of laughter from attendees.

Colleague Gene Bream talked about Steve's appetite for knowledge and adventure. Bream talked about the class trips he and Kramer led to Europe.

"Every year we'd go to Munich, and every year we'd go to this one antique shop where Steve knew the owners and spoke to them in German," Bream said. "The antique owners would save things all year long that they thought Kramer would like. When Kramer and I arrived, they showed him what they saved. He always had this strange gleam in his eye going through the antiques. When he found what he liked, he would turn to me and say, 'This is for Bonnie.'"

Former student Anthony Paul Diaz, now an attorney, said Kramer's ability to teach history helped him become the person he has.

"Steve didn't teach me how to write brilliant legal briefs," Diaz said. "He taught me things only good teachers can, things I'd never forget, like the difference between right and wrong."

Diaz described how Kramer was about to begin teaching him and his fellow classmates about the Holocaust. Kramer came into class one morning and insisted the fair-skinned students move to the front of the classroom and all of the darker skinned students move to the back.

"I usually sat in the front of the class, and like all of Steve's students, I thought I was his favorite," Diaz said, who is dark-skinned. "Then he told me to move to the back of the class, and he had this cold look in his eye."

Diaz explained that Kramer had treated his students in the same manner citizens, depending on race, had been treated in Nazi Germany. Later that week, Diaz said Kramer brought a guest to class. This special guest was a concentration camp survivor who showed Diaz and his classmates a tattooed number code that had been branded into his arm by the Nazis for identification.

"As long as I live, I will never forget that tattoo," Diaz said.

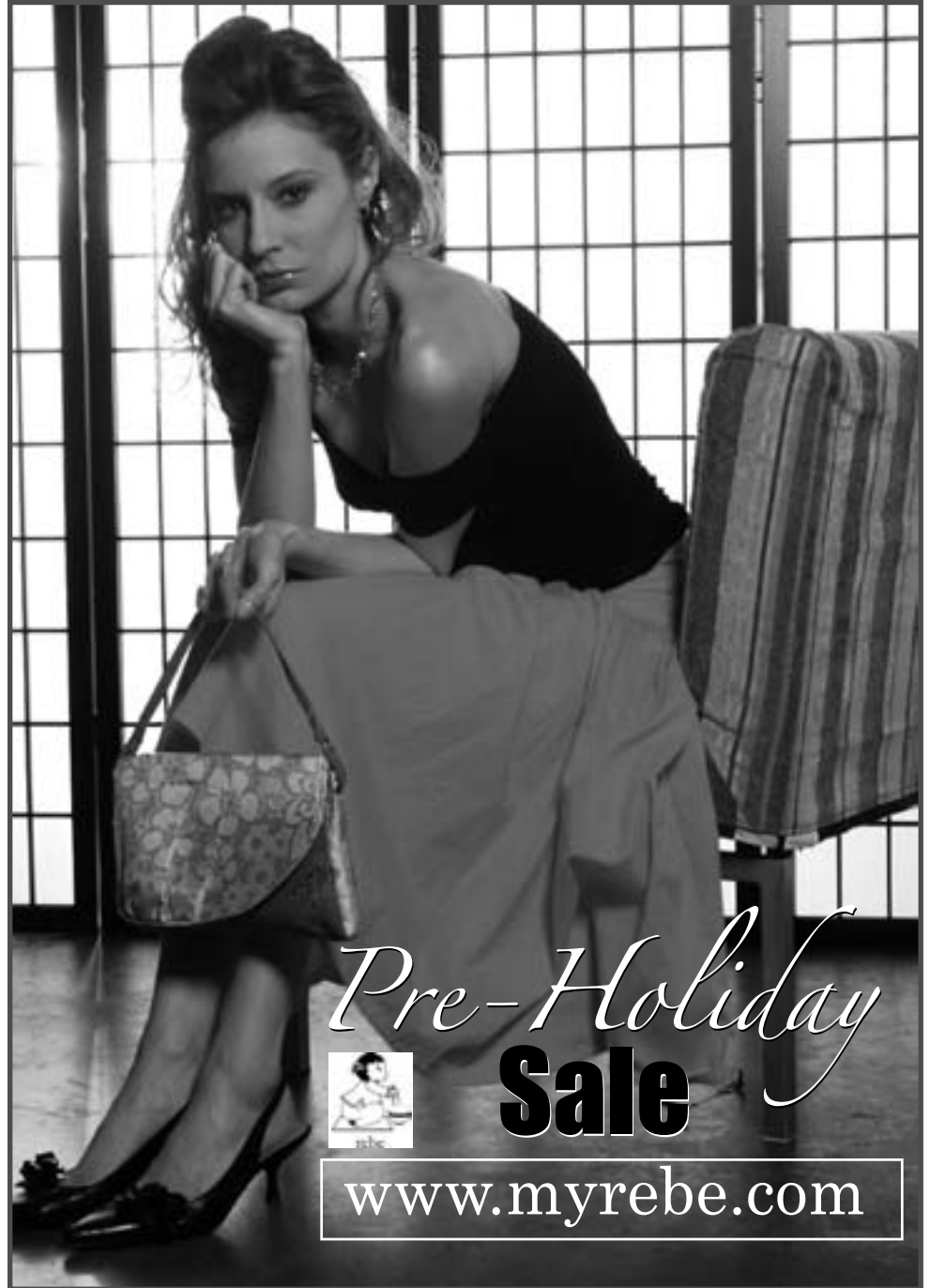
Some of Kramer's friends had not been prepared to speak but did so upon request. One of these men said, "Long before Seinfeld, Lincoln had its own Kramer." He then described how Kramer, full of life and mirth, once held a party at his home, during which the cops arrived because of noise complaints.

"Kramer opened the door, and I remember he looked at this police officer and said, 'James?'" the speaker said. "And I remember the officer said, 'Mr. Kramer?'"

Kramer was allowed to continue his party, on the condition he turn the music down, the speaker said.

When the speakers were finished, a video played that showed footage of Kramer and included scenes from his daughter's August wedding. After the video, attendees were invited to enjoy cake and coffee, and walk along a red ribbon through "Kramer's Meadow," a garden behind Lincoln named in his honor.

"That turned out to be my first lesson in discrimination."



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Santa Monica Daily Press

Contingency attorneys say City Hall reneged on their agreement

LAWSUIT, from page 1

the lawyers \$620,000 in expenses thus far.

A LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY

Grossman argues that City Hall reneged on a signed contract with his clients and are refusing to pay close to \$70 million in contingency fees to which his clients are entitled.

Grossman's calculation is that City Hall should pay the attorneys 25 percent of the \$121 million cash settlement; 25 percent of the costs and operation of a yet-to-be-built water treatment plant, preliminarily estimated to cost \$120 million, plus 7 percent interest; and his attorney fees.

Based on testimony in depositions and other correspondence, Grossman said city officials agreed as far back as 2002 that 25 percent of a cash settlement was the fair amount to pay.

But city officials and their attorneys now argue that the amount is well below that, based on their claims that the contingency attorneys put their own interests ahead of the public's, as well as delayed the case to get a higher percentage of fees. City Hall argues it should pay closer to 10 percent of the \$121 million cash settlement and the undeter-

"We are giving the city a discount because we think it's appropriate to give a public entity a discount."

DAVID HALBREICH

Morgan Lewis & Bockius attorney

mined value of a water treatment plant.

It will all come down to how a judge and jury interpret a 15-page complicated legal services agreement signed between City Hall and the contingency lawyers that is as ambiguous as the sliding scale of fee percentages outlined in it.

FROM SETTLEMENT TO SUIT

A few months after the settlement between City Hall and the three major oil companies was finalized, the contingency attorneys expected to be paid.

City officials announced in November of 2003 that the litigation was over. The \$121 million in cash was to be paid by the oil companies, less \$18 million that was earmarked to go into an operating account to begin planning for a water treatment plant to clean up the wells and \$1 million obligated by City Hall to pay Shell Oil Company in a separate case. The net result is \$92 million and a water treatment plant yet to be valued, designed or built.

Shortly after the settlement was finalized by the court in December of 2003, Miller & Sawyer filed a notice of lien with the oil companies, effectively saying the money couldn't be touched by the city, Halbreich said. That led to an agreement between the contingency lawyers and City Hall that the money would be put into a pledge account and couldn't be touched

because he allegedly represented the other lawyers in their planned litigation against City Hall over fees without city officials knowing it.

"The court has refused to hear that complaint," said Marshall Grossman, the Santa Monica-based attorney representing the contingency lawyers. "The city has been a serial loser in the court ... almost every motion the city has filed has been won by the lawyers."

Attorneys will face off in court again on Dec. 12 during a status conference on the case. But whether or not the case will go before a jury in February remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, millions of dollars are being racked up in attorney fees on both sides.

City Hall in September 2004 retained Los Angeles-based law firm Morgan Lewis & Bockius to represent it. Attorneys at the firm won't disclose how much they are charging Santa Monica taxpayers, except to say that they are giving the public a deal.

"We are giving the city a discount because we think it's appropriate to give a public entity a discount," said Morgan Lewis & Bockius attorney David Halbreich, adding he was unsure at what hourly rate his firm is billing City Hall. "We are spending a considerable amount of time on this case, hundreds of hours."

Throughout the nine-year battle — with the oil companies and now the contingency lawyers — City Hall's lead attorneys also have been consumed with the case. They have spent hundreds, if not thousands, of hours working on the case. In recent months, many of them have spent days and weeks in depositions, as have City Councilmembers.

"Their time has been monopolized in this case," said City Councilman Richard Bloom, who added that city officials are still open to settlement negotiations with the contingency lawyers.

Grossman, who is representing the law firms of Texas-based Baron & Budd, Sacramento-based Miller & Sawyer and San Francisco-based Sher & Leff — the three law firms that worked on the MTBE case for City Hall — claims the attorney fees are reaching well into the millions of dollars.

"The residents ought to know how much they're spending, simply in an effort not to pay," he said, adding his attorney fees already have surpassed \$5 million and he estimates City Hall's bill will be much more since it has dozens of lawyers working on the case. "The city is certainly spending money at a faster clip than us, and the amount of money the city owes the attorneys mounts daily."

The backstory to the bitter dispute is city officials' problem with the nearly \$1 million in expenses that the contingency lawyers had billed to local taxpayers to cover the costs of their work on the case. Those costs included expensive dinners at some of Santa Monica's finest restaurants and hotels. The use of a chartered private jet also was billed to City Hall by the lawyers. Paying what they believed was reasonable, city officials have reimbursed

LOCAL



City Hall claims conflict of interest in representation

LAWSUIT, from page 10

until the dispute was over. Halbreich said city officials reluctantly agreed to it.

Then, the two sides unsuccessfully attempted to mediate and settle out of court, Halbreich said. The contingency lawyers sent a letter to City Hall, giving an ultimatum to either arbitrate or litigate.

City Hall filed a complaint in May of 2004, and Grossman filed a cross-complaint three months later.

"We've always argued that they were in pie in the sky and completely unrealistic (in their claims)," Halbreich said.

Grossman argues that a significant portion of the money sitting in the account, which is now at about \$130 million with interest, is rightfully owed to his clients.

"If the city paid them tomorrow, the city would have free and clear the water treatment plant and \$50 million," he said.

NO JUDGE, NO JURY

City officials from the outset made it clear they wanted to press the case to an early trial in order to maximize a cash recovery and before federal legislation was passed that could limit municipalities in recovering MTBE contamination damages from oil companies.

The contingency lawyers in early 2000 represented to city officials that getting a trial date within 30 months of filing and putting litigation pressure on the oil companies would be necessary to get an estimated recovery of between \$400 and \$500 million, according to the city's complaint.

But that's not what happened, city attorneys argue. "... the defendants' actions did not remotely resemble their representations to the city ... the defendants did almost nothing to advance the case toward trial," the complaint reads. "And with each month that passed, the contingent fee percentage designed to compensate for concerted trial preparation increased."

The more time the case took, the higher the fee percentage for the contingency lawyers became, according to the services agreement — 10 percent on recoveries obtained in the first six months; 20 percent on recoveries within seven to 18 months; and 25 percent from the 19th month and 27 percent on recoveries obtained after a trial started. Then, the fee was to be multiplied by the gross recovery to calculate the contingency fee.

"... the defendants' conduct had the effect of delaying the case — not prosecuting it vigorously toward the represented early trial date, as promised — in order to try to increase the defendants' contingent fee payment,"

according to the city's complaint.

There was a one-year delay just in negotiating what venue the litigation against the oil companies should take place in, city attorneys say. And the case never advanced materially beyond the preliminary pleading stage, effectively having been stayed from the moment it was filed until the day it was settled, according to the city's complaint.

Grossman claims that it was City Hall's own incompetencies and unresolved issues that delayed the case, which the contingency attorneys had to first address before they could begin work on litigation.

Those issues included smoothing out the relationship between City Hall and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as resolving City Hall's legal dispute with Southern California Water Co. over ownership of the water wells, Grossman claims. He also says it was City Hall that wanted to fight for the trial to be heard in San Francisco, thus delaying the case for a venue change. The case ended up being moved to Orange County.

"Sure, there were periods of the case being delayed, but there was no delay by the attorneys," Grossman said.

Halbreich categorically denies those allegations, saying the contingency lawyers didn't do their due diligence in fighting for City Hall.

"Tell me how attorneys who did almost nothing are entitled to \$100 million?" he said.

YOU GET WHAT YOU SETTLE FOR

City officials say they would have never agreed to the settlement had they been aware of what they now consider conflicts of interest between the contingency lawyers, who City Hall claims had more to gain in pushing for a settlement than a trial.

"They were advised to accept it," Halbreich said. "At the time, based on what they knew, they thought it was a good settlement. They didn't know of Mr. Baron's conflict of interest, and they didn't know the lawyers would try to claim all of the cash."

Halbreich said the lawyers consulted amongst themselves on what settlement they should push for, with lead attorney Fred Baron serving as their advisor. City Hall also claims that the lawyers breached their fiduciary duty by putting their own interests ahead of their clients.

"In the action, the city is asserting through forming this intramural attorney relationship without informing the city ... they didn't disclose their tactics," he said.

Grossman said city officials have refused to pay the attorneys because they never fully understood the legal services agreement or the settlement, and are now trying

to back track.

"Having them exposed as fools or worse by entering into an agreement they've never read or understood, and they are now attacking the lawyers because they consulted amongst themselves?" Grossman said. "There is nothing they know now that they didn't know then, and there is nothing improper done by the attorneys."

"The bottom line is that the city has attempted to renege on every aspect of the agreement."

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NATIONAL

Colorado River controllers go with the flow

BY HENRY BREAN

Associated Press Writer

BOULDER CITY, Nev. — In a nondescript office building, Joe Donnelly sits at an off-the-shelf computer and adjusts numbers on a spreadsheet.

He might not look the part, but at the moment Donnelly controls the flow of the lower Colorado River and the water supply of 20 million people.

Donnelly is a scheduler for the federal Bureau of Reclamation, part of a four-person team that fills water delivery contracts along more than 300 miles of river from Hoover Dam near Las Vegas to the Mexican border.

He and his colleagues work in a cramped conference room known as the Boulder Canyon Operations Office Water Control Center.

"People want water, and our job is to move it into the right place on the system at the right time," said Terry Fulp, the bureau's area manager in Boulder City.

Working in tandem with another bureau scheduling office in Yuma, Ariz., the water control center in Boulder City oversees the delivery of 8.7 million acre-feet of water a year. That's enough water to cover the city of Las Vegas to a depth of more than 100 feet.

Mexico gets 1.5 million acre-feet of that water. Of the 7.2 million acre-feet that stays in the United States, some supplies homes and businesses in Los Angeles, San Diego, Phoenix and Tucson, Ariz. But most goes to farms in Arizona and Southern California that produce more

than \$1 billion worth of crops, including 85 percent of the nation's winter vegetables.

To get water from Hoover Dam to a head of lettuce in a field near El Centro, Calif., takes five days.

All told, the schedulers fill about 150 water delivery contracts on the lower Colorado River.

The first order of business, Fulp said, is to understand how much water is available in the river and how much of it is due to be delivered over the next month and year. The schedulers' job is to translate such long-range planning into the daily and even hourly operation of the lower Colorado's dams and reservoirs, he said.

The goal is to meet water orders and maximize storage on the river so no excess water is allowed to flow across the international boundary.

Any river water that flows into Mexico outside of scheduled deliveries does not count against Mexico's 1.5 million acre-foot allocation.

The schedulers also are expected to hit target levels for the water elevation in lakes Mohave and Havasu and for the hydroelectric power output at Hoover, Davis and Parker dams.

And to make sure the water arrives at its destination on time, they must adjust their deliveries for the time it takes water to move through the system: six hours from Hoover Dam to Davis Dam, three days from Parker Dam to the canals that funnel river water to farms just north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Adjustments made to the schedule are sent by com-

puter to the Hoover Dam control center, a secure facility where the actual changes to water and power plant operations are made.

Unlike the scheduling office, which keeps regular business hours five days a week, the dam's control center is staffed every minute of every day year round. From there, operators control the flow of the water and the speed of power turbines at Hoover, Davis and Parker dams.

"Our goal is for all the water we release to generate power, but the water is our mission," said Richard McDaniel, acting director of the control center.

If the schedulers' work was a Las Vegas lounge act, the show would open with psychic predictions and close with a juggling act.

Using real-time information from flow gauges and weather satellites, the schedulers fill water orders and try to forecast downstream water demand days into the future.

"It changes, and sometimes it changes very quickly," said Bruce Williams, team leader for the scheduling operation in Boulder City.

Last month, for example, a storm system dumped rain on Las Vegas and soaked farms and fields along the California-Mexico border. That prompted the bureau's biggest customer, California's Imperial Irrigation District, to cut its scheduled water orders.

To compensate, lead scheduler Julie Merchen had to slow the flow of water from Parker Dam, which raised the level of Lake Havasu and reduced the amount of electricity being generated by the dam.

To make up the lost power, more water was sent through the turbines at Hoover Dam, prompting an unwelcome rise in the level of Lake Mohave, where biologists working for the bureau had requested low water to help them net endangered razorback sucker fish.

Those problems were nothing compared with what happened when heavy storms and flooding hit the Colorado River in January and February.

The extra water caused farmers to slash their orders and prompted the bureau to all but close the gates at Parker Dam to try to capture as much of the unscheduled surplus as possible.

That drove up the water level in upstream reservoirs, especially Lake Havasu, which quickly swelled to 99 percent of capacity.

During less hectic times, the bureau's scheduling office does what it can to accommodate requested changes in river operations that have nothing to do with water or power.

Lake levels have been changed and the delivery schedule altered to help retrieve the body of a drowning victim, recover the wreckage of a truck that drove off a bridge, and help wildlife officials load burros onto a floating barge.

"It is sometimes a matter of almost inches," Fulp said of the river-flow adjustments.

The flow of the Colorado River below Hoover Dam also has been changed for special boating events, Fourth of July fireworks shows, and repairs to boat ramps and docks.

Schedulers try to make sure there is plenty of water in the lakes and in the river on weekends — particularly holiday weekends — when boaters flock to the area.

In October, the scheduling office temporarily increased releases from Davis Dam for a boat race in Laughlin. And when organizers called during the event looking for still more water, the bureau found a way to meet the request.

It wasn't always like that, said JoElle Hurns, executive director of the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce.

About 4 million tourists visit Laughlin and Bullhead City, Ariz., each year, and about 30 percent of them come to use the river, Hurns said.

"Four or five years ago, we had a couple of rough Labor Day weekends. The water was completely low," she said. "On the front page of the local paper there were pictures of boaters literally stranded on sandbars."

Communication and coordination with the bureau has greatly improved since then, she said. "The last two or three years, we have really built a good relationship."

Back at the water control center in Boulder City, Donnelly answers a call while he looks over the computer spreadsheet of the day's deliveries.

"I think it's always there, but I don't think we can fully comprehend the enormous impact this water has on the lives and the livelihood of the Southwest," he said. "We can't see through the eyes of (20) million people, but it's definitely on our minds, without question."

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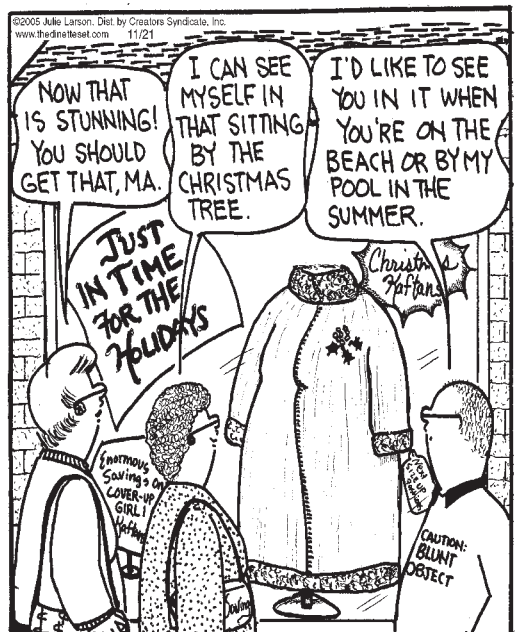
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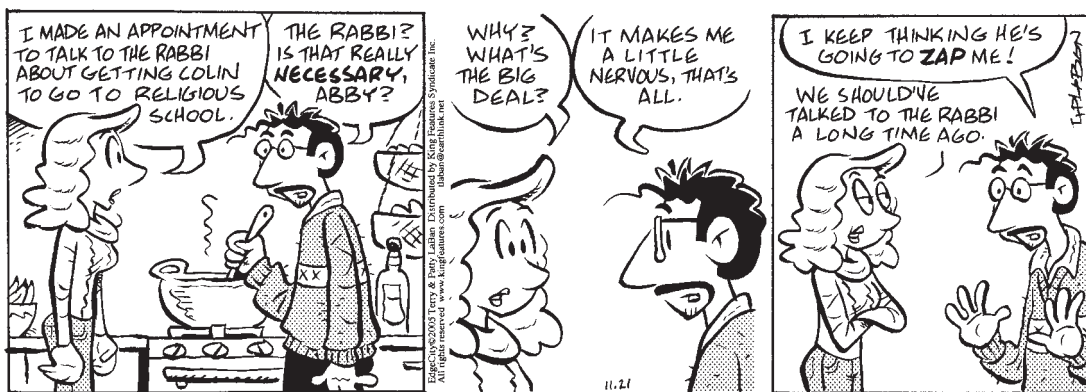
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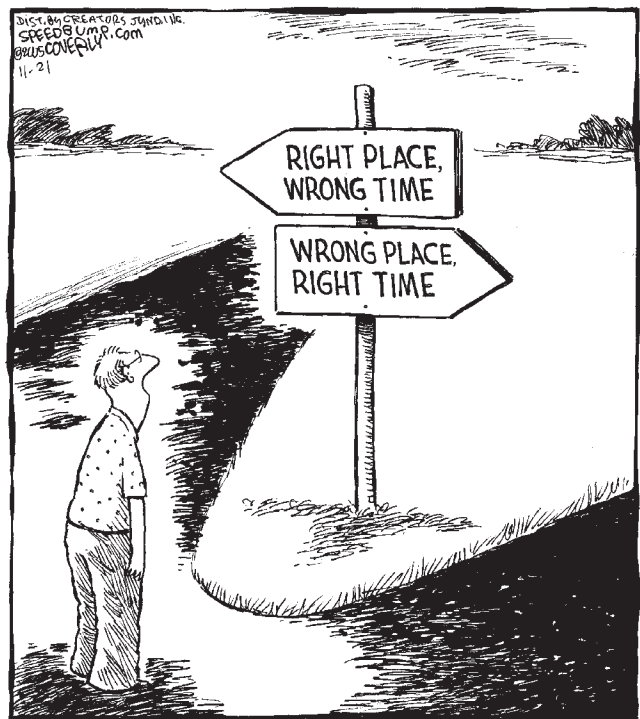
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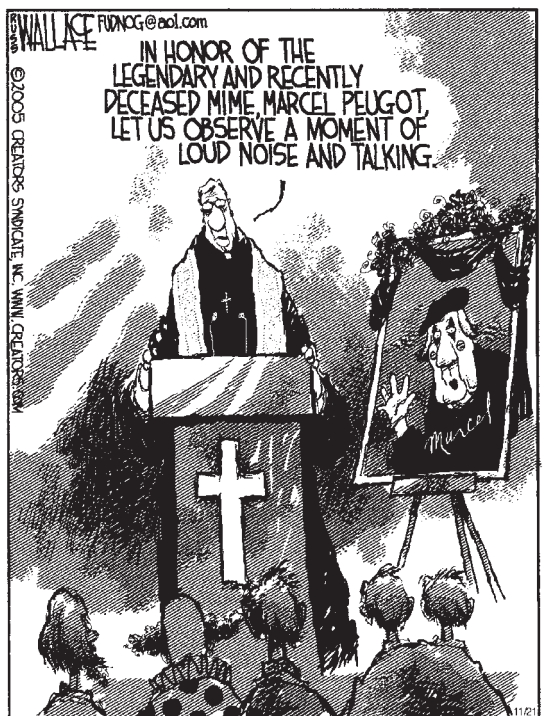


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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2518951 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Marigold Productions, 1335 N. La Brea Ave., #2145, LA, CA 90028. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Meri Howard, 426 S. Norton Ave., #200, LA, CA 90020 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/6/2000. /s/: Meri Howard This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2492138 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Aguilera's Landscaping And Maintenance, 402 El Sur St., Monrovia, CA 91016. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jose M. Aguilera, 402 El Sur St., Monrovia, CA 91016 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Jose M. Aguilera This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/17/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED

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PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2485669 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Atlantic Escrow, 5900 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Juan Andrade, 5900 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Juan Andrade This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on . NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2485685 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Benmos, 1131 N. Hourglass Pl., Diamond Bar, CA 91765. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Monica Williams, 15050 Monte Vista Ave., #141, Chino Hills, CA 91709. Ben Hearon Jr., 15050 Monte Vista Ave., #141, Chino Hills, CA 91709 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/14/2005. /s/: Monica Williams, Ben Hearon This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/14/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2521618 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Cobra's Trucking, 326 Eucalyptus Ave., Inglewood, CA 90301. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Thomas Castillo, 326 Eucalyptus Ave., Inglewood, CA 90301 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Thomas Castillo This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2521663 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as D&D Garment, 2033 Vernon Ave., Vernon, CA 90058. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Renita Fujita, 9431 Townley Drive, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, Oscar Macias, 9431 Townley Drive, Pico Rivera, CA 90660 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)1/10/2005. /s/: Renita Fujita, Oscar Macias This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 1/10/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2492076 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as D Lux Kitchens and Baths, 15842 Medoside St., La Puente, CA 91744. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jorge E. Tovar, 15842 Medoside St., La Puente, CA 91744 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Jorge E. Tovar This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/17/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2482168 FIRST FILING. The following

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person(s) is (are) doing business as EZ Loans Pro, AI #/ON 2681778, 1700 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA 91324. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Vulcan Financial Corp., 525 East Colorado Blvd., PH Floor, Pasadena, CA 91101 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Vulcan Financial Corp., CEO, Amir Nass

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2521616 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as First Premier Mortgage, AI #/ON 2681778, 431 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 200, Glendale, CA 91101. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Vulcan Financial Corp., 525 East Colorado Blvd., PH Floor, Pasadena, CA 91101 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Vulcan Financial Corp., CEO, Amir Nass This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2521611 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Fast Freight T., 12540-D Slauson Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Isidro Lomberra, 15123 Tacuba Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Isidro Lomberra

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2510536 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as GA EXPRESS, AG EXPRESS, 119 N. Belmont St., #2, Glendale, CA 91206. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Viktorya Israelyan, 119 N. Belmont St., #2, Glendale, CA 91206 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Viktorya Israelyan

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/18/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2531791 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Innovative Designs, 14622 Via Pointe Del Sol, Whittier, CA 90604. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Claudia Garzon, 14622 Via Pointe Del Sol, Whittier, CA 90604 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)9/20/2005. /s/: Claudia Garzon

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/20/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2521677 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as J&A Trimmings, 4901 Patata St., Unit 305, Cudahy, CA 90201. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Blanca Rocio Martinez, 4856 Live Oak St., Apt. B, Cudahy, CA 90201 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Blanca Martinez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2513358 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as J.R. Enterprise, 1401 West Imperial Highway Suite 7E, Lahabra, CA 90631. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Rajkumari Bhavnani, 12376 E. Washington Blvd., #101, Whittier, CA 90606 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Rajkumari Bhavnani

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/18/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2484316 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Let it Ride, 9742 Artesia Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Rey Alvarado, 6316 Painter Ave., Whittier, CA 90601 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Rey Alvarado

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2518991 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LOPEZ Exterminating, 5624 Rawlings St., South Gate, CA 90280. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Carlos Enrique Lopez, 5624 Rawlings St., South Gate, CA 90280 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Carlos E. Lopez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2518904 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MAGON Accounting & Tax Services, 9543 Burma Rd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Michael A. Gonzalez, 9543 Burma Rd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/1/2005. /s/: Michael Gonzalez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2482176 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Ready Two Roll Trucking, 1514 W. 93 St., LA, CA 90047. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Lester G. Grice II, 1514 W. 93 St., LA, CA 90047 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Lester G. Grice II

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/31/2005, 11/7/2005, 11/14/2005, 11/21/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2508662 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Villar

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS :REGULAR RATE: \$3.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

Notice of Hearing on Petition Notice is given that on November 29, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. or as soon after that time as the matter may be heard, petitioner Ross Furukawa, will move for an order pursuant to Government Code §6008 adjudicating The Santa Monica Daily Press as a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles. The hearing will be held in Department 64 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The Petition sets forth the following: 1. Petitioner, Ross Furukawa, is publisher of the newspaper known as The Santa Monica Daily Press, which is seeking adjudicated under Government Code §6008 as a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Santa Monica. 2. The Santa Monica Daily Press is published for the dissemination of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the City of Santa Monica, California. The business address is 1427 Third St. Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90401. 3. The Santa Monica Daily Press has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and substantial distribution to subscribers numbering 1023 in the City of Santa Monica and surrounding areas for a total weekly distribution of approximately 20,000. 4. For more than three years preceding the filing of the

13. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2689-2694.

NO. CITIZEN BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILED
 NO. 05 2676743 FIRST FILING. The following
 person(s) is (are) doing business as Studio Camp.
 6441 W. 87th St, Los Angeles, CA 90045. The full
 name of registrant(s) is/are : Leslie Camp, 6441 W.
 87th St, Los Angeles, CA 90045 This Business is
 being conducted by, an individual. Signed:
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business
 under the fictitious name or names listed herein.
 /s/ Leslie Camp
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk
 LOS ANGELES County on 11/04/05. NOTICE: THIS



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fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2729623 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Amahoro International, Al #/ON A333316, 28151 Highridge Rd., #112, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Shalom Ministries Inc, 1539 E. Howard Street, Pasadena, CA 91104 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Shalom Ministries Inc, President, Jeff Wright This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/10/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2729699 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as American Home Loan, 5220 Clark #310, Lakewood, CA 90712. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Sonona Goins, 703 W. Raymond St., Compton, CA 90220 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Sonona Goins This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on . NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703750 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Arreola Towing, 1830 Hancock St., Los Angeles, CA 90031. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Marco Antonio Arreola-Aviles, 1830 Hancock St., Los Angeles, CA 90031 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/8/2005. /s/: Marco Antonio Arreola-Aviles This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/8/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703794 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Birrieria Camachos Jal, 1938 E. Florence Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90001. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Victor Manuel Camacho, 1171 E. 71 St. Los Angeles, CA 90001 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Victor Manuel Camacho This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement

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does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703761 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Carrillos Company, 9016 Cecilia St., Apt. Q, Downey, CA 90241. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Gustavo Carrillo, 9016 Cecilia St., Apt. Q, Downey, CA 90241 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Gustavo Carrillo This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703712 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as CIticapital Finance Group, Capital Reserve Finance Group, Al #/ON 2766387, 12607 Hiddencreek Way, Suite S, Cerritos, CA 90703. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : ARKH, Inc., CA, 12607 Hiddencreek Way, Suite S, Cerritos, CA 90703 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)7/11/2005. /s/: ARKH, Inc., CFO/Secretary, Helen Oliver

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703711 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Daisy's Flowers and Gifts, 17819 Clark Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Maria del Carmen Delgadillo, 10479 Somerset Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Maria C. Delgadillo

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2691679 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Debrezz, 5757 W. Century Blvd., FL. 7th, Los Angeles, CA 90045. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ruthie Zepeda, 2203 Bermuda St., #A, Long Beach, CA 90814 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ruthie Zepeda

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED

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PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2729698 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Direct Lender, Direct Source, 5220 Clark Ave, #310, Lakewood, CA 90712. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Sonona Goins, 703 W. Raymond St., Compton, CA 90220 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Sonona Goins This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/10/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2691606 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as King's Palace Restaurant, King's Palace Chinese Cuisine, Al #/ON 2772490, 18900 E. Gale Ave., #A, Rowland Heights, CA 91748. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Bistro 2005 Corp., 18900 E. Gale Ave., #A, Rowland Heights, CA 91748 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Bistro 2005 Corp, President, Ping-Lan Liu This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2691607 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as King's Wood Teppanyaki Restaurant, Al #/ON 2691474, 18900 E. Gale Ave., #B, Rowland Heights, CA 91748. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Baytown Bistro Inc, 18900 E. Gale Ave., #B, Rowland Heights, CA 91748 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)8/1/2005. /s/: Baytown Bistro Inc, President, Ping-Lan Liu This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2691625 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as La Fuente, A Sober Community, 5718 Fountain Ave., LA, CA 90028. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Manuel Rodriguez, 5720 Fountain Ave., LA, CA 90028 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)9/30/2005. /s/: Manuel Rodriguez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS

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FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2687956 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Mr. Chavez Trucking, 4555 Cecelia st., #28, Cudahy, CA 90201. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Rafael Chavez, 4555 Cecelia st., #28, Cudahy, CA 90201 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Rafael Chavez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2691665 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Neighborhood Realtors, Community International Funding, 5155 W. Rosecrans Ave., Suite 1011, Hawthorne, CA 90250. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : William Claude Gaston Jr, 1320 S. Cochran Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019, Lisa L. Braboy, 3656 W. 59th St, Los Angeles, CA 90043 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: William Claude Gaston Jr, Lisa L. Braboy This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/07/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2708705 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Rosecran's Spirit Shop, 11016 E. Rosecrans, Norwalk, CA 90650. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Kamal Abdulmajid, 139 Avenida Mateo #1, San Clemente, CA 92672 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Kamal Abdulmajid This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2729692 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as St. George Auto & Service, 21914 Martin St., Carson, CA 90745. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Edward Awadalla, 21914 Martin St., Carson, CA 90745 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date). /s/: Edward Awadalla This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/10/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES

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FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2687976 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Sweets & Treats By Lilly, 1840 W. Whittier Blvd., Suite 175, La Habra, CA 90631. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Lilly A. Tosunian, 10825 Newcomb Ave., Whittier, CA 90603 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/7/2005. /s/: Lilly Tosunian This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/7/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2729634 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Urban City, 1256 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, CA 90015. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Violet Saab, 4033 Bell Ave., #8, Bell, CA 90201 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)9/1/2005. /s/: Violet Saab This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/10/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2703784 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as West Coast Diesel Bus & Truck, 1124 E. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90011. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Richard Maldonado, 11008 Rose Dr., Whittier, CA 90606 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Richard Maldonado

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2739178 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Overklok Digital Marketing, Overklok Advertising, 2209 Ocean Avenue, The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Connect Digital, LLC, 2209 Ocean Avenue, Venice, CA 90291 This Business is being conducted by, a limited liability. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/23/2001. /s/: Connect Digital Marketing, LLC, Owner, Max Bean This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES

DBAS

FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2787871 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as COMOCEA HOLDINGS INTERNATIONAL, 1349 North Detroit Street, #16, Los Angeles, CA 90046. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : William Thomas Walker, 1349 North Detroit Street, #16, Los Angeles, CA 90046, Lawrence Steven Levine, 24458 Valencia Blvd., #4021, Valencia, CA 91355 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/17/2005. /s/: William Thomas Walker, Lawrence Steven Levine

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/17/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2760406 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as lucky 5 studio, 1015 2nd Street, #110, Santa Monica, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Rana Dunham, 1015 2nd Street, #110, Santa Monica, CA 90403 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Rana Dunham

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS Angeles County on 11/15/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/21/2005, 11/28/2005, 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005

Name Changes

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. SS013958 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of David Howard McClung for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner or Attorney: David Howard McClung filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: David Howard McClung to David Howard Agell. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date: January 5, 2006 Time: 9:00am, Dept. A., Room 104 The address of the court is 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press. Date: November 16, 2005 LINDA K. LEFKOWITZ Judge of the Superior Court 11/21/05, 11/28/05, 12/05/05, 12/12/05

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Minogue ready for triumphant homecoming

By The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — Pop diva Kylie Minogue will hold her homecoming Australian tour at the end of next year, after canceling the event earlier this year when she was diagnosed with breast cancer, her promoter said Sunday.

The London-based, 37-year-old singer had returned to her hometown of Melbourne in southern Australia to perform her "Showgirl: The Greatest Hits" tour in May when she was diagnosed.

Minogue underwent surgery in a Melbourne hospital to remove the cancer, and doctors declared the operation a success.

On Sunday, her Australian tour promoter, The Frontier Touring Company, announced the tour would begin at the end of 2006.

"We appreciate that the end of next year is a long time away for ticket holders and the option of refunding tickets will remain available to fans," Gudinski said.

NEW YORK — Need some dating tips? Ask Usher.

The R&B singer, who is starring in his first lead role in "In the Mix," shared his secrets with Time magazine.

"Women love compliments, you know what I mean? Buy her a drink," he said. "Talk to her about whatever it

is that she wants to talk about. As long as you keep her laughing, you got it."

The film features the 27-year-old musician as Darrell, a playboy New York City disc jockey who finds himself in an interracial relationship with co-star Emmanuelle Chriqui.

Usher, whose 2004 "Confessions" had huge critical and commercial success, isn't the only musician with a movie these days. Rapper 50 Cent has his own movie, too. Both show the stars baring some skin. But does Usher think he's the better man?

"I'm a smaller guy. 50's got the arms, I got the abs," he says.

NEW YORK — The last time he was on Broadway, nearly 15 years ago, Jonathan Pryce played a manipulating con man in the musical "Miss Saigon" — and won a Tony Award for his performance.

Now, Pryce is coming back to the New York stage to portray a similar if more stylish swindler in "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," the musical about a pair of French Riviera scam artists.

Pryce replaces the show's original star, John Lithgow, who leaves the musical Jan. 15. The actor begins performances Jan. 17.

Pryce has starred in such movies as "Brazil," "The Adventures of Baron von Munchausen," "Glengarry Glen Ross," "Evita" and "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl."

"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," which is based on the 1988 movie starring Michael Caine and Steve Martin, opened last March. The show's other stars, Norbert Leo Butz, Sherie Rene Scott and Joanna Gleason, will continue in the production.

NEW YORK — For the producer of "Brokeback Mountain," a real-life romance between Heath Ledger and Michelle Williams was a gift.

The film stars Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal as ranch hands who fall in love, then hide their affair from their wives and families for years. Williams, best known for her years on the teen drama "Dawson's Creek," plays Ledger's wife, Alma.

"It was a big gift to have two people falling in love in our midst," producer James Schamus told Time magazine in a story about the movie. "You forget how lovely that is."

Ledger, 26, and Williams, 25, are engaged and recently had their first child, Matilda.

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