FREE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2001

Volume 1, Issue 35

Santa Monica Daily Press

Serving Santa Monica for the past 41 days



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Greg Henkey lures seagulls onto the Santa Monica Pier. He strategically places food on the railing so the birds will flock to him for the perfect picture.

Party politics: Round two

Politics displays philosophical differences on Santa Monica City Council

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica city councilman has defended his political party's hold on power and says he's outraged by claims the council is politically lopsided.

Councilman Kevin McKeown, one of five councilmembers who belong to Santa Monicans for Renters Rights, said SMRR is a true grassroots group and its members weren't elected because of undue spending.

McKeown is disputing two fellow councilmembers, Bob Holbrook and Herb Katz, who sounded off in the Daily Press last week. They insisted that the five SMRR councilmembers are governing without listening enough to residents. That's why they and 25 of their backers have formed a new citizen's group called Santa Monicans for Responsive Government. The two councilmen also said the council is out of balance because the five of seven councilmembers belonging to SMRR are backed by deep pockets. They also claim the political party doesn't fairly represent the community.

But McKeown, in contesting that assessment, said SMRR is a movement that was born from community activism.

"The accusation that we are out of touch with this community is maddening to me," he said. "Santa Monicans for Renters Rights has almost 6,000 residents on its membership list, not 25, and was supported this past year by over 3,600 small individual donations.

"The accusation that we are out of touch with this community is maddening to me."

— KEVIN McKEOWN
Santa Monica city councilman

"SMRR's agenda is the agenda of the hundreds of residents who have helped write the SMRR platform over the past 22 years," he continued. "Affordable housing, excellent edu-

See POLITICS, page 3

Virginia Park just got bigger

BY CLAUDIA HIBBERT
Special to the Daily Press

Yes, Virginia, there will be a bigger park on the east side of Santa Monica.

The city planning commission approved earlier this week a proposal for a 3.7-acre expansion of Virginia Avenue Park after hearing three hours of debate from several residents who said the park is being turned into a parking lot.

"All of the issues we raised, they completely ignored, dismissed or didn't even discuss."

— DUKE KELSO
Neighbor

"It was stunning — a slam dunk," said Duke Kelso, who has lived in the area since 1985. "All of the issues we raised, they completely ignored, dismissed or didn't even discuss."

The proposed expansion includes additional parking, new basketball courts, field areas, a wading pool with restrooms, a changing area and storage space, as well as the renovation of two commercial buildings for office space.

"It was determined through the community process that there was a need to unstuff the Thelma Terry community center," said Karen Ginsberg, assistant director of community and cultural services, which coordinates the city's parks and community programs divisions.

Planning commissioners approved the proposal on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Arlene Hopkins did not attend the meeting. The Santa Monica City Council is expected to vote on the issue Jan. 12.

The park has been the subject of debate since the city started purchasing parcels next to the site in the mid-1980s. Some residents have objected to proposals they thought would bring too much noise and traffic to the area.

Ginsberg said the city answered those concerns in the plan. City staff add that the expansion would better incorporate the farmer's market into the park.

The park's campus at Pico and Cloverfield boulevards will be 9.5 acres once completed. It will quadruple its 42 parking spaces, which prompted vehement debate from about 15 people who attended the meeting to protest.

See PARK, page 3

ATM spits out free cash

By the Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — For holiday shoppers with dwindling funds, it must have seemed like a Christmas miracle — an automated teller machine spewing free cash by the fistful.

The malfunctioning ATM at a Green Bay mall gave extra money to any takers, said police Lt. Bill Galvin.

Two women using the machine notified police Sunday when they got more cash than they requested — in the case of one of the women, $500 more. Both turned the extra cash over to police.

An officer stood guard at the machine until its owner, US Bank, could dispatch a technician. When the technician arrived, the ATM was down to its last $100, Galvin said.

Police asked anyone who got extra cash from the machine in the East Town Mall to hand it over the Green Bay Police. He added that the machine records all transactions and has surveillance cameras.

$1 Santa Monica Daily Press $1
$1 a day Classifieds
Advertise with the only daily game in town!
Call 310.458.PRESS (7737) x101
$1 $1

ANN PILCHER
TRAINING
PERSONALIZED FITNESS
310.281.6808

TENZER
Commerical Brokerage Group, Inc.
1334 Third Street Promenade, Suite 306
Santa Monica, California 90401
Tel: (310) 935-8383 • FAX (310) 395-7872

HOROSCOPE

Tonight it's your treat, 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)
★★★★ Take it easy until the afternoon, when you experience an energy surge. Others might not be as "rammy" as you, so indulge those who have less va-voom. Clear out errands, start dropping off some thoughtful gifts to others. Play Santa to the hilt! Tonight: You smile and so do others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might be caught up in the holiday whirlwind. Stop! Take a breath. Do something just for you, whether it's taking a nap or vegging out. Others understand that even you need dream time. A partner nudges you. He or she wants attention. Tonight: Play it low-key, if you can.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Call a difficult older relative in the morning. You see the holidays as a special time for sharing. You don't need to justify your social nature. Play elf or Santa to your heart's content. Wherever you are, a natural party seems to break out. Tonight: Indulge a jealous loved one. This person really values you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You cannot put off a long distance call anymore. Reach out for someone and catch up on his or her news. Your sense of humor emerges when dealing with someone you put on a pedestal. Don't worry about judgments, just clear out last minute errands. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You might be cornered this morning. Be good-natured and do what you have to do. Ease up when dealing with those at a distance who aren't as playful as you. Reach out for others, wishing them special holiday happiness. You might get a bah-humbug here and there. Tonight: Listen to Christmas music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Refuse to react to someone's mood. A parent or someone you answer to could have a bad case of the "grumps." Deal with this person on a one-on-one level. Remember to check in with other friends that you might not see in the next few days. Tonight: Find the mistletoe.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Finish off an errand or two. Others push their limits, turning your mood from sunshine to stormy. Get some exercise or do something stress busting. Go along with plans. Popularity soars when you slow down and relax. Accept an offer. Tonight: Don't worry if you're up late.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Friskiness backfires. You might need to indulge someone and let him or her know just how special he or she is. You make peace, but achieving this state could take the whole day. Promise, ultimately it's worth it. Don't let the gap widen. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Clear out personal matters or domestic issues in the morning. You're hot energy comes out inadvertently with a partner. Why not go for a jog? Alleviate pressure and direct your energy to a more fun and lively activity. Play away. Tonight: Under the mistletoe.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Your efforts appear to blow up in your face. Could someone be on the warpath? Or are you giving off odd energy? Slow down and stay close to home. Get into a project and relax. When you emerge more at ease, you'll calm down the uproar. Tonight: Build a fire.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Balance your checkbook this morning, before you take off. You want to complete errands, though you visit with several friends over hot cider or a favorite drink. Catch up on last-minute holiday news before you head home. Keep a secret! Tonight: Keep plans, if you can.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You might have had enough of all the holiday celebration. Fireworks could explode if you don't restrain yourself. Expenses go over your limits, adding to a pending bah-humbug mood. Let go and relax. Talk to a friend, who shares a suggestion. Tonight: Your treat.

WEATHER

Today ... Partly cloudy with a high 60°F. Winds from the North northwest at 6mph.

Tonight ... Clear with a low of 43°F. Winds from the North northwest at 3mph.

Tomorrow ... Sunny High—63°F Low—42°F

QUOTE of the DAY

"I would have made a good pope."

— Richard M. Nixon

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
530 Wilshire Blvd., Suite #200 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa . . . . . ext. 104
EDITOR
Carolyn Sackariason . . . . . ext. 102
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Del Pastrana ext.106
CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
Angela Downen . . . . . ext. 101
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Steve Kenedy . . . . . ext. 105
TEST SUBJECT
Dave Danforth . . . . . ext. 103

STATE

'We don't blacklist artists,' Recording Academy says

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The people who put on the Grammys strive to bring the public the "freshest show" possible, but they don't blacklist performers who appear on the rival American Music Awards, the recording academy's president said.

In a lawsuit filed Wednesday, Dick Clark accused the president of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences of blacklisting performers who appear on his American Music Awards. The action seeks $10 million in damages and a halt to the practice.

"We have a pact with the public and that pact, as far as I am concerned, is that we are going to give you the best artists," the academy's president, Michael Greene, told the syndicated television show Access Hollywood on Thursday. "We spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on these artists, and we are going to give you the freshest show that you can see."

But, Greene added, the academy would never blacklist a performer who goes on the rival show.

"I guess the only thing about Dick's publicity stunt-lawsuit today that irritates me is characterizing it as some blacklist," he said. "We don't have a blacklist."

Clark accused Greene of persuading Michael Jackson to break a promise to appear on his Jan. 9 show next year and preventing Britney Spears from appearing previously. Greene also banned Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Toni Braxton from performing on the Grammys after they appeared on his show, Clark said.

Greene said he never tampered with Jackson or any other artist, though he indicated it is up to them to decide which show they want to appear on.

"If you take Michael Jackson or any of the other acts that he references, you have to remember they have to make a decision," he said. "It's a very simple decision."

He added that the Grammy show only has time to showcase 14 performers out of some 500 nominees, and wants to make sure it gives the public the best show possible.

"Think about it, 500 nominees and we can only perform 14 of them," he said. "Why on Earth would we ever even think about taking something that had been on television a few weeks earlier and spending a couple hundred thousand dollars on a production number for them? It's just not good television."

Former officer suspected in robbery dressed as Santa

By the Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A former San Diego police officer was arrested after he allegedly robbed a bank dressed as Santa, police said Friday.

Rudolph Basha, a police officer for seven years before he was fired in 1994 for drug use, was being held in a federal detention center, facing charges of bank robbery.

Basha, 36, of San Diego, allegedly entered a Union Bank of California branch in a Ralph's supermarket about 5:30 p.m. Thursday. He threatened the clerk to hand over money and fled on foot with a bag of money, police said. No weapon was displayed.

Police said Basha was wearing a red Santa's hat and fake white beard and street clothes.

A security guard chased the robber and told police he saw the suspect toss the beard and hat as he ran.

The guard lost sight of the suspect a block away around the area of a nearby freeway, but a police helicopter later spotted Basha emerging from bushes in the area. Witnesses identified him as the robber, police said.

Basha served on the police force from December 1986 through August 1994, said police spokesman David Cohen.

While working in 1993 for the Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or DARE unit, preaching anti-drug messages to children, Basha tested positive for methamphetamine in a random drug test. He became the second San Diego police officer ever fired for failing a drug test.

Early Bird Specials
4 pm - 7 pm
$9.95
*Salmon • *Grilled Shrimp
*Catch of the Day • Shrimp Pasta
*with rice, potatoes, coleslaw
Sorry, cannot be combined with coupons or other offers
1220 3rd St. Promenade
Santa Monica
310.395.5538
REEL INN
FRESH FISH MARKET & RESTAURANT

Park plan still needs approval by city council

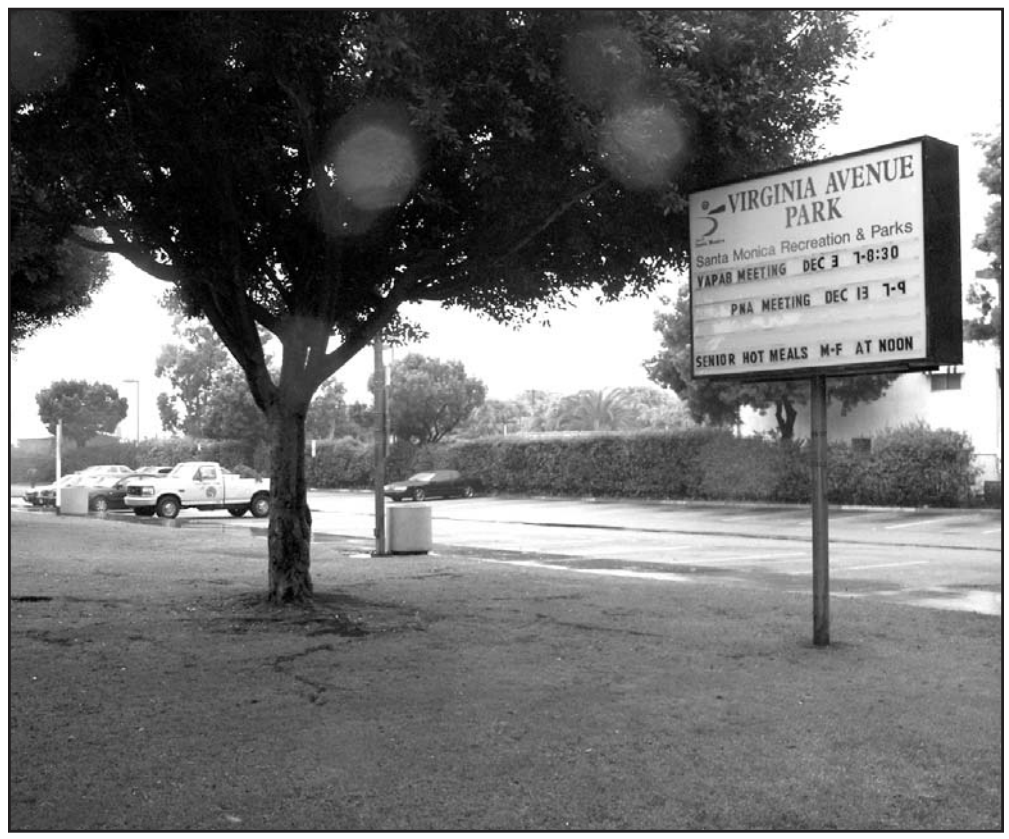
PARK, from page 1

"What we really desperately need and what is invaluable and irreplaceable is open park space — green," Kelso said. "That's what you can't get back. It's not open park anymore where your kids can go out and throw Frisbees.

"What you've got here is local residents who have waited 14 years while the city has spent over $12 million with vacant land that's been languishing out there, roped off and fenced off except for farmer's market use."

Expansion plans also call for 119 additional parking spaces for daily use and 69 overflow spaces during the park's weekly farmer's market and special events. The three acres now making up the area for the farmer's market will be converted to green space. The farmer's market will move south to a pavilion area.

"The park needed approximately 100 spaces to operate," Ginsberg said. "The alternative would be to not provide that parking, and the cars would end up in the neighborhood streets. There were just as many people concerned about that."



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

The planning commission voted this week to expand Virginia Park. Residents in the area are upset that part of the expansion includes a larger parking lot.

Campaign season has begun

POLITICS, from page 1

cation, environmental issues, neighborhoods and quality of life are important to all of us who live in Santa Monica."

Mayor Michael Feinstein, a SMRR member, said his party is one of the most representative political groups in Santa Monica. It limits donations to $250 or less. The policy enables SMRR to raise significant amounts of money for its candidates and remain accountable to its constituents, Feinstein said.

"It would be different if this SMRR was five or 10 people putting in $25,000 each but this is much different," Feinstein said. "Together they have turned around the developer's monopoly on the council and fought to improve residents' quality of life in Santa Monica. Residents prefer a council that strongly controls growth instead of letting development run rampant. Voting preferences of this community is what gives us the make up of the city council. That's how democracy is supposed to work."

Holbrook and Katz, the dissenters, have claimed their new neighborhood group isn't political and won't be endorsing candidates for next year's election. But critics discount the remarks, noting that these types of movements and comments always seem to get the engines revving for the upcoming campaigns.

"This is the beginning of campaign 2002," said Councilwoman Pam O'Connor, a member of SMRR.

She added that there are plenty of issues that all seven councilmembers agree upon and that the seven on council aren't as divided as some would have citizens believe. O'Connor said there have been many votes that have come down 4-3, as well as unanimous. However, she noted that she and the other SMRR-backed councilmembers are more "sympathetic" to certain issues. She said it was unfair to categorize them, however.

"People always want to reduce it to the lowest common denominator," she said.

McKeown agrees.

"It's easy to ask provocative questions on issues we all know are vexing. But the real public service is in working together to implement solutions," he said. "That's where my energy will go, and I feel very lucky to have true grassroots groups like SMRR and Santa Monica's many local neighborhood groups joining efforts to make this a better city."

Director sues over new version of 'The Exorcist'

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Director William Friedkin sued Warner Bros., accusing the studio of fraud in last year's release of a version of his 1973 horror classic, "The Exorcist."

The screenwriter, Peter Blatty, joined Friedkin in the lawsuit filed Thursday in federal court. They seek unspecified damages for alleged copyright infringement, breach of contract and fraud.

Warner Bros. declined to comment on the suit.

The legal action raises the complicated legal question as to what constitutes a new film and a rerelease. The Oscar-winning movie about a young girl possessed by the devil earned more than $40 million when it was shown last year.

Friedkin and Blatty argue that the movie is an entirely new version, containing 11 minutes of additional footage and new sound recordings.

The suit claims that Warner Bros.' copyright registration included a number of false statements, including identifying the studio as the movie's author.

The suit also claims that the studio licensed the film to broadcasting companies for less than market value.

Friedkin and Blatty also have sued in Los Angeles County Superior Court, alleging they were denied their share of the profits from the expanded version.

California home sale prices keep setting records

BY SIMON AVERY
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES — Home prices in California surged to new heights in November, even as a weak job market led to a sizable decline in the overall number of sales, according to a report released Thursday.

The statewide median home price reached $278,740 last month, up 11.2 percent from a year earlier and 2.4 percent higher than in October, the California Association of Realtors reported.

However, the overall volume of home sales slipped 0.2 percent last month compared to October, and 12.4 percent from the same period a year ago — one of the strongest months on record.

Real estate analysts consider job growth the biggest driver of the housing market. With the state's unemployment rate hitting 6 percent last month for the first time in three years, the drop-off in volume was no surprise.

But the slowing activity does not signal that homes will get less expensive any time soon, market watchers say.

"If prices are holding up in the downturn, imagine what's going to happen in good times," said Stephen Levy, director of the Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy.

While uncertainty in the economy has left many home shoppers wary of making a major purchase, a severe housing shortage is keeping prices high.

"California will always be a supply restricted market. I don't expect overall prices to decline."

— JEFF MEYERS
Chief executive of Meyers Group

"California will always be a supply restricted market," said Jeff Meyers, chief executive of Meyers Group, a real estate consulting firm in Irvine. "I don't expect overall prices to decline."

A few areas will continue to show weakness, however, including the San Francisco Bay area and the statewide markets for luxury and vacation homes, he said.

With the effects of the tech bust still playing out, the median home price in San Francisco dropped to $466,610 in November — a 2.3 percent decline from a year earlier.

In Santa Clara County, a cornerstone of Silicon Valley, the median price dropped 9.3 percent to $498,500. Both areas, however, showed modest month to month increases.

San Francisco Bay Area prices are still high enough to drive many buyers to the Central Valley, where prices climbed 14.7 percent from the same period a year ago, even as the volume of sales fell 18.3 percent.

"We're pretty much on base for December," said William Burger, a broker with Coldwell Banker in Orangevale. "We've seen a little softening at the upper end of the market, but we're pretty optimistic about next year."

In Southern California, where the impact of the national recession has been much weaker, median home prices posted double-digit gains from the year-ago period. In November, they were up 10.7 percent in Los Angeles County, 11.1 percent in Orange County and 19.1 percent in Ventura County.

Orange County, however, showed a decline in the median price between October and November of 0.5 percent.

The latest figures are encouraging as far as their effect on the overall economy, Levy said.

During the last recession in the early 1990s, home construction came to a screeching halt as supply outpaced demand. Economists blamed the heavy drop-off in building activity as one of the reasons for the prolonged downturn in California during the early 1990s.

NATIONAL

Sierra snowpack off to strong start for winter

By the Associated Press

RENO, Nev. — Winter officially began at 11:22 a.m. Friday after an autumn that boosted the Sierra snowpack past the halfway point of what's normal for the entire season.

A foot or so dropped Thursday at the higher elevations. Randall Osterhuber at the University of California's Central Sierra Snow Lab west of Donner Summit says there hasn't been this much snow this early since 1982.

So far, more than 12 feet of snow have fallen at the lab.

"That's a pretty good autumn snowpack," Osterhuber said.

So good, in fact, that the Desert Research Institute has suspended seeding in the mountains because of the extent of the snowpack. Spokesman John Doherty said seeding would continue in the Humboldt and Tuscarora areas.

All the snow is particularly good news since the last two years brought disappointing snowfall and the last water year was the driest ever recorded for Reno.

Each water year, the snowpack is measured from October to the end of the following September.

"It's a good start, a great start, a wonderful start."

— GARY BARBATO
Weather service hydrologist

By Thursday, some 2.29 inches of precipitation had fallen at the Reno airport since Oct. 1, already surpassing the 2.13 inches recorded during the entire previous water year.

Snowpack measurements Thursday in the Truckee River Basin were 195 percent of normal and 48 percent of what would normally be expected on April 1. Snowpack measurements in the Lake Tahoe Basin were already at 55 percent of a seasonal norm, and at 52 percent in the Carson River Basin.

"It's a good start, a great start, a wonderful start," said Gary Barbato, a weather service hydrologist. "But it's got to keep up."

January, February and March are typically big snow producers, and it will be important for the storms to keep coming if the region is to stave off another dry year, Barbato said.

"We can go a little while without storms, and we won't be too bad off," Barbato said. "We've got a little breathing room if we have a dry month."

With the area suffering droughtlike conditions for most of 2001, conserving precious water supplies this winter remains vital, said Malyn Malquist of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority. Lake Tahoe and the area' other major reservoirs have a long way to go to recover.

"Yes, we are off to a great start, but we're starting from a deficit position," Malquist said.

Stores try to spur final holiday buying spree

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — With round-the-clock hours, advertising blitzes, extra catalogs, discounts and more discounts, stores are desperately trying to draw last-minute shoppers and salvage what could be the weakest holiday season in more than a decade.

Starting Thursday at 6 a.m., Kmart stores began keeping their doors open for 110 straight hours, compared with last year's 66-hour marathon.

Bloomingdale's, hoping to bring in procrastinators, sent out an extra catalog, highlighting discounted sweaters and perfumes, to more than 1 million homes in the season's final stretch.

"We're still in striking difference of our sales goal," said Tony Spring, executive vice president of marketing.

Michael Glazer, president and chief executive of K-B Toys, is hoping that a newspaper advertising insert, dropped to 60 million customers earlier in the week, will generate more last-minute business.

"We used to cut off promotions, and rely on heavy traffic at the malls," Glazer said.

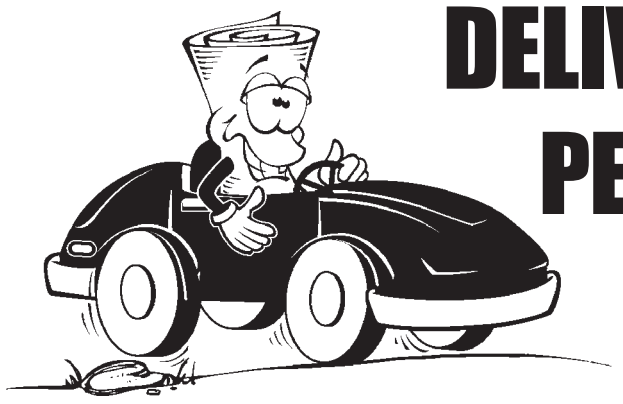
This Christmas shopping season had five full weekends and was 32 days long, one day more than last year. But many shoppers seem to be staying out of the stores, whether because of unseasonably warm weather, the recession or the shock waves from the Sept. 11 terrorism attacks.

Retail analysts expect the weakest season in more than a decade, and do not share merchants' hopes of turning that around with a late buying spree.

"I think the season peaked," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group of Charleston, S.C. "Right now, consumers are not interested in buying gifts, but being with their families."

There have been a few bright spots, particularly game consoles and DVD players, kitchenware and certain toys like Harry Potter games. But luxury items like jewelry and winter clothing in this warmer-than-usual season are not selling well.

Internet retailers are seeing an increase in last-minute buying compared with a year ago, according to Juliane Hearst, vice president of research at Bizrate.com, a Web site and research firm.



DELIVERY PERSON NEEDED

SIX DAYS A WEEK
Monday through Saturday
Late Mornings - Afternoon

Requirements:
- CLEAN DRIVING RECORD
- RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION
- VALID CA DRIVERS LICENSE
- AUTO INSURANCE

Please apply in person
between 11am-1pm

Santa Monica Daily Press

530 Wilshire Blvd. Suite #200
Santa Monica

TENZER
Commerical Brokerage Group, Inc.

Merry Christmas
and a special thank you
to the men and women
of our armed forces!

1334 Third Street Promenade, Suite 306 • Santa Monica, California 90401
Tel: (310) 935-8383 • FAX (310) 395-7872

Santa Monica Daily Press
Has a new 'E-dition!'
Home delivery by E-mail



Check the day's headlines, news stories, classifieds, comics, horoscopes and ads all before you leave the house!

Free subscriptions available!

For more information, please call:
310.458.press (7737) or e-mail to:
todayspaper@smdp.com

NATIONAL

Army experts offer 'how-to' on prisoner interrogations

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A modern interrogation is psychology and head games, an effort to make an enemy prisoner volunteer what he knows.

Sometimes a simple offer of cigarettes to a deprived chain smoker will do the trick, say Army experts. Or play on prisoners' patriotism, or fears, or despair — whatever it takes to establish rapport and get them talking.

"Most people want to talk," said Army 1st Sgt. Katrina Cobb, who trains Army intelligence personnel at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. "They want to tell their side of what happened."

As the United States and its allies begin to sort through and interrogate some of the 7,000 Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners in Afghanistan, they are asking questions whose answers could be critical to the war on terrorism.

When and where is al-Qaida's next attack planned? Where is Osama bin Laden, as well as Taliban chief Mullah Omar and its other leaders? How far has al-Qaida gotten in its efforts to obtain weapons of mass destruction? Who are the members of al-Qaida cells in the United States and around the world? How is al-Qaida changing its operations and communications after losing Afghanistan?

Getting that out of some prisoners is a tall order. The FBI, the CIA and the military have interrogators in Afghanistan.

The FBI wants information about terrorist activity within the United States; the CIA wants to know about overseas al-Qaida cells and the location of group leaders, and the military wants to hear tactical information about enemy force concentration and capabilities.

To get it, Army and other intelligence officials say techniques have evolved in recent years from adversarial interrogations to attempts at more cordial "conversations." More reliable information may come from a low-level but cooperative supply clerk, instead of an enemy commander who has no interest in talking.

"A lot of times, people come to us with their own fears. You can play on their fears, allow them to continue being afraid. You don't threaten them. You play on their own natural fears. Everybody has them."

— ANTHONY NOVACEK
U.S. Army 1st Sgt.

That's not to say that some interrogations aren't long and grueling, but U.S. officials say they do not sanction torture, and insist that interrogators know there's a line they are not to cross.

To find a likely talker, interrogators screen the pool of prisoners for people who seem willing to open up.

Talk to their guards, says 1st Sgt. Anthony Novacek, another trainer at Fort Huachuca. Observe who is nervous, who is talkative, who is offering to help. When interrogating a prisoner, use any of a number of methods to get him to start talking: Puff up his pride, or give him a sense of hopelessness, or find out his fears.

"A lot of times, people come to us with their own fears," Novacek said. "You can play on their fears, allow them to continue being afraid. You don't threaten them. You play on their own natural fears. Everybody has them."

Interrogators — the Army prefers the term "human intelligence collectors" — can question a prisoners one-on-one, if they speak the language. Otherwise, a translator is necessary, complicating the flow of conversation.

Sometimes two interrogators will team up on a prisoner, playing good cop-bad cop, like the two CIA officers videotaped questioning American Taliban John Walker Lindh before the Mazar-e-Sharif prison uprising. One of those officers, Johnny "Mike" Spann, was killed in the riot.

Interrogators are trained to begin with questions whose answers they already know, providing a truthfulness check of the prisoner, Cobb said. The military also gives its interrogators language and culture training.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz has suggested that drawing information out of senior terrorist leaders will take a long time because many of them are "skilled liars."

"They lie shamelessly. When you catch them out in a lie, they go on to another lie," he said at a Pentagon briefing this week. "This is not a simple matter — you sit down and have an interview and then you dispose the information. And it's a reason also to keep each one of them guessing as to what we've learned from someone else."

Establishing the prisoner's identity is another goal. Then the interrogator must slowly guide the prisoner to sensitive subject matters, Cobb said.

Intelligence personnel, Novacek said, are also trained in the specifics of the Geneva Convention and other standards for treating enemy prisoners: Don't deprive them of food, medical care or sleep. Don't employ drugs or torture. Army trainees are told violating these standards makes them war criminals, Novacek said.

Of course, U.S. officials have few illusions that every northern alliance soldier is abiding by them.

While Americans are supposed to report human rights violations by allies to their U.S. superiors, it's unclear if this is taking place, and several human rights groups have called for investigations into the alliance's treatment of Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners.

But many experts say torture isn't a reliable way to get information. Someone being tortured will often say what he thinks the torturer wants to hear, regardless of whether it is true. It also will ruin the prisoner as a source for future, less-violent interrogations.



Associated Press

New York City Fire Department Battalion Chief Don Hayde, of Special Operation Command, talks with an officer from the U.S. Army's elite Tenth Mountain Division, shortly after his arrival to Afghanistan along with several other firefighters and New York City police officers, at Bagram air base, north of Kabul, Afghanistan on Friday. The group spent Friday in Afghanistan, visiting U.S. troops, and bringing in a plane load of food and supplies for Afghan orphans.

Time magazine indecisive over Person of the Year

BY SETH SUTEL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Time magazine editors were in a quandary in choosing who should be their Person of the Year. Should they select the biggest newsmaker, Osama bin Laden, and face the consequences?

While the decision won't be announced until Sunday, Time magazine editors had to weigh several considerations in making their selection this week.

Choosing bin Laden would anger many readers and possibly lead some to cancel their subscriptions. But surely he fits the criteria set out by Time founder Henry Luce: "The person or persons who most affected the news of our lives, for good or ill, this year."

Time spokeswoman Debra Richman declined to specify this year's list of candidates but did say the selection would in "some way" reflect the events of Sept. 11.

In addition to bin Laden, readers of Time's Web site have also nominated other candidates, including President Bush, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the rescue teams of New York.

Time has faced similar quandaries in the past, and has occasionally selected unpopular leaders, including Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin.

Granted, both selections were made before the full extent of either man's ruthlessness was known to the world at large.

In selecting Hitler for 1938, the year before he invaded Poland, Time called him the "greatest threatening force that the democratic, freedom-loving world faces today."

Likewise, Time twice chose Stalin — in 1939 and again in 1942, while World War II was still raging and Stalin was standing up to Hitler.

Time also picked Iranian Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979, leading thousands of people to cancel their subscriptions, Richman said.

Two years ago, Time's selection process also generated controversy when it became known that Hitler was among several candidates the magazine was considering as Person of the Century.

In the end, Time ended up going with Albert Einstein, followed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Mohandas Gandhi.

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection®
By Russ Wallace

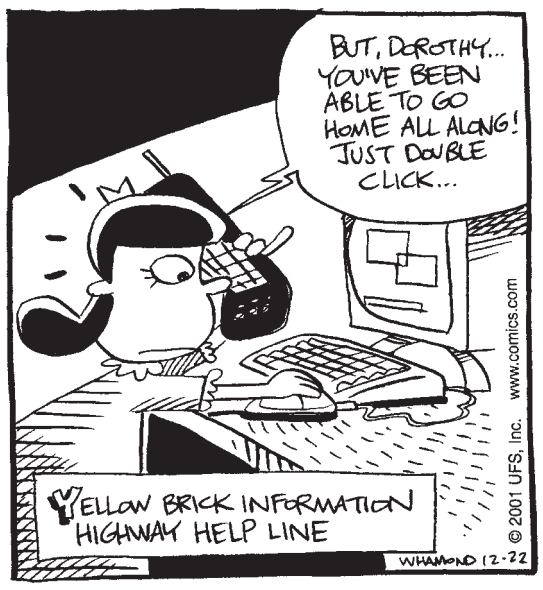


Maybe you'll get something after all.

edge City by Terry & Patty LaBan



Reality Check®
By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump®
By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

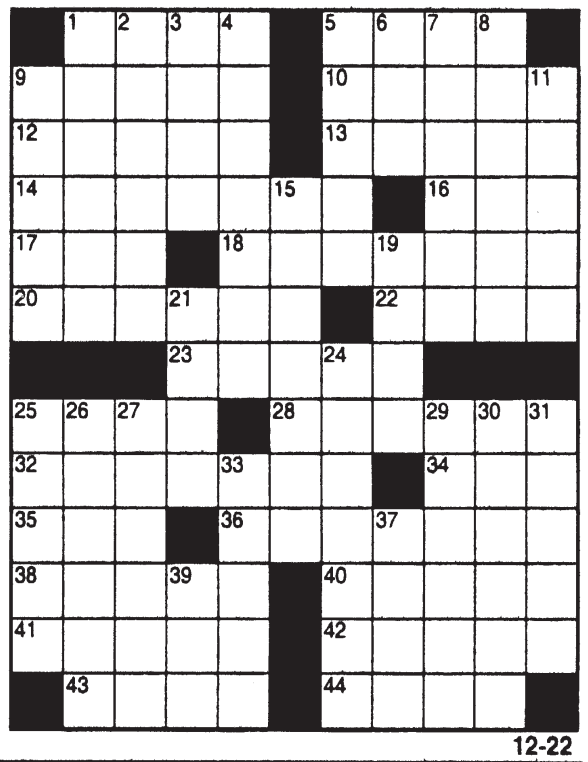
1 Catches
5 Sighed cry
9 Range
10 Big apartments
12 What a listener lends
13 Like bagels
14 Artificial
16 Heady brew
17 Finish
18 Rescuers, at times
20 Ran
22 Piquancy
23 Famed fur trader
25 Cain's brother
28 Sort of
32 Tanning aid
34 In the manner of
35 Fast flier
36 Letter opener
38 Ventilated
40 Church plate
41 Plow pioneer
42 Flattens
43 Peruse
44 Beatty movie

DOWN

1 Split base
2 Recompense
3 American island
4 Fires from a plane
5 Change
6 Old card game
7 Steep-roofed home
8 Actress Julia
9 Enjoyed the casino
11 Perfume
15 Served a sentence
19 Pound of poems
21 Foyer
24 Theoretically
25 Longtime Syrian president
26 More active
27 Menu choice
29 Frittered away
30 Sequel of 1986
31 Stories
33 Tacked on
37 Great review
39 Pitching stat

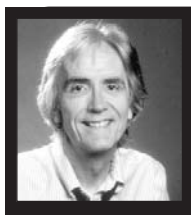
P	I	T	T	■	■	T	O	T	S	■
A	T	H	O	S	■	E	T	H	E	L
T	H	E	M	E	■	N	I	E	C	E
H	A	L	■	A	M	E	S	L	A	N
S	C	A	R	L	E	T	■	A	N	T
■	A	S	H	E	N	■	A	S	T	O
■	■	T	E	D	■	J	U	T	■	■
A	L	D	A	■	F	E	N	C	E	■
T	E	E	■	F	A	N	T	A	S	Y
L	A	T	V	I	A	N	■	S	T	A
A	V	A	I	L	■	E	A	T	E	R
S	E	I	N	E	■	R	I	L	E	D
■	S	L	E	D	■	■	D	E	M	S

Yesterday's answer



12-22

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
by Chuck Shepard

Has anybody seen John Doe?

In November, the decayed body of a man who apparently died three years ago at age 46 was found in his apartment in Warminster, Pa. While this genre of news stories occurs often enough to be regarded as No Longer Weird, this story is different because of the number of people who had an opportunity during those three years to discover the body but did not. The regular postal carrier; the postal service supervisor; at least one neighbor; village officials who towed the man's car for expired registration; the condominium association president; the police (who received many calls from various people suggesting that something was amiss in the apartment); the condo association management company agent; and a sheriff's deputy (delivering a foreclosure notice, which he merely tacked up on the door) all failed to inquire seriously about the whereabouts of the resident or about the odor emanating from the apartment.

GET NOTICED!
ADVERTISE!
100% ORGANIC NEWS ...
PICKED FRESH DAILY.
Santa Monica Daily Press
310.458.7737
Fax: 310.576.9913

CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

ADMIN ASSISTANT to President. Small investment company. Requires MS/word,Excel, AOL, 50-60 wpm., 3-5 years experience, phones, investor relations, travel arrangements. Fax resume (310)827-5541

ANIMAL LOVER Mobile grooming. Looking for a fit, energetic, individual w/ good people skills, who loves working with animals. Exp. not nec, training provided. Attractive package. Vehicle provided. Call (310)266-6076

ESTHETICIAN/MASSAGE ROOM available in busy hair and skin salon. Credit card processing, parking, great environment w/ fun people. Call Peter or just drop by 13114 Washington Blvd., MDR (310)383-0357

FACILITY MANAGER Small west side school seeks organized, motivated manager to supervise crew. Exp. preferred. 32+hours/wk. AM's Mon-Fri, some flexibility, call (310)451-5657

FINISH CARPENTERS Experience in fine custom residential required, 3yrs minimum. Must have references & tools. Call(310)822-0685, fax ref. to (310) 822-0785

FLORAL DESIGNER needed for flower shop in Century City. Please call (310)785-0669

GENERAL OFFICE Assistant for busy Marina Del Rey travel office. Microsoft Word, Excel. Contact: Billy (310)823-7979

HAIR STYLIST, ESTHETICIAN & RECEPTIONIST wanted for Campus Cuts salon at UCLA. 2 positions open. Stylist Minimun 2 years experience. (310)206-4770

JIFFY LUBE
Customer Service
Join the best and be part of the J-Team. F/T, P/T & Flex. hours. Santa Monica location. Retail cashier/calculator exper w/ computer knowledge helpful. Valid Calif. DL/English required. Competitive wages w/health/dental/401k & vacation benefits. Must pass physical/drug exam. EOE (562)806-4948

MANICURIST FOR Busy Santa Monica Salon. Full-time, commission or rented. Open 9am-8pm. (310)450-8669

MANICURIST FOR busy upscale Brentwood Salon. Lots of walk-ins. Can build very quickly full time rent or commission call (310)471-5555

MEDICAL ASSISTANT part-time dermatology office. Marina Del Rey (310)821-0861

MEDICAL BACK OFC Family Practice in Santa Monica. Experience necessary. Fax resume to (310)395-2063

RECEPTIONIST FOR busy upscale Brentwood Salon. Full-time, Tues. - Sat. Position starts January 1 2002. (310)471-5555

Employment

NIGHT MANAGER needed for Santa Monica Restaurant. Experience a must. Please fax resume to (310)393-6840

PARALEGAL W/3 years or more experience; self-starter, assertive and organized; able to handle heavy client contact; suitable writing skills required; PI experience necessary; medical record review exp,; bilingual Spanish a plus. Please email resume to kgallo@biren.com

RETAIL SALES for S.M. children's clothing manufacturer outlet store. Day hours, P/T or F/T including Saturdays. Great benefits, medical, dental & 401K Fax resume 310-829-1485 or call (310)453-3527 ext. 206

RETIRE IN two years with a six figure residual income. Part Time and Full Time. (888)412-6921

REWARDING SALES CAREER. Int'l firm with 16 years success track record seeks experienced business person M/F to sponsor & coach clients on maximizing & protecting wealth. Comprehensive training & support. Call Mr. Kenedy (800)600-5149

SERVER/BARTENDER/CASHIER Friendly atmosphere, flex hours call between 9am-10am or 2pm-3pm (310)829-7829

THE SANTA Monica Daily Press is looking for Advertising Account Executives. Print advertising and consultave/solution based selling experience a plus. Email resume and cover letter to Ross at ross@smdp.com

UPSCALE MONTANA Ave. salon has 2 stations available for rental. $300 / week with shampoo assistant. (310)451-3710

WEB DESIGNER, P/T or contract needed at the Santa Monica Daily Press. Resume to ross@smdp.com

For Sale

ADULT 3 wheel bicycle. One year old and had been ridden 12-15 hours. (310)450-2395

SONY VAIO R505JSlaptop. 850 MHz, 30G, CDRW/DVD, 256 MB RAM, 10/100, Windows XP, 12.1" Active Matrix screen. Super thin, super light and super fast! $2000 (orig. $2496). Chris (310)821-5611

Boats

20' CAL: Good condition. Completely stock. Xtra Geona sail. Motor. Incl. cust. trailer. $1900 (310)391-4051

24' ISLANDER '66: 6hp Evinrude, 6-gal metal tank, radio, galley, sleeps 4 $1990 obo (310)645-3104

27'BAYLINER BUCCANEER Great live-aboard, very spacious, aft cabin MUST SELL! $5950 obo. (310)417-4141

Wanted

- ALBANIA -
If Albanian is your native tongue and you have time to teach two elderly people a little of that language, Please call (310)450-2395.

For Rent

27' CATALINA, Immac livaboad/Cruiser. Many xtras. MdR slip. $6900 obo (310)892-4616

FURNISHED BEACH front studios from $3350/mo. 1 bedrooms from $4000/mo. (310)917-1398

LADERA HEIGHTS: Single 4820 Slauson Ave. #1 Stove, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 & up Call 323-298-0221

MAR VISTA: Single 12746 Pacific Ave. #4 Stove, frig, D/W, A/C, carpet, blinds, laundry, intercom-entry, parking, no pets. $700 Call 310-578-7512

MARINA DEL REY 2 bd 2 ba condominium on the Waterfront. Big views. $2025/month. Pool, Jacuzzi, very desirable. (310)718-3012

MDR LUXURY Silver Strand Ocean view, Lrg 2bdr, 2ba. Frplc D/W, pool, A/C, tennis, sauna, spa, sec, nr bch. $2300. (310)306-0363

OFFICE SUBLET; 1, 2, or 3 offices available. Great location in Santa Monica starting @ $450.00/month. available immed. Steve (310)392-6100

PDR MANITOBA West 2bdr + loft Condo. New crpt/paint. Pool, spa, hot tub tennis, paddle tennis, gym. Available now. $1700mo Agt Sheila: (310)338-1311

PDR: LUXURY Condo 2bd/2ba, frplc, 2 balc, pools, jacuzzi, sauna, W/D in unit, racquet ball courts, security parking, exercise room, all appliances, 1 year lease $1750 (310)871-7812

S.M.: 2+1, 3 blocks to beach. Huge balcony, parkay floors, lndry, prkg. Ocean view. $2100. (310)399-1273

SANTA MONICA Ocean, panoramic view, 1bd furn/unfurn $1500 & $2100. Luxury furn 2 bd $3500. Prime loc., walk to 3rd St. Promenade & pier. Full kitchen, assigned parking, secured building, new appliances. Call for appointment. (310)399-3472

SANTA MONICA $2000/mo. 1844 Euclid, 2bd/1ba home. Eat-in kitchen, dining room, fireplace, new floors throughout, rear patio, front patio, front yard, parking. (310)592-5346 Jeff

SANTA MONICA New, Architectural Tri-Level, 3bdrm, 3ba + Study, Twnhse, Skylights. Gourmet granite kitchen. 12' ceil., Scenic Roof Deck, spa, gated parking, intercom access, DSL. $2900/mo. (310)454-4210

SM $1800 2+2. Approximately 1100s.f. 2 car enclosed gar. No. of Wilshire Bl. Walk to Montana Shops. 2020 Washington Ave. Call: (310)395-1880

For Rent

SM $1395 Spacious 2 Bdrm 1 Ba with prkg. New carpet. 501 Raymond Ave. (310)573-7452

SM $1400 Lg 2 bdrm 1 ba, hrdwd fl, lots of closets, stove, prkg, ldry rm Quiet area (310)396-1644

SM: 3 bdrm live/work penthouse apt. Amenities include phone answering, reception, state of the art conference rooms & facilities, high-speed (T1) Internet and wired computer ports. Modern full kitchens & baths. Two large terraces w/ocean view. $3,000. For info & appointmt: (310)-526-0315. Weekends (310)-890-0310.

STUDIO SPACE FOR LEASE avail 1500sf Santa Monica. AM, Eves, Sun, for classes, workshops, meetings. E. Pico, Ample Parking. Karen 310-396-5990

TOWNHOUSE 2+2 1/2, parking 5 blocks from beach, Hdwd. Floors, wash/dry, walk in closets, $2400 mo. 818-343-7826 or 818-259-6293

VENICE BEACH Lrg 1+1 apt. Enclosed patio, 1/2 block to beach. N/p w/stv & refrig $1250 (310)641-1149

VENICE HOUSE for rent $1975. 3+1 Approx. 1000s.f. Hrdwd & carpets. Remodeled kitchen, pvt. garden. Very clean. New appliances, inside W/D. 2477 Walnut Ave. Call: (310)395-1880

VENICE/SM EXTRA large studio, swimming studio, 1 parking, section Bldg, 2 blocks to the beach. Must be disabled or senior 62+. Avail furn or unfurn. $1,145/mo. (310)261-2093

VENICE: $1350 1Bdr + 1Ba Hdwd floors. W/D in unit. 1128 6th Ave. No pets. (310)399-7235

VENICE: $995, 1Bdrm & Single $850. Stove, refrig, carpet, laundry, utilities included, parking, no pets. 501 N. Venice Blvd. Call 9am to 7pm JKW Properties 310-574-6767

VENICE: 2bdrm+2bath, parking,1 block from beach, mini bar, $1700 + sec. dep. (310)305-9659

VENICE: DUPLEX 2+1 W/D, appliances, hardwood floors $1700 2 blocks to Abbot Kinney. N/P 627 San Juan Ave. (310)399-7235

VENICE: Lrg 1+1 w/grt lite. Huge closet, stove, W/D on site. Off the canals. $1325 (310)305-8109

VENICE: 3+2, Lrg, sunny upper unit, 4 plex. French doors, balcony, parking. $2100 (310)581-5379

VENICE: ON BOARDWALK Sec. building. Clean 1bd/loft bdrm+1.2 level balcony. w/vu.frig, stv., D/W, lndry, gtd, prkg. $1850. (310)823-6349

W. LA 2464 Barrington 3bdr, 3ba Lrg rooms, all appliances included. Fireplace, marble countertops, in unit W/D. Gated parking elevator, intercom entry. $2195. OPEN DAILY. Mgr. Call: (310)390-9401

For Rent

W. LA: 2464 Barrington Ave. 4bd/4ba Very Lrg unit, spacious closets, marble counters, stove, refrig, d/w, nu paint, frplc, gtd prkg intercom entry, elevator. W/D in unit. Open daily. $2695. Mgr. Call: (310)390-9401

W. LOS ANGELES: 1+1 2471 Sawtelle Blvd. #103 Stove, D/W, A/C, fireplace, blinds, carpet, laundry, intercom-entry, gated parking, cat ok. $1050 Call 310-578-7512

WESTWOOD 1 Bed, 1 bath $850 furnished / unfurnished, bright, pool, drapes, carpet, laundry rooms. Parking available. 801 Levering (310)824-0601

Commercial Lease

RESTAURANT SPACE for lease. Office space for lease. Santa Monica. 2204/2206 Lincoln. Jeff (310)452-0344

Vehicles for sale

1970 VW Bug in good condition, new floors, upholstery. $1800 or best offer. Call (323)259-8500

96 VOLVO 850 turbo, teal blue with tan interior 61,000 miles (310)280-0840

Services

AT YOUR SERVICE!
Professional Personal Assistant. Strong office skills. Great references, reliable transportation. (310)452-4310

BUSINESS WRITER/MEDIA relations specialist: offers 16 years experience in public relations and investor relations available for short and long-ter m assignments. Call Jane today to implement strategy for improved media coverage and increased customer/investor interest (310)452-4310

CHILD & ELDERLY CARE: Experienced Mature, female, vegetarian available immeadiately for caregiving. XInt references. Call Omanasa (310)314-8248

CHILD CARE: Mature, intelligent, kind & compassionate. Former nursery school experience. References available. Audry Norris (310)854-2053

CHRISTMAS FAMILY PORTRAITS at your SM home or our SM studio. Headshots for performers. Beautiful samples at www.southern-exposure.tv Great prices (310)260-1255

COMPUTER DOCTOR - Repairs, Tutoring, Web Design, Patient, Reliable. Russell (310)709-7595

DESIGN DRAWINGS Interior-Exterior. Drawings can help you avoid costly mistakes & better visualize your remodel projects. 30 years experience. References. (310)836-4797

ELDERLY CARE PROVIDER
Living in Santa Monica, immediately available for full or part time work. References available upon request. Please call Lita (310)394-3197

Services

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT available to come to your home/business and help clean-up, free-up and organize your finances. Professional services included; Quicken / Quickbooks set-up and management, establishing on-line banking services, accounting, payroll, employee benefits and other professional matters. Flexible weekly / monthly programs and excellent references. Please call Roland. (310)230-2341

FRIENDLY & SKILLED Computer Support Services. Setup, upgrade, internet connections & networks. Home or Office, Westide (310)663-3644. Reasonable Rates.

GARDEN CONSULTANT Moving? Add thousands of $$$'s to property value by enhancing curb appeal. Let me help. Resonable rates & references. Free Estimate. Mary Kay Gordon (310)264-0272

KNITTING LESSONS Yarn, Supplies, Patterns, Finishing & Design, STICH & ROW, Knitting Arts Center, 15200 Sunset Blvd., Suite 111, Pacific Palisades (310)230-9902

PET STOPS WEST Boston's Finest Daily and Vacation pet sitting service for over a decade comes to Santa Monica. Licensed, bonded, insured. (310)264-7193

SPANISH TEACHER/TUTOR, Santa Monica native speaker w/ M.A. from U. of MI Berlitz trained. Convers/Grammer, all levels/ages. Fun. Lissette (310)260-1255

TENNIS LESSONS Learn the game of tennis (effortlessly). Have fun! Get in shape. Group/private. Call Now! Intro lesson free. Certified Instructor (310)388-3722

The State-Of-The-Art Videoconferencing Solution
Fixed 30 frames per second
Currently being used by; The US Navy, Smithsonian Institution, the Mayors office in San Diego and New York, The Unified School District of San Diego, Police and Fire Departments, Warner Brothers, CNN and Turner Networks. Call today: West Coast Video Phone (310)392-0799

TUTORING
K-12 academics, K-adult computer, Learning Disabilities Specialist. Reasonable rates. Wise Owl Education (310)209-9032

Health/Beauty

VIACREME FOR women works! Developed and recommended by gynecologists. Order vc.com. (310)312-0662

Missing Person

MONICA LYNN DEVITO
05/01/56 Please call home immeadiatly. Others with info email: moniphome@aol.com

Lost & Found

FOUND - set of keys with silver metal flower keychain. Found at 601 California. Please call (310)458-7737.

JOIN THE CLASSIEST GIG IN TOWN!
With the classiest representative in town ...
Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press and place your classified ad today!
310.458.7737 ext.101

BACK PAGE

Microchips reunite lost pets with owners

BY MICHAEL RUBINKAM
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Each day, Patrick McCallion takes his 13-month-old dog Stewart to the corner park, where the exuberant yellow Lab mix can run loose with his pooch pals. But the park isn't enclosed.

So McCallion took out a bit of disappearance insurance, getting a microchip the size of a grain of rice implanted under the dog's skin, between the shoulder blades.

In the last few years, millions of dogs and cats — as well as tigers and other unusual pets — have been implanted with these microchips, which are encoded with unique numbers to make identifying lost, stolen or abandoned animals a snap.

When a lost pet is brought to a shelter or clinic, workers can use a hand-held scanner to read the chip's number. A computer database then matches the number with the pet's owner, medical history and other pertinent information.

At Queen Village Animal Clinic, where Stewart got his chip, the injection costs about $30, plus a one-time registration fee of $12.

"Probably every day at least one dog runs away from that park," said McCallion, 28, of Philadelphia. "You always see the 'missing' posters on trees and poles around the city."

The chips have been used to reunite thousands of lost pets with their owners. In northeastern Pennsylvania, LeeAnn Perry's dog, a yellow Lab named Sara, has run away three times since getting the chip a year and a half ago.

The pooch last disappeared in November, but was back home two weeks later.

"I know when she takes off, one way or another she'll be back because she's chipped," said Perry, 32, of Dunmore, Pa.

Microchip implantation has been around since the 1980s but was relatively rare until the mid-1990s, when chipmakers introduced a universal scanner that could read every model.

Scanners are now found in most shelters and animal control agencies across the country, according to Mary Madsen, a customer service supervisor for AVID Identification Systems Inc.

"Probably every day at least one dog runs away from that park. You always see the 'missing' posters on trees and poles around the city."

— PATRICK McCALLION
Dog owner

Norco, Calif.-based AVID is one of two dominant chipmakers. As of last year, 2.5 million pets were listed in the company database.

The American Kennel Club operates the other database, which contains more than 1.1 million pets and is affiliated with Schering-Plough Animal Health, distributor of the HomeAgain chip.

Most of the pets in the AKC database are dogs (842,645) and cats (265,349). However, HomeAgain chips, made by Destron Fearing Corp., can also be found in birds, horses, rabbits, tigers, monkeys, seals and many other unusual pets.

More than 70,000 lost pets have been reunited with their owners since the AKC program's inception in 1995, said Associate Director Keith Frazier.

Veterinarians say old-fashioned pet collars are fine, but not foolproof. They can come off, fade, or be chewed.

The chips are a boon to emergency room veterinarians, who often treat injured animals that don't have identifying information. Vets then face the tough choice of putting the animal to sleep or administering costly care with no hope of getting paid.

With a microchipped pet, the pet's owner can make that decision.

"For an emergency vet, it's fabulous," said Dr. Jeffrey Proulx of San Francisco. "A lot of ER practices don't have the funds to go hog wild on these things."

The chips have a variety of applications.

Officials at the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race use them to help prevent illegal dog substitutions. Valuable horses are sometimes injected instead of branded. In Chicago, owners of dogs considered "dangerous" are required to have their pets spayed or neutered and fitted with a microchip for identification.

Professional football player Damon Moore, of the Philadelphia Eagles, was charged last month with abandoning his 3-month-old Rottweiler puppy after police found the dog and the SPCA traced the microchip to the pet shop where Moore made his purchase.

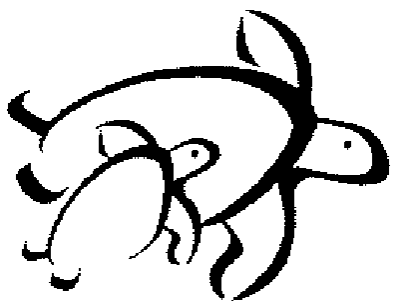
The next-generation microchip will be equipped with a sensor that reads body temperature — eliminating the need for a rectal thermometer.

Down the road, chips will be able to store information useful in an emergency — such as whether a dog has had a rabies shot or is allergic to any medicine.

But chipmakers say it's likely that most information will continued to be stored in a database.

"Stewie used to have a tag," said McCallion, rubbing his newly microchipped dog's head, "but his brother Murphy bit it off."

For A Perfect Après Holiday
Warm Up, Why Not...



Turtle Bay Resort

HAWAII

On Oahu's Scenic North Shore

www.TurtleBayResort.com

... play golf on 2 championship courses
... bask in the Hawaiian sun
... a massage in the shade of a coconut tree
... explore over 800 acres of tropical paradise
... ride a horse by the ocean and through the jungle
... enjoy a Mai Tai or two or three
... pick up puka shells on 5 miles of beach
... watch the surfers from your own lanai
... see the sun go down over the water

Call 800.203.3650
& ask for the "Santa Monica Special".

Looking for the Daily Press?

The Santa Monica Daily Press is a free newspaper that is circulated throughout all six commercial zones within the Santa Monica city limits.

Hundreds of copies can be found in news racks and at these local businesses:

Lincoln Street Locations:

- Vons
- Denny's
- Chevron
- The Coffee Bean
- Donut King
- JP's Market
- Big Bowl
- Tommy's Burger
- Bill's Liquor
- Lincoln Barbers
- Legal Grind
- Ex lube
- Poncho's Taco
- Starbucks

This is not a complete list.
You can find more copies in these areas:

- **Montana Avenue Commercial Zone**
- **Santa Monica Boulevard**
- **The Downtown Commercial Core (including Third Street Promenade)**
- **Wilshire Boulevard**
- **Main Street Commercial District**

Additional circulation points include:

- **Major Hotels on Ocean Avenue**
- **Retail businesses on the Boardwalk and Santa Monica Pier districts**
- **Commercial zones on Pico and Ocean Park Boulevard.**

If you are interested in becoming a distribution point (it's free and gives your customers just one more reason to come in), please call 310-458-PRESS (7737) x 104