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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009
Volume 9 Issue 31



Santa Monica Daily Press

SANTA MONICA'S FIRST PUB CRAWL
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE GIFTS FOR KIDS ISSUE

Police chief extends 3-12 work week

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Santa Monica Police Chief Tim Jackman has extended for one month a pilot program in which rank-and-file officers work three, 12.5-hour days instead of the traditional 10 hour, four days a week schedule, a move that is expected to raise morale while putting more officers on the streets at times when they are needed most.

Jackman decided to extend the six-month pilot program so that he could do further analysis to see if the switch to 3-12 is working. Preliminary reports show that fatigue has not been a factor and the switch has most likely reduced the need for overtime by about 35 percent, saving taxpayers money. Jackman said he would like more information to determine if the drop in overtime is due to the new work schedule or other factors.

"So far, it's looking pretty good," Jackman said of the switch. "But, I want to make sure that I have gathered all the data I can to make a strong presentation to the appropriate folks so that we can make a good, solid decision."

The pilot program is expected to run through January. City Manager Lamont Ewell, who signed off on the pilot program, will be leaving City Hall Jan. 21 to begin his retirement and it is not known how his replacement, Rod Gould, will respond to the switch.

During the first three weeks of the pilot program, which applies to all officers on patrol, Jackman told the Daily Press that response times were down, around 10 to 25 percent, and there was a savings of $50,000 in overtime pay during the usually busy Fourth of July weekend.

With the old schedule, officers would be getting out of roll call and hitting the streets at about the same time their colleagues returned to the station, providing no real overlap in coverage. The new schedule allows for considerable overlap, with two shifts working side-by-side for several hours in the afternoons and evenings when more crimes tend to occur, said SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler, spokesman for the department and president

SEE COPS PAGE 10



GIVING BACK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Community leaders wrap gifts for the children of the Police Activities League at the Macerich Corp. conference room on Wilshire Boulevard Thursday night.

New ER begins receiving patients

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

ST. JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER Just about everything has to happen quickly in emergency medicine, so perhaps the plan to move the entire St. John's Health Center ER staff to its new digs in the recently certified Howard Keck Center overnight should come as no surprise.

At 1 a.m. today, doctors and nurses were scheduled to make the transition from their old location at 21st Street and Santa Monica to 1328 22nd St. The move was expected to be completed by 5 a.m. today, at which time the new ER was slated to begin receiving patients via ambulance.

During the four-hour move ambulances were to be diverted to either the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center or the Ronald Reagan-UCLA Medical Center in Westwood.

By moving in the middle of the night — typically a low-call volume period for emergency responders — the hospital was seeking to minimize the inconvenience, said Greg Harrison, a spokesman for the hospital.

The ER's new home is in the Howard Keck Center, which is the second piece of a $500 million upgrade for St. John's that has been 15 years in the making. The other building, the Chan Soon-Shiong Center for Life Sciences, opened in 2005.

Plans for the new hospital, which features state-of-the-art seismic technology, began after the Northridge Earthquake in 1994 damaged the old hospital building, Harrison said.

The new hospital building was certified by the California Department of Health Services last week, Harrison said, and employees started the transition over the weekend.

"Essentially, the emergency department is the last department to be moved," he said.

The new facility's opening is especially good news for paramedics and emergency medical technicians who work for the Santa Monica Fire Department, said Jeff Furrows, the department's paramedic coordinator.

For one thing, the new building has a patient drop-off area for ambulances that is separate from the main entrance, Furrows said, which makes it easier and faster to drop off critically ill patients, he said. There's also extra ambulance parking — features Harrison said the fire department helped design.

SEE ER PAGE 11


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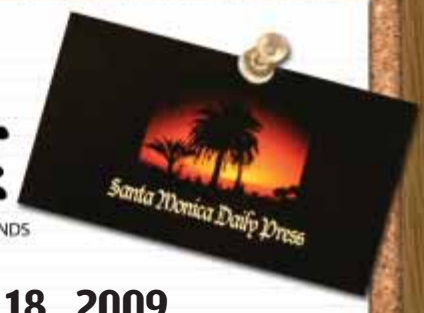
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WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, Dec. 18, 2009

Mariachi and dinner
El Texate Restaurant
316 Pico Blvd., various times
Mariachi Alta California fills the air with the sounds of Mexico every Friday night. Show times are 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. There is no cover charge.

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

Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009

Get your pub crawl on
Various locations
5 p.m.
The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce is teaming with the Westside Food Bank to bring the city its First Annual Santa Monica Pub Crawl. The Santa Monica Pub Crawl (SMPC) aims to raise money and food donations by having participants donate non-perishable food items to the food bank at designated drop-off points along the route. For more information, visit www.santamonicapubcrawl.com.

Ring in the season
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 3 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
The Holiday Handbell Concert promises to ring in the season with a fair share of fun and holiday spirit. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

Thought of the nativity
Palisades Park
4 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Visit the annual Santa Monica Nativity Scenes from now through New Year's Day. On Sunday, narration of the Christmas story and holiday music will take place near Arizona Avenue at 4 p.m. For more information, call (310) 577-2586.

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



POWER PLAY

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Ezeqiel Ocampo (left) of the Santa Monica High School boys varsity soccer team watches as his teammate, goalkeeper Michael Freedman, jumps into the air over fellow teammate Matthew Ginsberg to punch the ball out of the danger zone before Spencer Ruggeri of Palos Verdes was able to get his head on it during a non-league game at John Adams Middle School Thursday. The game ended in a 1-1 draw.

Pub crawl unites revelers for a good cause

BY LENIKA CRUZ
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN While some may not need an excuse to drink, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce is providing one.

This weekend, the chamber is teaming up with the Westside Food Bank to bring the city its first annual Santa Monica Pub Crawl, which will take place on Dec. 19 starting at 5 p.m. More than a dozen bars and restaurants throughout the city will be participating in an attempt to spread holiday cheer and promote a worthy cause.

The pub crawl aims to raise money and food donations by having participants donate non-perishable food items at designated drop-off points along the route. After donating, the "crawlers" will receive a wristband, giving them access to a variety of food and drink specials at each place they visit.

The list of crawl locations includes Wokcano, Shangri-La Hotel, The Yard, Joe's Pizza, JP's Sports Bar and Grill, and Ye Olde

SEE **PUB** PAGE 11

Calif. Senate passes new compromise education bill

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. The state Senate on Thursday approved legislation that would clear the way for California to compete in a $4.3 billion school funding competition from the Obama administration, but the state's chances of securing a slice of the money remained in limbo.

After late-night negotiations lasting several days, state Sen. Gloria Romero, D-Los Angeles, introduced new legislation Thursday that attempted to forge a compromise between the two houses on education reform. Divisions remained, however, and Romero said she would work through the holidays to complete a bill with broad support and which Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger would sign.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrel Steinberg, D-Sacramento, urged Senators to support the package, despite a process he called "herky-jerky" that has pitted Democrats against one another and left

SEE **BILL** PAGE 11

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMMUSD HDQTRS

School district on Twitter

Students aren't the only ones using Twitter to spread the word. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will use the social-networking tool to provide parents with the latest news and updates.

Some of the information released so far via www.twitter.com/smmusd includes news about upcoming events at board meetings, special recognitions for SMMUSD students and employees, and other issues of relevance to the district.

"We know that there are many people who want to know more about our district, our students, and our employees," said Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mike Matthews. "Twitter will provide a technologically relevant and instantaneous way of getting that information out."

Those who want to be notified immediately of any Twitter update can open an account on Twitter and become a "follower" of SMMUSD.

By entering an e-mail address or a phone number (for text messages), the "follower" will be immediately notified when SMMUSD information is posted to Twitter. There were 45 followers of the page as of Thursday afternoon, and the district is hoping for many more.

"We are doing so many positive things in our district, and this strategy will provide us an additional way of telling our story," said Superintendent Tim Cuneo.

This will not be an emergency communications tool, since the district will not rely on it for communications to the parents and families.

The district is currently working on implementing an emergency communications strategy and will be releasing that information early next year.

DAILY PRESS

LINCOLN BLVD

Free cuts for gifts

Barbers with the Pico Barbershop are offering free haircuts this Sunday, Dec. 20, to anyone who brings in an unwrapped gift for roughly 100 needy children who are clients of homeless-services provider OPCC.

"It doesn't have to be a toy," said barbershop owner Lino Lares. "A lot of kids need blankets, socks, shoes."

The barbershop will be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. but Lares said the shop will stay open later if people continue to show up. There will be free food and an antique car display sponsored by local car clubs.

The shop is located at 1840 Lincoln Blvd.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Promenade performer speaks out

Editor:

I've been involved with the regulations on Third Street Promenade performers ever since they were enacted in 2003. First of all they've never been fairly applied. Some performers get tickets while others don't. Also, if you're alleged to have violated a provision like failing to rotate every two hours, as many as seven cops come out to give you a ticket, which is incredibly embarrassing and humiliating in front of dozens of people. Then you have to go to court with all the drunk drivers and other traffic offenders. You can be fined as much as $200.

So in my opinion, City Hall will continue to have problems and cost the city thousands to enforce these provisions. People like Vincent Garafolo cited in the article ("Council approves new street performer rule," Dec. 12) will challenge the provisions, and I might too and take the case all the way to the United States Supreme Court. City Hall actually should try to figure out a way to regulate performers without treating us like criminals!

I performed in San Francisco for years all over the place and didn't need a permit. I've played in the BART station. Just like musicians play in the New York City subway and a famous classical violinist played in the Washington, D.C. Playing music is free speech!

Public safety is often a bogus reason for regulations. Some merchants and restaurant owners don't want someone playing a four-hour drum solo in front of their establishment. But it's a public street. If people are loud or noisy, then you can ask them to leave. If someone plays a drum solo outside your home when you're trying to sleep, you call the cops.

When people gather to protest, they have a right to peaceably assemble. But if they block traffic, you can arrest them.

So I am not sure City Hall has thought out carefully how they can regulate performers constitutionally. Maybe they should get some new lawyers!

Wen Mew
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Catching Tiger by his tale

THE PUBLIC'S FASCINATION WITH TIGER Woods is insatiable. At market checkout stands everywhere the tabloids are filled with lurid photos of Tiger's alleged mistresses and his ex-model wife (soon to be ex-model, ex-wife). They hardly mention Brad and Angelina or Oprah (though one headline read, "Oprah's mystery illness — three months to live!").

Tiger's popularity of 88 percent has plummeted to 33 percent. At this rate he could wind up as disliked as Dick Cheney! (If that's possible.)

Meanwhile, a doctor who treated Tiger is being investigated by the DEA and the Royal Canadian Mounties! He allegedly provided athletes with performance enhancing drugs. One word: Yikes!

Some paparazzi are so hungry for dirt that they flew to New Zealand to interview Woods' caddie. Why not his dry cleaners? At least it's closer?

Tiger confided in his caddie that he was "having a few problems." Evidently "problems" mean cocktail waitresses, and "a few" means 13 and counting.

It's really nobody's business who Tiger sleeps with. (Other than Elin's.) What drew me was the fishy tale he told after the accident.

What was Tiger doing driving the Escalade barefoot at 2:30 a.m. speeding away from his estate? Getting baby formula? And Elin? Who rushes to an accident wielding an eight iron? (Unless you'd just used it to whoop your hubby upside his head.)

For predicaments like Tiger's there ought to be a Web site where, in the privacy of your home, you could type the details of your peccadillo and the site would provide a series of plausible denials (just like the CIA). They could call it "CoverStory.com."

The media continues to feast on Tiger's tsuris (Yiddish for troubles). Sunday's L.A. Times sports page ran a poll concerning his "indefinite layoff." (Maybe "layoff" is a poor choice of words under the circumstances?)

The poll asked, "How long will Tiger Woods leave from golf last?"

A. Back before the Masters.

B. Miss the Masters, but back for U.S. Open.

C. Miss Masters and U.S. Open, but back for British Open.

D. Grows dreadlocks and moves to the Bunny Ranch in Las Vegas. (OK, I made up D.)

Actually, a lot of people owe Tiger for taking the heat off. Shaquille O'Neal's wife, Shaunie, recently filed for divorce alleging that Shaq had sex with the pregnant fiancée of Washington Wizards star Gilbert Arenas! Thanks to Tiger, Shaq's story is flying under the radar.

Jenny Sanford, the strong-willed wife of Gov. Mark Sanford (R-S.C.) has also filed for divorce. (Divorce is obviously a recession proof industry!)

You'll recall Sanford, the family-values Christian (who kind of had two families) claimed that he was hiking the Appalachian Trail. In fact, he was rendezvousing with his mistress in Argentina.

CoverStory.com would have provided Gov. Sanford a better "spin" than that Appalachian Trail nonsense! And, if he truly wanted to save his marriage, CoverStory would have warned him about calling his mistress his "soul mate."

HEY, TRYING TO WIN THE MASTERS IS STRESSFUL ENOUGH WITHOUT TEXT MESSAGES FROM 13 COCKTAIL WAITRESSES.

This past summer, Tiger was criticized for moodiness and flashes of temper on the golf course. Hey, trying to win the Masters is stressful enough without text messages from 13 cocktail waitresses.

Meanwhile Elin has allegedly moved out, been photographed without her wedding ring, is using her maiden name, and has hired a high-powered divorce attorney. (Other than that, the marriage seems rock solid.)

On Wednesday, Tiger was named the Associated Press' "Athlete of the Decade." But there's a nasty rumor circulating that Hustler Magazine will name him "Philanderer of the Decade."

Currently, Tiger's living on his $22 million yacht, which is so opulent it looks like it belongs to a Saudi prince. Ironically, the yacht's name is "Privacy." (I wonder if there's a hitching post for the Royal Canadian Mountie's horse?)

Tiger's $100 million in annual endorsements is in considerable jeopardy. Accenture, a global consulting corporation, has dropped him, while Gillette has suspended his commercials, "We want to give Tiger the privacy he desires." Translation: Tiger's toast.

I admit I'm not a golf fan. I agree with Mark Twain, "Golf seems an arduous way to go for a walk." (George Carlin suggested that all golf courses should be given to the homeless.) But I still marveled at Tiger's remarkable exploits on the course. And I'm hardly alone.

When Tiger's in the final weekend of a tournament the TV ratings are double those than when he's not. Sans Tiger, men's pro golf may sink to the popularity of men's pro bowling, which is slightly more than men's pro bass fishing.

So how can Tiger win back the public and maybe even his wife? It's been suggested that, to gain redemption, he needs to appear on Oprah's TV show and be honest and contrite (or at least fake it).

Going on Oprah is probably as good an idea as any. But, given the tabloids' claim that she only has three months to live, he better do it soon.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

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Write Rachel

Rachel Iverson
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Relationships aren't home remodels

DEAR RACHEL,

Relationships are so confusing. I can't decide if the woman I'm dating is right for me or not, so I made a list of pros and cons. On the con side; her face isn't attractive, she's not affectionate and she's boring. She never goes out. On the pro side; she's got a nice body, I love her son (I've always wanted to be a father) and she passed the corn dog test. (I like to save money on snacks when I go to baseball games and she let me put two corn dogs in her purse. Not just any woman will hide corn dogs in her purse for me.) I'm the type of guy who believes in fixer-upper projects. She's getting better. Sometimes I think I could marry her and other times I think I should just stay with her until someone better comes along. Which way should I go?

Signed, Mr. Pros and Cons

DEAR MR. PROS AND CONS,

The relationship you've described does not sound promising. A nice body, a cute son and some corn dogs in the purse are not the building blocks for a lasting relationship. You don't have enough material to forge a close friendship with this woman, let alone a lifelong partnership with her. You're attempting to make something out of nothing, when all the improvements in the world wouldn't be enough to make this relationship work. The fact that you're considering staying with her until someone better comes along should be your first clue that you're not satisfied. If it weren't for her son, would you bother dating this woman at all?

I don't know why you've set your relationship standards so low, but it's time to raise your expectations. This woman is not a fixer-upper house that you can remodel into your dream woman. She's a human being who will probably not change dramatically for the rest of her life. If the two of you have so little to build on after two months, when you're supposed to be in your honeymoon stage, your best bet is to move on. You deserve more. She deserves more, and her son deserves more. The longer you stay, the more painful it will be for everyone involved, especially her son.

If you have a tendency to save the women you date, might I suggest a healthier version of this scenario? Using the house analogy, if you're the kind of guy who must make home improvements, I suggest finding a house that is already acceptable "as is." That way, if you feel the urge to add a fresh coat of paint or change a light bulb, you can be sure that the majority of the house is already in good condition. In other words, stop dating metaphorical houses that need to be leveled to the ground then rebuilt by you. Lifelong projects are exhausting. If you must have a project, stick to literal houses, not people. No one is perfect, but there is a woman out there who's right for you despite her imperfections, and yours.

DEAR RACHEL,

I have a baby face so I look young for my age. When I first met my boyfriend, one month ago, I told him I was 10 years younger than I am. Recently, I confessed the truth to him and now he's taking a "break" from me because I was dishonest. My intention wasn't to deceive him, but to keep from scaring him away. It's not like I lied about something important. Besides, I'm an actress so I'm used to lying about my age for my career. Everything between us was great. I don't understand how he could throw away everything we have over something so trivial. So I'm five years older than him and I told a white lie. What's the big deal?

Signed, Baby Face

DEAR BABY FACE,

As a woman, I understand your concerns about aging. Society is definitely not as forgiving about our aging process as it is for men. However, I can also understand why your guy is upset about your "white lie." I know the lie seems trivial to you, but this guy may fear that it's a preview of future lies to come. Maybe he's had past experiences with dishonesty and you've touched a nerve for him. Or maybe he's had bad experiences with older women. Whether his fears are legitimate or not, he may also worry that an older woman will want marriage/kids sooner and try to "tie him down." Whatever his reasons, it's up to him to decide if the connection you share outweighs his concerns.

At this point, all you can do is apologize and hope for the best. You don't want to talk him into dating you, especially if he can't proceed without resentment. If you and this man are meant to be, this obstacle is just a bump in the road on your path to being together. As for the future, if you hope to attract honesty in your dating life, it must start with you.

RACHEL IVERSON is a freelance writer, dating coach and author who lives with her husband in Venice Beach. Her book, "Don't Help A Man Be A Man: How To Avoid 12 Dating Time Bombs," has been endorsed by Dr. John Gray, author of "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus." For more information on Rachel or her book, visit www.rebelgirlpublishing.com. For dating advice, contact: rachel@rebelgirlpublishing.com.

The Q Line

Web wise?

A recent Daily Press article discovered that just 41 percent of Santa Monica companies have a Web site, and only 4 percent have online ads.

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

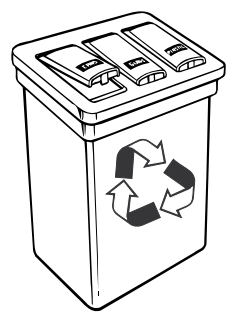
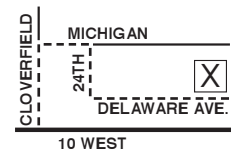
Do you think that those companies without an online presence suffer as a result or do you think that being on the Internet is overrated?

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

'Tis the season to shoplift

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

SUNDAY, DEC. 13, AT 11:35 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding shoplifting suspects in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the two suspects entered the store and removed cologne and jewelry from displays and then exited the store, failing to pay for the items. Store security confronted the suspects and held them until police arrived. The suspects were identified as Heriberto Valentin, 31, a transient; and Jaime Chavez, 42, of Los Angeles. They were arrested for petty theft. Bail was set at $1,000 for each.

SUNDAY, DEC. 13, AT 8 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of the Third Street Promenade – Yankee Doodles – regarding an assault with a deadly weapon. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told police that he was emptying trash near the rear of the restaurant when he was confronted by two people who asked why gates were locked, preventing them from grabbing recyclables. The victim said he told the two that he was supposed to lock the gates. The suspects became agitated and left. The victim walked down the alley and was assaulted by the two suspects, police said. One suspect had a shovel in his hand and struck the victim numerous times. The victim called 911 and the suspects fled. The suspects were located a short distance away and placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. They were identified as Edgar Chacon, 37, and Oscar Manuel Romero-Garcia, 22; both of Los Angeles. Their bail was set at $30,000.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12, AT 7:46 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 700 block of Broadway – Vons – regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who told them that the suspect, identified as Kenneth Dale Warhurst, 22, of Willits, entered the store, removed a bottle of alcohol valued at $18.99 and left the store without paying. The suspect was stopped outside and brought back into the store by security. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for burglary. His bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11, AT 4:30 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling the area of 100 Colorado Avenue when they saw a man urinating next to an electrical box. Officers made contact with the suspect and conducted a search. Officers said they found heroin, which was in a syringe the suspect had in his possession. The suspect, Randy Holmas, 59, a transient, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and urinating in public. His bail was set at $10,000.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10, AT 10:19 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 200 block of the Santa Monica Pier regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, they made contact with a city employee who said that a man entered the bathroom and spread feces throughout a stall, toilet, handles and outside of the stall. The suspect was located a short distance away and placed under arrest for vandalism and a probation violation. He was identified as Timothy Poyser, 35, a transient. He was not eligible for bail.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10, AT 5:27 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1800 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Rite-Aid – regarding a shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who said the suspect entered the store, removed eye care products from the shelves and left the store without paying for the items. The suspect was detained outside the store by security. The suspect was placed under arrest for petty theft. The suspect was identified as Natalie Nivron, 59, a transient. Her bail was set at $20,000.

TUESDAY, DEC. 8, AT 9:56 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 2300 block of the beach regarding an assault that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who said she was with two other people drinking on the beach. The victim said she and one of the other guys got into an argument and the third person jumped in. The victim told that guy to butt out. The argument became physical. The man allegedly pulled out a knife and threatened the victim. The other guy broke up the fight. The suspect apologized to the victim, police said. The victim left the location and contacted a passerby to call police. Officers located the suspect a short distance away and placed him under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. He was identified as Cory Houk, 23, of Long Beach. His bail was set at $30,000.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8, AT 11:50 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of Lincoln Boulevard – CVS pharmacy – regarding a robbery in progress. When officers arrived, they made contact with witnesses who said the suspect entered the store, removed a six pack of beer and left without paying for the item. Store employees confronted the suspect and a fight ensued. They employees were able to get the beer back. The suspect, Gem Brady Harrison, 36, a transient, was arrested and booked for robbery and interfering with an arrest. His bail was set at $50,000.

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

Army man wins grand prize for a litter love letter

SUE MANNING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Army Specialist Nathan Davis wrote a story about Cmdr. Frank Sinatra and Sgt. Snog to prove you don't have to be crazy, old, lonely or smelly to have more than one cat at a time.

His story describing a day with his cats, from reveille to taps, was the grand prize winner in Purina's Tidy Cats Campaign to End Cattiness contest. He gets $5,000, a year's worth of litter and a role in a Webisode promoting Tidy Cats.

Davis, 26, lives in Petersburg, Va., with his wife, Laura, and rescue cats Frank, 3 and Snog, 1.

"Of course I have cats. They are amazing animals and provide me with lots of love and happiness. I can't imagine my life without them," he says in the video.

The money comes just days before Christmas and four months before Davis has to leave for his first tour of duty in Iraq.

There were hundreds of photo-essay entries from multiple cat owners across the country who were asked to debunk negative stereotypes of "crazy cat ladies." An independent judging panel chose 10 finalists, then consumers voted for their favorites, accounting for 10 percent of the vote. Pia Salk, a psychologist and animal welfare advocate, made the final choice.

Davis' story, titled "Cats in Command," reads:

"0530 hours: Open the door to find Cmdr. Frank Sinatra and Sgt. Snog waiting. Any delay results in insistent cat scratching at door.

0800 hours: After my morning run, Sgt. Snog leads way to bathroom, where she carefully inspects shaving routine. After showering, Cmdr. Frank scrutinizes bathtub. Occasionally licks off water droplets.

0815 hours: I would think feeding them first would buy me some breathing room, but this is futile. Sgt. Snog does weaving drills between my feet as I make coffee, and Cmdr. Frank stands guard at table, ready to rid world of stray bacon or toast bits.

(Soldier's note: My wife reports no such incidents in her morning routine.)

1700 hours: Return home to find cats off duty, but my work is not done. A feather on a string doesn't fly itself, the look on their faces say.

2100 hours: Time to rest. With Frank purring and kneading my lap and Snog asleep on my feet, I know it's been all worth it."

Inmate lawsuits cost big money

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California has paid $108 million for experts and lawyers for inmates in 12 major lawsuits over a 12-year period, a state watchdog reported Thursday.

That does not include the state's own legal costs or the amount needed to fix problems that led to the class-action suits alleging violations of inmate rights, including poor medical, dental and mental health care.

The report by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's inspector general also said the state attorney general spent nearly $24 million from July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2009 defending the department against allegations that the rights of inmates were violated.

That did not include the cost of the corrections department's own staff attorneys or private attorneys hired to help defend the state.

"We're paying both sides," said corrections spokesman Oscar Hidalgo. "It's coming at a time when the state is having trouble funding most everything right now."

The state faces a $21 billion deficit next year after laying off and furloughing thousands of employees, borrowing billions of dollars and slashing funding for schools and social programs.

Hidalgo said the department is trying to limit the number of class-action lawsuits, hold down its legal costs, and persuade judges that conditions have improved so much that court monitoring is no longer needed.

"I think what the report really shows is that the state would rather pay us and the special masters and the experts our fees than fix the constitutional violations that are widespread within the system," said Don Specter, director of the Berkeley-based Prison Law Office that has filed many of the inmate lawsuits.

Of the $108 million, $66 million went to attorneys who filed class-action lawsuits on inmates' behalf. The remaining $42 million was paid for court-appointed special masters and experts who oversee improvements to the prison system.

Inmates' attorneys billed the state as much as $640 an hour.

Specter said the report neglected to note the state is paying $900 an hour to an attorney hired to fight one inmate case before to the U.S. Supreme Court.

A sampling of invoices found there might be $2.6 million in questionable costs submitted by plaintiff's attorneys for things such as staff training or travel.

Inspector General David Shaw recommended that state lawmakers cap the hourly fees of inmates' attorneys in cases filed in state court. He said the state also should do a better job of checking invoices.

"There are no indications that most of these lawsuits will end anytime soon," Shaw warned.

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Foreign adoptions by Americans hit 13-year low

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

NEW YORK The number of foreign children adopted by Americans plunged more than a quarter in the past year, reaching the lowest level since 1996 and leading adoption advocates to urge Congress to help reverse the trend.

Big declines were recorded for all three countries that provided the most adopted children in the previous fiscal year. In China and Russia, government officials have been trying to promote domestic adoptions, while in Guatemala, a once-bustling but highly corrupt international adoption industry was shut down while reforms are implemented.

Figures for fiscal year 2009, released by the State Department on Thursday, showed 12,753 adoptions from abroad, down from 17,438 in 2008 — a dip of 27 percent and nearly 45 percent lower than the all-time peak of 22,884 in 2004.

China was the No. 1 source country — but U.S. adoptions from there dropped to 3,001, compared with 3,909 in 2008. China has been steadily cutting back the numbers of healthy, well-adjusted orphans being made available for adoptions; a majority of Chinese children now available to U.S. adoptive families have special physical or emotional needs.

Guatemala was the No. 1 source country in 2008, with 4,123 adoptions by Americans. But the number sank to 756 for 2009, virtually all of them in the final few months before the Central American country's adoption industry was shut down while authorities drafted reforms. It's not known when adoptions to the U.S. will resume.

The biggest increase came from Ethiopia — 2,277 adoptions in fiscal 2009, compared with 1,725 in 2008.

Russia was No. 4 in the new listing with 1,586 adoptions, down from 1,861 in 2008.

Adoptions from Vietnam — where the industry, like Guatemala's, has been plagued by corruption allegations — dropped from to 751 to 481. The bilateral U.S.-Vietnam adoption agreement expired in September and has not been renewed.

Chuck Johnson, chief operating officer of the National Council for Adoption, said the new figures dismayed him and other advocates of international adoption.

"This drop is not a result of fewer orphans or less interest from American families in adopting children from other countries," he said. "All of us are very discouraged because we see the suffering taking place. We don't know how to fix it without the U.S. government coming alongside."

According to Johnson, the State Department considers its current adoption mandate to be assisting U.S. citizens with foreign adoption procedures and monitoring the integrity of foreign countries' adoption industries.

Johnson said he would like the mandate expanded to give the department explicit authority to encourage more international adoptions, and he suggested a first step could be made if Congress passed a proposed bill called the Families for Orphans Act.

Johnson also said all parties who have tolerated corrupt adoption practices bore some of the blame for the dwindling numbers.

"People in the practice of adoption worldwide have made ethical blunders that have cast a shadow over intercountry adoptions," he said. "It's highlighted how difficult it is for some of these countries to adequately supervise the adoption process, and led some countries to decide it's just not worth the effort."

Thomas DiFilipo, president of the Joint Council on International Children's Services, predicted the numbers for fiscal 2010 would be even lower — down to about 9,800 — if adoptions from Vietnam remained suspended by the U.S. government and China continued to cut back.

DiFilipo said he'd like to see the State Department become a more active promoter of international adoption.

"One of their primary functions is to help potential adoptive parents, when their focus should be on children in need of adoptive families," DiFilipo said. "The Families for Orphans Act would fill that void."

Adoptions of Chinese children by Americans peaked in fiscal 2005 at 7,906 and have fallen steadily since then. Some U.S. families have been waiting roughly four years for their adoption applications to be completed.

At Great Wall China Adoption, based in Austin, Texas, spokeswoman Kelly Ayoub said the agency placed nearly 1,000 children from China in 2005 and would probably place only one-fifth of that number this year.

"Of course families are frustrated by the wait," she said in an e-mail. "Families that are being matched right now have waited 45 months — an investment of time that no one expected."

Like some other agencies, Great Wall China is branching out geographically — advising families to consider Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mexico and the Philippines, among other places.

Among the Americans engaged in a long wait for an adoption from China is Steve Curtis of Millburn, N.J. He and his wife applied in October 2007 to adopt a second child as a sister to Amelia, whom they adopted from China the previous year.

"Unfortunately, we are STILL waiting, with no end in sight," Curtis said in an e-mail last week. "We're thinking of throwing in the towel but are keeping the faith."







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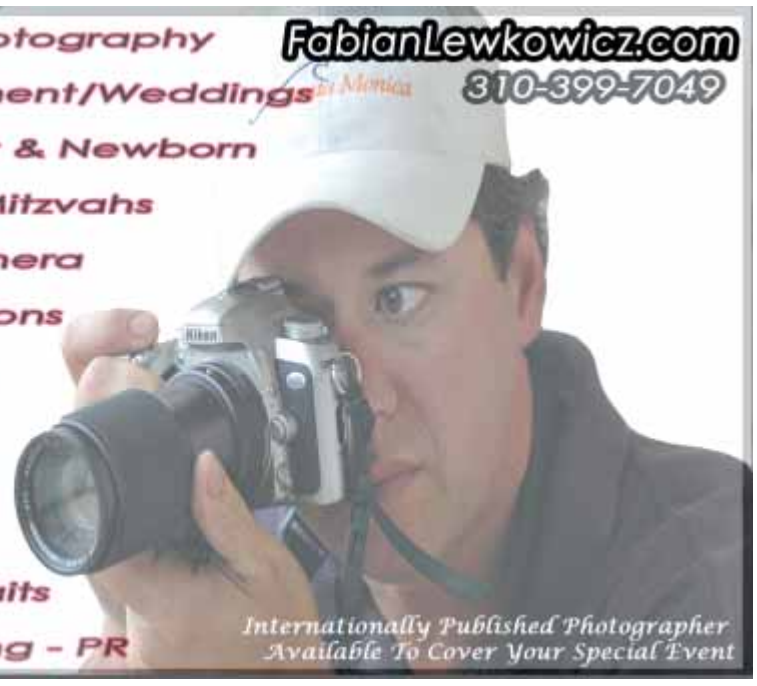
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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

EYES OPEN: **SMPD Officers Scott McGowan (left) and Michael Chun patrol the Third Street Promenade on Thursday afternoon. Cops are currently working three days a week, 12.5 hours a day.**

Officers polled support new schedule

FROM **COPS** PAGE 1

of the Police Officers Association, the union which represents the rank-and-file.

The Los Angeles Police Department moved to the 3-12 schedule in 2001, which raised concerns amongst some City Council members, including former LAPD Chief Bernard Parks, and residents who wondered whether or not fatigue would become a factor because of the long hours, leading officers to make bad decisions in the field. There was also the negative public perception that officers were working less, the average resident unaware that officers on 3-12 have to work an extra, 10-hour shift during the month to reach the appropriate number of hours per pay period.

The Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL), which represents officers, was in favor of the switch, saying that it significantly improved morale and helped retain officers considering transferring to another department. It also cut down on sick time, saving the city money.

In addition to improving morale and allowing officers to spend more time with family, the schedule helped the LAPD comply with environmental requirements, cutting back on greenhouse gas emissions because officers were not having to drive from their homes to their stations as often as before, union officials said.

A study by the city of Los Angeles in 2006 found that police were responding slower to emergency calls and overtime costs increased, and that other departments that have tried 3-12 found that their officers were less rested and effective, especially at the end of very long shifts.

Jackman said he was concerned about fatigue and hired an expert on the 3-12 schedule to develop a training program for the SMPD, encouraging officers to take better care of themselves during their days off while giving them tools to help them better manage their workload.

"It is a long day," Trisler said. "I think there were some concerns … ."

But Trisler has noticed that officers are coming to work more refreshed and energized.

"I don't think the community has suffered or we have seen any negatives as a result," Trisler said. "In the last two shootings we've had the suspects in custody right after the incident because we have had more officers on the streets."

When a switch to a 3-12 schedule is made, most community leaders are concerned about fatigue and the possibility that officers will not be as invested in the community they serve, creating a disconnect.

That hasn't happened here, Jackman and Trisler said, citing the strong, community-centric nature of the department. The SMPD also has employees who are not on patrol who specialize in community relations and are on a regular work schedule.

The change has already garnered the overwhelming support of Santa Monica officers on patrol. The union conducted a poll and 157 officers said they were in favor of it while 13 were against it, Trisler said.

If the switch is made permanent, Trisler said the union would like some type of "sunset clause" to reevaluate it further to make sure it is working as intended.

"We see this as a win-win situation," Trisler said. "There is no cost other than a cost reduction for the city and for the department."

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Pub crawl to benefit food bank

FROM PUB PAGE 3

King's Head Pub, among others.

Kim Koury, of Spin Public Relations, one of the groups sponsoring the event (along with the Santa Monica Daily Press), says she and her friend, Rebecca Turk, a fellow publicist, came up with the idea about seven weeks ago.

"We literally just woke up one morning with the idea to do a pub crawl," Koury said. "We were wondering, 'Why didn't anyone think of this before?'"

The pair started making phone calls, and now, almost two months later, 17 bars and restaurants have signed up, and at least 500 people plan on participating, said Koury.

The event "is a big awareness-raising campaign," said Genevieve Riutort, development director for the Westside Food Bank. Started in 1981, the food bank distributes nearly 4 million pounds of food annually to 65 Westside social service agencies, aiding food assistance programs and reducing food waste in the Westside.

"We are looking to reach out to a younger demographic to let people know we are the food bank for this city while raising our profile in the community," Riutort said.

A portion of the restaurants' proceeds for the evening will go to the food bank, in addition to the food items and sales from pub crawl T-shirts and Santa hats, Koury said.

Koury also notes the importance of the event being held in Santa Monica.

"Santa Monica is a city where you can go to multiple bars in one night without having to take a taxi like you do in Downtown Los Angeles or in other places," she said. "With all the bars and restaurants opening up, we wanted to make Santa Monica a nightlife destination, while supporting the [food bank]."

> "ANYTHING FOR A PINT AND A GOOD CAUSE!"
>
> **Peter Dolan**
> general manager of Ye Olde King's Head Pub

Peter Dolan, general manager of Ye Olde King's Head Pub, was thrilled when he was asked to participate.

"It's a very English thing to do a pub crawl," said Dolan, who manages the popular establishment that calls itself "an Ambassador to all things British." When asked if he would consider doing the crawl again next year, Dolan replied, "Absolutely. Anything for a pint and a good cause!"

Koury said the goal is to make the crawl a yearly holiday tradition for Santa Monica.

Participants will be given one of three different crawl routes to follow and will spend between 45 to 60 minutes at each location before moving on. Everyone is asked to dress up in their best holiday garb in an effort to spread joy and cheer throughout the city. The event encourages patronage at the participating bars and restaurants and emphasizes responsible drinking at all times.

For more information about the event, visit www.santamonicapubcrawl.com.

news@smdp.com

Time running out to compete for funds

FROM BILL PAGE 3

many legislators torn between interest groups.

The bill passed the Senate on a bipartisan 21-7 vote.

The Senate Education Committee approved the bill earlier Thursday after a contentious 3-hour hearing in which fellow Democrats badgered her over details they said were missing, and interest groups complained the legislation was drafted too hastily.

The bill is California's latest attempt at making California eligible for the federal "Race to the Top" program, in which California could get up to $700 million for school reforms in a competition with other states.

An Assembly committee failed to pass Romero's previous legislation, which Schwarzenegger supported, after the powerful California Teachers Association and other groups lobbied against it. It instead passed legislation by Assemblywoman Julia Brownley, D-Santa Monica, which she revoked Thursday morning.

The proposed changes released Thursday retain several controversial elements, including allowing parents to petition to close or drastically revamp a badly failing school and allowing them to transfer children out of a failing school to another district.

School districts have serious concerns about how that would work and whether they would end up bearing the cost of taking on new students. Education groups that advocate on behalf of minority children worry that without strong language preventing it, school districts could reject poor or special needs students who would cost more to educate.

The legislation also would spell out consequences for identifying and intervening in around 180 chronically failing California schools, Steinberg said.

California's education system was once considered a national model that bred a generation of scientists and entrepreneurs, but the state has fallen to near the bottom among states in school funding and academics, earning a D in academic achievement this year from Education Week magazine's annual national schools survey. Students perform below the national average on nearly all measures, with black, Hispanic and poor children faring worst.

Romero removed another school reform element that proved too controversial: removing California's cap on the number of charter schools that can operate.

Despite the bill's passage Thursday, the state faces a tight timeline to enter the competition for federal funds. Applications are due Jan. 19 and the legislation still needs approval from the state Assembly, which is unlikely to meet again until the new year. In seeking votes, Romero also promised to bring the bill back to Senate committees after amendments are made, adding to the anticipated time crunch.

Romero acknowledged there were gaps in the legislation, but she told lawmakers she is confident compromise can still be reached; she reminded them that President Barack Obama has called for a fundamental change in how states deal with the worst-of-the-worst schools.

Obama announced Race to the Top in August, and Schwarzenegger called a special session of the state Legislature shortly afterward.

"We have delayed. We have waited. The clock has ticked," Romero said. "The nation's not waiting."

New facility better for ambulance drop-offs

FROM ER PAGE 1

"Over at the old facility, parking is just really a nightmare over there for ambulances trying to deliver patients," Furrows said.

The new building, he added, is "just going to be a great enhancement over an existing service."

The emergency room itself is also a step up.

Every bed in the new ER will have access to an EKG machine — something that some beds lacked in the old facility, Furrows said. The better equipment combined with a superior floor plan will make it easier for paramedics to get in and out of the hospital's emergency care area, he said.

"There's a national trend where emergency rooms are busier places than ever before," he said, which puts a premium on efficiency. "I think our patient flows are going to be a whole lot better with this new facility."

> "I THINK OUR PATIENT FLOWS ARE GOING TO BE A WHOLE LOT BETTER WITH THIS NEW FACILITY."
>
> **Jeff Furrows**
> paramedic coordinator, Santa Monica Fire Department

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City of Santa Monica

DATE/TIME: December 21, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB09-301, 125 Ocean Park Boulevard: Residential
- ARB09-483, 1217 Sixteenth Street: Medical
- ARB09-485, 3130 Wilshire Boulevard: Commercial
- ARB09-548, 395 Santa Monica Place: Retail
- ARB09-568, 430 Pico Boulevard: Residential
- ARB09-576, 1251 Fourth Street: Retail
- ARB09-586, 1814 Twelfth Street: Residential

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12424 Wilshire Blvd.
West Los Angeles
310.820.4400

888.433.4CSB (4272) • capitalsourcebank.com

CapitalSource Bank is not affiliated with the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition. SMDP - 12.16/12.18 - 09

Member FDIC

MUSM: miss you so much
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life
HDOP: help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council

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

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 60°

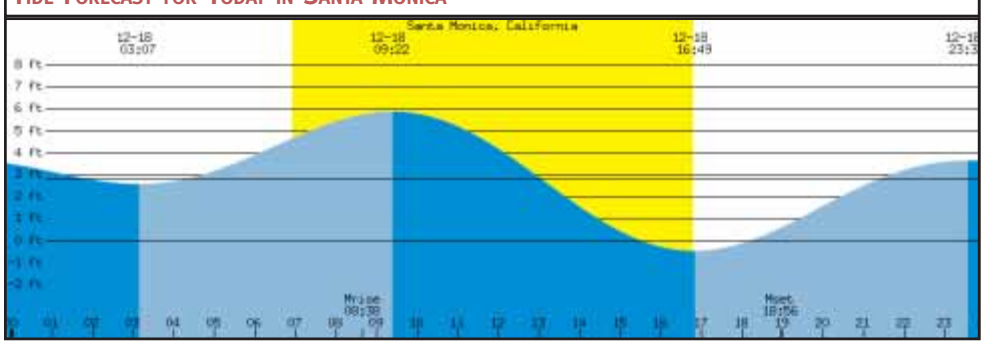
Swell Forecast

NW swell should back down, but it looks like we're still be in for at least head high surf around west facing breaks, and chest high waves at direct south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks smaller, perhaps chest high for west facing breaks, and waist high or so for direct south facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **December 9, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 3
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 25
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 17

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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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.

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

MLB

Free agent Jamey Carroll headed to Dodgers

BY BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES The Dodgers have reached preliminary agreement with free agent Jamey Carroll on a $3.85 million, two-year contract.

Carroll's agent, Jonathan Maurer, confirmed the deal Thursday, with the second baseman expected to undergo a physical in the next few days.

Maurer said the deal includes incentives up to $525,000 a year based on at least 275 plate appearances.

Carroll played the last two seasons in Cleveland, which offered him a two-year deal, along with Oakland and the Dodgers, Maurer said. The Indians were eliminated first.

Although Oakland offered more money and playing time, Maurer said Carroll wanted to play for Dodgers manager Joe Torre and coach Don Mattingly, who is from Carroll's hometown of Evansville, Ind.

The Dodgers have penciled in Blake DeWitt as the starting second baseman.

"Jamey has said he looks to partner with Blake DeWitt and form a tremendous 1-2 punch at second base to help this team get back to the playoffs," Maurer said.

Carroll could also spell Rafael Furcal at shortstop and Casey Blake at third base.

Infielders Doug Mientkiewicz and Angel Berroa, and pitcher Josh Towers were among nine players who agreed to minor league contracts.

The 36-year-old Mientkiewicz dislocated his right shoulder while sliding into second base for a double on April 16, went on the disabled list and wasn't activated by the Dodgers until Sept. 2. He was just 6 for 18 with three RBIs last season.

Berroa, who turns 32 next month, hit .148 with two RBIs in 27 at-bats for the New York Mets last season. If added to the 40-man roster, he would get a split contract calling for salaries of $600,000 in the majors and $81,000 in the minors.

Towers, a 32-year-old right-hander, had no record and a 3.38 ERA in two relief appearances for the Yankees this year. He would get $700,000 in the majors and $100,000 in minors if added to the 40-man roster.

Los Angeles also agreed to minor league contracts with right-handers Luis Ayala, Francisco Felix, Justin Miller and Juan Perez; first baseman John Lindsey; and outfielder Prentice Redman.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Big Ten and Rose Bowl relations

RUSTY MILLER
AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio Up until 1975, there was the Rose Bowl and nothing else for Big Ten teams.

The conference champion — or, in the case of one infamous tie, the team selected as its representative — was the only fortunate squad that did not pack up its equipment in late November and try to hibernate through a long, cold winter in the Midwest.

"When I got (to the Rose Bowl) my senior year, I was very thankful," former Buckeyes and NFL offensive lineman Jim Lachey said of his trip in 1984. "I was glad I got a chance to go to the Rose Bowl because there were some guys who didn't get that opportunity who played before me."

From 1901, when Michigan beat Stanford 49-0, to 1974, when Southern California edged Ohio State 18-17, no Big Ten team played in any bowl game other than the Rose. A lot of very good teams who had come up short by a yard or a point had to stay home and listen on the radio or watch on television while another team went to the land of movie stars, palm trees and Disneyland.

A case in point is the 1973 Michigan team which went 10-0-1, outscored opponents 330-68 and was in the top five in the rankings all year — but tied Ohio State 10-10 in the regular-season finale. In a 6-4 vote by the Big Ten's athletic directors a day later, the rival Buckeyes and coach Woody Hayes received the conference's lone bowl bid and went to Pasadena.

Michigan coach Bo Schembechler, an Ohio native and former Hayes lieutenant at Ohio State, never got over the slight.

"It was the greatest disappointment of my career. Everybody, including Woody Hayes, congratulated me after the game and said, 'Oh, you'll do a great job in the Rose Bowl' and all that," a still angry Schembechler said four days before he died in 2006. "It was strictly a political thing. The whole thing upset me to no end. I think that team, that 1973 team, is the reason that (the Big Ten is) playing in other bowls today."

The Big Ten voted to change its rules in 1975. More than three decades later, any team finishing .500 or better is eligible to go to a bowl. With that, and the arrival of the Bowl Championship Series, the Rose may have lost some of its luster. But make no mistake, it's still a prime destination for Big Ten teams.

Lachey's Rose Bowl was also the only time that current Ohio State coach Jim Tressel ever made it to the Granddaddy of all Bowl Games. Tressel was an assistant under Earle Bruce in 1984, coaching the running backs and quarterbacks.

To return to Pasadena is a step back in time for Tressel.

"It's something that if you coach in the Big Ten or the Pac-10, it's certainly in front of you every day," he said this week during preparations for his Buckeyes' New Year's Day game against Oregon. "It's a goal that you want to be a part of the Rose Bowl.

"Would there be something missing if you never got to go? I guess so."

Tressel's father was a Hall of Fame head coach at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. Lee Tressel's life revolved around coaching.

After a season had ended and their dad was around the house more, the three Tressel sons relished the time spent with their dad. One of their favorite days of the year was New Year's Day, because they knew their father would want to watch the Rose Bowl and the rest of the college football lineup. It was a special day.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature
A Christmas Story (PG) 1hr 34min
Remember the Night (NA) 1hr 34min
7:30 p.m.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

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

The Hurt Locker (R) 2hrs 10 min
1:40, 7:30

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min
10:15 a.m., 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35

The Messenger (R) 1hr 45min
11:00 a.m., 4:45, 10:30

Ninja Assassin (R) 1hr 39 min
10:20 a.m., 12:40, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15

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

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min
12:10, 2:20, 4:50

Ninja Assassin (R) 1hr 39min
12:30, 2:55, 5:15

Brothers (R) 1hr 50min
2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55

Princess and the Frog (G) 1hr 35min
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

Princess and the Frog (G): Closed Captions 1hr 35min
1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

Up in the Air (R) 1hr 49min
12:20, 1:45, 2:50, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:50

Avatar 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 40min
10:30 a.m., 11:30am, 2:15, 3:15, 6:00, 7:00pm, 9:45, 10:45

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

Precious (R) 1hr 59min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

The Road (R) 2hr 7min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Punctured Hope (NR) 1hr 46min
4:30, 9:40

Home (NR) 1hr 53min
1:30, 7:10

An Education (PG13) 1hr 55min
1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

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

The Blind Side (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
1:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30, 10:20

Planet 51 (PG) 1hr 31min
12:40, 3:00

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

Armored (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50

Invictus (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
1:00, 2:00, 4:05, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00

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

Be with friends, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Finally, you are able to clarify a situation with the boss. You might be surprised by what is shared. The unexpected occurs within your immediate circle. You are full of energy as the workday ends. A family member could push you too hard. Tonight: A must do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You might be thinking about new possibilities. The issue might be that you aren't getting anything done. Stop. Anchor. Try to get out of work early since your heart (and mind) really isn't there. A friend could surprise you. Tonight: Take in new vistas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Relate directly to a partner or various associates. You'll get a lot done if you stay focused on one issue at a time. Finally, someone opens up and is able to share more and get down to basics. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Defer to someone who is more verbal and carries a sense of authority. Relax and take care of what needs to be handled directly. Others come up with great ideas out of the blue. Tonight: Just don't start the weekend alone!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ How you project yourself could be quite different from your usual self. Others respond with a lot more information than in the past. A steady and even approach has enormous impact. Examine what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: Join co-workers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your imagination knows no limits. Evaluate and consider your options with greater care and direction. The unexpected runs wild, and you have little opportunity to follow through on the unnecessary. Tonight: Do it. Let your hair down and play the night away.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Your focus needs to be on home and family. If possible, take a personal day. The unexpected could make you more nervous or high-strung than necessary. How you handle someone changes rapidly. Tonight: Head home, maybe invite a friend over.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Open your eyes to what is going on around you. Honor what is happening between you and another person. Finally, the lines of communication are open. A child or potential new loved one could surprise you. Tonight: Start the weekend as you would most like.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ Knowing when to slow down and say little might be more important than you realize. A family member knows how to shake up the status quo. Discuss a financial matter more openly. If you need to, find an expert. Tonight: Your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might not notice, but others discover a newfound clarity when speaking to you. You could be surprised by someone's attitude and how rapidly everything changes in your interpersonal bonds. Tonight: Choose a favorite person to celebrate Friday night with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★ Take a much-needed day of rest. You could question how much more you can put up with. If you can skip out of work early, please do. Think positively about an upcoming change. Tonight: Head home. You need some R and R.

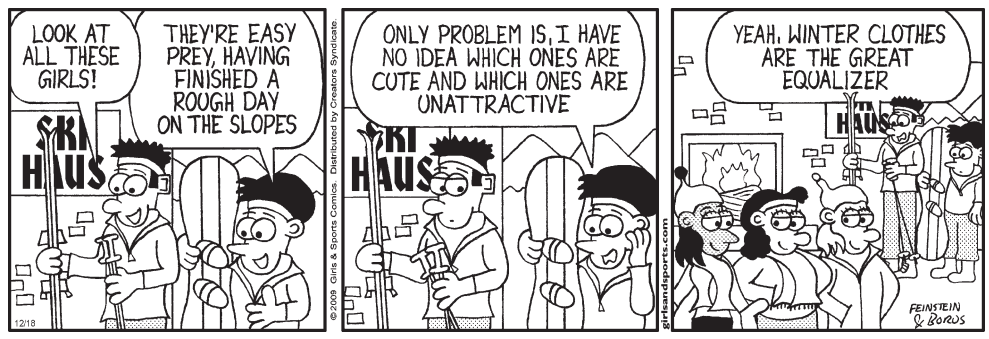
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Encourage others to visualize more. A meeting could be more instrumental than you originally thought. Though at times others distance themselves from you because of your quirkiness, they find your surprising ways fun. Tonight: Where your friends are.

Happy birthday

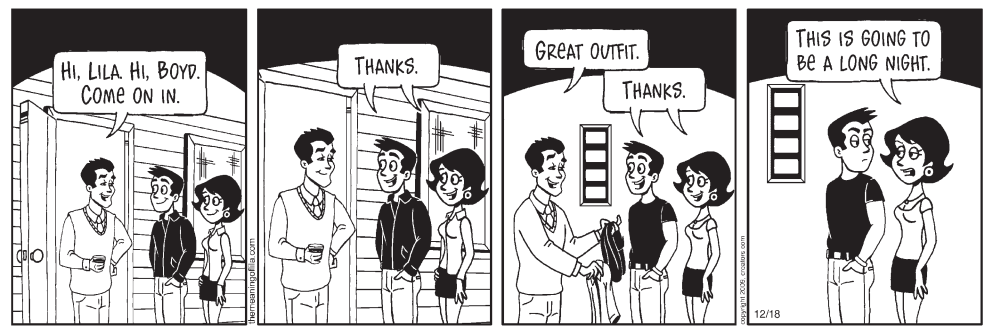
This year, you have a unique opportunity to express some of your ideas. For some, your concepts might feel a bit revolutionary. Many people find you to be exciting. The status quo could rapidly change, especially involving your home, domestic life and family. Don't automatically assume it is for the worse! You could opt to take a class or increase your knowledge in your field. If you are single, you'll draw your fair share of admirers. The real issue is choosing the right person. If you are attached, the two of you might make a major purchase that will improve your bond. CAPRICORN understands money differently than you. Learn from the Goat.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



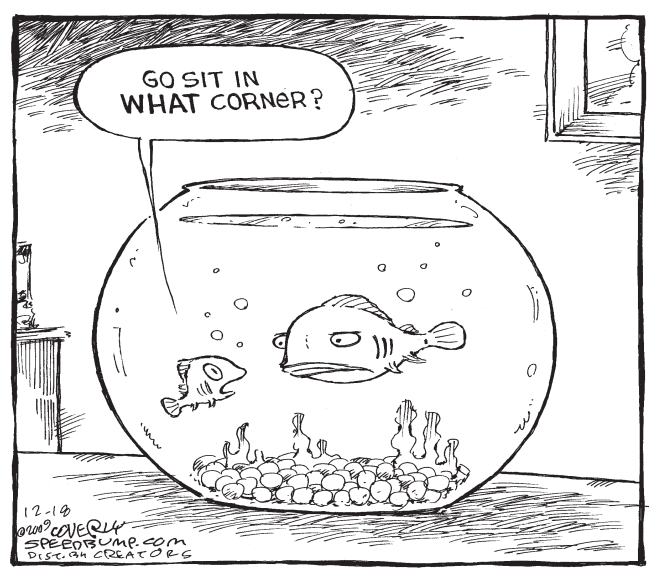
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394 -9871
1527 4th St.
Santa Monica, CA

Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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PS2822 11/04



MYSTERY PHOTO

Leslie Thomas *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Planted
6 Yakked it up
11 Jiffy
12 Flared dress
13 Talked at length
14 Pound parts
15 Goal
16 Son-gun connection
18 Monk's title
19 Big head
20 Breath mint holder
21 Smelter's supply
22 Plate metal
24 Had obligations
25 Creator of the Grinch
27 Fearful
29 Country music?
32 Hydrocarbon suffix
33 NBC show since 1975
34 Flamenco call
35 TV spots
36 Pigged out
37 Crony
38 Out of bed
40 Easy —
42 Sneaker feature
43 Play part
44 Bess's husband
45 Takes on

DOWN

1 "Silkwood" star
2 Grove product
3 Store worker
4 Green prefix
5 Signifies
6 Godzilla's home
7 Hearty brew
8 Store passerby
9 Concert bonus
10 Considered
17 Stinging insect
23 Number after due
24 East, in Berlin
26 Set free
27 Shortage
28 Rajiv Gandhi's mother
30 Broadway's Stritch
31 Scuffles
33 Yellow-gray
39 Corn unit
41 Geol. or chem.

E	A	G	L	E	■	S	L	O	O	P
T	I	R	E	D	■	W	A	L	D	O
A	M	E	N	D	■	I	N	D	E	X
■	■	Y	O	Y	O	M	A	■	■	■
A	L	G	■	I	N	S	■	G	A	B
N	E	E	D	N	T	■	A	R	N	O
G	R	E	Y	G	A	R	D	E	N	S
L	O	S	S	■	R	E	D	Y	E	S
E	Y	E	■	K	I	D	■	H	E	Y
■	■	■	B	O	O	H	O	O	■	■
D	E	B	R	A	■	E	R	U	P	T
A	V	A	I	L	■	A	S	N	E	R
Y	E	N	T	A	■	D	O	D	G	Y

Yesterday's answer

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

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

12-18

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 27 31 32 36 47
Meganumber: 35
Jackpot: $140M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 18 19 31 41
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: $44M

Fantasy 5: 9 10 14 15 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 4 0 7
EVENING: 9 2 5

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.45.56

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ When the DRP party candidate for president of Mexico City's most populous borough lost in the primary this year, party officials hatched a plot to elevate a street peddler, "Juanito" Angeles, to run in the general election, with the "understanding" that he would step aside if victorious, in favor of the original candidate, Clara Brugada. Helped by his "everyman" image (according to a New York Times dispatch), Angeles won the election. However, his sudden power and celebrity apparently went to his head, and he refused to relinquish the presidency. (He finally agreed, in September, but only after receiving concessions from the party.)

■ Florida Democracy in Action: (1) When a Broward County Republican club held its scheduled meeting in October at a local gun range (according to a South Florida Sun-Sentinel report), among the shooters was the congressional candidate trying to unseat the Democratic incumbent, and on his target as he fired away, someone had written the Democrat's initials. (2) Also in Broward County in October, the father (a Democrat) of County Mayor Stacy Ritter was arrested and charged with threatening his daughter at gunpoint. The father is running for mayor of Tamarac and was upset that his daughter had endorsed his opponent.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1898 Gaston de Chasseloup-Laubat sets the new land speed record going 39.245 mph (63.159 km/h), in a Jeantaud electric car. This is the first recognized land speed record.

1900 The Upper Ferntree Gully to Gembrook Narrow-gauge (2 ft 6 in or 762 mm) Railway (now the Puffing Billy Railway) in Victoria, Australia is opened for traffic.

1912 The Piltdown Man, later discovered to be a hoax, is found in the Piltdown Gravel Pit, by Charles Dawson.

1915 U.S. President Woodrow Wilson marries Edith Bolling Galt Wilson.

1956 Japan joins the United Nations.

WORD UP!

paroxysm \PAIR-uhk-siz-uhm\ , noun; 1. (Medicine) A sudden attack, intensification, or recurrence of a disease.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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1244 Euclid 2+1 upper unit #10 stove, fridge, marble bathroom floors, carpets blinds, free standing balcony, parking, pets OK with deposit .$1675/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

1248 11TH st.unit A 2bdrm/1 1/2bath, lower carpet stove, blinds, laundry, vinyl flooring, balcony parking, no pets.on site manager $1625.(310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

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

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1037 5th St. #6 North of Wilshire 2+2 Recently refurbished $2395

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Culver City 4058 LaSalle Unit B lower duplex unit 1bdrm/1bath, hardwood floors, ceiling fan, breakfast nook, washer/dryer stove, fridge, parking, no pets. $1599/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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1+1, st, hdwd, pkg, lwr **$1100**
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2+1, st, -fns, w/d hkp **$1400**
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WEST L.A.
1920 Manning Ave #6
2+1_ , st, fr, hdwd **$1500**
3024-C Exposition Blvd
2+1, st, fr, new kitchen & cpt, 1-car gar **$1600**
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Bach, sm, fr, htpl, ldry, separate bath **$775**
1766_ Malcolm Ave
Sgl, st, fr, pkg, cpt, ldry **$800**
1766 Malcolm Ave
2+1, st, fr, cpt, pkg-1, ldry **$1500**
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L.A. 1523 Holt Ave unit 1+1 large lower unit stove, fridge, hardwood, parking, cat OK with deposit, $1125, $500 off move-in (310) 578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

L.A. GROVE area 428 N Orange Grove unit 101 1+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile bathroom separate tub/shower hardwood/ vinyl floors, on-site laundry no pets $1175/mo $700 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 213, Single stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, tiling, flooring, granite counter tops, with utilities, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. $895/mo (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA 3976 Inglewood Blvd. , 2+2 lower $1375/Mo stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA near Marina. Quiet area $1000/mo 1bd+den 1ba, carpet, blinds, stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking, no pets. 310-456-5659.

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 1 2+2 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1375/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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MV/MDR adj.$1100 one bedroom upper appliances, new carpet, private balcony, laundry, parking, free month with one year lease
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PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave #1 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1375/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091707402 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as WICKED LA PHOTOGRAPHY, 12451 1/2 SHORT AVE, LA, CA 90066. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : RANISH PRAKASH, 12451 1/2 SHORT AVE, LA, CA 90066 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/10/2009. /s/: RANISH PRAKASH
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/12/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/11/2009, 12/18/2009, 12/25/2009, 1/1/2010

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