



Santa Monica Daily Press

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SEE STATE PAGE 6

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

To settle a discrimination lawsuit by transsexual men in October, the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority agreed to open all of its restrooms on the basis of individuals' "gender expression," meaning that, for example, any man dressed seriously as a woman could choose the ladies' room. And the New York City government is currently considering adopting a rule to permit people to switch genders on their birth certificates, regardless of whether they've had surgery, as long as they've lived in the new gender for two years and a physician and a mental-health counselor approve.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1980
- Rock star John Lennon was shot to death outside his New York City apartment building by an apparently deranged fan.
- 1941
- The United States entered World War II as Congress declared war against Japan, a day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- 1949
- The Chinese Nationalist government moved from the Chinese mainland to Formosa as the Communists pressed their attacks.
- 1986
- House Democrats selected majority leader Jim Wright to be the chamber's 48th speaker, succeeding Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill.
- 1991
- AIDS patient Kimberly Bergalis, who had contracted the disease from her dentist, died in Fort Pierce, Fla., at age 23.

WORD UP!

sartorial \sar-TOR-ee-uhl\, *adjective*:
1. Of or relating to a tailor or to tailoring.
2. Of or relating to clothing, or style or manner of dress. 3. [Anatomy] Of or relating to the sartorius muscle.

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Fire destroys canyon home

By Daily Press staff

SANTA MONICA CANYON — More than a dozen fire companies, including those from Santa Monica, and 50 firefighters responded to the scene of a Thursday morning house fire on West Channel Road.

The two-story, single-family dwelling was completely gutted after crews worked for several hours to fully extinguish the blaze.

No injuries were reported, according to Ron Myers, a Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman. The cause of the fire was under investigation as of Thursday afternoon.

"There was heavy fire when they arrived," said Myers, who reported that the house's roof collapsed amid firefighting efforts. "It took about 31 minutes for knockdown."

"Knockdown," according to Myers, is a term used by firefighters to describe when a blaze is mostly contained and no longer thought to pose a threat of spreading to other structures.

Though the house — reportedly at 345 West Channel Road — was in close proximity to a number of other homes, none of the bordering properties were believed to have been damaged.

Ten Los Angeles fire companies responded to the call at 9:46 a.m., with companies from Santa Monica playing a supportive role, as the home is situated just outside of the city's northern limits.

editor@smdp.com



Tony Pepper Special to the Daily Press

TEAMWORK WORKS: Los Angeles County and Santa Monica firefighters worked together to extinguish a house fire on West Channel Road in the Santa Monica Canyon on Thursday. No injuries were reported, according to the LAFD.

Survey says: SM is a hub for good grub

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Santa Monica chefs are cooking up the best cuisine in Southern California, according to a new survey released by Zagat, the world's leading restaurant guide.

Nearly 8,000 diners earlier this year participated in Zagat's annual survey of restaurants in the region, naming Santa Monica mainstays like the French-American inspired Melissé, the American bistro Josie and the chic sushi bar/restaurant The Hump as the best of the bunch.

"The area has had a great influx

See ZAGAT GUIDE, page 13



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

JUST DESSERTS: Diners prepare to order at The Lobster restaurant on Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica on Thursday. The city has been named the best place for restaurants in Southern California by Zagat, the world's leading restaurant guide.

Sunset Park

speaks

Increased crime causes residents to voice opinions

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL — The Sunset Park community has had enough of crime.

Concerned about what seems like increasing incidents of gang violence and crime in the Sunset Park neighborhood, residents decided it was time to speak out to the officials who can affect change.

About 30 residents gathered at a Town Hall-style meeting at Grant Elementary School on Wednesday to voice their concerns and frustrations to a panel that included Capt. Alex Padilla of the Santa Monica Police Department; Taffany Lim, an expert on law enforcement training and community policing; former mayor Nat Trives, who facilitated the event; newly elected Mayor Richard Bloom and Mayor Pro Tem Herb Katz.

Collectively, Katz and Bloom have lived in Sunset Park for 72 years. If you live in a community long enough, you experience crime over time, Bloom said.

"I think we probably all agree it's not enough to live in a statistically safe community," Bloom said. "We need to feel safe as a community, too."

The consensus from the attendees was that there is a need for more police officers in Sunset Park. Resident Stephanie Furlong asked to see more policing in her area, no matter what it takes.

Furlong listed the incidents that have occurred on her block alone in the past few months — murder, gang brawls, home break-ins and car vandalism. Last month, a purse was stolen from a car while the owner was sitting in it, Furlong said.

See COMMUNITY CONSENSUS, page 12



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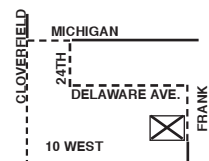
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Calendar

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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THE WESTSIDE TODAY

IT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SANTA MONICA



Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

Taijiquan

Santa Monica, 7:30 a.m. — 9:15 a.m.

A healing class featuring Helene Bouboulis. Donations accepted. For more information, please call (310) 581-0097 or visit www.shiatsumassageschool.org.

Winterlit Best Gift Ever gift drive

Third Street Promenade, 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m.

Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

Self-Healing Community Class with Dr. Kaneko

2309 Main St., 5:30 p.m. — 6:45 p.m.

Meeting every Friday at the Shiatsu Massage School. Donations accepted. For more information, please visit www.shiatsumassageschool.org.

Santa Monica Fitness Group for Women

Santa Monica, 6:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Holiday Extravaganza

Abbot Kinney Boulevard, Venice, 6 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Santa will appear from 6 p.m. — 8 p.m. at Abbot Kinney and Palms Boulevard. Stores will be open late.

Mixed Media Group Art Exhibition

1639 11th St., 7 p.m. — 11 p.m.

Group exhibition featuring works by local photographers and artists. One night only.

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2006

Run to Benefit Harvest Home

Venice, 7:30 a.m. — noon

10k race, 5k run/walk and a kid's 1k run/walk. Registration begins at 6 a.m. To register, log on to www.w2promo.com or contact Harvest Home at (310) 452-1223.

Santa Monica High School Choir Fundraiser

1201 Third St. Promenade, 9 a.m. — 11 p.m.

Caroling by SaMoHi Chamber Singers and Madrigals from 4 p.m. — 8 p.m. at Barnes and Noble. A portion of book sales will benefit the SaMoHi Choir.



Thieves make a major ATM withdrawal

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CLOVERFIELD BLVD. — Thieves used a large construction truck to ram the wall of a gas station here on Wednesday night, partially knocking down an ATM so they could steal money from it, according to police.

A man driving a large truck and a woman driving a pickup truck arrived at the Exxon gas station at Cloverfield Boulevard and Michigan Avenue just before 11 p.m. on Wednesday, said SMPD Capt. Alex Padilla.

The man used the larger truck, described as “a heavy-duty construction truck,” to ram the gas station and damage the ATM, said Padilla.

The man then jumped out, grabbed the part of the ATM where the money is kept, put it in the pickup and rode off alongside the woman, Padilla said. The amount of money contained in the machine was unknown at the time of the theft.

The abandoned construction truck, which was believed to have been stolen, was towed to police impound on Thursday morning.

See ATM STOLEN, page 13



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com
CASH DROP: An ATM at a local Exxon gas station was rammed and damaged on Thursday.



Melody Hanatani melodyh@smdp.com

JAMMIN': LA City Councilman Bill Rosendahl unveils an \$11 million proposal aimed at combating traffic snarls in West Los Angeles on Thursday. Rosendahl made the announcement at the corner of Lincoln and Venice boulevards, just blocks from where he originally announced his candidacy for City Council.

Gridlock in the crosshairs

Rosendahl promises to take action on the issue of West LA's traffic situation

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

VENICE — Standing in front of one of the busiest intersections in West Los Angeles, City Councilman Bill Rosendahl unveiled on Thursday a proposed transportation plan to spend more than \$11 million on traffic mitigation and mass transit projects.

“Traffic is a nightmare,” Rosendahl said during a press conference before the Marina Car Wash at Lincoln and Venice boulevards.

Thursday's announcement took place just a few blocks from where Rosendahl announced his candidacy for Los Angeles City Council. He made a promise then to take action on the issue of West LA gridlock, a source of headache for many LA commuters.

“I promised action on this issue,” Rosendahl said. “Today, we are delivering.”

Funding for the proposed plan will come out of a fund in which commercial developers in the City of Los Angeles have funneled money for transportation improvements.

The plan includes \$3 million to improve 32 signals within the 11th District — represented by Rosendahl — which includes parts of West Los Angeles such as Westchester, Pacific Palisades, Venice, Mar Vista and Brentwood. Another \$5 million out of the \$11 million will go towards improving the synchronization of 165 signals, as well as other improvements to improve timing and accommodate signal changes with traffic flow.

Green Line extensions to LAX are also in store under Rosendahl's proposal, which

would allocate \$500,000 to finance the efforts of a Green Line Task Force that would examine ways to extend the light rail to LAX, and another \$750,000 to plot Green Line station locations.

Motioning to the traffic on Lincoln Boulevard, Rosendahl said he intends to spend \$1.05 million to improve the busy corridor by adding parking along the street, and begin the process of studying the possibility of installing a light rail system that would travel along the bustling boulevard. Included in that portion of the plan is funding the next phase of the Exposition line from Culver City to Downtown Santa Monica.

Other improvements in store under the plan include \$200,000 to improve bicycle and pedestrian routes in the district, and approximately \$550,000 for master plan studies of Sepulveda, Olympic, Pico, Santa Monica and Venice boulevards.

If the plan is ultimately approved by the

See TRAFFIC PROMISE, page 11



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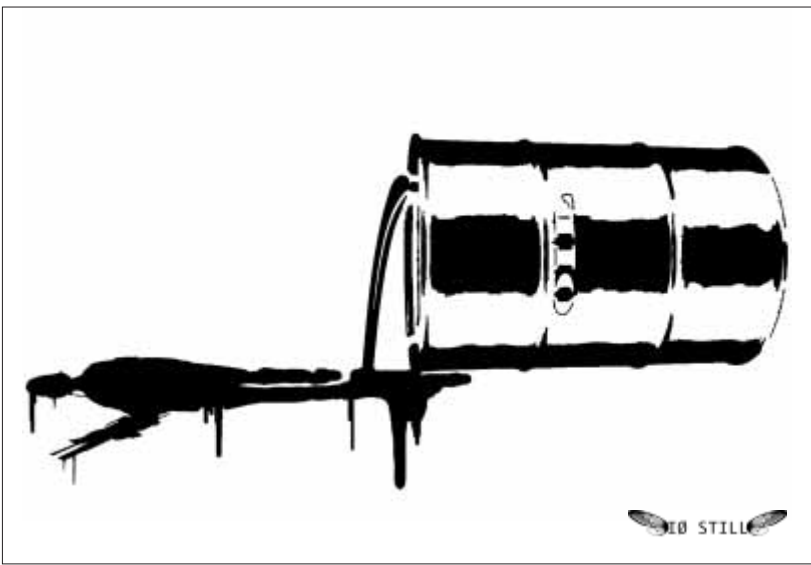
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Reality of what war looks like

By Elan Journo

The Iraq Study Group has issued many specific recommendations, but the options boil down to a maddeningly limited range: pull out or send more troops to do democracy-building and, either way, “engage” the hostile regimes in Iran and Syria. Missing from the list is the one option our self-defense demands: a war to defeat the enemy. If you think we’ve already tried this option and failed, think again. Washington’s campaign in Iraq looks nothing like the war necessary for our self-defense.

What does such a war look like? America’s security depends on identifying precisely the enemy that threatens our lives — and then crushing it, rendering it a non-threat. It depends on proudly defending our right to live free of foreign aggression — by unapologetically killing the killers who want us dead.

Those who say this is a “new kind of conflict” against a “faceless enemy” are wrong. The enemy Washington evasively calls “terrorism” is actually an ideologically inspired political movement: Islamic totalitarianism. It seeks to subjugate the West under a totalitarian Islamic regime by means of terrorism, negotiation, war — anything that will win its jihad. The movement’s inspiration, its first triumph, its standard-bearer, is the theocracy of Iran. Iran’s regime has, for decades, used terrorist proxies to attack America. It openly seeks nuclear weapons and zealously sponsors and harbors jihadists. Without Iran’s support, legions of holy warriors would be untrained, unarmed, unmotivated, impotent.

Destroying Islamic totalitarianism requires a punishing military onslaught to end its primary state representative and demoralize its supporters. We need to deploy all

necessary force to destroy Iran’s ability to fight, while minimizing our own casualties. We need a campaign that ruthlessly inflicts the pain of war so intensely that the jihadists renounce their cause as hopeless and fear to take up arms against us. This is how America and its Allies defeated both Nazi Germany and Imperialist Japan.

We triumphed over both Japan and Germany in less than four years after Pearl Harbor. Yet more than five years after 9/11, against a far weaker enemy, our soldiers still die daily in Iraq. Why? Because this war is neither assertive nor ruthless — it is a tragically meek pretense at war.

We went to battle not with theocratic Iran, but with the secular dictatorship of Iraq. And the campaign there was not aimed at crushing whatever threat Hussein’s regime posed to us. “Shock and awe” bombing never materialized. Our brave and capable forces were hamstrung: ordered not to bomb key targets. Instead, we sent our troops to lift Iraq out of poverty, open new schools, fix up hospitals, feed the hungry, unclog sewers — a Peace Corps, not an army corps, mission.

No war that ushers Islamists into office has U.S. self-defense as its goal.

This war has been worse than doing nothing, because it has galvanized our enemy to believe its success more likely than ever — even as it has drained Americans’ will to fight. Washington’s feeble campaign demonstrates the ruinous effects of refusing to assert our self-interest and defend our freedom. It is past time to consider our only moral and practical option: end the senseless sacrifice of our soldiers — and let them go to war.

Elan Journo is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.

The ‘World’ provides midweek chuckles



LAUGHING MATTERS
BY JACK NEWORTH

My friend Jim called to say his son Eric got a job at the World Cafe on Main Street. Eric is 16 years old and a busboy at Hamburger Hamlet. I assumed the World gig was a promotion, but Jim corrected me. Wednesdays at the World is stand-up comedy night and Eric was one of the comedians!

This I had to see. Plus, I’m addicted to the World’s spicy bow-tie pasta.

A few days earlier, Michael Richards from “Seinfeld” had his infamous meltdown at the Laugh Factory. Thinking he was being heckled, he shouted racial epithets at black audience members. He’d have been better off busing tables. A cell phone video camera captured the images, which were then posted on TMZ.com. Suddenly, Mel Gibson didn’t look so bad.

The next night, Richards’ apology on David Letterman was so incoherent the audience thought it was a Kramer bit. Frankly, I’m tired of public apologies. Congressman Duke Cunningham, who set a record for taking bribes, gave an apology that set a record for crocodile tears. Mel Gibson’s apology blamed alcohol. (How did Mel know Sheriff Mee was Jewish? Was he wearing a yarmulke?) Congressman Mark Foley’s apology blamed a clergyman who had molested him. The thing everyone seems sorriest about is that they got caught.

Evangelist Ted Haggard apologized for doing meth and having sex with a male prostitute — picky, picky. Days before, Brother Haggard gave a TV interview from his car with his wife in the passenger’s seat. As he denied everything, you could almost see his nose getting longer. All these so-called apologies remind me of a scene in a Mel Brooks movie in which the defendant is charged with murder, rape, kidnapping, robbery and arson, to which he pleads, “Guilty, but with an explanation.”

That Wednesday at the World Cafe, I wasn’t thinking about apologies or rehab. Unless it’s rehab for staring at beautiful women in the World. I’m lucky I didn’t permanently twist my neck. The comedy club inside the World is in a well-appointed room off the bar. It’s intimate and relaxed and seats about 75. Waitresses bring food and drinks, but the show is free and there’s no drink minimum. The show is every Wednesday, therefore, the name “Hump Day Comedy.” It featured

three working comedians who have extensive “Tonight Show”-type appearances, and Eric, who has extensive bus boy appearances.

I’ve been a fan of stand-up going back to Mort Sahl, Lenny Bruce, Jonathan Winters, Bob Newhart, Nichols and May, and Shelly Berman, among others. These pioneers were followed by George Carlin, Woody Allen and Bill Cosby, then Richard Pryor, Steve Martin, and Jerry Seinfeld. Today, there’s Louie C.K. and Dane Cook, among so many. It’s a rich tradition. To the degree he tarnished the art form, what Michael Richards did wasn’t stand-up, it was a meltdown.

The show at the World was great. It began with Louis Katz, who is reminiscent of Woody Allen. (That is, when Woody used to be funny.) Louis began his comedy career at age 9, when he submitted jokes to “The Tonight Show” and two were read by Johnny! In 2005, he made his television debut on the “Carson Daly Show.” (If you don’t count an appearance on the Judge Joe Brown show.) Check Louis out at: <http://www.Myspace.Com/louiskatz>.

Next up was Jamie Kaler, who’s been on Craig Ferguson’s show, has done more than 50 national commercials, and is currently on the new TBS sitcom “My Boys.” That night, he did a bit about his exasperation at the Sprint Store, where all he wanted was a new charger for his phone and they insisted on selling him a whole new phone. Here’s Jamie’s link: <http://www.Tbs.Com/shows/myboy> s/.

Jay Larsen acted as M.C. A former bartender at the World, it was Jay’s idea four years ago to bring comedy night there. For the past two years, the show has been produced by Carl DeGregorio. As a stand-up, Jay’s been on Craig Ferguson twice and Comedy Central’s “Live at Gotham.” His Web site is www.Myspace.com/whois-jaylarsen. It was the night before Thanksgiving and Jay did some unique material on what type of person likes what type of pie.

At 16, Eric Nissen not only has incredible confidence, but he’s also very funny. He gave the audience a comical insight into the dangers of a teenager’s mind. Eric’s Web site is <http://ericnissen.com>.

“Hump Day Comedy” provides Westsiders some of the freshest and most original stand-up. It’s at the World Cafe on Main Street every Wednesday, from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. While you’re there, check out the spicy bow-tie pasta.

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A newspaper with issues

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Woman makes like a rockstar, trashes hotel room

By Daily Press Staff

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29, AT 8:50 A.M.

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1100 block of Pico Boulevard — Holiday Motel — regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, they spoke to the hotel manager who said a woman had rented a room and had broken the television, a lamp and had spilled candle wax all over the walls and the carpet. The damages were estimated at over \$500, the hotel manager told police. When the manager confronted the guest, she allegedly pulled out a small, two-inch pocket knife and threatened to stab anyone who got in her way. Armed with a description of the suspect, officers were able to locate the hotel guest on the corner of Pico and Lincoln boulevards. She was transported to the Santa Monica Jail, where she was booked for assault with a deadly weapon and malicious mischief. She was identified as Patsy Ann Buchanan, 50, of Mar Vista. Her bail was set at \$30,000.

SUNDAY NOV. 26, AT 6:55 P.M.

Officers responded to the 2600 block of Lincoln Boulevard — Albertsons — regarding a report of a burglary in progress. When officers arrived, they spoke with store security who said a man in custody had tried to steal a case of Coors beer. Security said the man had stolen a case of beer earlier in the day and had returned for another. Once exiting the store, he was confronted by store security and a fight ensued, police said. The suspect, who was captured on store security cameras, was detained and arrested for burglary. He was identified as Thomas Gustavo Padilla, 40, a resident of Santa Monica. No bail was set because Padilla was on probation, police said. One case of beer valued at \$18 was recovered.

TUESDAY, NOV. 28, AT 11:30 P.M.

Officers on routine patrol in the 2600 block of Lincoln Boulevard spotted employees of Albertsons chasing two subjects through the store's parking lot. When officers went to investigate, they were told by store employees that the two subjects stole two 15-inch, LCD televisions valued at \$250 each. Officers detained one of the suspects. The other fled on foot, but was later apprehended in the 800 block of Hill Street. The two were charged with grand theft. The suspects were identified as Moenick Montgomery, 24, of Paramount, and Jennifer Monique Hickman, 22, also of Paramount. No bail was set for Montgomery because of a probation violation. Hickman's bail was set at \$7,000.

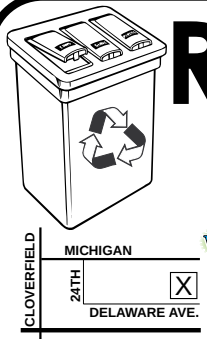
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29, AT 9 P.M.

Officers responded to the 2800 block of Exposition Boulevard regarding a report of a residential burglary. When officers arrived, they found that the suspect or suspects had entered the locked apartment through a bedroom window. The suspect or suspects ransacked the apartment and fled with more than \$16,000 in jewelry, collectibles and clothing, police said. Upon further investigation, officers were able to track down a suspect, who was arrested for residential burglary. The suspect was identified as Vivian Grammatico, 25, from Los Angeles. Her bail was set at \$60,000.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, AT 1 A.M.

Officers on routine patrol observed a suspect in the 1600 block of Wilshire Boulevard holding a can of spray-paint. When the suspect saw officers, he immediately ran from them. Officers were able to catch up with him in an alley off 15th Street. The suspect had fresh paint on his hands and further investigation revealed that the suspect had just spray-painted or "tagged" his name at three separate locations on Wilshire Boulevard, police said. The suspect was arrested and charged with a felony count of vandalism because the damage was more than \$400. He was identified as Jonathan Montenegro, 19, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$20,000.

Compiled by staff writer Kevin Herrera



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The Q-Line

Christmas on the comeback trail ...

This year, Wal-mart switched policy from the generic, PC friendly, all-encompassing "Happy Holidays" greeting back to "Merry Christmas." Meanwhile, the makeshift Christmas trees on the Third Street Promenade and the traditional nativity scenes set up along Ocean Avenue promote a traditional, Christian version of Christmas across the city. This week's Q-Line question asks:

Should businesses and communities try to encompass all religious beliefs by using generic slogans like "Happy Holidays" or is it fine to appeal to the majority with tidings of "Merry Christmas?" Is there a way to make all religions feel accepted while maintaining tradition?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in next weekend's edition of the Daily Press. Please speak clearly and limit responses to a minute or less.

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Scientists now believe water is flowing on Mars

BY ALICIA CHANG

AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES — For decades, scientists have scoured Mars in search of water, a basic ingredient for primitive life.

But the best clues were always tied to the ancient past when the Red Planet was warmer and wetter. On Wednesday, scientists made the startling announcement that water may still course through the frigid surface.

Crisp photographs taken by NASA's old Mars Global Surveyor before it lost contact with Earth last month do not actually show flowing water. But scientists said before and after pictures of two gullies showing feature changes provide the strongest signs yet that water flowed through them as recently as several years ago, and is perhaps doing so even now.

"This is a squirting gun for water on Mars," declared Kenneth Edgett, a scientist at Malin Space Science Systems, which operates a camera on the Global Surveyor, one of six spacecraft focused on Mars.

The discovery excited scientists who hunt for extraterrestrial life. If the finding is confirmed, they say, all the ingredients favorable for life on Mars are in place: liquid water and a stable heat source.

In all of its Mars exploration missions, NASA has pursued a "follow the water" strategy to determine if the planet once contained life or could support it now.

Spacecraft missions previously detected water in the forms of vapor and ice on the plan-

et, and scientists believe ancient Mars was once awash with pools of water. But evidence of present-day bursts of liquid has been scant.

"This underscores the importance of searching for life on Mars, either present or past," said Bruce Jakosky, an astrobiologist at the University of Colorado at Boulder, who had no role in the study. "It's one more reason to think that life could be there."

Some researchers were skeptical that liquid water was responsible for the surface feature changes seen by the spacecraft. They said other materials such as sand or dust can flow like a liquid and produce similar results.

"Nothing in the images, no matter how cool they are, proves that the flows were wet, or that they were anything more exciting than avalanches of sand and dust," Allan Treiman, a geologist at the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston said in an e-mail.

The findings will appear in Friday's issue of the journal Science.

The Global Surveyor previously spotted tens of thousands of gullies that scientists believed were geologically young and carved by fast-moving water coursing down cliffs and steep crater walls. Scientists decided to retake photos of thousands of gullies in a search for evidence of recent water activity.

Two craters in the southern hemisphere that were originally photographed in 1999 and 2001 were examined again in 2004 and 2005, and the images yielded changes consistent with water flowing down the crater walls, according to the study.

STATE BRIEFS

MOORPARK

Wildfire started from fallen lines burns five homes

A Ventura County wildfire that burned five homes was sparked by fallen power lines, authorities said.

The 13,600-acre Shekell fire began Sunday and was contained on Tuesday after Santa Ana winds drove it through ranch and orchard lands.

Southern California Edison has some electrical lines in the area and there also are privately operated lines, so it was unclear whose lines were involved, Edison spokesman Steven Conroy said Wednesday.

The utility and the Ventura County Fire Department were investigating, Conroy said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Criminal and civil fines hit record high

The U.S. attorney's office collected a record \$1.6 billion in criminal and civil fines, settlements and restitution in the recently ended 2006 fiscal year, largely from deals struck with Boeing Corp. and other business giants.

That compares with \$204 million that the office collected during the 2005 fiscal year. "Once liability is established against one of these major companies, they want to settle," said Zoran J. Segina, chief of the financial litigation unit, "and they're good for the money."

Boeing paid out \$565 million after agreeing in June to settle claims that it used information from competitors to win NASA and Air Force contracts. Tenet Healthcare Corp. paid more than \$500 million of a \$900 million, multiyear settlement of allegations that it submitted false Medicare claims.

AP

WESTMINSTER

Little Saigon may finally get a warm welcome

Little Saigon, the heart of the nation's largest Vietnamese-American community, may finally get a welcoming gateway after a decade of debate.

The City Council last week approved a proposal to erect two Vietnamese-themed arches in the Orange County shopping district.

"It'll basically represent a bolder entrance into the Little Saigon area, and its main purpose is to set it apart and attract international attention," Councilman Andy Quach said.

A final design has not been selected but Quach said the \$400,000 project might include Vietnamese designs such as a dragon, phoenix, lion and tortoise, columns resembling bamboo, and U.S. and former South Vietnamese flags.

Money for the project will be raised through donations and fundraisers, Quach said.

AP

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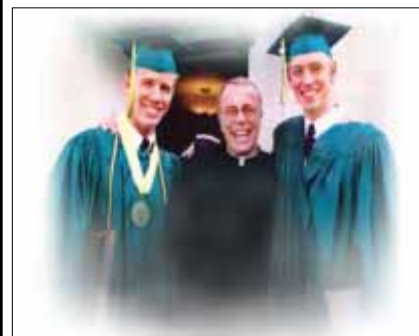


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Lawsuit claims slip by Bell led to outbreak

BY FRANK ELTMAN
Associated Press Writer

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. — An 11-year-old boy's family is suing Taco Bell, claiming negligence by the restaurant chain led to an E. coli outbreak that sickened the boy and nearly four dozen others.

The lawsuit is believed to be the first from the outbreak that has been linked to Taco Bell restaurants in three northeastern states.

The chain removed scallions from all 5,800 of its restaurants Wednesday after preliminary tests linked them to the bacteria. State and federal investigators also are scrutinizing other non-meat ingredients on the Taco Bell menu, such as cheese and lettuce, as they try to pin down the source.

The boy, Tyler Vormittag, became ill after eating three tacos with cheese and lettuce at a Taco Bell in Riverhead, on Long Island, on Nov. 24, according to the lawsuit filed late Wednesday. He was hospitalized Nov. 28 and released Nov. 29, his attorney said.

"When a restaurant serves food, it is deemed to be fit for human consumption and that it does not contain any deleterious or harmful substances," said his attorney, Andrew Siben. "The Taco Bell restaurant clearly breached that duty."

The lawsuit does not seek specific monetary damages.

A Taco Bell spokeswoman said the company had no immediate comment on the lawsuit. The Irvine, Calif.-based chain is a subsidiary of Yum Brands Inc.

All 15 Taco Bell restaurants in Philadelphia voluntarily closed Wednesday following a recommendation by the city's Department of Public Health. Other Taco Bell restaurants on Long Island and in South Plainfield, N.J., were also closed Wednesday for cleaning.

"In an abundance of caution, we've decided to pull all green onions from our restaurants until we know conclusively whether they are the cause of the E. coli outbreak," Greg Creed, president of Irvine,

Calif.-based Taco Bell, said Wednesday. At least 46 confirmed cases of E. coli sickness linked to Taco Bell have been reported in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, and at least five people remained hospitalized, including an 11-year-old boy in stable condition with kidney damage.

Federal officials said late Wednesday there are possible cases in Delaware and Connecticut, as well. The Delaware Division of Public Health planned a Thursday afternoon news conference on the investigation.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, meanwhile, said it was gathering samples of all non-meat items served in the restaurants that could carry the pathogen — including cilantro, cheddar cheese, blended cheese, green onions, yellow onions, tomatoes and lettuce — and planned to test them at FDA laboratories.

Investigators were focusing on a southern New Jersey warehouse that distributes food to the region's Taco Bells and a nearby produce processing plant that supplies Taco Bell restaurants in the New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia areas with green onions, shredded lettuce, regular onions, tomatoes and cilantro.

A spokesman for the processing company, Ready Pac, said Wednesday that it had cleared the plant of all raw and processed green onions, which it gets from a California grower.

"Even though the test results are not confirmed, we have taken every prudent precaution and immediately stopped production and shipments of all green onions," said Steve Dickstein, VP marketing for Ready Pac.

The company had not taken similar measures with the other vegetables, he said.

McLane Co., which distributes food to the region's Taco Bells, said federal investigators planned to test green onions and other non-meat items from its southern New Jersey warehouse.

California is the nation's largest supplier of green onions, but by December, as winter sets in, the vegetable is typically imported from Mexico.

Retiring official recalls chaos in wake of Columbine shootings

By The Associated Press

BRECKENRIDGE, Colo. — Retiring after decades in government, the man who helped manage the aftermath of the Columbine High School shootings looked back this week on the deluge of phone calls from frantic parents, the White House and scores of people in between.

"I've never experienced anything like it ... and I hope I never experience anything like it again," said Ron Holliday, who was the Jefferson County administrator at the time.

Holliday, 62, will retire Friday as Summit County manager, a position he took after leaving the Jefferson County job.

Two teen gunman killed 12 students and a teacher before taking their own lives at Columbine on April 20, 1999.

Word reached Holliday at about noon, and by 12:30, "we knew something was going on," Holliday told the Summit Daily News in Thursday's editions.

Holliday went to the county dispatch center, where communication panels were flashing and clusters of people were trying to

make sense of the situation.

"On one phone, you have those kids trying to revive (mortally wounded teacher Dave) Sanders. Then over here, you have communication with the SWAT team," he said.

Holliday said the dispatch center was so busy that he and his team had little time to think about the scale of the tragedy until he took calls from President Clinton and network anchors.

Holliday also helped with the logistics of a memorial service attended by Vice President Al Gore. He said country music superstar Garth Brooks provided his entire sound system and road crew for the memorial and loaned his private jet to fly in dignitaries, but he wanted his help kept secret.

Brooks' publicist did not immediately return a call Thursday.

For months after Columbine, Holliday said, he wondered when the impact of the shooting would fade but then realized it never would.

"It just never stopped. It was like, 'When was this going to end?'" Holliday said. "The answer we came up with: It's never going to end."

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Sunset Park	= \$ 1,393,509	\$ 657,690
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,778,857	\$ 1,165,016

Happy Holidays!!

Congress struggles to break final logjam

BY JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The bipartisan drive to bring the 109th session of Congress to an end slowed as the lawmakers struggled with the finale, a catchall bill covering everything from tax breaks for college tuition to normal trade relations with Vietnam.

With a compromise on the trade and tax bill eluding negotiators, House Majority Leader John Boehner late Wednesday announced that the goal of adjourning on Thursday was not feasible and that members should put off plane reservations until Saturday morning.

Republicans, reeling from their defeat in last month's midterm elections, have shown little desire to prolong this lame duck session, while Democrats already are looking to January when they will take over both the House and Senate.

Before leaving, though, Congress must deal with two major issues:

—It must approve the continued funding of federal programs at fiscal 2006 levels because this Congress failed, with the exception of defense and homeland security bills, to agree on any annual spending bills for the 2007 fiscal year that began Oct. 1.

The GOP plan is to stretch current funding amounts until Feb. 15, leaving it for the new Democratic-controlled Congress to deal with tough spending and deficit issues.

—It must address a package of tax breaks, many of which expired at the beginning of 2006. Included are an extension of college tuition deductions, costing \$3.3 billion over two years; an option for taxpayers

in states without income taxes to deduct state and local sales taxes, costing \$5.5 billion; a research and development tax credit, costing \$16.5 billion, and a deduction for teachers who spend their own money for classroom supplies, costing \$379 million.

The tax breaks are supported by both parties, but efforts to extend them have been thwarted by moves to link them to other, more controversial, bills.

The Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday introduced a multifaceted, 500-page bill that included the tax breaks, myriad trade measures including the Vietnam bill, and various health measures, among them promoting greater access to health care in rural areas and blocking a planned Medicare cut in payments to physicians, at a cost of \$10 billion for a year.

The bill also encompasses a stalled plan to open more than 8 million acres along the Gulf of Mexico to oil and gas drilling and expand an abandoned coal mine reclamation program, estimated to cost up to \$5 billion over 10 years.

"These are solid proposals on tax cuts, trade provisions and the health care Americans need," said Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., top Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee.

House and Senate negotiators were at odds over how to pay for many of the health items and how to craft the trade measures so they don't drive a crucial number of lawmakers into opposing the package.

The Vietnam bill would end the Cold War requirement that trade with the communist state be reviewed every year. While supported by the Bush administration, it

has met opposition from critics of Vietnam's human rights record and those worried about the effect on American jobs.

The trade package also would extend or expand trade breaks for Haiti, sub-Saharan Africa and Andean nations, again drawing opposition from supporters of the beleaguered U.S. textile industry.

Also still on the agenda was congressional approval of an agreement with India that would allow the United States to ship civilian nuclear fuel and technology to that country.

The Senate also scheduled a vote Thursday on confirming Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach to head the Food and Drug Administration.

The Senate on Wednesday did accomplish one end-of-session objective, voting 95-2 to confirm Robert Gates as defense secretary to replace Donald H. Rumsfeld.

In the House, GOP leaders gave its anti-abortion base one final shot at abortion legislation before Democrats take over control of the agenda.

The House rejected a proposal that would have required abortion providers to inform women at least 20 weeks pregnant that abortions cause pain to the fetus. The vote was 250-162, short of the two-thirds majority needed under a procedure that limited debate.

The bill defined a 20-week-old fetus as a "pain-capable unborn child." That's a controversial threshold among scientists, who don't agree on whether a fetus at that stage of development feels pain or reflectively draws back from stimuli.

Little access to Rainier until March

By The Associated Press

ASHFORD, Wash. — Officials at Mount Rainier National Park say there should be limited access to Rainier in time for the Christmas holidays, but damage from last month's floods will bar vehicle access to Paradise until at least March.

That means the popular Paradise snow-play area will be closed for the winter.

Officials closed the park Nov. 6, when 18 inches of rain fell in 36 hours, swamping roads and bridges, cutting power and sewer lines and forcing park officials to shut the gates to visitors for the first time since nearby Mount St. Helens' massive May 18, 1980, eruption.

The shutdown marks the longest closure at Mount Rainier since all national parks were closed during World War II.

Park officials have estimated damages at nearly \$30 million.

Park Superintendent Dave Ueberuaga said it is still too soon to know when the park will reopen. The earliest road repairs can begin is early January, and when work begins it will take about eight weeks to complete. Power and sewer service have yet to be restored to Longmire, the park's hub.

The park has already spent \$791,000 on repairs and is waiting for Congress to approve a funding to cover the rest of the damage.

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Proposers are hereby notified that this project will be funded in part by the Federal Transit Administration and therefore will be hereby bound by all applicable federal laws and regulations, and certificates. Federal Labor Standards and Federal Wage Determinations are attached to the Bid Documents and incorporated as part of the Construction Contract. You are urged to review copies of these laws and regulations prior to submitting a bid.

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SPECIALIZED

Senators make case for Denver in 2008

BY JON SANCHE

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — As the head of the Democratic Party moves closer to choosing the site of the 2008 convention, 10 senators and senators-elect from the western half of the nation said the Mile High City is a natural choice.

Holding the convention in Denver would help cement the party's recent political gains and "send a powerful message that the Democrats are ready to fight for a Democratic majority nationwide and for a new direction for America," said the letter.

The letter, dated Monday and made public Thursday, was signed by senators and senators-elect from eight states. It follows similar pleas made earlier by some of the same senators and by nearly 50 members of the House of Representatives.

Denver and New York are competing to play host to the convention, to be held in late August 2008.

"We've heard a wide variety of views from community leaders in both cities," Democratic National Committee spokesman Damien LaVera said Thursday. "We're fortunate to have two strong bids from two great American cities and we hope to have our decision by the end of the year."

The letter noted that since 2002, Democrats have won GOP-held governorships in Montana, Kansas, Wyoming, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. Last month, Democrats also

picked up a Republican-held Senate seat in Montana and GOP-held House seats in Colorado and Arizona.

"In 2008, our presidential nominee will have, for the first time in many years, an excellent chance of winning several Western states, which would secure enough key Electoral College votes to restore our leadership in the White House," the letter said. "In short, the West is the Democratic Party's new frontier."

LaVera has said Dean's decision will be based largely on which city he believes would give the biggest boost to the party's nominee.

To get the nod, Denver's host committee will have to prove it has the support of organized labor and that it can raise the \$55 million necessary to handle the needs of the party and the estimated 35,000 people who would attend the convention. The federal government will cover about \$25 million in security costs wherever the convention is.

Denver committee officials have said they are receiving commitments for cash and in-kind contributions from numerous private companies.

Signing the letter were Sens. Harry Reid of Nevada, the incoming Senate majority leader; Ken Salazar of Colorado; Max Baucus and Sen.-elect Jon Tester of Montana; Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico; Byron Dorgan and Kent Conrad of North Dakota; Maria Cantwell of Washington; Tim Johnson of South Dakota; and Ben Nelson of Nebraska.

Mongols members arraigned for deadly brawl in Nevada

BY KEN RITTER

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS — Six current and former Mongols motorcycle club members entered not guilty pleas Thursday to criminal charges stemming from a deadly brawl with rival Hells Angels at a southern Nevada biker rally in 2002.

A judge set trial April 2 for Alexander Alcantar, 34, Kenneth Dysart, 45, Roger Pinney, 62, Walter Ramirez, 33, and Pedro Martinez, 27, as they appeared with their lawyers in Clark County District Court.

Judge Michelle Leavitt entered not guilty pleas on behalf of a sixth defendant, Benjamin Leyva, 35, who remained in a California prison on unrelated charges, and on behalf of Martinez. Martinez is challenging the charges in a 12-count superseding indictment issued Oct. 19.

His lawyers, public defenders Joseph Abood and Melisa De LaGarza, called the charges unfair because there had long delays since the men originally were charged in 2004. The judge is due to hear that challenge Monday.

Each defendant could face life in prison on the top felony charge, murder. Other charges include attempted murder, conspiracy, battery and assault with a deadly weapon. Each remains free on bond of more than \$150,000.

The pleas represent a resumption for a state criminal prosecution overshadowed by the recent federal trial of six Hells Angels, who were originally charged with the Mongols in the state case.

A plea deal in October ended that federal racketeering trial — which involved 11 of the 42 Hells Angels motorcycle club members

charged in the Laughlin River Run brawl. The six Hells Angels pleaded to individual battery in aid of racketeering charges that spared their club being branded a criminal enterprise. They stand to receive sentences of about 30 months in prison based on their pleas, which also included the state charges.

Prosecutor Chris Owens said Thursday the case against the six Mongols had not drawn as much attention, but had not been dormant.

"When we started out this case, we wanted to try them together," Owens said. "We wanted the jury to have the whole picture of what happened in Laughlin. Now that the Hells Angels part of the trial is completed, we're having to take the Mongols separately."

No Mongols members were charged in the federal case.

The outlaw bikers were originally indicted on criminal charges stemming from the deadly April 27, 2002, brawl that killed three people and injured at least a dozen at Harrah's Laughlin hotel-casino. But the Nevada Supreme Court threw out the charges, ruling that Mongols and Hells Angels could not have conspired together before brawling against each other during the 2002 Laughlin River Run in the Colorado River resort town about 100 miles southeast of Las Vegas.

Two Hells Angels and one Mongols member died in the melee, which involved fists, guns, knives and chairs — and was captured on casino surveillance cameras.

Authorities said the battle stemmed from years of friction between the rival gangs.

All the men who appeared in court Thursday were from California.

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INFECTIOUS

Going postal for Claus

BY RACHEL D'ORO

Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — It's a name that needs no address. Everyone one knows Santa Claus lives at the North Pole.

So letters sent to the roly-poly icon always find their way to the small town of North Pole deep in Alaska's interior, including those simply addressed to Santa. Last year 120,000 letters arrived from 26 countries, not counting the thousands with no return address. Those that do have return addresses usually get a reply and a North Pole postmark in a holiday effort that has delighted children all over the world for more than five decades.

Letters trickle in year round at the community of 1,600, where light poles are curved and striped like candy canes and streets have names like Santa Claus Lane and Kris Kringle Drive. Then, around Thanksgiving, they start pouring in by the thousands each day as Christmas approaches. Even stampless letters get through, a rare exception for the U.S. Postal Service.

"This is special because it has Santa's name on it," said Debra Cornelius, a supervisor at the main post office in the nearby city of Fairbanks. This is where the Santa letters are processed during the holiday rush.

"It's what makes Christmas magic for children," Cornelius said. "Why not make that available for them?"

Gabby Gaborik is among several dozen volunteers who believe in the Santa cause, opening crates full of letters, as many as

12,000 a day come crunch time. With 6,000 now arriving daily, volunteers are hustling to send off preprinted replies to children who sent return addresses.

"We try to keep the big guy mystical, so we sign off as Santa's elves and helpers," Gaborik said. "Anyone can be an elf."

In his 10 years as an elf, Gaborik has seen every kind of request. There are the children who want the latest toys and gizmos they see on TV. There are the children who ask for miracles, orphans wanting their mother back for Christmas or a father back from Iraq, even though he died there. Many letter writers point out how good they've been. Some enclose a dollar bill to cover postage.

Gaborik still marvels at a missive that arrived three years with a Michigan postmark and no postage stamp. It was addressed to Santa Claus and had no return address either on the envelope or the letter. Inside was a thousand-dollar money order and an anonymous note that said: "If you are who you say you are, you'll put this to good use."

Volunteers bought postage stamps for the effort.

"I believe Santa Claus has qualities that represent the good in everybody, and people reach out to that," Gaborik said. "Santa Claus represents their validation as a good person, when everything today is so quick, so hard, so bang, bang, bang."

He fished a random letter out of a pile. This one ran the gamut. The writer, Ashley, wants only one thing, an iPod Nano, but then

asks, "What list am I on, the naughty or nice list? If I'm on the naughty, what could I do to get of (sic)?" Then comes the hook: "And how many cookies do you think you can eat on Christmas night?"

Ah, but no matter how cookies in the lure, Santa and his helpers never make any promises in writing.

Ideally, parents and other adults write their own Santa replies, put them in a stamped, self-addressed envelope and tuck them into a larger envelope addressed to the Fairbanks post office.

Either way, replies get a North Pole postal cancellation mark, complete with a half-moon drawing of Santa's face. The Fairbanks post office also stamps the postmark on thousands of Christmas cards and packages diverted through Alaska from outside the state each year. Postal officials recommend getting all items to them by Tuesday (Dec. 12).

Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks also runs a Santa letter project. Santa's Mailbag was started in 1954 by base weather forecasters and has continued ever since.

Last year, more than 4,000 letters were received and followed up with replies from base volunteers. Many of the letters came from children of military families stationed in the Lower 48 and abroad, but civilian children also are welcome to write, said Staff Sgt. Melody Goode.

Letters arriving by mid-December have a better chance of a reply before Christmas. Late letters, however, will still get a letter "signed by Santa," Goode said.

Fruit growers urged to use more pesticide alternatives

BY SHANNON DININNY

Associated Press Writer

YAKIMA, Wash. — Fruit growers are being urged to look for alternative pest controls as government regulators look to quash the use of insecticides deemed unsafe by farmworker advocacy groups.

One insecticide under fire is azinphos-methol, or AZM, long employed in apple orchards to eradicate codling moths.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced last month it would phase out use of AZM by 2012.

The end is still years out, but agricultural experts say it might not be the last such insecticide to be banned or further restricted, and fruit growers should start researching alternatives now so as not to panic later.

"It's time to begin — even if the regulatory environment isn't forcing it — using these alternatives to have a better understanding of how they work," said Jay Brunner, entomologist and director of the Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center.

In 1999, Washington apple growers used eight so-called organophosphate insecticides in their orchards to battle pests. By 2005, the number had fallen to just four, including AZM.

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Improvements take time, plan in motion

TRAFFIC PROMISE, from page 3

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Rosendahl said he expects the \$8 million in signal improvements to be completed within the next two years. The Green and Expo lines extensions would probably take another seven to nine years.

THINGS ARE TOUGH ALL OVER

Rosendahl worked with the LA City Department of Transportation and the Planning Department in formulating the plan.

Traffic improvements will take time. There is no "silver bullet" in this plan and commuters will not see traffic disappear overnight, said Gloria Jeff, general manager of the LA Department of Transportation.

"As a transportation official, we love it when you give us money," Jeff joked.

Many commuters who come to West LA are from the South Bay communities. West LA is a popular place to work, but not a great place to live because of the high cost of living, said Rosendahl.

He proposed adding a third travel lane dur-

ing peak traffic hours on Lincoln Boulevard to accommodate the traffic coming from the South Bay. For example, during peak traffic hours in the morning, a third lane would be added on the northbound side of Lincoln Boulevard. During afternoon congestion, the third lane would switch to the southbound side.

The first part of the Expo Line extension — from Downtown Los Angeles to Culver City — has already begun construction, said Darrell Clarke, who is the co-chairman of the Friends for Expo Transit, as well as a Santa Monica Planning Commission member. The second part of the Expo Line — from Culver City to Downtown Santa Monica — is still in the environmental study phase.

Clarke has advocated for the Expo Line into Santa Monica for 17 years. Clarke said he drove from Brentwood to the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Vermont Avenue around 4 p.m. The entire trip took him a little under two hours.

"And that was nothing unusual," Clarke said. "It's that bad all over."

melodyh@smdp.com

Some rapid expansion

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

FOURTH STREET — Looking to entice more riders while improving service for long-time customers, the Los Angeles County MTA board on Thursday approved a plan that will cut down travel times for those who ride the bus along Wilshire Boulevard.

In June, commuters will be able to hop on a Wilshire Rapid Express bus that will make just seven stops between downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica during rush hour. The current Metro Rapid line stops at 21 stations along the same route.

"It's another innovative tool in our ever-expanding network, giving commuters choices that are adapted to fit their commuting patterns," said City Council member Pam O'Connor, the vice chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority board. "We think this will cut down on travel time, and that is one of the most important things in many people's lives. We want to maintain clean, reliable service and we think this will be a great opportunity to do that."

"Perhaps we can attract new customers too."

Red Rapid buses employs technology that keeps traffic lights green for longer periods of time.

The Express service is a pilot program that, if successful, could expand to other routes, O'Connor said.

Currently, there are 14 Rapid routes. Another route on Reseda Boulevard in the

San Fernando Valley is expected to be added within weeks. There are plans to have a total of 28 Rapid routes by 2008, MTA officials said.

Wilshire Boulevard is the MTA's heaviest traveled bus corridor, with more than 60,000 daily bus boardings. About 45,000 of those boardings are on the Rapid line.

The Wilshire Rapid Express is expected to stop at the Vermont and Western stations, Fairfax Avenue, Beverly Drive and Westwood Boulevard, in addition to Santa Monica stops at Fourth and Fifth streets and Colorado Avenue.

Bus fare will be the same as paying for normal bus service — \$1.25 for one trip or \$3 for unlimited trips on all routes for one day.

The limited-stop service is similar to a program implemented on the Metro Gold Line to Pasadena in February. The Gold Line Express stops at just five of the 13 light rail stations during rush hour, which is the time between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m., and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Since it was created in 2000, the Wilshire Rapid line has cut travel times from downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica by 25 percent, getting commuters to their destinations in less than 45 minutes, said Rick Jager, a spokesman for the MTA.

"We believe Express service will be able to cut an extra five to 10 minutes," Jager said. "Wherever we go, riders are always saying they want faster service."

kevinh@smdp.com

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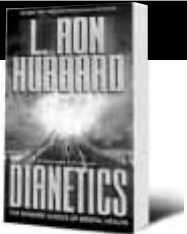
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A discussion about community priorities
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neighborhood meetings to talk about Santa Monica's needs
and priorities as the city begins preparing the 2006-07 budget.

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 11, 2006

Reed Park Auditorium, 1133 7th Street

Thursday, December 14, 2006

Joslyn Park Auditorium, 633 Kensington Road

Monday, December 18, 2006

Virginia Ave. Park, Thelma Terry Center, 2200 Virginia Ave.

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

Marine Park Auditorium, 1406 Marine Street

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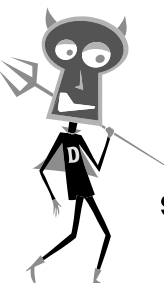
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Science of stress

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Vikki Walker, director of the Santa Monica Church of Scientology, gives a stress test recently to ambulance driver Carlos Babilonia on the Third Street Promenade. Babilonia showed no signs of stress until his former girlfriend walked by, causing the needle to spike, he said.

October incident was last straw

COMMUNITY CONSENSUS, from page 1

“As residents of Sunset Park, we’re constantly given rhetoric that we live in a safe community,” Furlong said.

Trives said statistics show that crimes have decreased since he was on the force in the 1950s, but Wendy Cohen, whose husband organized the event, said she actually thinks violent crimes are on the rise.

Fay Lyons, a 10-year resident of Sunset Park, agreed that gang violence has worsened during the decade she has lived in the area.

“It’s one gang-related activity after the other,” she said.

Sunset Park has become so dangerous, most neighbors refused to answer the door when Lyons and her neighbor, Zina Josephs, the president of the Friends of Sunset Park, went door-to-door a few years ago warning residents about a string of robberies in the area.

Many of the crimes committed in Sunset Park are “opportunistic” crimes, Padilla said. These include the majority of crimes committed by gangs.

“It’s not solely a policing problem,” Padilla said. “We understand we are part of the bigger community. We try to keep the community informed as to what’s occurring. It’s always a work in progress.”

Statistically, more police presence, though it might evoke a perception of safety, does not make an area any safer, said Lim, who is a project coordinator at the Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs at California State University, Los Angeles.

UP IN ARMS ABOUT LOCKDOWN

One of the biggest issues raised Wednesday night was police procedure during crisis situations in neighborhoods near schools. The concern was sparked by a recent incident when Grant Elementary School was locked down after school in late October while Santa Monica Police were in the midst of a stolen car chase outside.

Police responded to a call of a stolen vehicle and followed the car to the 2000 block of Pearl Street. In trying to evade officers, the driver of the stolen vehicle lost control and crashed into a tree. The driver and a passenger both fled on foot and ran through several backyards, prompting the police to establish a perimeter, call in a LAPD helicopter, and school officials to lock down the school. The suspects were later arrested.

One woman said she saw about 10 to 15 police cars outside the school and heard the chopper overhead as she saw children playing out in the schoolyard. She grabbed her daughter and left the school as soon as possible.

“Everything was going on as normal in the school,” the woman said. “There was some kind of delay in time for those kids in the yard.”

But Principal Al Friedenberg called the lockdown a “text-book job.” It’s hard to explain why the school was not locked down 60 seconds earlier, he said.

“Once we determined this was a dangerous situation, we did what we were trained to do,” Friedenberg said.

SMPD does have procedures in place on how to react to dangerous situations. Schools are not required to wait for a call from the police department before taking action either, Padilla said.

For Judy Palnick, she wants to see a procedure put in place so that car chases in neighborhoods are kept under control.

“The issue is having a policy that puts all of us in safety,” Palnick said. “These situations spiral out of control.”

The incident in October was what sparked interest among community leaders to hold a forum on crime in Sunset Park.

“There’s been break-ins, drive-by shootings, sexual assaults, and then the school lockdown,” said organizer Brent Cohen. “I live steps away from here and it rattled my nerves.”

“That was the tipping point.”

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Diners pick SM for wide variety of cuisines

ZAGAT GUIDE, from page 1

of new restaurants in the last year and, obviously, a great number in such a small area, making it very accessible,” said Billy Sind, a spokesman for Zagat. “Santa Monica is known for being a lively, fun place to be and that general sense seems to have rubbed off on the restaurants that are there.

“There are just so many restaurants in Santa Monica that people love.”

The survey looked at more than 2,000 restaurants, each graded on a 30-point scale. The survey was available on Zagat’s Web site and was accessible to anyone who loves to eat out, Sind said. When participants were asked what was the best neighborhood for dining, instead of picking West Hollywood or Beverly Hills, diners chose Santa Monica.

“These are regular restaurant-goers, not critics,” Sind said. “We find that is the best way to rate a restaurant. We want people who actually go to these places on a regular basis and really have a feel for the restaurant, not only the food, but the ambiance, the service ... everything you can imagine.”

Tim and Nina Zagat established the Zagat survey in 1979 by inviting avid diners to rate and review the restaurants they visited. Both native New Yorkers, the two successful Yale-educated lawyers applied a unique premise that rating a restaurant on the basis of thousands of experiences was inherently more accurate than relying on one reviewer.

Starting with the first Zagat survey in New York, that premise has proven true and the Zagat survey has continued to expand over the last 26 years. The company now offers guides to dining for more than 70 major markets, as well as guides for hotels, resorts and spas worldwide, family travel, entertaining, shopping, nightlife, movies, music, theater and golf.

Chef Josie LeBalch of the award-winning Josie, located on a stretch of Pico Boulevard that is quickly becoming known as “restaurant row,” said receiving a high rating from Zagat is important and meaningful because “it’s from the public.”

“There is no way to manipulate it,” said LeBalch, who along with her chef de cuisine Jill Davie and pastry chef Jonna Jensen, turn out progressive American fare with international influences. “It’s almost like a blog. You are really getting it from the horse’s mouth. You are hearing from people who have actually experienced the restaurant. That’s where their vote comes from. You can’t buy that.”

COMING BACK FOR THE FOOD

Just how crucial is it to have a high Zagat rating? “It’s very important,” said Santa Monica native Chef

Josiah Citrin, owner of Melissé, rated Zagat’s number-one restaurant in Los Angeles County for French-American cuisine. “A lot of people look at it, especially tourists, and this being Santa Monica, we have a lot of tourists.”

Santa Monica seems to be popular because of the wide variety of restaurants, each offering unique dishes at varied prices, giving diners plenty of options. Many of the same things that attract tourists also attract diners, including the warm weather and beautiful views that enhance the outdoor dining experience.

Santa Monica is also home to one of the best Farmers’ Markets around, providing fresh ingredients for chefs to create their delicacies.

“There is this whole push for sustainable agriculture, growing only organically, and people are trying to get back to healthier lifestyles. All of that contributes to having a good

restaurant pool,” said LeBalch.

City Hall also recently passed a ban on smoking in outdoor dining areas, which may also be an attraction for diners looking for a smoke-free environment to enjoy duck confit, American osetra caviar or jerk chicken enchiladas.

“We’re also very good to our customers,” said Elvira Garcia, owner of Cha Cha Chicken, a restaurant specializing in Cuban, Caribbean and Jamaican flavors. “We have been in Santa Monica for the last 10 years, and over that time we have built up strong relationships with many of our customers, so much so that they have become like family. We have people who have moved out of the city because they could no longer afford to live here.

“They keep coming back for the food.”

kevinh@smdp.com

No one injured by truck ramming ATM

ATM STOLEN, from page 3

There was a clerk in the gas station at the time, but no one was injured in the incident, said Padilla.

The female suspect is described as being Caucasian, in her mid 20s and wearing a gray sweater. The male is described as being Caucasian, in his 30s, 6 feet 1 inches tall, 160 pounds and wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt.

The getaway vehicle is described as possibly a green or dark gray 2000 Chevy Silverado.

Anyone having information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the robbery/homicide unit of the SMPD at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander’s office at (310) 458-8427.

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Sunday, December 10
Winterlit Fun! Kid's Weekend

- 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Real snow, pony rides, petting zoo, interactive booths and other entertainment. Stage prizes provided by Benihana, Border Grill, Curves, Fatburger, Hair Café and Color Blast Café, I Cugini, Laemmle Theatres, The Levi's Store, Locanda del Lago, Magicopolis, Skechers and more. *All 3 Blocks of Third Street Promenade*

Saturday, December 16
Pet Day with Santa

- 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tire your little tike out with our pet obstacle course then get them ready for pictures with Santa at our complimentary groomer. *Santa Monica Place*

Sunday, December 10
Winterlit Concert at the New Helio Store

- 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. Join us at the Helio store for an in-store concert with Warner Brothers recording artist Mozella. Plus DJ Eric ILL spins throughout the afternoon. *Helio Store 1220 Third Street Promenade*

Concert in conjunction with **WEEKLY**

Ongoing Throughout the Season

- Customer Service / Free Gift Wrapping Every Saturday and Sunday Winterlit Ambassadors will provide store information and gift wrap services for holiday shoppers. *Winterlit Playhouse, 1300 Block of Third Street Promenade*
- Winterlit "Best Gift Ever" Challenge for PAL. What was the "Best Gift Ever" that you received? Well, donate that fond memory as an unwrapped gift for one of the kids at the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL). *Donations accepted every Saturday and Sunday at Winterlit Playhouse, 1300 Block of Third Street Promenade*

Now Thru December 21
Winterlit Playhouse Online Auction

- All proceeds from the sale of this house go to the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) to support its citywide after-school programs for boys and girls who live or go to school in Santa Monica. Go to www.santamonica.com or www.downtownsm.com to bid on the house.

Holiday Shopper's Shuttle

- Park once and shop all day! Ride the Big Blue Bus Holiday Shopper's Shuttle starting November 24th until December 24th. It's only \$1 a ride! For more information call 310.451.5444 or visit bigbluebus.com

For a complete event listing visit downtownsm.com or call 310.393.8355 for more information.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Santa gets a ride from police and firefighters

Santa Claus is coming to town early this year ... and Santa Monica's firefighters and police officers are leading the way this Sunday, Dec. 10. Santa and his public safety helpers will be distributing good cheer and thousands of candy canes as part of the annual "Candy Cane Drive." Everyone is invited to join in the Candy Cane Drive.

Santa's scheduled stops are as follows:

■ 10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m. — Douglas Park, California Avenue and 25th Street

■ 11 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. — Christine Reed Park, California Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard

■ 11:25 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. — Third Street Promenade and Wilshire Boulevard

■ 1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. — Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Pico Boulevard

■ 1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. — Marine Park, Marine and 17th streets

■ 2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. — Clover Park, Ocean Park Boulevard and 25th Street

Santa Monica children are encouraged to look and listen for the lights and sirens of the public safety vehicles, while parents are encouraged to bring their cameras.

For more information, call the Santa Monica Police Department, Community Relations Office at (310) 458-8474.

DAILY PRESS

Library presents a power workshop

Santa Monica Public Library presents "Getting Started with Solar." The program will take place at the Fairview Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

"Getting Started with Solar" will cover the basics of how to reduce utility bills and get a great return by investing in energy efficiency and solar power. In this practical workshop, three expert panelists will talk about the costs and benefits of solar systems as well as how to select the appropriate system for a residence or business. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. Panelists include Stuart Cooley, the City of Santa Monica's Energy Efficiency Engineer, Mark Smith of Solar Forward and Ted Bavin of All-Valley Solar. This program is offered in cooperation with the City of Santa Monica Energy and Green Building Programs Office.

This program is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. For more information, contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600; or visit the Library's web site at www.smpl.org.

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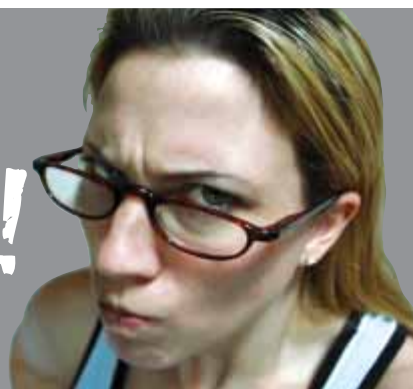
Put up a good fight

Tony Pepper Special to the Daily Press

A Thursday morning house fire in Santa Monica Canyon completely destroyed a two-story, single-family home just north of the Santa Monica border. The roof of the structure collapsed during firefighting efforts.

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



Santa Monica Daily Press

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Photo courtesy

'Audition! The Musical' is at Santa Monica Playhouse through January.

Exposing Hollywood in an 'Audition'

Movie stars, music, suspense, hilarity, pathos ... and the truth behind the Hollywood mystique, as told by those who've been there and done that.

Stage and screen star Evelyn Rudie (TV's original "Eloise") shares the stage with versatile performers Serena Dolinsky and Rebecca Coombs as Santa Monica Playhouse presents the "Audition! The Musical" through Jan. 28, 2007.

Three actresses dance, sing and shine, bringing to life a host of laudable Hollywood heroines that will leave audiences laughing as they perform a multi-layered behind-the-scenes look at the world of show business and those moments of introspection and fantasy that live within the mind.

"Audition! The Musical" is not a tell-all, nor is it a gossip-fest. No names will be named, no villains indicted. Fingers will be pointed, however, for "Audition! The Musical" is a cautionary tale. Based on true life experiences encountered by Ms. Rudie and her partner/husband, director Chris DeCarlo, whose performing and directorial forays have led him to work with artists from Los Angeles to Tokyo, Canada to Ireland and beyond.

With a complimentary dinner included in the ticket price, "Audition! The Musical" is an evening for the whole family. Just returned from its preview run at The Studio Theatre in London, "Audition! The Musical" will play Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m., through Jan. 28, and two special New Year's Eve champagne shows at 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary, and may be made by calling the Playhouse Box Office at (310) 394-9779 ext. 1. For more information, visit the Playhouse Web site at <http://SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com>.

DAILY PRESS

Free Symphony concert

The Santa Monica Symphony, under the direction of Allen Robert Gross, will give a free concert this weekend.

The concert will feature Wagner's overture "The Flying Dutchman" and "Symphonie Espagnole," performed by Elizabeth Pitcairn on the legendary Stradivarius red violin. The consul general of Finland will be the honored guest on Sibelius's "Second Symphony" celebrating Finland's independence day.

The concert will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, 1855 Main St., at 7:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.smsymphony.org.

DP

Playing with 'Herbicide'

After a 50-year hiatus, Herb feels the time has come to return to acting and resume his budding career.

"Herbicide" is his auto-bio-solo show. A superb storyteller, Herb's funny and poignant tales are based on the events and circumstances that altered the course of his life and took him from the last dirt road in Brooklyn to the hills of Los Angeles. This is about a man who believes that there is no time like the present, and in fact, the only time is the present.

Written and performed by Herb Astrow. Early in the course of Herb's challenging journey through life, he decided to become an actor. Currently, he is an owner of Yankee Doodles on the Third Street Promenade. For the past half century, he has continued to polish his acting and writing skills.

The play is directed by Directed by Jay Kogen, Emmy winning writer/producer of "Frasier," "The Simpsons" and currently, "The Class."

The two performances are on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for all seats.

Reservations are made by calling the Playhouse Box Office at (310) 394-9779 ext. 1. For more information, visit the Playhouse Web site at <http://SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com>.

DP

Airport bound for the arts

WINGING IT: Grab coffee and a 'Café Play' on the runway

By Daily Press staff

The Ruskin Group Theatre presents this weekend "The Best of the L.A. Café Plays" — seven one-acts that were written as part of Ruskin's popular "speed theater" event over the past several years.

The writers for the "Best of" are Ed Horowitz, Robin Russin, Gregg Alexander, David Bosnak and Kate Mayfield.

The monthly "L.A. Café Plays," which have been produced at Ruskin for the past few years, are unique because five short plays go from conception to execution in just over 10 hours.

The "Café Plays" have won praise from audiences and the press alike. For example, the LA Times said that "audiences revel in the 10 1/2-hour creation cycle of five one-act plays, bound by a common theme and locale — all must take place in a café — but otherwise are as diverse as the minds from which they spring."

Past participants in the "Café Plays," as director or actor, have included Dylan McDermott ("The Practice"), Olivia D'Abo ("The Wonder Years" and "The Odd Couple" on Broadway) and Dan Lauria ("The Wonder Years," "Jag").

Although several theaters throughout the country have staged 24-hour plays, Ruskin producers Mike Myers, Erin Kelly and Michael Laurie have upped the stakes and cut that time by more than half. In addition, the speed plays are produced monthly.

At 9 a.m. the day of the performance, five writers gather at Back on Broadway, a café-restaurant in Santa Monica. Each writer picks, at random, two manila envelopes containing actors' headshots. They are then given four hours to write a seven to 10-page one-act play that takes place in a café. The directors then take over, meet their actors and begin rehearsals.

The Ruskin Group Theatre, founded in 2002, has produced several shows and has done extensive outreach, teach-



Photos courtesy

(Above) 'Cafe plays' go from conception to execution in just over 10 hours. (Left) Kate Mayfield is a 'Best of' writer.



ing and performing in correctional facilities, boys' homes, nursing homes and more throughout Southern California. With its location at Santa Monica Airport, the Ruskin Group Theatre is making an impact on the Westside and LA area theatrical scene.

The "Best of the L.A. Café Plays" performances are at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9, at Ruskin Group Theatre, 3000 Airport Dr. Tickets are \$10. Call (310) 397-3244 or go to <http://www.ruskingrouptheatre.com>.

Presenting an 'Overview' in photographs

By Daily Press staff

Capitalizing on its unique location at Santa Monica Airport, the Ruskin Group Theatre is proud to present "Overview" — an exhibit of aerial photographs by pilot-photographers Scott Tucker and Griff Hoerner.

Showcasing images taken from the air all over the Los Angeles area — including Venice, Simi Valley, Santa Monica and Calabasas — the exhibit will run from Dec. 9 through Feb. 28.

An opening reception, with hot apple cider and gingerbread, will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, in conjunction with the opening of the Ruskin production of "The Best of the L.A. Café Plays." The theater is located at 3000 Airport Drive at Santa Monica Airport.

Tucker and Hoerner are both based at Santa Monica Airport. Tucker, a long-time pilot, built and flies his own Long E-Z aircraft. Griff got his start as a line boy 50 years ago for Bell Air Services, which was housed in what is now Ruskin.

The two pilots, who say they have always been inspired with the view from above and have wanted to share this perspective, worked together to create the art show, each taking turns as pilot and photographer.

"The interplay between flying and photography is the essence of this show," the artists say in a statement. "How our world appears from above has been a source of wonderment even before the Indian drawings on the plains of Naza Peru.

"Most of our photos were not planned in the usual sense,"

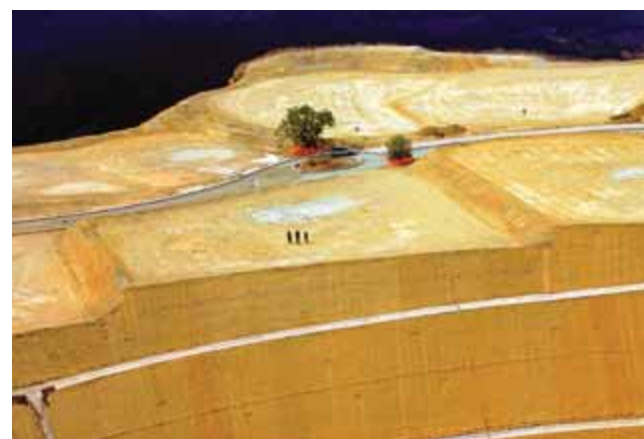


Photo courtesy

Pilots share the view from above with photos taken over areas along the freeways and mountains of the California coastline.

they add. "We did not go up to photograph people at the top of the hill, nor the undulating curves of the California coastline or freeway overpasses, much less the loneliness of the unattended carnival."

Hours of the exhibit are from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Ample free parking is available. For further information, call (310) 397-3244 or go to <http://www.ruskingrouptheatre.com>.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL TO: EDITOR@SMDP.COM OR FAX TO (310) 576-9913

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SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE
MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Feeling the spirit of magic in the holiday season

BY HAMP SIMMONS

Special to the Daily Press



In this magical time of the year, Santa Monica offers you the delightful fantasies of The Magic Flute, seductive tones of Sibelius, surreal adventures in forestry and theatrical minuets. We've got gallery exhibitions featuring many of Southern California's most emblematic artists, and even if you're just out shopping, there's art to be found in the most commercial (and chic) environs.

The Magic Flute
Dec. 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m.
Dec. 10 and 17 at 4 p.m.
Miles Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd.
(310) 396-4360

Gail Gordon and Opera Nova present Mozart's perennial favorite this weekend and next at the Miles Playhouse. Set in imaginary Egypt, this operatic fairy tale is sure to appeal to all ages, with even the youngest audience members finding magic in the music and imagery. Protected by a magic flute, Prince Tamino and Princess Pamina travel through a world where good and evil are not what they seem. Filled with fantastic characters including a dragon, three little boy angels, charmed animals, a handsome hero, a beautiful princess and the evil Queen of the Night. Along with Papageno, the incredible bird creature, The Magic Flute is the perfect holiday treat.

Rachel Rosenthal's Fauve Conspiracy

Arboretum
Dec. 8 – 10
Highways
At the 18th Street Arts Center
1639 Olympic Boulevard
(310) 315-1459



This weekend, the legendary performance/theatre/art diva Rachel Rosenthal brings her new company, Fauve Conspiracy, to Highways with a production that celebrates the power of nature in a surreal theatrical event. Rosenthal has been sharpening the cutting edge of art and performance for 50 years and any opportunity to see this amazing woman at work is not to be missed.

Openings at Bergamot!

Carrie Jenkins, La Vida Loca 2006
At the Patricia Faure Gallery
From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 9
(310) 449-1479

Copra Nason Gallery

Saturday, Dec. 9
From 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
2525 Michigan Ave.
(310) 829-2156

There's two terrific group shows opening Saturday night at Bergamot Station. Start the evening at the Patricia Faure Gallery's exhibition, Second Home, featuring new work from seminal artists like Ray Pettibon, Michael McMillan and George Herms. These works are presented alongside new pieces by emerging talents who explore the theme of suburban pleasure and terror. Then head on over to the other side of Bergamot to the Copra Nason Gallery. The gallery celebrates its 15th anniversary, starting at 8 p.m., with an exhibition that includes work by Kenny Scharf, Shag, Shepard Fairey and lots more. This place is without a doubt one of the coolest galleries in LA County. They've got a hip young crowd at every opening reception and I guarantee you the evening will be totally happening.



Sibelius, Lalo and Wagner at the Civic

Elizabeth Pitcairn
Santa Monica Symphony
7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 10, 2006
The Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main Street

Violin virtuoso Elizabeth Pitcairn will be the featured soloist with the Santa Monica Symphony on Sunday evening. Pitcairn will perform Lalo's Symphonie Espagnole in partnership with her rare 1720 "Mendelssohn" Stradivarius -- one of the world's most legendary instruments. The concert is free to the public and the symphony provides a per-concert talk in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

More Artful Shopping

Luxehouse
1410 Montana Avenue
(310) 394-5200
www.luxehaus.com

If you're holiday shopping plans include Montana Avenue, be sure to swing by Luxehaus for an sculpture exhibition by local artist Edd Hogan.

Honor Badges

Wall Works
Neighborhood Outreach Gallery
Santa Monica Place, Third Floor, South wing.

The Santa Monica Museum of Art's Wall Works program allows hundreds of Southern California school students to participate in a site-specific installation project lead by a noted contemporary artist. For this exhibition, Kim Abeles has worked with young people to create a wearable mixed media badge that honors someone they think of as a hero. This program is funded, in part, by the City of Santa Monica Community Arts Grant program, so stop by and check it out.

The Palette goes on-line

This week, The Palette goes on-line on the City of Santa Monica's Web site. Each week, we'll be posting the latest edition so that anyone visiting the city's site can learn about the cultural opportunities available every weekend in our community. So, next time someone tells you they can't think of anything fun to do, just tell them to "Check The Palette!"

Hamp Simmons is the cultural affairs coordinator for the City of Santa Monica. Send comments or suggestions for the Palette to artpalette.mailbox@smgov.net.



If you would like to subscribe to the Santa Monica Arts Palette via e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line to artpalette.mailbox@smgov.net

Spokane Bing's out theater as landmark

BY NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS

Associated Press Writer

SPOKANE, Wash. — He was arguably the most popular entertainer of the 20th Century, and inarguably the most famous person to ever grow up in Spokane.

Now Bing Crosby will finally have a landmark in his hometown.

The former Met Theater in downtown Spokane, where Crosby performed as a young man, will be renamed the Bing Crosby Theater at a public ceremony on Friday.

The "Wing Ding for Bing" culminates an effort by Spokane historian and journalism teacher Bill Stimson, who noticed one day that little in the Lilac City was named for its favorite son, and suggested the Met might be a good choice.

"We're stepping up and doing what we should have done long ago," Stimson said. "This is where Bing Crosby learned his trade and became 'Bing Crosby.'"

Crosby was born in Tacoma in 1903, but his family soon moved to Spokane and he remained a figure in the city's history for the rest of his life. The golden-throated crooner returned often to visit family and friends, and was a generous donor to Gonzaga University and other causes.

"The guy never left Spokane until he was 22 years old and in a sense he always remained a kind of a homebody," Crosby biographer Gary Giddins wrote in "Bing Crosby: A Pocketful of Dreams."

The Met was built in 1915 as the 800-seat Clemmer Theater. The movie house eventually fell into disrepair, but a local financial conglomerate bought it in 1988, rehabbed it, and reopened it as the Metropolitan Performing Arts Center as a home for concerts, lectures and movies.

Crosby and his group, billed as the Musicaladers, performed in the theater as the house band between May and October 1925, playing between movies.

"That's where he spent five months practicing his act," Stimson said. "He was a big hit there."

"Then he got in his car and went to Hollywood," Stimson said.

After talking with Met owner Mitch Silver, who gave his approval, Stimson contacted Crosby's widow, Kathryn. An actress who lives in Nevada, Kathryn Crosby was delighted by the idea and volunteered to bring her cabaret act to Spokane on Friday to raise money to buy the new sign. The act reminisces about her 20-year marriage to Crosby, which ended with his death in 1977.

Crosby has not been completely ignored here. He holds an honorary doctorate from Gonzaga University. The school's student union building is named for him and there is a statue of him out front. Crosby was also made an honorary mayor of Spokane, and Oct. 16, 1946, was recognized as "Bingsday" in his honor.

Crosby was a huge star on stage, radio, movies and television.

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Council hopes resolution will head off proxy war

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS — Hoping to head off a regional proxy war, the U.N. Security Council came to the aid of Somalia's virtually powerless government, authorizing hundreds of East African troops to train and protect the interim administration in its conflict with an Islamic militia.

A spokesman for the Islamic fighters, who have taken control of the capital and most of southern Somalia, said Thursday that the U.N. resolution will heighten tensions and lead to more killing.

Peace talks slated for later this month also appear unlikely, with the Islamic group saying it will now have to reconsider joining any such dialogue with the Somali government.

The Security Council resolution Wednesday, co-sponsored by the U.S. and the council's African members, partial-

ly lifts an arms embargo on Somalia so the regional force can be supplied with weapons and military equipment and train the government's security forces.

The resolution urges the Islamic Courts movement to stop any further military expansion and join the peace talks, and threatens unspecified Security Council action against those who block peace efforts or attempt to overthrow the government.

A spokesman for the Islamic movement said that the resolution will introduce sophisticated weapons into Somalia and provoke a war between his group and Somalia's struggling government.

"We see the approval of the resolution as nothing but an evil intention," Abdirahin Ali Mudey, spokesman for the Islamic Courts, told The Associated Press.

Mudey also accused the Security Council of giving the Somali government's main ally, Ethiopia, permission to occupy the country.

"The international community has proven to be biased and unjust," he said.

The arms embargo against Somalia was imposed in 1992, a year after warlords overthrew dictator Mohamed Siad Barre and then turned on one another. An interim government was formed two years ago with the help of the U.N., but it has struggled to assert its authority against the Islamic militants.

Critics of the resolution, including some non-governmental organizations, accuse the Security Council of taking sides in the dispute between the government and the Islamic movement.

There are fears that Somalia could become a proxy battleground for Ethiopia and Eritrea, which fought a border war in 1998-2000.

Somalia's deputy U.N. ambassador, Idd Bedel Mohamed, thanked the U.S. for taking the initiative to deploy a force.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Restaurant Listing SM's only local listing for fun eats



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HOURS MON-THU 4pm-10pm FRI-SUN 11:30am-11pm



**3221 Pico Blvd.
(310) 453-9113**

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. 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: TUE-FRI 11:30AM-2PM **DINNER:** TUE-FRI 6PM-10PM & SAT & SUN 5:30PM-10PM



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HOURS MON-FRI 11am-10pm SAT & SUN 9:30-10pm



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HOURS Lunch MON-FRI Dinner MON-SAT



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HOURS MON-FRI 12pm-2:30pm DINNER 5:30pm



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HOURS SUN-SAT 11am - Midnight



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HOURS MON-FRI 11:30am-10pm SAT & SUN 12pm-10:30pm

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BICYCLE RACE

Harder route planned for Tour of California

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — The second Tour of California will feature a longer, harder course, but don't expect to see defending champion Floyd Landis at the starting line, race officials said Wednesday.

The eight-day professional bicycle race over a 650-mile course will wind through 12 cities from San Francisco to Long Beach on Feb. 18-25.

Landis, of Murrieta, won the inaugural event and then went on win the Tour de France, but his title in cycling's greatest event has been tainted by allegations of doping.

While Landis is not expected to race, however, other Tour de France veterans as well as emerging pros will be among the field of 16 eight-rider teams.

Michael Sayers, a 13-year pro, said the race's first real challenge will come during a grinding climb on the second day en route to the state capital.

"It's a very long, steep climb," he said. "It's early in the year and it's going to take something out of some guys."

The race will roll through Sausalito, Santa Rosa, Sacramento, Stockton, San Jose,

Seaside, San Luis Obispo, Solvang, Santa Barbara and Santa Clarita.

Landis finished this year's race with a 29-second lead over David Zabriskie of Salt Lake City and a 34-second margin over Bobby Julich of Reno, Nev.

After Landis' remarkable comeback in the Tour de France, urine tests showed elevated testosterone to epitestosterone levels. He has denied doping and is appealing doping violations.

Since his tainted victory, his team has folded, he's undergone hip surgery and his potential suspension and career are in limbo.

Race organizers have not announced the participation of any expected top individual overall contenders.

But the Discovery Pro Cycling Team from the U.S., Team CSC of Denmark and Predictor-Lotto of Belgium have confirmed their entries.

The race sponsored by pharmaceutical manufacturer Amgen Inc. and owned by Anschutz Entertainment Group, a sports and entertainment conglomerate, will be televised nightly by Versus, formerly the Outdoor Life Network.

BASEBALL

Dodgers trying to sign Schmidt

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The Los Angeles Dodgers were trying to sign free-agent pitcher Jason Schmidt on Wednesday, a deal that would put him at the front of a formidable rotation.

Schmidt's agents, Alan and Randy Hendricks, were still meeting with several teams about the 33-year-old right-hander. A potential agreement with the Dodgers would be contingent on Schmidt passing a physical.

"We do not have a deal," Los Angeles general manager Ned Colletti said.

The St. Louis Cardinals also were courting Schmidt, who went 11-9 with a 3.59 ERA in 32 starts this year for the San Francisco Giants. The three-time All-Star is one of the most prized free agents on the market — and other clubs were already assuming a deal was done with the Dodgers.

"He's a good pitcher, but there is no deal out," Los Angeles manager Grady Little said.

The Dodgers did make it official with two-time All-Star catcher Mike Lieberthal, who agreed to a \$1.25 million, one-year contract on Wednesday.

The 34-year-old Lieberthal will serve as a backup to Russell Martin, who hit .282 with 10 homers and 65 RBIs as a rookie last season. Lieberthal gets \$1.15 million next year, and the Dodgers have \$1.4 million option for 2008 with a \$100,000 buyout.

In Los Angeles, Schmidt would join a rotation that includes right-hander Derek Lowe (16-8, 3.63), All-Star game starter Brad Penny (16-9, 4.33), youngster Chad Billingsley (7-4, 3.80) and newcomer Randy Wolf, a 2003 All-Star who had major elbow surgery in July 2005.

The Dodgers finished fourth in the NL with a 4.23 ERA last season. They won the wild card before getting swept by the New York Mets in the first round of the playoffs.

Schmidt told The Associated Press in a telephone conversation that he did not want to comment on any deals until he officially has a new team. He has homes in Washington and Arizona, so staying on the West Coast was a preference.

Schmidt spent the past 5 1/2 seasons with the Giants and also has pitched for Atlanta and Pittsburgh. He was the only one of seven remaining free agents offered arbitration by the Giants last Friday, but San Francisco general manager Brian Sabean was doubtful that Schmidt might still accept.

"It probably had sailed," Sabean said. "He got his payday. It just wasn't going to be with us."

Schmidt was determined to explore his options this winter, knowing he could be signing the final contract of his career. He pitched 213 1-3 innings last season, the third time in four years he went over the 200-inning mark.

On June 6, Schmidt struck out a career-high 16 batters in a 2-1 win over the Florida Marlins. He matched the 102-year-old franchise record for strikeouts set by Hall of Famer Christy Mathewson on Oct. 3, 1904, against the Cardinals.

The NL pitcher of the month for May after going 4-0 with a 1.17 ERA, Schmidt also broke the San Francisco record of 15 strikeouts accomplished by Hall of Famer Gaylord Perry in 1966.

Schmidt signed a four-year contract before the 2002 season that included a \$10 million club option for last season. The Giants exercised that, knowing they would likely lose him in free agency after 2006.



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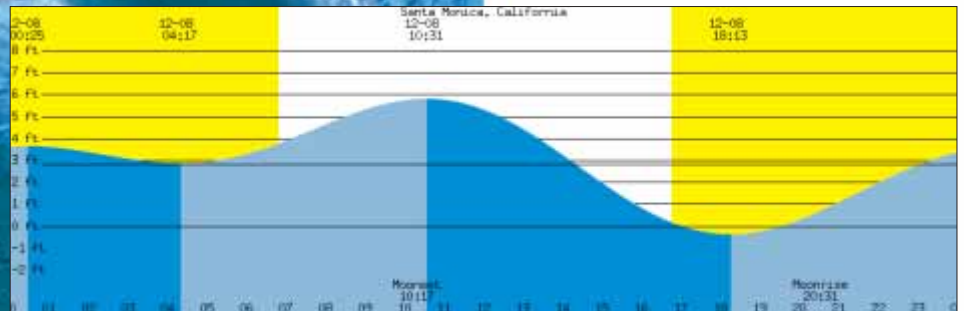
SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 61°**

SWELL FORECAST (6-9 FT)
NW swell will start to build as forerunners fill in from the hefty swell due this weekend. On Friday, once the NW energy starts to fill in, we're expecting 17-20 second periods, likely infrequent at times from 290 degrees with sets running chest to head high around west facing breaks, waist to at times chest high at south facing breaks that can work the diffraction/wrap.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SIGNIFICANTLY SIZED NW BUILDS TOMORROW INTO WEEKEND...

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 four weeks up to the ending date of **November 27, 2006**

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 — 4
	Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 37 / 17
	Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 9 / 5

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

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
Los Carillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Luchessa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	no
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	no
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A	no
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	F
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	no
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A	F
Selkirk Canyon at San Blas County Beach	A	no
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Marin Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	no
Sunrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	A+
Sunrider Beach (beach location) - daily	A	no
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	A+
Carlson Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	no
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	no
Big Rock Beach at 19348 PCH stairs	F	A+
Pine Creek at Las Tamas County Beach	A+	no
Tuna Canyon	no	no
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	no
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	no
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	no
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	A+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	no
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chouzaquas)	F	no
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	F	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	D	D
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	no
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	no
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	no
Venice City Beach, at the Reno Ave. storm drain	A+	no
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	A+
Venice Beach at Winward Ave. drain	A	no
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A+
Venice Beach - projection of Topsoil St.	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower	B	no
Deckweiler State Beach at Bellena Creek mouth	A	no
Deckweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	no
North Westchester Storm Drain at Deckweiler State Beach	A+	no
Deckweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Deckweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	no
Deckweiler Beach - opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A+
Deckweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	A+

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

no — no sample taken

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

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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.

Two Beach Report Cards are an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of these areas surveyed. Our swimmers are happy.

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Get errands done, Pisces

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)

★★★★★ News from others could add a special dimension to events and the choices you make. Trust that you are coming from a solid point of view. Tonight: Time with a special person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Often we don't see the whole picture. Listen to what a partner says. He or she is spelling out what needs to happen. Consider your options more carefully than in the past. Others might be painfully direct. Tonight: Close to home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You might want to think in terms of gains and new beginnings. If you back away from previous patterns of behavior and thought, you might be surprised at how differently someone acts. Open doors. Tonight: Join a friend or two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ What seems like a done deal turns out not to be. You can handle what heads down your path because of your enormous resourcefulness and creativity. Your imagination breeds new ideas and finds even better solutions. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner, or perhaps some holiday buying.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Intuitively, whatever you decide flows. Others make an effort not only to understand but also to contribute. Let your imagination run while using your wisdom to eliminate wild risks. Someone clearly is drawn to you. Tonight: Others want to be with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ You might be thinking and observing. Still, someone might be uncomfortable with your presence or lack of involvement. Let this person know that you are processing and working through an idea. Your behavior might have little to do with them. Tonight: Do your own thing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ See what happens when you listen more and let your friends spew out information. Discussions are animated, fun and productive. Meetings and networking star as you reveal your true desires. Tonight: What do you want to have?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Others seek you out. Be careful, as high costs are coming, be it with the holiday or choices you need to make. A promised bonus is just that – nothing until it shows up. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. Tonight: Enjoy being out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Your mind might be on details and events that are not happening immediately. As a result, you gain a new perspective of events as they head down your path. Evaluate more carefully what is happening around you. Tonight: Listen to favorite music, or play a favorite game.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ A partner or associate has a secret. You might not be able to help yourself as you try to figure out what is up. Know that you won't. Handle some personal matters as well. See what adding more mystery to your life brings. Tonight: Share some spiced cider.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Others want control. If you really kick back and think, you might not care as long as you feel OK with what is going down. It also might be important for someone to see the byproduct of his or her actions. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You have much to do and very little time it seems. You will get a lot done, especially if you allow someone you trust to help you organize. Evaluate a situation more carefully than before, especially if it involves a parent. Tonight: Get some errands done.

Born Today

Singer Jim Morrison (1943)
Inventor Eli Whitney (1765)



Happy Birthday!

This year, when you blow out your birthday candles, you will simultaneously enter a special new luck cycle. You will project the best part of yourself. You have energy and ideas. Others seek you out as if you were a cheerleader. Always take an overview when possible rather than get stuck in one thought or perception. If you are single, others surround you. Pick and choose your companions, as well as that special person. He or she could be very different. If you are attached, with understanding, the two of you bond more closely and enjoy each other more.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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Fresh wool

Stefani launches new scent to go along with her L.A.M.B line

Now you can look good and smell good, too. GWEN STEFANI is launching a perfume for her L.A.M.B. fashion and accessories line.

Stefani says her deal with Coty Inc., announced Wednesday, is a sign that her success with L.A.M.B. (an acronym for Love Angel Music Baby) isn't fleeting.

"It's very prestigious as a designer to have a fragrance.

It's a milestone with L.A.M.B., and I don't want L.A.M.B. to go away. The fragrance makes it feel real, like it'll be here for a little while," Stefani told The Associated Press in an interview.

"The whole L.A.M.B. thing is pretty greedy. I'm making it all for me," she said. "The goal with this fragrance is that I'll wear it and have endless bottles of it."

Stefani's fragrance, which hasn't yet been named, will

debut next fall. Coty also produces fragrances for Vera Wang, Marc Jacobs, Jennifer Lopez and Sarah Jessica Parker.

"Like Gwen's highly acclaimed L.A.M.B. fashions and accessories, this will be no ordinary perfume," Catherine Walsh, senior vice president, American Fragrances, Coty Prestige, said in a statement.

"From the packaging to the bottle design to the distinctive

scent itself, we will be working very closely with Gwen to ensure that her signature fragrance captures her rare spirit, style and warmth."

Financial terms of the agreement weren't disclosed.

Creating a signature scent is more like writing music than designing a dress, the 37-year-old singer told the AP, because there really aren't any conventional limits — like there is for

clothing.

She is continuing to tweak the fragrance much like she would a song — playing with the formula until she instinctively feels that it's right. An outfit is done when someone tells her she has to leave the house in five minutes, she said with a laugh.

Stefani's new album is "The Sweet Escape."

Associated Press

Clooney Bollywood bound

GEORGE CLOONEY says he'd like to appear in one of India's spectacular song-and-dance movies.

"I'd love to. There are some filmmakers whose films when you see (them) you say, 'That could be an interesting story to tell,'" the 45-year-old actor said in an interview Thursday on the private CNN-IBN channel.

Clooney said he's a fan of Bollywood, India's prolific Hindi film industry, and is impressed by the way it has expanded.

"I was watching a film the other day and the music was just amazing. It's become such a huge industry," he said.

"There is a small market in the (United) States as of now, but it will be fun if it catches on

because it is such a positive way of looking at filmmaking and I really love that. I truly think it's fun," he said.

Clooney, a favorite among India's English-speaking middle and upper classes, won a best supporting actor Oscar for 2005's "Syriana."

"It seems like the Indian filmmakers are pushing boundaries

in terms of pushing the censors. I think it's (Bollywood) an interesting place for filmmakers to go," he said.

Clooney's upcoming movie, "The Good German," will be released by Warner Bros. in the United States later this month. It will be released in India next year.

AP



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Friday Goodfellas, They Shoot Horses, Don't They?	
7:30	
Saturday Star Wars: Episode IV — A New Hope	
7:30	
Sunday The Pursuit of Happyness	
7:30	
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4	
1441 3rd Street	
(310) 458-6232	
Babel (R)	
1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30	
The Departed (R)	
12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:45	
For Your Consideration (PG-13)	
1:00, 3:10, 5:25, 8:00, 10:15	
The Fountain (PG-13)	
10:00	
The Nativity Story (PG)	
12:15, 2:35, 5:00, 7:45	
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA	
1310 3rd Street	
(310) 289-4262	
Apocalypto (R)	
10:50am, 12:40, 2:00, 3:40, 5:10, 7:00, 8:15, 10:10, 11:20	
Blood Diamond (R)	
10:20am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:40	
Deja Vu (PG-13)	
11:10am, 2:10, 5:00, 8:00, 10:50	
The Holiday (PG-13)	
10:00am, 11:20am, 12:50, 2:20, 4:00, 5:20, 7:20, 8:35, 10:30, 11:35	
Unaccompanied Minors (PG)	
10:10am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00	
LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE	
1314 Wilshire Blvd	
(310) 281-8228	
Bobby (R)	
1:00, 4:05, 7:15, 9:55	
Stranger Than Fiction (PG-13)	
1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00	
LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX	
1332 2nd Street	
(310) 394-9741	
Days of Glory (Indigenes) (R)	
12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:55	
The History Boys (R)	
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50	
Little Children (R)	
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15	
The Queen (PG-13)	
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40	
Spike & Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation (NR)	
12:00am	
MANIN'S CRITERION THEATRE	
1313 3rd Street	
(310) 395-1599	
Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan (R)	
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40	
Casino Royale (PG-13)	
11:30am, 3:00, 6:30, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20	
Happy Feet (PG)	
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40	
Happy Feet (PG)	
11:10am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30	
National Lampoon's Van Wilder: The Rise of Taj (R)	
2:40, 7:30	
Screamers (NR)	
12:10, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00	
Turistas (R)	
12:20, 5:00, 10:10	
More information email news@smdp.com	

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

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

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The Other Coast

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20 Kind of milk
21 Slangy denials
23 Interrupt
25 Attention
27 "Oh, wow!"
28 Excited, in slang
30 Gorbachev's nation
33 Wk.'s end
34 Through
36 Hot time on the Riviera
37 Kind of oil used in varnish
39 Web address piece

DOWN

- 40 Ordinary
41 Singly
43 Failed sitcom of 2000
44 Longed
45 Derisive look
46 Lingerie buy

B	A	N	G		R	I	G	H	T
A	S	E	A		P	A	N	A	M
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C	O	M	E	D				D	E
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U	N	L	E	S	S		P	A	N
M	A	D	R	E			S	L	O

Yesterday's answer

- 6 Radio-active element
7 Speedy horse
8 Places
9 Light pioneer
10 Choleric
17 Bars for scanning
22 Weaken
24 Frat letter
26 Party animal
28 Out of bed
29 Game piece
31 High
32 Cure
33 Botches
35 Conform
38 Fill up
42 Golf position

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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				

12-8



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

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

Just like a new baby can have a tremendous effect on your life, even a few cigarettes a day while pregnant can have an effect on your baby. Smoking while pregnant reduces the amount of oxygen your baby receives. And it can increase the risk of premature delivery, low birthweight, childhood asthma, SIDS and other problems. Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you can do for your baby's health. We can help you learn to quit for good. Call 1-866-66-START or visit www.greatstartbabies.org.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

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Some restrictions may apply.

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*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not gauranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements

Creative

Employment

For Sale

Furniture

Pets

Boats

Jewelry

Wanted

Travel

Vacation Rentals

Apartments/Condos

Rent

Houses for Rent

Roomates

Commerical Lease

Real Estate

Real Estate Loans

Storage Space

Vehicles for Sale

Massage

Services

Computer Services

Attorney Services

Business Opportunities

Yard Sales

Health and Beauty

Fitness

Wealth and Success

Lost and Found

Personals

Psychic

Obituaries

Tutoring

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out **www.smdp.com** for more info.

Miscellaneous

\$22,000 - LOVE PREGNANCY? Become a Surrogate! Make dreams come true. Carry someone else's baby who can't without help. Professional agency to support your journey. www.SurrogateWeb.com 1-800-877-4438. (Cal-SCAN)

Announcements

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN
Community Corporation of Santa Monica announces the opening of the 2007 Marketing List. To be considered for an affordable housing unit in Santa Monica, you must pick up an appointment card at 1423 2nd St. #B, Santa Monica between Dec. 11th and Jan. 4th, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. M-Th – Closed Dec. 22, 25, 29 and Jan. 1. EOH

WRONGFUL CONVICTION, Obtained through Police & Prosecutor "Corruption", Son Crusades for Father's Freedom. You'll be outraged. www.Free-Ken-Middleton.com Comments: K.Middleton#179112, 1115 E. Pence Rd., Cameron, MO. 64429. 1-816-632-7523. (Cal-SCAN)

Adoption

ADOPTION: Living, caring and secure couples would love to adopt a newborn into their hearts and home with close extended family. Expenses paid. Denise/Alan 877-921-1102.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses Paid. Toll free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6292 (Cal-SCAN)

Employment

3 POSITIONS AVAILABLE! Seeking outgoing fun individuals for promotions and marketing. #1 in L.A. Rep. High-end DaySpas. Sales exper. preferred not required, will train.Flex hours. Comp: \$800-\$1300 weekly. Call Lisa:(310)902-5867

CAREGIVERS, WE want you to join our winning team at Good Company. Live-in/Live-out, Full/Part- time. Competitive compensation. Two years minimum experience, verifiable references and valid SS#. Call today for your appointment: (323)932-8700.

CASHIER WANTED, full-time, benefits, SM. Fax resume to 310.450.6401. and-Pharmacy compounding tech., part-time, experience preferred. Fax resume to 310.450.6401.

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

LOUD FUNNY voice wanted. P/T Santa Monica. (310)998-8305 xt 86

P/T TELEMARKETING for legal recruiting office. A.M. only Eileen (310)392-6301

Employment

P/T OFFICE assistant Century City Accounting firm, flexible hours (10-12 per week) Starting \$11/hr. Fax resume to attn: Marie (310)553-0413

RADIO INTERVIEW campaign sales person p/t flexible SM (310)998-8305 * 84

SALES
SANTA MONICA
Earn \$60K - \$400K.
One of the nation's oldest/largest precious metals co. seeks sales pros. No cold calling or license required, paid training & full benefits. www.Goldline.com. 310-395-0762

SANTA MONICA Fast Growing Chiropractor's office seeking enthusiastic, responsible person with 6 arms and 6 legs. Marketing, phone, and clerical skills preferred. Must enjoy working with people. P/T. Salary based on experience. Leave a message (310)401-7313

SM ROOM and board + \$200/mo in exchange for part-time housekeeping/ light caregiving and cooking. Valid dl necessity, errands. 50-65. dog. Ruth (310)392-6301

SUPERVISOR, TEAM leader
WLA professional home cleaning company has openings for bilingual supervisor with strong leadership and communication skills. Working with maids in a team environment cleaning homes. Call for interview. (310)280-0300 Valid DL required.

Help Wanted

DRIVER- YOUR CHOICE: Temp Control, Team Expedited (\$5k sign-on bonus). Dedicated (guaranteed miles), Regional (home weekly). Solos, Teams, CDL-A Grads, L/P, O/Os, Covenant Transport 866-684-2519 EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER: DON'T Just Start Your Career, Start It Right! Company Sponsored CDL training in 3 weeks. Must be 21. Have CDL? Tuition Reimbursement! wgreen@crst.com 1-800-781-2778. (Cal-SCAN)

DRIVER: TAKE CARE of your Family. Join ours. Consistent miles, regional and dedicated runs. Company paid Commercial Drivers License training. www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com 1-866-476-6828. EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

INSTALL TECHNICIANS. Top 15 DISH Network Retailer needs In-house/ independent techs immediately. Top pay, benefits, close to home guaranteed. All Counties. Experience required. 1-800-919-9961. (Cal-SCAN)

NATIONAL CARRIERS needs Company Drivers for its Regional Operations in Southeast California. Excellent Benefits, Generous HomeTime & Outstanding Pay Package. CDL-A Required. 1 - 8 8 8 - 7 0 7 - 7 7 2 9 www.NationalCarriers.com (Cal-SCAN)

WE HAVE DRIVERS Projected to earn \$61,000 this year! How much will You earn? How much will You earn? Home weekly! Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953. www.HeartlandExpress.com (Cal-SCAN)

For Sale

A+ POOL HEATERS - Factory Direct: Solar, Heat Pump or Gas. Complete do-it-yourself pool heater kits. Phone quotes 1-888-296-8042. www.SolarDirect.com (Cal-SCAN)

ARE YOU PAYING more than \$19.99 per month for cable tv? Satellite dish tv is cheaper, more channels. Details; www.vmcsatellite.com/?aid=185405, 1-800-998-dish ext. 185405- code A12 (Cal-SCAN)

DIRECTV SATELLITE TELEVISION, Free equipment, Free 4 room installation, Free HD or DVR receiver upgrade after rebate. Great programming packages from \$29.99/mo. Call 1-800-906-9771. (Cal-SCAN)

RASCAL MEDICAL SCOOTER, seat swivels and rises, like new. \$2300 O.B.O. (310)315-9600

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,990.00--Convert your Logs to Valuable Lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwoodindustries.com -Free Information: 1-800-578-1363 x300-N. (Cal-SCAN)

SPA/HOT TUB 2006 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5950, sell for \$1950 (310) 479-3054

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Yard Sales

CHURCH YARD Sale Sat. Dec. 9 235 19th St. Santa Monica 9-2pm

SANTA MONICA Sat. 12/9 9am-3pm. 4th and Washington near corner. Household clothing, accessories, new/used, great gifts!

Instruction

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINING. Bulldozer, Backhoe, Scraper, Cranes & More. National Certification. 3, 6, 9 or 12 week programs. Financial Assistance Available. Job Placement Assistance. 1-877-254-2936 or www.nahets.com (Cal-SCAN)

Classes

Art Classes taught by established artist. Paint Sculpt and draw in a garden setting. Classes start February 1st, 2007. Your artwork and bio placed on www.campbellart.com free with sign up. Call 310-804-0335 for schedule and pricing.

Travel

ARTIST DREAM IN FRANCE Silk Painting in Burgundy, 07/07. Learn unique art form in enchanting village with select group. Sarah Pierce 310-899-1189 www.sarahsilk.com

For Rent

833 5TH St. Santa Monica, unit 203, 2+2 stove, dishwasher, blinds, carpet, balcony, swimming pool, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. \$2500/mo (310)393-2547 jkwproperties.com

For Rent

MAR VISTA/Culver City Adj. \$1725 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths. "Twnhs-Apt." Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, 2-Car garage. No pets, 12048 Culver Blvd #202. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

PALMS/BVRLYWD-ADJ.\$725. Bachelor, Stove, refrigerator, utilities paid, NO PETS, 2009 Preuss Rd., #1. Los Angeles, 90034. Open daily for viewing. Additional info in unit.

SANTA MONICA \$1200/mo 1 bdrm/1bath, Cat ok with deposit, refrigerator, Blocks to beach (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1250/mo 1bdrm/1bath PRIVATE & SECLUDED, Flexible lease, Carpet Floors, refrigerator, yard, (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$795/mo Studio/1bath, New Carpets, quiet neighborhood, small full kitchen, near SMC (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$850/mo bachelor/1bath great location north of Wilshire, New Carpets., Paid utilities (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1000/mo 1bdrm/1bath, Carpet Floors, Spacious, Carport parking, laundry-on-site, stove, near SMC (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1325.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No Pets, 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

SANTA MONICA \$1595/mo 2bdrms/1bath, Carpet Floors, parking, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, no pets (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1695/mo 2bdrms/1bath, Cat ok, New Carpets, Parking, laundry, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1700/mo 2bdrms/1bath, Hardwood Floors, Parking, laundry-on-site, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, air conditioner (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2195/mo 3bdrms/2baths, Carpet Floors, car, laundry-on-site, stove, dishwasher, balcony, no pets (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2650/mo 3bdrms/2baths new, spacious kitchen with granite countertops, carpet/hardwood floors. (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SENIORS—COOPERATIVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

(Age 55+) Live in a great location—unit in Beverly/Fairfax for \$430/month—includes utilities!

323-650-7988 M-F 9-5

For Rent

SENIORS AFFORDABLE HOUSING

(Age 62+) Single apartment in West Hollywood for \$431/month—OR—4 blks to beach in Santa Monica, 2 BD+2BA, shared by 2 seniors—\$565/month each.

323-650-7988 M-F 9-5

Furnished Apts

WESTCHESTER: CONDO type apts. Gated estate 1/2 block/golf course. Fully furn. 2br Peaceful/park like yards. Gourmet kitchen. Sliding glass balcony/private patio, hardwood floors, laundry rooms included all but clothes and toothbrush. \$1695/unf apt OR fully furnished \$1995-\$2250/mo. N/pets. Utilities and DSL paid. Kitchen utensils, setting for four, bedding. 6686 W. 86th Place. Please call 310-410-2305 www.westchestergardenapts.com

Roommates

LUXURY SPACIOUS Apt, 2bd/2bath, private garage, very sunny, to share with female only. \$950/mo 310-562-4726.

Commercial Lease

SANTA MONICA 2941 Main Street. Small single room offices \$825-\$890/month. Parking available. PAR Commercial (310)395-2663

SANTA MONICA, 1452 2nd street. Very charming building. 2 offices. \$700/mo, \$1350/mo. Includes utilities and cleaning. (310)614-6462.

SUNSET PARK 2 professional, commercial spaces, creative environment, ground floor, approx. 1050 sq. ft. Second floor, approx 850 sq ft. (310)450-9840

Real Estate

HOME SELLERS

Free home evaluation. Free computerized list of area home sales and current listings. Free recorded message. 1-800-969-8257 ID #1041 www.FreeListingPrice.com

ARIZONA'S - BEST BARGAIN - 36AC - \$59,900. Perfect for private retreat. Endless views, beautiful setting w/fresh mountain air. Abundant wildlife. Secluded with good access. Financing available. Call AZLR 1-877-301-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS! 2 Championship Golf Courses, 7 Lakes, Full service Marina, 2 hours NW Memphis, Tennessee. Lots starting at \$3995. Mike: 1-800-850-4576 www.CherokeeVillageLand4Sale.com (Cal-SCAN)

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Santa Monica Daily Press

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm

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

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: \$5.50 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. TYPES: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 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.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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

Classifieds

Prepay your ad today!



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CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

\$⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words,
20 cents each additional word.

Real Estate



Kate Bransfield

Estates Director
Chairman's Circle - Platinum
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310.395.1133

What is Your Home Worth?
Contact Me to Find Out.
for local, current real estate info...

SantaMonicaListings.com

Real Estate

PAC WEST MORTGAGE

2212 Lincoln Blvd in Santa Monica

1-888-FOR-LOAN

310 392-9223

VERY AGGRESSIVE RATES

TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

30 YEAR FIXED	6%
10 YEAR/1 ARM	6%
7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%
5 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%**
3 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%**
1 YEAR/1 ARM	5.25%
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	5%
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1%**

*Rates subject to change
* As of November 12, 2006
** Denotes an interest only loan

NEW CONFORMING LOAN AMOUNTS

1 Unit	\$417,000
2 Units	\$533,850
3 Units	\$645,300
3 Units	\$645,300
4 Units	\$801,950

Real Estate Loans

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Think You Can't Get A Mortgage? Free Information 24 Hour Recorded Message 1-800-882-6240. "Get Mortgage Ready" Kit ext. 212. Raise Your Credit Score ext. 211 or www.Reports4Borrowers.com (Cal-SCAN)

YOUR AD COULD RUN HERE!

(310) 458-7737

Houses for Sale

Manufactured/Mobile

MANUFACTURED/ MOBILE/ MODULAR/ Park Homes. Factory Direct from \$17,900. Save \$1,000's. Factory Tours Daily, Floor Plans and More online at www.ModularExpo.com or call 1-800-889-8548. (Cal-SCAN)

Land for Sale

1ST TIME OFFERED - 40 acres - \$39,900; 80 acres - \$69,900. Near Moses Lake, WA. 300 days of sunshine. Mix of rolling hills and rock outcroppings. Excellent views, private gravel roads, ground water and easy access! Financing available. Call WALR 1-866-585-5687. (Cal-SCAN)

A DREAM FIND - 20 Acres - Reduced \$89,900. Near Tehachapi. Fresh mountain air and picture perfect views. Streams and oaks. Ideal for horses, country getaway, or to buy and hold. Financing. Call owner 1-888-821-5253. (Cal-SCAN)

LAST CHANCE TO OWN! Abandoned Farming / Mining Settlement less than 2hrs Albuquerque. 20 acres - \$17,900. Old Farming & Mining Community. Incredible setting, including frequently running river, spring, views and diverse topography. Excellent financing. Few lots remain! Call NML&R, Inc. 1-888-370-5263 or visit www.SantaRitaRanches.net (Cal-SCAN)

Business Opps

ALL CASH! Are you making \$1,710 per week? Vending routes with prime locations available now! Under \$10k investment required. Call Toll Free (24/7) 1-800-961-6147. (Cal-SCAN)

START YOUR OWN Landscape Curbing Business- High Demand. Low Overheads. High Profit. Training Available. Priced from \$12,000. 1-800-667-5372. www.EdgeMaster.net (Cal-SCAN)

VENDING ROUTE - Ready To Go. Must Sell. Snack, soda, health, energy drinks, etc. Financing available with \$7,500 Down. 1-877-843-8726. Local. (Cal-SCAN)

WANT TO own, start, or buy a restaurant, bar or club?

iwanttostartarestaurant.com
iwanttostartabar.com
iwanttostartaclub.com

Medical

POWER WHEELCHAIRS and SCOOTERS at little or no cost to seniors/disabled with Medicare, MediCal or Insurance. Free Delivery, Training and Warranty. ProHealth Mobility. 1-877-740-4900. www.ProHealthMobility.com (Cal-SCAN)

Financial

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS. Refinancing Eliminates Debt and Lowers Payments. No Mortgage payment for 3 months available. All credit grades handled. Mark Field, Clarion Mortgage. 1-800-695-3050 DRE#01245811. (Cal-SCAN)

AVOID FORECLOSURE! If your home is distressed or you must sell quickly, call 1-888-900-4HELP. We specialize in houses \$750,000 on up. (Cal-SCAN)

I BUY MORTGAGE NOTES, Trust Deeds, AITD'S, Land Contracts. Get all cash today. Top Dollar, no red tape. Call Mel. Days: 800-843-1111 Evenings: 323-936-2000. (Cal-SCAN)

Money to Loan

NEED TO SQUEEZE a little more \$\$ out of your home sale? Home Sales/Lending. www.JohnHillRealEstate.com or call tollfree 1-888-592-2993 AGT. (Cal-SCAN)

Lost & Found

LOST TOY CHIHUAHUA ON 5TH AND COLORADO THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30TH. SHE IS A LIGHT TAN-ISH BROWN AND HAS A WHITE SPOT ON HER FOREHEAD. SHE WEIGHS ABOUT 3 TO 4 POUNDS AND WAS LAST SEEN OUTSIDE OF AN APARTMENT COMPLEX. WITNESSES SAY SHE WAS PICKED UP BY A YOUNG COUPLE FROM SAN DIEGO! PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION, CALL ANGELA (310)855-4056

Massage

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

Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JONAS CLAES GERVIND aka CLAES JONAS GERVIND

Case No. BP101722

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JONAS CLAES GERVIND aka CLAES JONAS GERVIND

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Mark J. Saladino, Public Administrator in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Mark J. Saladino, Public Administrator be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF WILLIAM A. STANCHEL, aka WILLIAM STANCHEL, aka W. A. STANCHEL

CASE NO. BP101710

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of WILLIAM A. STANCHEL, aka WILLIAM STANCHEL, aka W. A. STANCHEL

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Valerie Williams in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.

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

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

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed actions.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 3, 2007 at 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 11 located at: 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a con-

Notices

tingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in section 9100 of the California Probate Code. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner: Valerie Williams
James M. Cox, SB# 117005
Attorney for Petitioner
WISE PEARCE YOCIS & SMITH
249 East Ocean Boulevard, Suite 440
P.O. Box 22664
Long Beach, CA 90801-5664
Reporter# 106496
Published in: Santa Monica Daily Press
Pub Dates: December 5, 8, 12, 2006

Summons

SUMMONS
(Citation Judicial)
CASE NUMBER BC319095

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (Aviso Al Demandado): Arturo Feliu, an individual, PWI HOLDINGS, INC., a Nevada Corporation d.b.a. VERACRUZ ENTERTAINMENT, PANAMERICAN WORLD INVESTMENTS, LLC and DOES 2 -50, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (Lo Está Demandando El Demandante): MARGARITA R. DEL VALLE

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served to the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org) the California Courts Online self-help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta per escrito en esta code y hacar que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta per escrito tiene que ester en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar pare su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de bago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, pueda llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpia con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucre en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abagados locales.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
111 N Hill Street
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
CENTRAL

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
MARVIN E. KRAKOW, ESQ. (SBN 81228),
1801 CENTURY PARK EAST, SUITE 1520
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

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FOR ONLY \$45

Run it until it sells!*



1964 Pontiac Catalina

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

\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

■ Ad runs until your car sells. Period.*

■ Large format photograph.

■ 20 word description.

■ FREE online placement!

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Santa Monica Daily Press



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

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Steel Buildings

BUILDING SALE... "Don't Miss It!" Final Clearance. Deposit will hold till Spring. 2 5' x 4 0' x 1 2' = 5 4 8 0 0 . 40'x60'x16'=\$12,800. Front end optional. Rear end included. Others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422. (Cal-SCAN)

Steel Buildings

STEEL BUILDINGS. End of Year Factory Specials. 40x60 to 200x300. Must clear out inventory. Rigid 1-800-658-2885. (Cal-SCAN)

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Business Opps

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not guaranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements.

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Will Not Last
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Silver/Gray, Leather
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Vehicles for sale



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Hybrids



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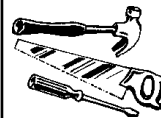
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