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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009
Volume 9 Issue 19



Santa Monica Daily Press

THROWING STONES
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE WE'LL MISS YOU, MELODY ISSUE

Lighting up the holiday season

BY DAILY PRESS

CITYWIDE The season of cheer will be in full swing after this weekend of tree lightings, holiday walks and festivals.

MONTANA GETS FESTIVE

Montana Avenue's annual holiday walk begins today at 5 p.m. and lasts until 9 p.m. Enjoy decorations, treats and live music at various participating businesses.

Marmalade Café, located at 710 Montana Ave., is serving hot chocolate and oat currant scones. Platino, located at 909 Montana Ave., is featuring live music and truffles.

Live music is also playing at Seasons on Montana (1021-A Montana Ave.) with Djembe drums and at Weathervane (1209 Montana Ave.). Mom's the Word, located at

SEE HOLIDAYS PAGE 8

Courthouse clinic helps victims of domestic abuse

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM COURTHOUSE The woman appeared to be in denial, dismissing assertions that she needed a restraining order, insisting that it's been a long time since she was struck.

The volunteers at the Domestic Violence Clinic were having little luck with the new client who came at the ultimatum of an employer — get a restraining order or don't come back.

Minty Siu-Kootnikoff took a seat next to the woman and started talking, asking questions, including what would constitute a "long time."

"The more I talked to her I discovered her idea of him not hitting her for a long time meant last Thursday," Siu-Kootnikoff, an attorney at the clinic, said during a recent interview. "I finally was able to get her to maybe understand that it's not a bad idea to get a restraining order."

About a year later the two women ran into each other at the market, the one-time

SEE ABUSE PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

UNIQUE: **Santa Claus will lead a candlelit walk down Main Street to the Edgemar Center for the Arts Saturday, where a Christmas tree made out of shopping carts (pictured) will be lit.**

Historic cottage becomes new B&B

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The city's final remaining beach-facing cottage — the adopted cause of passionate historic preservationists who fought off demolition two years ago — will soon be reincarnated into a bed and breakfast, at least when the owners aren't living there.

The Planning Commission on Wednesday approved a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at the old historic yellow cottage at 2219 Ocean Ave., attaching a series of stipulations including limiting the days of business operation to no more than 182 in a calendar year and requiring a manager to check in on guests two hours in the morning and a pair in the afternoon.

The property owners — John and Donna Heidt — must also return after one year for a review of the permit to see if any complaints have come in from neighbors, leaving the revocation option open.

The permit was narrowly approved 4-3 following a back-and-forth give-and-take between commissioners over a series of issues that have been raised by neighbors in recent months, including whether the property owner should be required to hire a full-time manager to live at the property, and addressing concerns over the lack of guest supervision.

The owners of a property management company in Santa Monica, the Heidts began receiving inquiries about short-term stay at the more than century-old cottage after they began rehabilitation last year on the home, which was then in precarious condition, sitting atop a sloping foundation, its exterior covered in chipped yellow paint.

But following visits by family and friends

SEE COTTAGE PAGE 7


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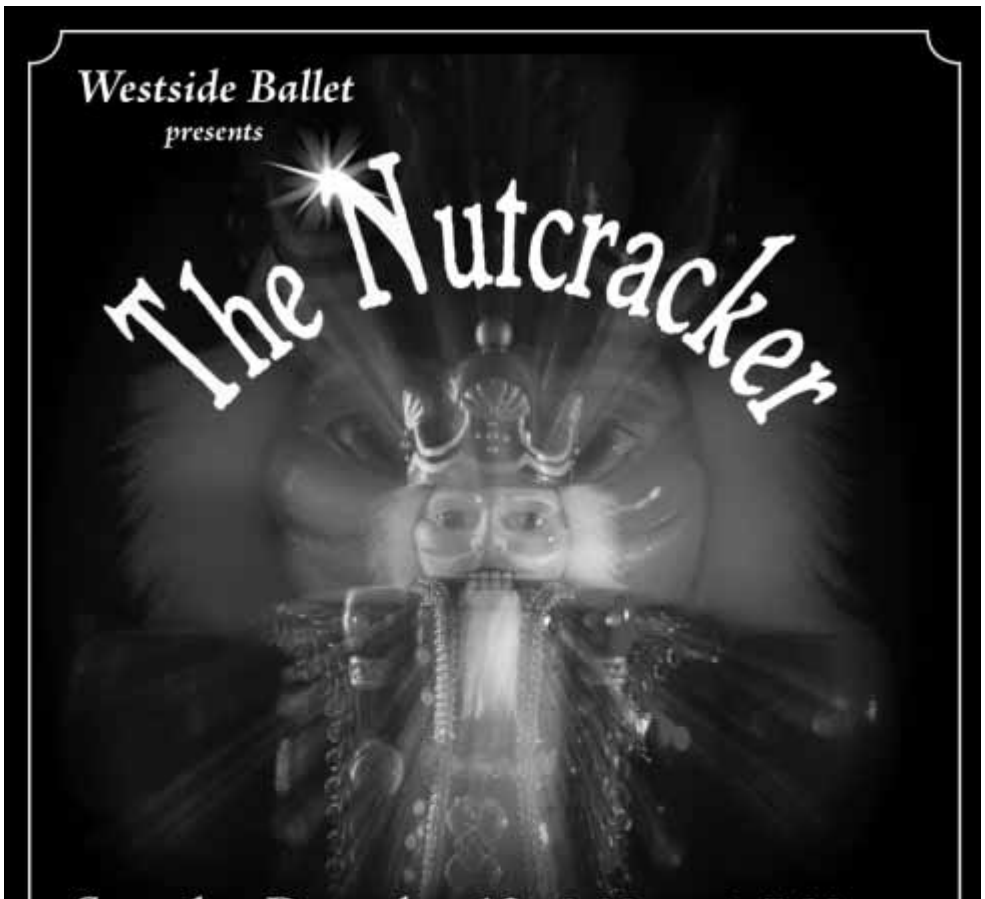


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WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, Dec. 4, 2009

Walking on Montana
Montana Avenue
5 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Ring in the holiday season with a festive walk on Montana Avenue between Sixth and 17th streets. Stores will be open late and some will be hosting parties for patrons.

Rockin' rotary
Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Dr.
The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the diverse ethnic makeup of members. Those interested in attending their regular lunch should contact June M. Doy at (310) 917-3313.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009

The sounds of the season
Third Street Promenade
5 p.m.
Enjoy festive holiday music from Grammy Award Nominee Brian McKnight and 94.7 The Wave while shopping for gifts on the Third Street Promenade. Gift certificates to local shops, signed CDs and tickets to The Wave's holiday show will be given out. Performance selections will be from McKnight's holiday release "I'll be Home for Christmas." The event is free.

Main in lights
Main Street
6 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Warm your spirit and get dazzled with a tree lighting ceremony, candlelit walk, street caroling and holiday store parties along Main Street.

Mothers' circle
motheringminds
Marine St., 2:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Many women want a place where they can talk about both the positive and negative experiences of motherhood, and this group offers a forum where women can speak honestly and openly about the challenges and joys of being a parent. This group provides a relaxed and nurturing environment where all experiences are welcome, and where mothers can feel supported and understood.
Call (310) 922-6969 for more information.

Yoga in the park
Ocean Avenue and Palisades Avenue, 10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Start your weekend off right with an energizing and rejuvenating yoga class in Palisades Park, overlooking the ocean. Beginners and all levels are welcome. All you need to bring is your yoga mat and an open heart. If you've always wanted to try yoga, this is the class for you. All classes are run on donations, suggested at $12.
Call (310) 560-4317 for more information, or e-mail jonathan@alignmentforlife.com.

Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009

Empower yourself
1575 Westwood Blvd. #205, noon — 4:30 p.m.
Attend a half-day workshop featuring interactive demonstrations, assessments, scans, stress-reducing recommendations and consults. Hosted by Dr. Daniel Sadigh, the workshop will start with full medical screenings and assessments from certified experts.
Cost is $25 for the first 200 attendees and $47 for everyone else.
Call (310) 477-8833 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

CORRECTION

In "Second look for controversial school policy changes," Theresa Harris, the chair of the Special Education District Advisory Committee (SEDAC), should have been quoted as saying that a proposed policy revision that would require a majority of committee members to be present for a vote would be troublesome because there are times when SEDAC barely has a quorum and would therefore need to have a near unanimous vote in such instances.

War memorial at L.A. historic site draws lawsuit

JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES An advocacy group accused officials Thursday of failing to obtain proper approvals when they allowed crews to begin work on a memorial to war heroes at a Downtown site recognized as Los Angeles' historic birthplace.

A lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court by The City Project argues that the Eugene A. Obregon Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial would alter parts of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles site that have important historical connections to the city's Native American, Chinese American and other ethnic communities.

The suit also says the memorial, to be built within a grass-covered part of the historical site known as Father Serra Park, diminishes much-needed public space and demands that the city suspend work until a full environmental review is completed.

"The petitioners seek to preserve the historical integrity and green space of Father Serra Park and to have the proposed project moved to an appropriate site," the suit says.

Crews have nearly finished the first stage of the memorial, which consists of a 30-foot long, 5-foot-high plaster wall covered with tiles bearing the names of nearly 3,500 medal recipients.

The memorial's sponsors also plan a 20-foot high pyramidal monument paying tribute to the medal's 40 Hispanic recipients.

A statue atop the stone structure would depict the memorial's namesake, Marine Pfc. Eugene A. Obregon, coming to the rescue of a comrade during the Korean War. The 19-year-old Obregon died during the rescue.

City Project president Robert Garcia said he planned to ask a judge early Friday for an injunction halting further construction.

Garcia and leaders of other groups, including the state-chartered Native American Heritage Commission and the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, had written the mayor's office and other city officials in recent weeks to express concern over the memorial during its construction.

The letters cited evidence showing that Father Serra Park had been the location of a Native American village. They also noted that the park was part of the Spanish settlement that grew into the city of Los Angeles and that it was believed to be the place where 19 Chinese men were killed in the 1870s, when the area was the location of the city's Chinatown.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

NICE FIT: **Professional horse jockey Gary Benson (right) tries on a pair of K-Ona Ironman shoes with the help of employee Joe Montoya at the new K-Swiss shoe store on Main Street on Thursday afternoon. The store is the only U.S.-based running store owned by K-Swiss.**

K-Swiss comes to Main Street

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

EDGEMAR CENTER Main Street is now home to the only U.S.-based K-Swiss running retail store.

The iconic California-sport footwear and apparel brand is looking to elevate its presence leading up to the Los Angeles Marathon, which will take place in March of 2010 and end near the Santa Monica Pier for the first time in the race's history. K-Swiss is the marathon's official footwear and apparel sponsor.

"The Santa Monica store will play a key role in our partnership with the L.A. Marathon, especially since the finish line is less than a mile away," said David Nichols, executive vice president of K-Swiss. "With product, experienced staff, and coaching advice, we see the store as a go-to destination for runners as they train for this big event."

K-Swiss currently operates running stores in Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong.

What sets the running store apart from other retail outlets is the dedication to finding the right fit for each runner by using treadmills and other "fitting systems" to gauge a person's stride and prescribe the appropriate shoes, said Mark Sheehan, director of performance footware for K-Swiss.

The goal is to also offer drinks and snacks to help boost an athlete's performance. There will also be seminars and clinics for enhanced coaching, with the store becoming a gathering spot for group runs. The L.A. Roadrunners group has already been testing K-Swiss' new products and are becoming a resource for the brand to gather feedback and make improvements to products.

"We are really looking to become a part of the community," Sheehan said.

The new store is located at the Edgemar Center at the former site of Royal Elastics, a hip, youth-oriented brand that was formerly owned by K-Swiss, which sold the company in April.

Anthony Schmitt, a local artist and chairman of the Main Street Merchants Association, welcomed K-Swiss to the neighborhood, saying its high profile will only help draw more people to the retail district, which has suffered some hard times recently because of the struggling economy.

"That is a significant asset for Main Street, to be able to offer both recognizable brands along with little mom-and-pop shops that are unique," said Schmitt, the artist behind the Edgemar Center shopping cart Christmas tree. "Any time you have a brand come along that has a high profile, I think it just benefits everybody."

K-Swiss opened the Main Street location last week.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Quote that makes sense

Editor:

After hearing the president's speech about going to war more, I came across this quote sent to me by a great source of daily inspiration, wordsmith.org:

"Nations have recently been led to borrow billions for war; no nation has ever borrowed largely for education. Probably, no nation is rich enough to pay for both war and civilization. We must make our choice; we cannot have both."

Abraham Flexner, educator (1866-1959)

Henry Rosenfeld
Santa Monica

More troops not the answer

Editor:

What is slowly becoming Obama's war in Afghanistan can't be won militarily. Ultimately, American and international troops will be pulled out with some form of mutually agreed settlement with the homegrown Taliban. As countless countries have learned in history, from the USSR to the Mongols, from Persia to Alexander the Great – failure is visited upon countries who try to occupy Afghanistan.

Meanwhile the L.A. Times reported on Nov. 30:

"The war in Afghanistan has cost $243 billion since 2001, and the government estimates that the cost would rise $1 million per year for every additional U.S. soldier. At that rate, the increase Obama is expected to endorse could wipe out savings from troops withdrawn from Iraq."

Winning in Afghanistan will only come with diplomacy and humanitarian aid, not with war making. It will come from a negotiated settlement initiated by the U.S. – not more troops pushed on that country.

Andy Liberman
Santa Monica

Ban an attack on vulnerable

Editor:

A. Borden hits the nail on the head with his letter to the editor, "Agenda behind smoking ban," regarding the real purpose behind banning smoking in Santa Monica rental units, which is to drive out long-term tenants paying below market rates.

Rent Control Board member Robert Kronovet proposed this ban and, as I warned when he was elected, his real agenda is to undermine and eventually eliminate rent control in this city.

One step in that direction is to make life so constrained and costly to smokers that they are driven from their rent controlled apartments to seek a place where they can smoke without fines and harassment. Those apartments could then be rented at market rates. This is a selective attack on some of our most vulnerable citizens. A large percentage of smokers tend to be lower income and elderly. Most began smoking before the activity was branded as an anti-social act.

I sympathize with tenants exposed to others' cigarette smoke but I ask that they put this nuisance in perspective. Every time they travel the congested streets of Santa Monica, they're exposed to far more pollutants and noxious fumes from vehicles than they could ever receive from getting a whiff of a cigarette.

The more we try to regulate and criminalize private behavior, the more we curtail our personal freedoms and, in the case of this smoking ban, we're just playing into the greedy hands of Robert Kronovet and his landlord buddies.

Derek Loughran
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Give war a chance … again?

THIS PAST TUESDAY PRESIDENT OBAMA spoke to the cadets at West Point announcing his plans to add 30,000 more troops in Afghanistan. Sadly, I've seen this speech before, though maybe not as well delivered. LBJ gave it when he increased troops in Vietnam. (We all know how well that worked out.) As Obama spoke, I couldn't help but recall the Yogi Berra quote, "It's déjà vu all over again."

I voted for Obama. Through my writing and e-mails, you might say I "campaigned" for him. But I'm disappointed in his decision. For his sake, I hope it turns out right. I worry, especially for the soldiers and their families, that it won't. When such disparate voices as Tom Hayden and George Will suggest that the policy is doomed, it makes me nervous.

The tone of the speech was sobering, as it should be. The cadets, including a surprising number of women, rarely applauded. One was napping, and on camera no less. I hope his parents weren't watching.

It seems painfully clear to me that if the Bush administration hadn't redirected its focus on Iraq, our mission in Afghanistan might have been completed long ago. Gen. Tommy Franks suggested that we were close to achieving our goals. Then, seemingly out of the blue, the neocons began beating the Iraq war drums. Not long after the invasion, the Taliban and al-Qaida began to return to Afghanistan, reclaiming control. And that's the sad reality of today.

The non-existent WMDs in Iraq wasn't the first time we've gone to war under false pretenses. In Vietnam, there was the Gulf of Tonkin incident that allowed LBJ, a Democrat, to widen the war. Today, it's universally held that our ships were never fired upon by the North Vietnamese. It might have been radar failures. LBJ even suggested as much in 1965, "For all I know, our Navy was shooting at whales out there."

The blowing up of the USS Maine which preceded the Spanish-American War, and the Lusitania, which precipitated America's involvement in WWI, have been considered by some historians as "False Flag" incidents intended to fuel war fever. And for some reason, we the people, always fall for it.

Most presidents have a difficult time saying no to the generals. Truman managed to (firing MacArthur) and Eisenhower went a step further. In his farewell address he warned about the dangers of the military industrial complex, the only group that actually profits from war. During Obama's speech I kept thinking about Ike's prophecy.

Immediately following the address, the networks and cable channels began their instant analysis. Actually, they couldn't wait to turn to the more riveting issue facing America, what the hell is up with Tiger Woods?

On Wednesday, Obama's speech seemed less debated than the National Enquirer's report about Tiger Woods' car accident and his now-admitted-to "transgressions" with a cocktail waitress. Apparently she has 300 text messages and untold voicemails from him, one of which (from Nov. 24) is already on the Internet. It begins, "This is Tiger." He tells her that Mrs. Tiger has discovered her number and asks for "a huge favor," that she change her outgoing message to a generic one.

Tiger was also given a $164 "careless driving" citation by the Florida Highway Patrol and received four points on his driver's license. This could cause his insurance premium to increase, assuming Tiger doesn't own the insurance company.

Instead of coming out with the truth up front, as David Letterman did, Tiger stonewalled. This only fueled the rumor mills. One of the three women has already hired attorney Gloria Allred. My reaction: "Bring on the clowns."

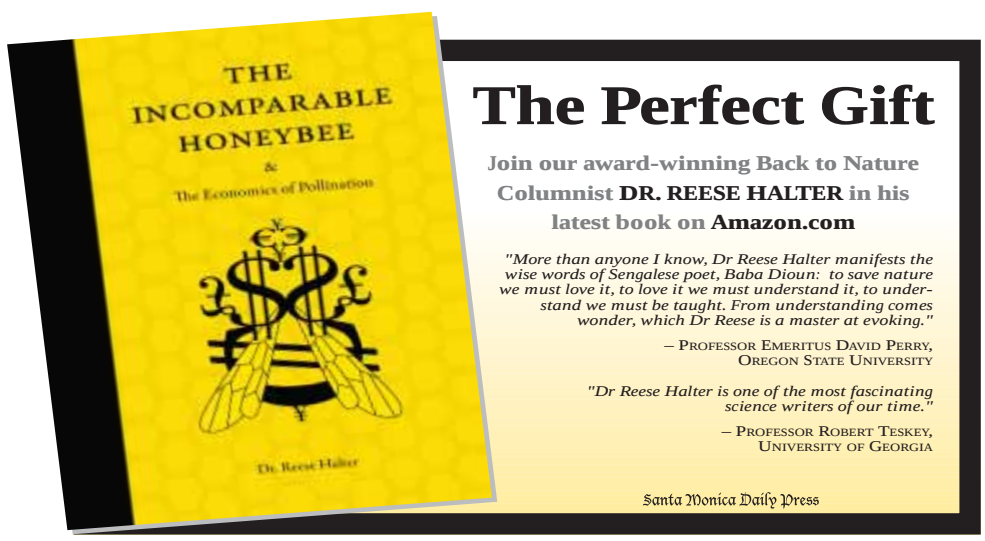
In the tradition of Richard Nixon's, "I am not a crook" and Bill Clinton's "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky," we can now add Tiger's "The only person responsible for the accident is me." (And an eight iron?)

In the meantime, Woods canceled on his own charity golf tournament this week, the Chevron World Challenge at the Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks. As soon as Tiger's "no show" was announced tournament officials began refunding money to hordes of unhappy golf fans. The PGA sans Tiger equals yawn.

Be prepared, in the coming weeks Tiger's three mistresses may turn into 13, all armed with salacious text messages and voices mails. The tabloids will have the biggest field day since O.J. murdered Nicole and Ron. Whoops, allegedly murdered.

So, two remarkable men, admired by millions worldwide, have disappointed their base for different reasons. Personally, I have zero interest in Tiger's "extracurricular activities," but Obama and Afghanistan is monumental. If history is any judge, I fear Obama will wind up the new LBJ. Yogi will be right. It'll be déjà vu all over again.

President Obama's e-mail is: www.whitehouse.gov/contact. **JACK** can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.



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A newspaper with issues

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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Your column here

Christie Asselin
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Empty living room syndrome

NORTH CAROLINA ONLINE FURNITURE STORE owner Henry Ray Privett defrauded 600 consumers of $1.1 million. Privett was sentenced to 14 years in prison after he was found guilty of fraud for a scheme in which consumers purchased furniture that Privett never delivered. New Jersey furniture store owner William C. Neumann was indicted on similar charges under New Jersey state law and was sentenced to five years in state prison.

The owners of Los Angeles-based Cozi Couch Washable Luxury defrauded consumers right here in Santa Monica, leaving a group of more than 20 residents infuriated. One victim, "Marissa," paid $3,000 in cash for a custom-made couch because the store manager promised to "cut her a deal" if she paid in cash. Having purchased a couch from Cozi Couch several years earlier, Marissa trusted him and jumped at the offer. One year later, Marissa's living room is still empty. Cozi Couch shut down without delivering the couch to Marissa and many other Cozi Couch victims.

Marissa stated, "As a homeowner and long-time resident of a city like Santa Monica, you hope that you'll be protected from criminals like the people who run Cozi Couch. Why are they allowed to get away with this?"

Once she realized that she was being defrauded, Marissa informed the store manager of Cozi Couch that she had hired an attorney and planned to file a lawsuit. Cozi Couch then appeared to become highly motivated to deliver her couch. After many phone calls and false promises, Cozi Couch never delivered the couch. Marissa then sued Cozi Couch and its principals. In a surprising ruling, however, a small claims court judge determined that no fraud had occurred. The judge refused to find the owners of Cozi Couch liable.

The Santa Monica City Attorney's Office has since brought criminal charges of theft, false advertising, and operating without a business license against four former owners and managers of Cozi Couch. Unfortunately, the City Attorney cautioned the victims that although the defendants may be found criminally liable, they likely do not have sufficient personal assets to refund the victims.

Here are some things to keep in mind to protect yourself from consumer predators:

First, avoid paying up front in cash for big purchases. Use your credit card. If any problems occur, you can always contact your credit card company and work with them, instead of with the seller.

Further, take action sooner rather than later. A seller must ship your goods within the time promised. If you and the seller do not discuss a delivery date, the seller must deliver the goods within 30 days. If the seller can not ship within the promised time, the seller must offer you the option of canceling the order and refunding your money. If a business has not timely delivered the product and if you have seen enough red flags to arise suspicion that they will never deliver the goods, demand your money back via a certified letter, and request a receipt of delivery. If the business is reputable, they will make good on their promise, or return your money.

Also, organize with other victims. The victims of the Cozi Couch scheme have created their own e-mail group. They communicate with each other, discuss their cases and give each other helpful pointers on filing lawsuits, and locating the defendants. A group of them even visited the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office to push for charges to be filed.

Next, take administrative action. For instance, you should file a police report. If you do that, you will assist the prosecutor in building a case and bolster your own civil lawsuit. Also, contact your local prosecutor, just as the Cozi Couch victims have. And file a complaint with the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Moreover, file a lawsuit against the company and the people who run the organization. Although the principals of a corporation are generally insulated from personal liability, if you can show the judge that fraud occurred, a judge should hold both the corporation and the principals liable. You can file a claim for up to $7,500 for only about $50 in your local small claims court.

Additionally, spread the word to potential consumers. Contact the Better Business Bureau and tell them your story. Also, write a review on Web sites such as yelp.com. If you give consumers a reason to not go to the store, they won't.

Most importantly, trust your gut instinct. If you think you are being defrauded, don't doubt yourself, you probably are. Take immediate action.

CHRISTIE ASSELIN is an advocate for consumer rights, an attorney and a writer. You may contact her at ChristieAsselinEsq@gmail.com.

The Q Line

Growing interest

City Hall recently created a Garden Sharing Registry that seeks to pair homeowners with extra land with gardeners who need a place to do their thing.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

Would you be interested in either sharing your land or lending your expertise to till the Santa Monica soil?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.

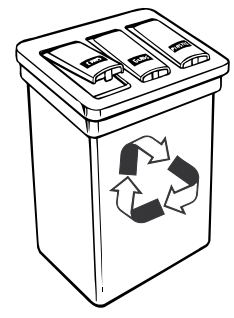




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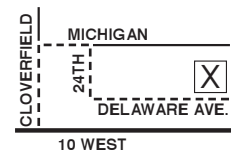


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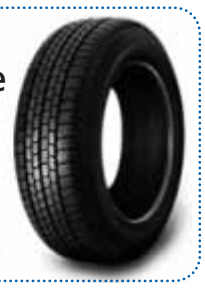
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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

A stone's throw sends him away

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SATURDAY, NOV. 21, AT 9:03 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the area of Seventh Street and Colorado Avenue regarding a fight. When officers arrived, they located a suspect in the parking lot of Vons. Officers were advised that a suspect entered the store and removed a bottle of booze. The manager and store security confronted the suspect outside of the store. The suspect gave back the bottle of alcohol. As the manager and security guard were heading back to the store, the guard was struck in the back with a large rock allegedly thrown by the suspect, who fled the area. Officers were advised on Nov. 27 that the suspect had come back to the store. The suspect was identified as Bradley Hanaway, 25, a transient. His bail was set at $33,049.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25, AT 1:46 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk — Ocean View Store — regarding a fight. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told them that the suspect entered the store and picked up a pair of sunglasses from a rack. She then put them on her head and left the store without paying for them. When the victim, a store employee, confronted the suspect, the suspect allegedly turned around and struck the victim in the face with a closed fist. The two then began to fight over the sunglasses. The suspect was identified as Cynthia Cantrell, 45, a transient. She was not eligible for bail.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25, AT 4:40 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue — Sears — regarding theft suspects in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said two women who were caught shoplifting two weeks ago but were not prosecuted entered the store and took items to the dressing rooms. After a few minutes, the suspects then left the dressing rooms without any items. A check of the dressing rooms revealed there were no items left behind. Security stopped the suspects outside of the store and found the stolen items, along with items from another store. The suspects allegedly admitted to stealing the items from Sears and another store. Security detained the suspects until officers arrived. The items were valued at $232. Officers placed the suspects under arrest for burglary. They were identified as Marina Berben 19, of Santa Monica, and Jandete Jacobina, 19, of Los Angeles. Bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, NOV. 27, AT 6:31 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of Fourth Street — Parking Structure No. 5 — regarding a person urinating on the wall. When officers arrived, they made contact with several witnesses who identified the suspect. He was placed under arrest for loitering in the parking structure and urinating in public. During a pre-booking search, officers located Hydrocodone, a powerful pain reliever. At the jail, the suspect allegedly became combative and kicked jail personnel. The suspect was booked for possession of a controlled substance, battery on a custodial officer, possession of marijuana and municipal code violations. The suspect was also on parole. He was identified as Richard Beitler, 23, of Lake Forest. He was not eligible for bail.

SATURDAY, NOV. 28, AT 10:12 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 700 block of Broadway — Vons — regarding a strong-arm robbery. When officers arrived, they made contact with a store employee who said he saw a woman walk out of the store with two items without paying for them. Once outside the store, the employee made contact with the woman and asked her if she had a receipt for the items. The suspect allegedly became confrontational with the employee and pushed him away. The employee, fearing the suspect would become more violent, went back into the store and called police. Officers located the suspect a short distance away with the stolen items (Arizona ice tea and toothpaste). Officers searched the suspect and allegedly discovered cocaine. The suspect was placed under arrest for robbery and possession of a controlled substance. She was identified as Elizabeth Eckerle, 49, a transient. Her bail was set at $50,000.

SATURDAY, NOV. 28, AT 5:10 P.M.,
Officers on routine patrol near the Civic Center noticed a city vehicle parked in a nearby lot with its doors open and items strewn about. Witnesses told officers that the man responsible was walking a short distance away. Officers made contact with the suspect, who said he was paid $50 by someone to clean up the vehicle. Officers found the suspect to be in possession of a drill and a flashlight. The suspect, Thomas Lafleur, 60, a transient, was arrested for burglary. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, NOV. 28, AT 5:34 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of Third Street — Sephora —regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they were advised by store security that two suspects placed items in their purses, went to the cashier and tried to return the items. The suspects then allegedly purchased additional items with the credit and additional gift cards. As the suspects left the store, security stopped them for questioning. The suspects — a mother and daughter team — were accompanied by the daughter's children, police said. Further investigation by security revealed that the suspects were in possession of additional items from Sephora that totaled $775. Inside the purses were additional items form other stores that appeared to have been stolen. They were identified as Fina Sherwood, 55, of Brentwood, and Jennifer Sherwood, 27, of Los Angeles. Bail was set at $20,000 for each suspect.

news@smdp.com, Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

CHANGES: **The Planning Commission on Wednesday approved a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast at this old historic yellow cottage at 2219 Ocean Ave., attaching a series of stipulations including limiting the days of business operation to no more than 182 in a calendar year and requiring a manager to check in on guests two hours in the morning and a pair in the afternoon.**

B&B proposal concerns neighbors

FROM **COTTAGE** PAGE 1

last winter, the questions about rentals began pouring in.

"Since we occupy the house two weeks out of the month on average, we felt we can share the cottage with people who are interested," John Heidt, who maintains his primary residence in Westwood, said.

They began renting the cottage on short-term stay until they were informed earlier this year by City Hall's code compliance division that such a use was not permitted. The couple then filed for a permit to operate a bed and breakfast — an allowable use in the zoning district — but with the intention of renting the entire house and not individual rooms.

The municipal code defines a bed and breakfast as a building or a portion thereof which is used as temporary lodging for individuals for less than 30 consecutive days. The facility must have more than four guest rooms and one kitchen. The cottage currently has four guest rooms but two kitchens, one of which will be removed.

Such a use would allow the couple to share the historic cottage while keeping it for themselves part of the year, Heidt said.

"We believe the bed and breakfast use, while only occasional, will contribute to city programs through the transient occupancy tax and will in some small measure contribute to the awareness of and support for our local business community," Heidt said. "We are proud of our landmark building and feel that by sharing the experience we will contribute to an appreciation of historic buildings and neighborhood appreciation."

While a city staff report states that the property owners are in part pursuing the project to assist in paying for the improvements to the cottage, Heidt said that finances is not really a factor.

The bed and breakfast proposal has drawn concerns from neighbors who said they received an unwelcome preview during the period in which the couple previously rented the cottage without the permit, complaining about noise and the lack of supervision on site. Some also raised concerns about the impacts to an already sensitive parking situation on the street.

"You have people who live and work there and are on different schedules than people who are renting and on vacation," Deborah Laper, a neighbor, said during the commission meeting. "I don't know about you, but I certainly act a little bit differently on vacation than I do in my daily life.

"I've been on the receiving end during the illegal renting period of time to kind of a dress rehearsal of what this looks like and I don't like it."

> **"WE ARE PROUD OF OUR LANDMARK BUILDING AND FEEL THAT BY SHARING THE EXPERIENCE WE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO AN APPRECIATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND NEIGHBORHOOD APPRECIATION."**
>
> **John Heidt**
> Cottage owner

The proposal did come with supporters, including known figures from the historic preservationist community.

"It seems to me the condition the Heidts have agreed to in the CUP seems more than adequate to provide neighborhood friendly operation of the property," Carol Lemlein, the president of the Santa Monica Conservancy, said. "One wonders how many of us who own our own homes would accept the same conditions on our own use of our property."

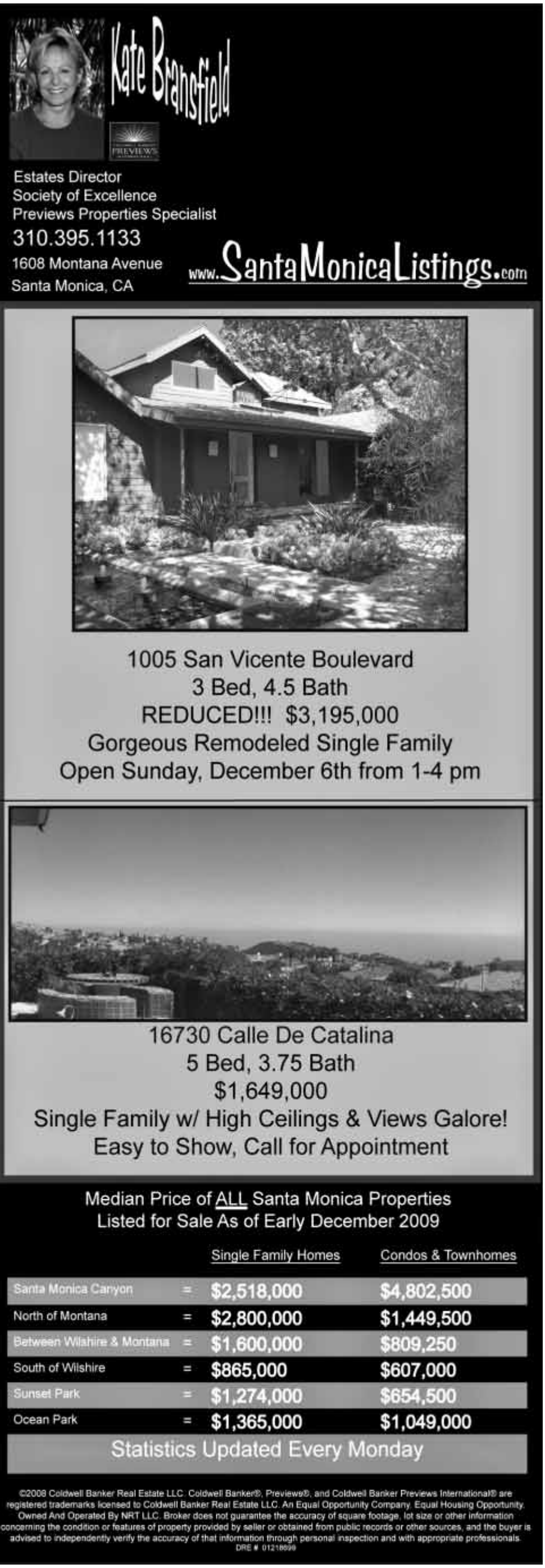
The lack of an onsite manager drew the most concerns from commissioners Jay Johnson, Jason Parry and Gerda Paumgarten Newbold, who said they wanted to see a supervisor at the cottage 24 hours a day. Chair Hank Koning and commissioner Gwynne Pugh said they felt the onsite manager was not necessary, pointing out the awkwardness of having a stranger staying with guests on such a small piece of property. Koning suggested placing a surveillance camera on the house to address some of the concerns.

"I think that's overbearing and I think it's impractical and if I were a family renting this I wouldn't want somebody there," Pugh said.

Johnson said he doesn't like the idea of placing commercial uses in residential neighborhoods and feared that approving the permit would set a bad precedent.

"How are we going to prevent that from spreading (in the city) if we approve this," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com



Shops party for the holidays

FROM **HOLIDAYS** PAGE 1

910 Montana Ave., has live music as well as homemade fudge and hot apple cider.

For something more filling, have a bowl of homemade chili and some apple pie while listening to the Santa Monica High School choir at Dr. Gunning Eyecare, located at 1312 Montana Ave.

THE SOUND OF THE HOLIDAYS

The city's first Christmas tree lighting is Saturday at 5 p.m. on the 1300 block of the Third Street Promenade, where Grammy Award nominee Brian McKnight will light the 22-foot tree.

McKnight & Sons and radio station 94.7 The Wave will supply music, and The Wave will also give away promenade store gift certificates, signed CDs and tickets to The Wave's holiday show.

LIGHTING UP MAIN

Main Street begins its celebrations Saturday at 6 p.m. on the lawn in front of the California Heritage Museum. The Samohi choir will once again sing Christmas carols as the trees are lit.

After the lighting, Santa Claus will lead a candlelit walk down Main Street to the Edgemar Center for the Arts, where a Christmas tree made out of shopping carts will also be lit.

The choir will be joined by the Off Their Jingle Bell Rockers while participants stop in over 40 shops to admire decorations, look around and enjoy snacks.

The family-friendly party ends at 9 p.m.

HO-HO-HO

Santa Claus is coming to town this Saturday with help from the Santa Monica police and fire departments. First responders will help Santa spread holiday cheer by distributing thousands of candy canes to good boys and girls as part of the 17th annual "Candy Cane Drive."

Santa's scheduled stops are:

- 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. — Douglas Park, California Avenue at 25th Street
- 11:00 to 11:15 a.m. — Reed Park, California at Lincoln Boulevard
- 11:25 to 11:50 a.m. — Third Street Promenade at Wilshire Boulevard
- 1:15 to 1:30 p.m. — Virginia Park, 2200 Virginia Ave.
- 1:45 to 2:00 p.m. — Marine Park, Marine Street at 17th Street
- 2:15 to 2:30 p.m. — Clover Park, Ocean Park Boulevard at 25th Street

news@smdp.com

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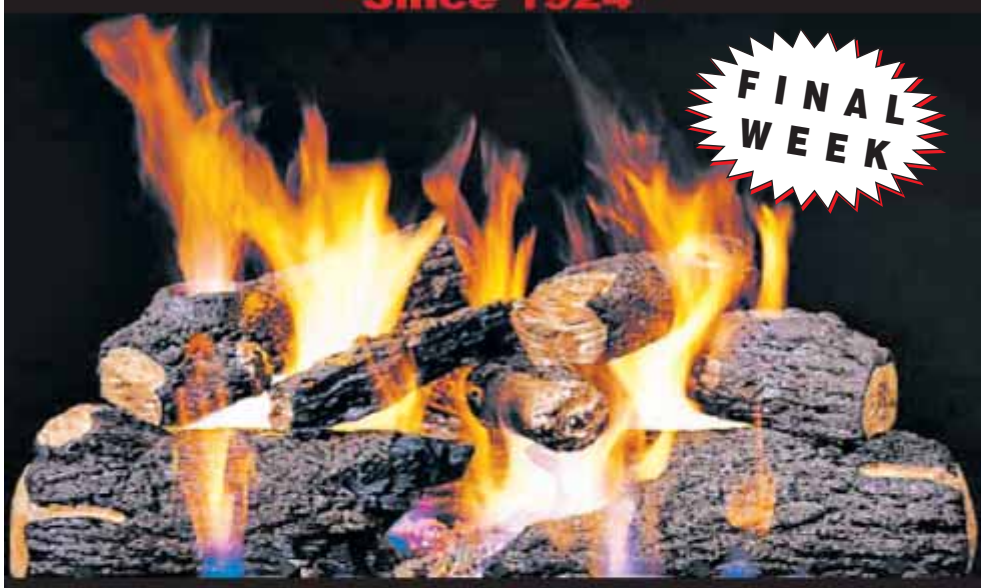
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5:00pm-9:00pm

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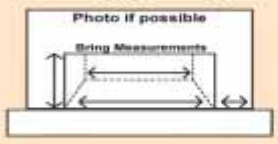
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DEAL HUNTING

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Customer Joe Levy (left) is helped by employee Jeanette Dean while other customers wait in line with their merchandise at the Hotel Bel-Air furniture sale at the old Circuit City store on Fourth Street and Arizona Avenue on Thursday. People at the sale stood in line up to an hour to get in and another hour to purchase items at a discount.

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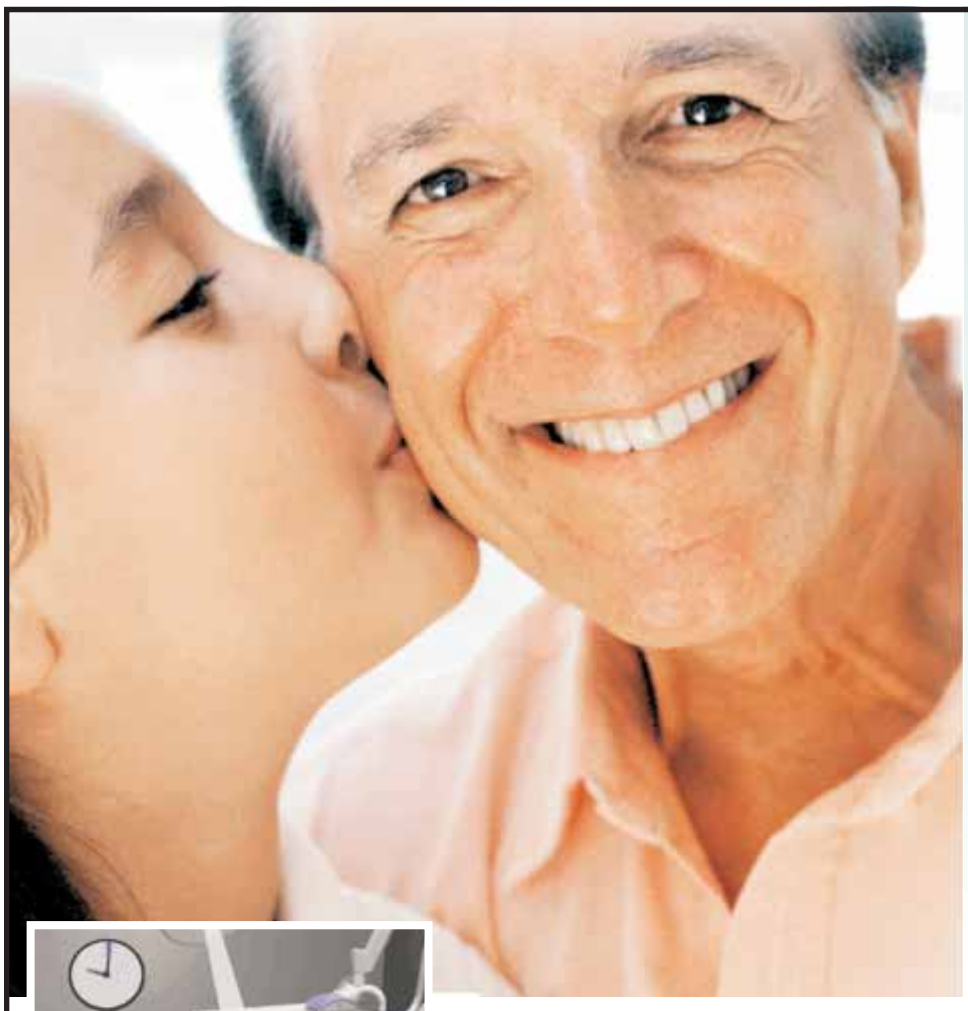
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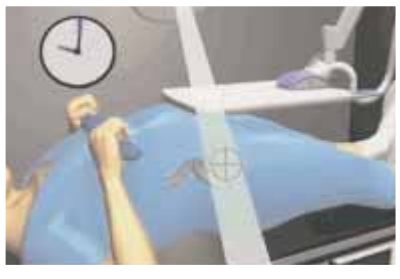
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Clinic seeks to help battered

FROM ABUSE PAGE 1

client now divorced and free from her abusive ex-husband, playing double role as working single mom and student.

"It's amazing how a single mom can juggle a budget," Siu-Kootnikoff said. "If single moms were running the country, things would be completely different."

Tucked away at the end of a long corridor in the Santa Monica Courthouse is a small closet-sized room where victims of domestic violence have been seeking legal assistance for the past 20 years, whether it's to obtain a temporary restraining order or counsel for divorce proceedings.

The Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles has operated the clinic for 14 of those years, staffing it with a small army of attorneys and volunteers who meet with clients every weekday morning, some who are new, many who are repeat visitors, all hoping to end the abuse that's been inflicted on them.

Many of the clients come to the clinic tired and traumatized, confused at what can be a difficult navigation of the judicial system, some walking up to the wrong windows at the courthouse, many needing guidance to get through a voluminous application form for temporary restraining orders.

Attorneys at the clinic help clients prepare the forms, taking a statement that includes specifics of the alleged incident, from where the woman was hit to whether there were any witnesses. They also accompany the clients to court hearings.

But many clients don't go through with the application filing their first, second or third visit to the clinic, some because they can't return to the courthouse for the hearing after the lunch break, others because they fear the repercussions of filing a detailed statement that the person who is allegedly responsible for the abuse can see, Susan Millmann, an attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation, said.

About half of the clients don't file the paperwork after it's been completed.

"It's a very difficult emotional thing," Millmann said. "Not only are they trying to stay safe, but their relationship is falling apart."

Those who do file for a temporary restraining order, which are good for up to three weeks, will usually receive one that day.

Sometimes, the disputes can get deadly.

In 2002, a client was fatally stabbed by the father of her son outside of City Hall in a murder-suicide. The woman already had obtained a temporary restraining order and was on site for a child visitation matter.

One of their most recent clients is a Westside woman who filed for a restraining order in October after she was attacked by an ex-boyfriend who was inebriated at the time.

"I thought this is going to be an easy thing to get," the woman, who asked that she remain anonymous, said about obtaining a restraining order.

The process ended up taking five hours.

"To have this situation take place is not something I'm proud of and not something I wanted to talk about," she said. "It's very embarrassing to admit that you got yourself in a situation like that and you blame yourself.

"(The clinic) made me feel at ease and there was a sense of comfort there from the ladies in the room."

melodyh@smdp.com

Community Meeting for Bergamot Transit Village Center Development Agreement 1681 26th Street

City of Santa Monica

December 15, 2009
7:00 PM

Thelma Terry Room
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Avenue



You are invited to attend a community meeting to review the concept plans for a new mixed-use neighborhood commercial/residential/creative office project consisting of approximately 579,000 square feet of creative arts office space, approximately 330,000 square feet of residential, and approximately 60,000 square feet of community serving retail space.

This meeting is the part of the preliminary concept phase of the Development Agreement process where residents, property owners, and interested parties will have the opportunity to provide direct feedback to City staff and the developer with regards to the concept plans. This meeting is the first step in the Development Agreement "float-up" process and occurs prior to the Planning Commission and City Council discussions of the concept plans and direction as to whether the proposed Development Agreement application may be filed. For further information, please contact Jing Yeo, Special Projects Manager at (310) 458-8341.

RSVP appreciated to (310) 458-8341.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation.

ESPANOL
Esto es una noticia de una reunión de la comunidad para revisar el diseño de la applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Study Session on the Draft Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) of the City's General Plan

A Planning Commission Study Session will be held to address Commission questions regarding the recently released draft Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) that is undergoing environmental evaluation. No action will be taken on the LUCE during the study session. This draft LUCE is a long range planning document that sets forth integrated land use, transportation, urban design, sustainability, and housing goals, policies, and actions that will form the basis of the Final Land Use and Circulation Element for the City of Santa Monica.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, December 9, 2009 AT 7:00 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

Address your letters to: Eileen Fogarty, Director
Re: Draft LUCE
Planning & Community Development Department
1685 Main Street,
Santa Monica, CA 90401

City of Santa Monica

MORE INFORMATION
The draft LUCE will be posted on the City's project web site at www.shapethefuture2025.net. Hard copies are available for review at all library branches, or may be obtained at the City Hall Planning Counter, 1685 Main Street, during business hours.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall and the Civic Auditorium.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia para avisar que el documento Elemento de Vivienda ya esta disponible. Para más información, favor de llamar a Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Northeast hit by odd weather extremes

DAVID SHARP
Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Maine A storm packing blustery winds and driving rain knocked out power to thousands of homes and businesses in the Northeast on Thursday before giving way to sunny skies and record high temperatures — all in the same morning.

Utility officials reported sporadic power outages from Maine to New Jersey after wind knocked down trees and power lines early Thursday. Winds reached up to 49 mph in Brunswick, Maine, while the Isle of Shoals off the coast of New Hampshire recorded a 61 mph gust. In New Jersey, wind speeds topped out at 45 mph.

But the rain and wind that battered the region early Thursday gave way to sunny skies and unseasonably high temperatures by mid-morning.

In Boston, the temperature hit 69 degrees, breaking the old record of 65 set in 1932. In Portland, the temperature climbed to 68 degrees — crushing the old high of 55 for the date. Providence, R.I., had a record high of 66, and Concord, N.H., set a record at 65.

"It's not right. It's December. It's supposed to be snowing," said Jennifer Sporzynski, who sat on a park bench Thursday in Portland's Old Port. "I like warm weather — but not in December."

But for others, the balmy weather was just fine.

In Boston, joggers ran downtown in shorts and T-shirts, while walkers strolled through the city with jackets tied around their waists.

David Montero, 36, exited his Downtown Crossing apartment Thursday morning wearing a heavy coat to walk his 2-year-old Boston Terrier named Bolt.

"I personally would take this all week, if we could have it," Montero said as he watched Bolt play with two other dogs in the Boston Common.

Still, Montero said he couldn't get over the sight of seeing people in the grassy park exercising in shorts. "Totally bizarro," he said.

For many, the day started with lashing rain. Central Maine Power, the state's largest electric utility, reported 6,700 customers in the dark at the storm's peak. In New Jersey, more than 10,000 homes and businesses lost electricity. Other northeastern states, including New Hampshire, also suffered power outages.

High winds disrupted some ferry services from Cape Cod to the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. Two scheduled passenger ferries and a freight ferry from Hyannis to Nantucket were canceled Thursday morning, while ferries from Woods Hole to Martha's Vineyard were running on a trip-by-trip basis, the Steamship Authority reported.

Heavy waves pounded the shore, causing beach erosion up and down the Atlantic coast. Coastal flooding closed several roads in New Hampshire at high tide late Thursday morning.

GET YOUR DOCUMENTS THERE IN A FLASH



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

1047 Ninth Street, LC-09LM-004, Zoning: R2 (Low Density Multiple Residential) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 09LM-004, at 1047 Ninth Street, to determine whether the residential structures, in whole or in part, should be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the structures meet one or more of the required criteria for Landmark designation. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: Marina Belokamenskaya. ***(Continued from October 12, 2009 meeting)***

1012 Second Street, LC-09CA-023, Zoning: R3 (Medium Density Multiple Family) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness 09CA-023 for design approval for the relocation and rehabilitation of the existing Landmark Turn-of-the-Century Victorian Cottage; demolition of the non-contributing apartment building in the rear of the property; and, construction of a new four-story condominium building with a total of four condominiums. Applicant: 1012 Second Street LLC. Owner: 1012 Second Street LLC. ***(Continued from November 9, 2009 meeting)***

1305 Second Street, LC-09LM-007, Zoning: BSC2 (Bayside Commercial) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 09LM-007, at 1305 Second Street (Mar Vista Apartments), to determine whether the multi-family residential structure, in whole or in part, should be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the structure meets one or more of the required criteria for Landmark designation. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: Frank I. Brownell, Jr. Trust.

When: **Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00 pm**

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

121: one to one ADR: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location** B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BRB: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BNTPPC: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWL: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin C3I: crying in disgrace CNP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAD: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DQMOT: don't quote me on this EE: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FMTEWTK: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth G2G: got to go G-grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GBAB: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMBO: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you HAK: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night **HOOP: help delete online predators** HHJ: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don't know IHU: I hate acronyms IMC: if I remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my not so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IOW: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I will always love you ITCWNH: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? LDR: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let's meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LULAS: love you like a sister** LUWAWM: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOOS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you so much NADT: not a darn thing NFBOC: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of affection PDSCAA: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJIB: pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: put on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT: cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L: spam for life SETE: smiling ear to ear SMOOCH: shoot hot coffee out of nose SNH: slaps head in disgust SF: surfer friendly SNERT: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOHF: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STW: search the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter S?: see you soon TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TLK: talk it like it is TMI: too much information TOY: thinking of you TTYL: talk to you later UW: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WISH: wouldn't it be nice if **WTGP: want to go private?** WTG: way to go WU: what's up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you'll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council
You don't know what your kids are saying online. Or who they are saying it to. A lot of times neither do they. So get involved. To protect your kid's online life or report an incident, call 1-800-THE LOST or visit cybertipline.com. HOOP: help delete online predators
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

A strong community starts with **strong support**

Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition

Proud sponsor of the **Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition**

The Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition is an alliance of organizations, public agencies, and faith communities committed to ending hunger and homelessness through service coordination, public education and advocacy.

For more information about the Coalition or how to get involved, please contact info@westsideshelter.org.

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CapitalSource Bank is not affiliated with the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition. SMDP - 12/02/12.04 - 09

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 60°

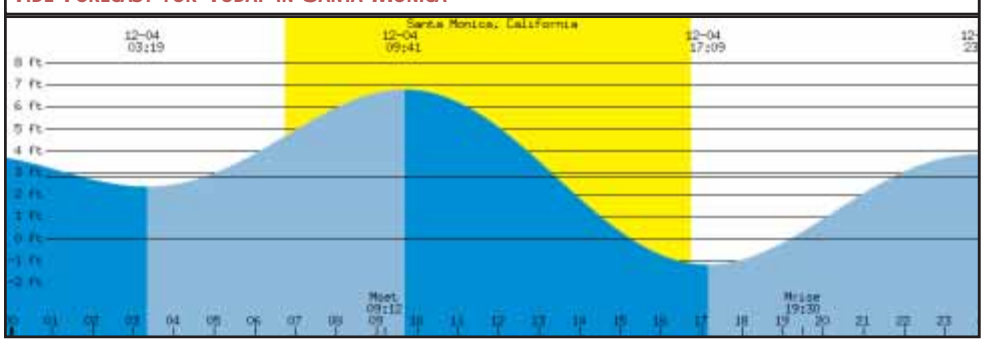
Swell Forecast

NW swell should start to build into the area. It looks like swell will arrive by mid morning from 305° with 16-second periods. Size for west facing breaks is expected to run chest high, perhaps head high at times at standouts.

Long Range Synopsis

Chest+ surf at most west facing breaks, waist to perhaps chest high at times at direct south facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 23, 2009**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 2

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	C	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	F	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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NFL

Gradkowski is at home in Pittsburgh

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALAMEDA, Calif. Bruce Gradkowski is heading home and the Oakland Raiders quarterback wouldn't mind if he and his teammates were greeted with a blanket of snow.

"Being from Pittsburgh and playing at Toledo and Ohio, you face all the weather you can face," Gradkowski said Thursday. "It'll be a nice fall, winter day. I'm looking forward to it. Early December, we might get some snow flurries. It'll be good."

Gradkowski grew up in the Steel City, played in college at the University of Toledo in Ohio and his mother still lives 10 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh. Several other relatives also live in the area, making for a homecoming of sorts for the Raiders' journeyman quarterback who as a youth frequently attended Steelers games at Three Rivers Stadium and at the team's new home at Heinz Field.

Now he comes in as Oakland's starting quarterback trying to salvage what's left of a dismal season.

The Raiders are 3-8 and coming off a 24-7 loss to Dallas on Thanksgiving Day. Gradkowski passed for 200 yards and a touchdown against the Cowboys, and in two-plus games already has thrown for more than half as much yardage (546) as JaMarcus Russell (1,064) did in nine starts.

Gradkowski has started twice before while playing in Pittsburgh, once as a rookie with Tampa Bay in 2007 and in Week 17 last season shortly after he signed with the Cleveland Browns when he passed for just 18 yards and compiled a quarterback rating of 1.0.

"It's always nice going back to Pittsburgh," Gradkowski said. "You have to have fun with it. My family, my cousins, they're die-hard Steeler fans. Last year when I was with the Browns it was hard for then. They wore neutral colors but I think being with the Raiders this past year and getting to know these guys and being with this team, I know I'll have the family behind me on this one."

There's been some speculation Oakland will put Russell, the top overall draft pick in 2007, back into the starting lineup at some point this season. The Raiders, who invested more than $60 million in Russell, need to have a better idea where — or if — he still figures into their future plans.

Oakland coach Tom Cable is sticking with Gradkowski for now and hopes to find some balance to the offense against Pittsburgh.

"You've got to have enough run," Cable said, "But you've got to be able to do it throwing the football."

The weather in Pittsburgh is expected to be in the mid- to upper 30s this weekend but snow is not in the forecast.

"Over the next month, we're going to play three times and will probably be in some severe weather somewhere, whether it's in Pittsburgh, Denver or in Cleveland," Cable said. "We've kind of talked it over and mentally we're prepared for that. Whether it's wind blowing and snowing, icy, whatever it is, it still comes down to both teams have to go out and perform in it."

The Steelers have lost their last three games and need a win to stay in the AFC playoff hunt, while the Raiders have dropped seven of nine and are just trying to make it to the finish.

Gradkowski, who took over when Russell was benched in the second half of Oakland's 16-10 loss to Kansas City on Nov. 15, provided a little spark for the Raiders offense but hasn't been able to sustain it. He has three touchdowns and three interceptions with a 66.3 quarterback rating.

"When I watch him on tape I see a guy that's got very good accuracy and pretty good mobility, can release the ball from a variety of body positions and locations," Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin said. "It seems like he's been a sparkplug for that offensive unit."

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: December 7, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB09-301, 125 Ocean Park Boulevard: Residential
- ARB09-483, 1217 Sixteenth Street: Medical
- ARB09-548, 395 Santa Monica Place: Retail
- ARB09-577, 3107 Santa Monica Boulevard: Retail
- ARB09-586, 1814 Twelfth Street: Residential
- ARB09-602, 3131 Olympic Boulevard: School

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

The 14 users currently in the teen chat room.

good2hug:	14, female, Daytona, FL
joey16:	16, male, Hackensack, NJ
robbieW:	38, male, Daytona, FL
b-ball_tommy:	15, male, Pocatello, ID
tu_tu:	16, female, Burlington, VT
duffme:	44, male, Minneapolis, MN
QTpie:	30, male, Chicago, IL
ty1989:	15, female, Naperville, IL
harrys_grl:	12, female, Appleton, MN
slugger20:	17, male, Jackson, MS
qtrback21:	26, male, Brooklyn, NY
suzie14:	14, female, Portland, OR
hiphopper:	13, female, Plano, TX
paperboy:	41, male, Beaverton, OR

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council

You don't know what your kids are saying online. Or who they are saying it to. A lot of times neither do they. So get involved. To protect your kid's online life or report an incident, call 1-800-THE LOST or visit cybertipline.com. NOW: help delete online predators

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

MOVIE TIMES

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

Star Trek (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (R) 2hr 1min
11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
11:00am, 2:35, 6:15, 9:45

Pirate Radio (R) 1hr 55min
11:20am, 2:05, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25

Men Who Stare at Goats (R) 1hr 30min
11:10am, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

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

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:20

Disney's A Christmas Carol in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
11:30am, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min
11:25am

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min (Digital Presentation)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40

Ninja Assassin (R) 1hr 39min
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

Old Dogs (PG) 1hr 28min
11:50am, 2:10, 4:30, 6:40, 9:00

Brothers (R) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Hurt Locker (R) 2hrs 10min
1:40, 4:50, 7:45, 10:45

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

Coco Before Chanel (PG-13) 2hr 5min
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

The Messenger (R) 2hr 7min
4:10, 9:55

Precious (R) 1hr 49min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

End of Poverty? (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30, 7:00

Everybody's Fine (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:55

Inglourious Basterds (R) 2hrs 32min
9:40

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

The Blind Side (PG-13) 2hr 6min
11:40 am, 1:00, 2:40, 4:05, 5:40, 7:00, 8:40, 10:00,

Planet 51 (PG) 1hr 31min
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG-13) 2hr 10min
11:30 am, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
11:20 am

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

Live it up, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Matters move with greater ease, but how much of this can be contributed to the fact that this is the end of the week? People finally are receptive and more open! You still could have some difficulty with one key person. Tonight: Live it up.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Keep communication flowing, even if you feel as if you want to toss your hands in the air. Your ability to relate and get down to the very basics could make a difference in a discussion. Tonight: Hang with some friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Be more sensitive to your budget and the choices you make. You have a lot going on, and events happen out of the blue. Start working on your Christmas list, but don't lose sight of your budget. Stay on top of your game. Tonight: Your treat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ When you make the effort to reach out to someone, you could be surprised by this person's reaction. Not everyone has the same mind-set and can flow like you. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You could become a bit off or not willing to state your case. Keep your own counsel until you feel more comfortable. Know that when the time is right, you will reveal more of your feelings. Tonight: Know what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Zero in on and understand exactly what it is you want. Investigate what someone suggests, even if you aren't totally comfortable with the fiscal ramifications. Could there be a way around this? Tonight: Where the gang is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Know that you must accomplish what someone else asks of you. You could be worn down and tired by recent events. Know when to say "enough." You have been a bit more stiff than in the past. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Reach out for others at a distance. You could be a bit tired or withdrawn. Understand that holding yourself and your feelings back so tightly could cause a problem. Tonight: Take off as soon as you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might need to rethink a situation and decide which way you want to go. Listen to your inner voice. Take a more serious look at a friendship that demands a lot of energy from you. Tonight: Make time for a special friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Others seem to present one idea after another. In some cases, it might be one invitation after another. You will be hard-pressed to answer yes. You have very little options as far as you can tell. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Clear your desk as soon as possible. You'll find that you will accomplish much more if you remain even and steady. Honor who you are and don't let negativity prevent you from hitting a home run. Tonight: TGIF with co-workers.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Listen to news with an eye to greater opportunity. If you're not careful, you could create a strong case of jealousy with a partner or loved one. You don't want to do that, do you? Tonight: Teamwork counts.

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

Happy birthday

This year, you'll have many opportunities that appear through a key partner, friend or family member -- one or all of them. Don't nix these chances, but rather look to better days and happier times. People really like to do for you. Zero in on your goals, making a key one a reality. Yes, it might take a lot of work, but it is very worthwhile. If you are single, you enjoy yourself, especially around a wiser or more sedate friend. This person could introduce you to a new crowd. If you are attached, the two of you connect well. Just don't try to be more important than your partner. CANCER cares a lot about you.

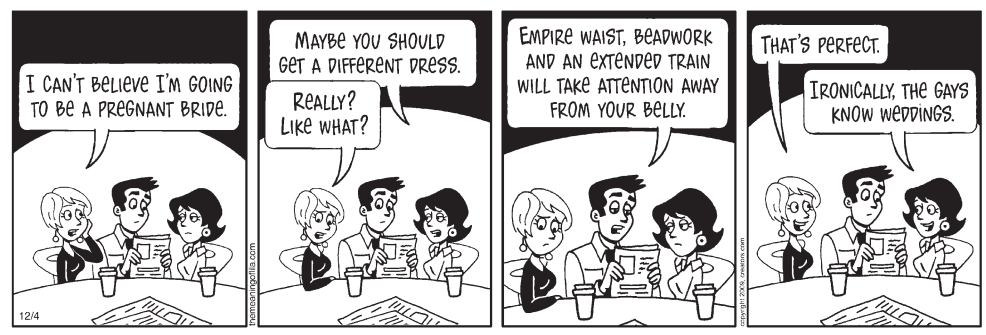
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



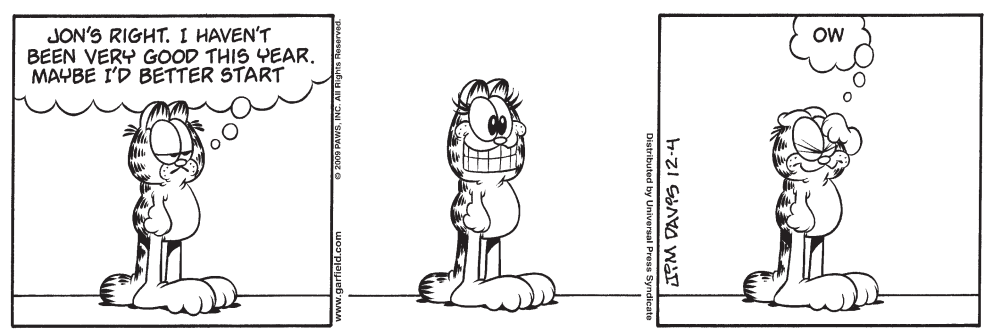
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



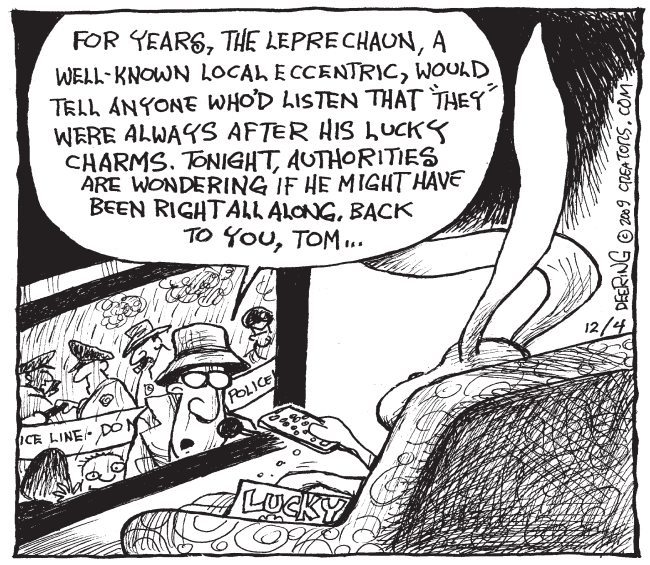
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Leslie Thomas *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Defeats
6 Part of a repair bill
11 One with a record
12 1836 battle site
13 Neighbor of Togo
14 Moved a raft
15 Rooter
16 Bitter, for one
18 Hoary
19 Seventh Greek letter
20 "The Matrix" hero
21 Harvest
23 Pass
25 Golf position
27 Become a brunette
28 Texas player
30 Spot
33 Bat wood
34 NYC subway line
36 Shade
37 More intense
39 Important age
40 Inklings
41 "Do, — ..."
43 So out, it's in
44 Traveler's stop
45 German steel city
46 Fresh

DOWN

1 Request earnestly
2 Sigh, say
3 Tabloids
4 Great weight
5 Potions professor at Hogwarts
6 Scandinavian region
7 Lotion additive
8 Accountant's pages
9 Frittata
10 Western contest
17 Devoured
22 Abyss
24 Pro vote
26 Explorer Leif
28 Stage comments
29 Metal source
31 Makes baby food, maybe
32 Annual
33 Burning
35 Streetcars
38 Steak choice
42 1949 film noir classic

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					■	14				
15			■	16	17					
18			■	19			■	20		
21			22	■	23		24			■
■	■	25		26	■	27			■	■
■	28				29	■	30		31	32
33			■	34		35	■	36		
37			38				■	39		
40					■	41	42			
43					■	44				
45					■	46				

12-4

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Meganumber: 21
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SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 16 22 31 33 42
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: $34M

Fantasy 5: 19 26 37 38 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 5 4
EVENING: 5 0 7

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1.40.71

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ After James Cedar admitted to police that he was the one spotted peeping into his Toronto neighbor's window at night, the victim, Patricia Marshall, installed a video camera at that window to discourage him from re-offending. In September, when all parties reported to court for a final resolution of the peeping case, Cedar's lawyer served legal papers on Marshall, threatening to sue her over the camera. Since Cedar's house sits within the view outside Marshall's window, he complained that the camera could capture images through his windows and thus invades his privacy.

■ When police in Brimfield, Ohio, stopped Jaime Aguirre, 42, for a traffic violation in October, they found some conventional photos of nude and near-nude women, but were especially surprised at a stash of x-rays and mammograms, which they supposed came from Aguirre's job as technician at an imaging center in Tiffin, Ohio. The Brimfield police chief said he believed the stash was used by Aguirre for sexual gratification, and since some of the x-rays and mammograms were of girls under the age of 18, Aguirre was charged with possession of child pornography.

TODAY IN HISTORY

306 Martyrdom of Saint Barbara

771 Austrasian King Carloman dies, leaving his brother Charlemagne King of the now complete Frankish Kingdom.

1110 First Crusade: The Crusaders conquer Sidon.

1259 Kings Louis IX of France and Henry III of England agree to the Treaty of Paris, in which Henry renounces his claims to French-controlled territory on continental Europe (including Normandy) in exchange for Louis withdrawing his support for English rebels.

1563 The final session of the Council of Trent is held (it opened on December 13, 1545).

1619 38 colonists from Berkeley Parish in England disembark in Virginia and give thanks to God (this is considered by many to be the first Thanksgiving in the Americas).

WORD UP!

roborant
\ROB-uh-ruhnt\ , adjective, noun;
1. Strengthening; restoring vigor.

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Announcements

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN
Community Corporation of
Santa Monica
announces the opening of the 2010 Marketing List. To be considered you must pick up an appointment card at 502 Colorado Blvd. In the Community Room between Dec. 7th and Dec. 30th ,M-Th 8 a.m. – 5p.m.. Friday Dec. 11th, Thursday Dec. 24th and Wednesday Dec. 30th 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Closed Dec. 18 and 25, EOH

Employment

Advertising Sales

The Santa Monica Daily Press, Santa Monica's Daily newspaper is seeking an Advertising Account Executive. Previous advertising sales experience isn't needed but it's certainly a plus. The job is meeting and networking with local and national businesses to help them get their message to our readers here in Santa Monica. We're looking for smart, friendly people who are motivated by money to join our growing sales team. Great work environment, must bring a positive attitude and outlook to our team. If you play well with others, are aggressive without being pushy, and have a drive to succeed, we want to work with you. Resumes are accepted via email to Rob Schwenker – Schwenker@smdp.com

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1248 11TH st.unit A 2bdrm/1 1/2bath, lower carpet stove, blinds, laundry, vinyl flooring, balcony parking, no pets.on site manager $1650.(310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

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833 5TH St. SM upper unit 206 single $1395 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is making available to the public an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Mediterranean Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, California, November 2009. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the document should contact USDA, APHIS, PPQ Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection Program, 4700 River Road, Unit 26, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236 or view the documents at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/downloads/medffly-santamonica-ea-11-09.pdf
Interested persons should request the document entitled, "Mediterranean Fruit Fly Cooperative Program Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, California Environmental Assessment, November 2009." Anyone wishing to comment on the document should send comments to the Riverdale, MD address shown above by January 5, 2010. Because response to this infestation is urgent, program operations may begin immediately; however, any comments received will be considered and may result in changes to the program as it progresses. For general questions concerning the program please contact the Cooperative Medfly Eradication Program at 1-800-491-1899.

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