

Santa Monica Daily Press

Merry Christmas to you and yours

Not your average run of the mill holiday party



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
Employees of CBIC Oppenheimer spent their office holiday party serving hot meals to Santa Monica's homeless at the Ocean Park Community Center.

Company spreads good cheer by serving homeless

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A local stockbroker firm last week diverted from the traditional Christmas party of cocktails and appetizers at a ritzy hotel to serving the homeless in Santa Monica.

About 30 employees of CBIC Oppenheimer spent last Friday serving hot food to Santa Monica's homeless, as well as giving them presents they can use — backpacks with basic necessities like toothpaste and rain ponchos.

It was the Ocean Park Community Center's annual holiday party and Oppenheimer spent between \$5,000 and \$10,000 putting it on.

"We all get caught up in our own lives and we have so much and these people have nothing at all," said David Fahey, a manager with Oppenheimer. "It's our opportunity to give them a hot meal and give them presents that are useful on the street and this is probably the only party they'll have this year."

Oppenheimer's Christmas parties of the past are like many corporations — they are limited to only employees and thousands of dollars are spent on drinks and food that lasts for a couple of hours.

But this year, the company's money

went much further.

Hundreds lined up in the parking lot of the OPCC on the corner of Seventh Street and Colorado Avenue to get jolly — complete with live music, hot food and warm cheer.

"Everyone thinks this was the best Christmas party we've done. At the other ones, you can't bring your spouse, but you have cocktails and have fru fru cocktails."

— DANIELA GREENE
Volunteer

"It's the only place where people can get together like this," said Sidney Porter, who recently moved off the streets and into his own apartment in Los Angeles with the help of OPCC.

For Daniela Greene, who celebrated her 30th birthday serving food, it was the best Christmas party she's been to. And she said her co-workers feel the same way. She is a sales assistant to an Oppenheimer stock broker.

"It's so much better than the other

See OPCC, page 4

Charities getting more creative with giveaways

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — It takes money to raise money, but among charities the practice of giving a little bit in hopes of getting back more is becoming quite a production.

Getting a sheet of self-stick address labels in the mail used to be enough to get some people to open their wallets and send back a donation.

With more groups competing for the scarce dollars that people are trying to stretch farther now, however, nonprofits have upped the ante. Address labels and stickers still arrive by the dozen, but groups also are sending greeting or holiday cards, calendars, nickels and dimes, cheap jewelry, personalized stationery, magnets, packets of wildflower seeds and free umbrellas.

One mailing included Christmas wrapping paper, gift tags, bows, ribbon, holiday cards and a pen.

"Just one of those little routine annoyances," Christine Kerin, 38, a telephone company customer service agent from Nutley, N.J., said, describing her 4-inch-

tall stack of free address labels.

The freebies are designed to stand apart from the bills and usual junk mail and induce enough guilt to get people to give.

"Guilt is a reason that people do give in response. But you're also providing something of value, so they're willing to give. Everybody can use labels, everybody can use greeting cards."

— PAULETTE MAEHARA
Association of Fund Raising Professionals

Splashier is better, because there is no money to be had if the items do not make the eyes go wide.

"The tendency is going to be to throw it out without even opening it," said

See CHARITIES, page 10

Bush family traditions

BY JENNIFER LOVEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush thinks gifts should never, ever be opened before Christmas morning. A fondly recalled practice from first lady Laura Bush's childhood dictates tamales and enchiladas for the Christmas Eve menu.

Like millions of Americans, the president's family has developed its own set of traditions — comforting in their familiarity and binding in their repetition — that govern how Christmas is celebrated. But also like many other households, those cherished Yuletide traditions often must make room for fresh faces and changing circumstances.

With Jenna off at the University of Texas, Barbara at Yale and their parents in the White House, the family's holiday custom of gathering to hang trinkets and tinsel on the Christmas tree now falls to others. And the hot chocolate that used to follow has been rescheduled for Christmas morning.

Asked if any special traditions — such as the tree decorating or watching home movies on Christmas Eve — have fallen by the wayside for the Bush family, Mrs. Bush did not hesitate.

"Yes!" she said, laughing. "We really miss the traditions because the girls are away at college. But we still drink hot chocolate and open presents as a family. Now, we just do it at Camp David."

The presidential retreat in the Maryland mountains where the Bushes headed on Saturday happens to be a tradition of sorts for the family.

They often spent the holiday there when the president's father was in the White House as vice president and president. The current president, his wife and two girls would arrive in Washington a day or two before Christmas, maybe attend a White House reception and then head for the hills with the rest of the large, tight-knit clan.

Together, the Bushes' Christmas cele-

See BUSH, page 10

IMMIGRATION

Specializing in All Types of Immigration Matters

Law Offices of Andrea F. Szew

Se Habla Español

11601 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1830 • (310) 477-1200
andrea@szewlaw.com



Easton Gym - Santa Monica

1233 Third Street, Fremont

Santa Monica, CA 90401

310 395 4441

Easton Gym is your neighborhood gym.

COMPLETE FITNESS FACILITY • FREE PARKING

TAXES

Attorney • CPA • 12 years • 12 years

SAMUEL B. MONS, CPA

(310) 395-9922

11601 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1830 • (310) 477-1200

DOES YOUR BUSINESS NEED HELP?

JOIN THE CHAMBER. GET ACCESS TO SBA LOANS

SBDC

- One-on-one SBA loan consultation at chamber offices
- Access to capital workshops at each chamber
- A cooperative program between the SBDC and the Westside cities Chambers of Commerce



A non-profit partnership of U.S. Small Business Administration, State of California, City of Santa Monica and Valley Economic Development Corporation.

310.398.8883



Fish Facts:

Q: What's the worlds largest fish?

A: The whale shark. It is over 50' long and weighs several tons.

**"Fishful thinking?
We can satisfy those seafood cravings!"**
1220 3rd St. Promenade, Santa Monica
310.395.5538



\$27 from SM to LAX
(approx. or less)



THE TRADITION CONTINUES
Serving Santa Monica since 1920

- Professional, Courteous Drivers
 - Clean, Well-Maintained Vehicles
 - On-Time Reliable Service
 - Fully Licensed and Insured
- All Major Credit Cards Accepted

THE ORIGINAL
Yellow Cab Co.

For Dispatch or Service Call Toll Free:
800-711-8294

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please complete and present coupon to driver



NEW ON TAP:

Anchor Christmas • Sierra Nevada Celebration
Anderson Valley Winter Solstice

HAPPY HOUR 4-6pm
Monday thru Friday

\$5.99 Burger Monday!!!

Beer choice of hamburger, turkey, chili, salmon or veggie.
Served with garlic mashed potatoes or french fries.

**PLAN YOUR NEXT PARTY
ON THE PATIO**

2911 Main Street • Santa Monica • 11:30am - Midnight Mon-Sun
Telephone 310.314.4855 • www.libraryalehouse.com



HOROSCOPE

Have a merry Christmas!



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)

★★★★★ Start spreading the good will once you've opened all the presents. Make a call to someone at a distance. Touch base with others. Make that extra effort toward others. One-on-one relating adds that magic that Christmas is known for. Tonight: Stay even, while others cascade from one mood to another.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Express your caring through your actions. Though you might not think you're doing very much, you actually are. Others see you as the ultimate giver. Ask for help if you feel overwhelmed. A partner could be delighted to be there for you. Tonight: Let someone know how much he or she means to you.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Ever playful, you add to everyone's day without any effort. Act on matters close to your heart. Get past an immediate snafu with a demanding friend or family member. You will, and do, make the difference that counts. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Reach out for others. Think of that person who might have been forgotten in the mix. Your thoughtfulness could help someone turn the corner with his or her feelings toward family and holidays. Express your caring. Tonight: Say what you feel.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Keep discussions moving in a new direction. You might become discouraged by what is going on. Not everyone can hold the spiritual values that you do. Instill, if possible, a bit more religious or spiritual content into the day. Tonight: Say "yes."

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Everything seems close to perfect. Don't let someone interfere with the joy and happiness you feel at the moment. Consider what might make a family member more comfortable. All you can do is your best. Tonight: Out and about.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Step back. You might not be content with everything that comes your way. Make the best of what is happening. Do something instinctive that makes a difference to those around you. Consider others' feelings. Tonight: Take your time.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Reach out for friends. Add a spare invitation or two, if need be. You might have to stretch the food a bit further, but ultimately, the happiness more than justifies it. Others are simply happy to be together and enjoy themselves. Tonight: Where your friends are.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Take that additional step that will make the difference. Touch base with someone you deeply care about and whom you often put on a pedestal. Make room for someone else at your Christmas dinner. Tonight: Enjoy others to the wee hours.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might need to travel or make an important long-distance call to several close loved ones. You manage to reach others. Help others tune in to the true meaning of the holiday. Tonight: Listen to a favorite piece of music.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Make an effort toward a partner and let him or her understand just how much you feel. Don't just swap gifts, also share feelings that you often keep to yourself. Discuss what you both might want from this tie. Tonight: As you like it.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Others seem to dote on you. You might not know exactly what to say. Share more of what is happening within your immediate circle. Establish stronger ground rules with a difficult parent or associate. Tonight: Let someone dote on you.



QUOTE of the DAY

"The difference between pornography and erotica is lighting."

— Gloria Leonard

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Andrew H. Fixmer andy@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Patrick McDonald PRMcDonald@aol.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Alejandro C. Cantarero alex@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Angela Downen angela@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Paula Christensen paula@smdp.com

MEDIA CONSULTANT

William Pattnosh william@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Kiutzu Cruz kiutzu@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

STAFF MASCOT

Maya Furukawa ross@smdp.com



LOCAL □ STATE



CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Responding fire truck collides with vehicle

By The Associated Press

LONG BEACH — A fire truck responding to a traffic accident collided with a car, critically injuring three people inside the demolished vehicle, authorities said.

Moments after firefighters used hydraulic Jaws of Life tools to free four people in the wrecked car early Sunday, they rushed on foot to rescue a woman pinned under a car in another accident at a nearby fast-food restaurant, Fire Department spokesman Wayne Chaney said.

Five firefighters were aboard the ladder truck responding to a 1:27 a.m. injury accident call at Seventh Street and Studebaker Road when it collided with a car at Pacific Coast Highway and Seventh, Chaney said. The firefighters weren't hurt.

Another fire truck was dispatched to the Studebaker Road crash, which was a minor incident.

As paramedics worked on the injured at PCH and Seventh, the firefighters heard a loud thud and screams from a fast food parking lot at the same intersection.

A 47-year-old woman had been hit and pinned underneath a car. Firefighters raced to the woman's aid and used high-pressure air bags to free her. Angela Paul was treated at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center and released, Chaney said.

The female driver who allegedly hit her was arrested and booked for investigation of drunken driving, Chaney said.

"It was very fortunate it was a five-member ladder truck," Chaney said, because it carried the crew and equipment needed in both accidents.

Water expert decries desert lake plan

By The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A university biologist and noted expert on Salton Sea biology said USFilter Corp.'s proposal to clean up and produce drinking water from the fouled desert lake "has no redeeming features."

"The whole objective of (the USFilter) proposal is not to try to restore the Salton Sea to a healthy system," said Stuart H. Hurlbert, a San Diego State University biologist who is also a vocal critic of California population growth.

"It is proposed by people who are completely naive about everything except water technology and how to get water to cities," Hurlbert said. He has taught a class on the Salton Sea's biology for 24 years.

Palm Desert-based USFilter's plan calls for squeezing drinking water from the sea while preserving much of the Salton Sea habitat.

Hurlbert said USFilter's plan would provide drinking water to support even more newcomers to the desert.

USFilter and its supporters tout the "Salton River Solution" as the most credible attempt to date to confront long-standing environmental, political and fiscal obstacles that contribute to the sea's ongoing decline.

USFilter envisions a dike that would completely encircle the interior of the sea, making it easier to remove salts and contaminants. The dike would direct water to a desalinization plant on the sea's north end. Treated water could then be sold to local or coastal users, a desirable feature because of those region's growing population and dwindling water supplies.

On Dec. 12, the Salton Sea Authority voted 7-0 to authorize a preliminary review of the plan and assess its merits and drawbacks. Hurlbert's four-page critique was dated Dec. 10.

"My first reaction is that Stuart Hurlbert's criticism is typical of the intellectual paralysis that has hindered all previous attempts to unify the various political powers and implement a viable, long-term solution to the Salton Sea's current predicament," USFilter chief Andy Seidel said in response to Hurlbert's criticisms.

The sea is plagued by rising salinity and excessive nutrient growth that threaten to choke the life from hundreds of millions of fish. Many of the more than 400 species of birds that live around the sea depend on the fish for food.



It will mix with remnant west-northwest swell for waist to chest high waves in north county. South Bay is expected to see slightly less size, most sets breaking at waist level.

Water pollution is still at high level due to continual rains, so consider that a risk.

LA County Public Health's official rain advisory is effective through Tuesday December 31st.

Today sees more of the new northwest swell, but with a small decrease in size thanks to further fading of the old west-northwest.

Most breaks remain in the two- to three-foot range at best.

Location	Wednesday	Thursday	Water Quality
County	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	N/A
Zuma	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	N/A
Surfrider	1-2'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	N/A
Topanga	1-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	N/A
Venice	2-4'/Poor	2-4'/Poor	N/A
Porto	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	N/A

The Surf Report is sponsored by:

Today's Special:

Avocado Sandwich
\$8 tax included

Includes:
Pickles or coleslaw,
french fries or salad
and drink



The Tastiest Hawaiian Sandwiches

Store Hours:

Open
Daily from
11 a.m. to
10 p.m.

119 Broadway, Santa Monica
310.394.0100



California is dealing with a major budget crisis. The state is in the red by over \$30 billion, and in Santa Monica, as well as other cities and towns, public educators are feeling an excruciating financial pinch as a result. But some educators wonder if the public really understands or cares about the dire situation at hand.

So this week, Q-Line wants to

know:

"Does the lack of funding for public education in California concern you? Why or why not?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print it in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less; it might help to think first about the wording of your response.

Design a Party with a Slice!

Specializing in Event Catering, Office Parties and Birthdays

"A slice of NY in your own backyard."

— Anthony Dias Blue
Bon Appetit Lifestyle

Lunch/Office Delivery

915 Wilshire Blvd. • 310.451.8LICE(7542)
1822 Ocean Park Blvd. • 310.399.4080



Since 1967
Quality & Value Always!

Open 6am - 2:30pm Mon. - Fri.
6am - 4pm Sat. - Sun.

310-399-7892
2732 Main St.
Santa Monica

Come have some fun
for the holidays!



LOCAL

Local firm spreads holiday cheer to homeless

OPCC, from page 1

ones," she said. "Everyone thinks this was the best Christmas party we've done. At the other ones, you can't bring your spouse, but you have cocktails and have fru fru cocktails."

The Ocean Park Community Center, one the largest and oldest homeless shelters in Santa Monica, is almost at capacity, handling up to 300 people a day who come for a daily meal, groceries, clothes or a place to sleep. Santa Monica is not alone in experiencing an influx of homeless — communities across the country are finding

the homeless population increase. The New York Times recently reported that homelessness has increased a fifth across America.

"In these days, when everybody is so overwhelmed and helpless asking 'what can we do?'" In our communities we can make a difference," said Christina Erteszek, one of 278 volunteers at the access center. "It's not that we want to be a band aid but a continuum of care."

The OPCC was founded in 1963 and started as a grassroots, volunteer organization to provide assistance to the growing number of homeless and working poor

congregating in the Ocean Park neighborhood. OPCC is funded partially by the city, state and federal government, as well as by individual donations.

In the past four decades, OPCC has grown from a small program at the Church at Ocean Park on Hill Street with a few volunteers to a network of shelters and services that serve more than 12,000 people annually throughout Los Angeles County. Its budget is \$5 million annually and has 110 staff personnel for all of its services. The access center employs about 15 full-time staff members.



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
In addition to hot meals, CBIC Oppenheimer employees hand out backpacks containing basic necessities (above). More than a hundred of the city's homeless attended the event (right).



DSL

Starting at
\$59.45/mo!

always on,
always fast

"Since LA Bridge installed DSL at my home, I have found the flexibility to use the Internet in a whole new way."

—Bill Foster,
Apple Computer

each account includes:

- 24/7 Internet connection
- 7 days/week tech support
- 6MB personal web space
- free local dial-up acct
- 2 IP addresses
- over 4000 worldwide dial-up locations for laptop users who travel. (a metered service).

786k to 7.1M Now Available



pre-qualify online at www.LABridge.com
or call 310.823.6416

ENTERTAINMENT



All you need to know about Leonardo DiCaprio

BY SEAN DALY
Special to the Daily Press

NEW YORK CITY — Leonardo DiCaprio would like to get something off his chest: "I remember when I was very young, stealing some gum from the local Ralph's supermarket around the corner from my house," he says, flashing a boyish grin.

"It was called Big League Chew...I subsequently never went back to that grocery store for the next year. My mom would come in and say, 'What's wrong with you? You used to love going shopping with me.' And I would say, 'No, Mom, I just really hate that place'...because I got caught!"

The strange admission came during a recent interview to promote his new movie, "Catch Me If You Can," opening Christmas Day. DiCaprio, most famous of course for that 1997 boat movie, plays real-life con man Frank Abagnale, who successfully masqueraded as a Pan Am airlines pilot, a doctor, a district attorney, and a college professor for more than five years while cashing upwards of \$2.5 million in counterfeit checks.

Kinda makes the whole pack of gum thing seem, well, minor league.

Not that DiCaprio has ever been one to be outdone — especially when it comes to his much-publicized party lifestyle. Consider his recent 28th birthday bash at the Palms Resort in Las Vegas. The "Titanic" star enlisted private jets to fly in pals like Tobey Maguire and Lukas Haas for the three-day-long affair, November 14 - 16. On the final night, DiCaprio enjoyed a steak dinner with 20 close friends (including Limp Bizkit singer Fred Durst) then hit the hotel's trendy Ghostbar, where he danced and shot pool with "Real World-Las Vegas" cast member Arissa Hill, 23, until the wee hours of the morning.

"He invited a lot of girls," said pal Henry Penzi, who helped organize the festivities. "Leo said it was by far his best birthday."

In fact, most things just seem to keep getting better and better for the 5' 10" Los Angeles native, who returns from a self-imposed exile this month with both "Catch Me If You Can" and director Martin Scorsese's "Gangs of New York." "After Titanic came out, my whole life was put under this sort of microscope and I had an immediate loss in my private life," he tells Newsweek.

These days DiCaprio has learned a few tricks to survive the fame game: "I have my hat and sunglasses wherever I go," he says. "It's all a matter of blending in with your environment. If you are somebody who is recognizable, the first mistake you can make is dressing up and having an entourage. As long as you walk alone and dress like everybody else, you can easily adapt to the environment."

Of course, celebrities like DiCaprio, who earned a reported \$20 million for "Catch Me If You Can," cannot always hide from the media — especially when they are misbehaving. Earlier this month, a judge in Manhattan ordered a trial date to be set in actor Roger Wilson's \$45 million lawsuit against the "Titanic" star.

Wilson alleges DiCaprio instructed friends to attack him outside a New York bar in 1998, after Wilson's girlfriend, star Elizabeth Berkeley ("Showgirls") ignored his advances.



Leonardo DiCaprio

Berkeley is one of the many women to have landed on DiCaprio's radar over the years. He has been romantically linked to actresses Sara Gilbert, Kate Winslet, Liv Tyler and Juliette Lewis. Earlier this year, gossip scribes say he ended an on-again-off-again romance with Brazilian model Gisele Bundchen, and according to the New York Daily News, DiCaprio hooked up at a Halloween Party at the Playboy mansion with a production assistant from E! Television named Jennifer Paulson.

Not surprisingly, DiCaprio politely refuses to comment on his current dating status — saying just that he is "single" — or on any of the various news stories circulating around him. "It's a no win battle," he says, in a defiant tone. "You can't stand up there on a podium and declare who you really are or try to rebut each individual story, because there is no way you can win."

He's not trying to be difficult, you understand. It's just that DiCaprio, today wearing jeans, a gray wool sweater and navy blue Detroit Tigers baseball cap, would much rather talk about the movie. Okay, Leo. "Catch Me If You Can" is the latest offering from director Steven Spielberg, and an adaptation of the 1980 book co-authored by Abagnale himself. "He has innate talents within him and he has an instinct to be able to engage people and make them trust him," the actor says of Abagnale, who in a strange turn of events, now works as a special consultant for the FBI and spent several days at DiCaprio's Los Angeles home helping him prepare for the role.

"He used his talents in a way that was destructive to him."

DiCaprio, too, is recognized for his talents. In 1994, he received an Oscar nomination for role as Johnny Depp's autistic brother in "What's Eating Gilbert Grape." He has also won praise for roles in "The Basketball Diaries," "This Boy's Life" and "Romeo and Juliet." But still, many fans of the former teen pinup idol seem to be predominantly interested in his personal life.

Ardent Leo-phytes know he was named after his pregnant mother Irmelin paid a visit to the Uffizzi Gallery in Florence, Italy. While admiring a daVinci painting, she felt a kick from her baby, prompting her to name him after the painter.

DiCaprio is about to begin production on "The Aviator," one of several bio-pics about the late billionaire, oil, casino and airline tycoon Howard Hughes. "It is his initial descent into madness and his obsessive-compulsive disorder," he hints.

It's about young Howard Hughes, his triumphs, and his initial slope downwards.

PROFESSIONAL GRADE CLEANING

- Top of the line, Truck Mounted equipment
- Reasonable rates, quality service
- On time guarantee



\$50 OFF

Carpet Cleaning
Call for details

Blue Ribbon Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning

Locally owned and operated 310-729-2931

Need a place to live? Westside Rental connection

- The Westside's premier rental listing agency
- 12,000+ listings updated daily
- Friendly, knowledgeable staff
- Free credit checks
- Pet friendly rentals
- On-site computers available to members
- 6 office locations
- Affordable membership

Houses • Apartments • Guest Houses • Condos • Townhouses • Rental Shares
www.westsiderentals.com

1110 Wilshire Blvd.
310-395-7368

Westside Corporate Office

Redline Telecom®

TELEPHONE & VOICE MAIL SYSTEMS
FOR BUSINESS & RESIDENTIAL

310.453.7663

"Serving Your Telecommunication Needs"

- INSTALLATION
- RELOCATION
- LEASING
- SALES
- COMPUTER NETWORK CABLEING

Southern California Transfer Company

PUBLIC DUMP IN SANTA MONICA



310-828-6444
1908 Frank St. Santa Monica



GERMAN CAR SERVICE

Specialist in Repair of Porsche • VW • Audi • BMW



- Best alternative to high dealer prices
- Complete service and repair
- 6 month or 6000 mile guarantee
- Locally owned and operated since 1965

2202 OLYMPIC BLVD., SANTA MONICA • (310) 829-2563



Feel the friendliness ...
Taste the freshness!

HAPPY HOUR

Monday thru Friday
4p.m. to 6p.m.

MONDAY NIGHT
FOOTBALL
10:30pm
- 11:30pm
- 12:00am

TUESDAY &
SUNDAY NIGHT
MAGIC SHOW
10:30pm
- 11:30pm
- 12:00am

Pizza • Pasta • Salads • Dine In • To Go • Delivery

www.earthwindandflour.com

2222 Wilshire Blvd. • Santa Monica • 310.829.7829
1776 Westwood • Los Angeles • 310.470.2499



Sun-kissed Tanning

- Buy 2 months of unlimited tanning-get 1 free! (regular beds only)
 - VHR low UVB bed-5 tans for \$60 (valid for 2 months) (both offers valid only with coupon)
- Visit www.sun-kissedtan.com for monthly specials and coupons

Call for an appointment • 926 Wilshire Blvd. • Santa Monica • 310-451-9895

\$3.00 OFF METER

to LAX Or \$3.00 off any trip over \$25.00

Present coupon at time of service. Expires 3/31/03

- 10 minute door-to-door service
- Advanced reservations welcome
- Air conditioned cabs, vans and wagons
- Small package delivery - \$20 minimum

Yellow Taxi
Santa Monica

Galaxy Cab

310-828-7777

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
TAXI FOR OVER
25 YEARS!
FULLY LICENSED INSURED

800-499-0311
Toll Free

FIND OUT YOUR FORECAST IN TODAY'S
HOROSCOPE'S ... PAGE 2

Santa Monica Daily Press

hiring guarantee!

***Run an ad in the
classified section of the
Santa Monica Daily Press
for 4 weeks and we'll
guarantee that you'll find
the perfect employee.**

* We guarantee that if you don't find the right employee after 24 days, we'll run your ad until you do at no additional cost. Classifieds are \$2.50 a day up to 15 words, 20¢ per word thereafter. Call for more details (310) 458-7737.

Santa Monica Daily Press



STATE

King County prosecutor's murder linked to ex-cop

BY BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press Writer

BAKERSFIELD — For a man who spent his career locking up criminals, Stephen Tauzer showed unusual kindness toward a neighborhood kid who became hooked on drugs.

When Lance Hillis, the son of a former cop, hit bottom with methamphetamine, the county's No. 2 prosecutor put his reputation on the line to keep the young man out of jail.

His support didn't end there.

The prosecutor offered his home, money, even a car.

That posed more than ethical problems for Tauzer, the Kern County assistant district attorney. It also plunged him into a battle with Chris Hillis, who felt his son was beyond the reach of rehabilitation and needed the reality of jail time to sober up.

Chris Hillis said he would kill Tauzer if anything happened to his 22-year-old son, according to court records.

Prosecutors say he followed through on the promise five weeks after Lance was killed in a head-on crash while fleeing a drug treatment center in a stolen car.

Tauzer was found in a pool of his own blood on the floor of his garage in September with a knife sticking out of his head. Investigators knew immediately who to suspect and only waited until they had DNA evidence to make an arrest.

Hillis, 48, is now behind bars, accused of murdering a former friend who usurped his role as a father. He has pleaded innocent and is being held in the Kern County Jail without bail until a March hearing.

But some in this conservative town of farms and oil fields wonder if Hillis' apparent rage was fueled by the perception that an older man was inappropriately showering his son with more than generosity.

Soon after Tauzer's body was found and talk focused on his feud with Hillis, rumors circulated that he was a "sugar daddy" to Lance, his roommate.

District Attorney Ed Jagels and Tauzer family members chafe at that notion, saying only that Tauzer was like an uncle to Lance.

But the perception that something was going on between Lance and the 57-year-old unmarried man, weighed heavily on Chris Hillis, according to a law enforcement source who requested anonymity.

"This whole gay thing, I can't stand it," Hillis once blurted to a probation officer handling his son's case, according to the source.

The defense is looking into whether homosexuality played a role in the killing, but wouldn't say how it would be used.

"The witnesses have told us about Mr. Tauzer's visits with Lance in rehab, sending cards and money, getting him a job at the DA's office, giving him a car," said defense lawyer Kyle Humphrey. "We did have a string of homicides here in early '80s where prominent closeted gay men apparently were messing around with younger men. Several of the older men were killed."

Margaret Tauzer, one of the prosecutor's 13 younger siblings, said her brother was not gay. Another brother, Mark, said his brother's compassion for Lance was typical of the love he showed his family.

"If he'd done anything for this kid, it's nothing more than he's done for his nieces and nephews," said Mark Tauzer. "Twelve hundred people don't go to a funeral for a sleazy guy."

The rift between the two men was well

established.

When questioned by deputies on Sept. 16, the day after Tauzer's body was discovered, Hillis said the last time he saw his former friend was two years earlier when he confronted Tauzer about his relationship with Lance, according to police reports.

Hillis told the Bakersfield Californian that he asked Tauzer, "What is your obsession with my son?" Hillis slapped Tauzer in the face and Tauzer struck back in an incident documented by the sheriff's office. He told Tauzer to leave his son and their family alone.

Hillis boasted and joked to his father, Donald Hillis, two years ago that he was going to drown Tauzer in a pool and then dump his body in the Kern River to make it look like a fishing accident, police reports said.

Donald Hillis, also a former cop, told Tauzer about his son's comments and the prosecutor told friends, family members and co-workers that he feared for his life, according to police reports.

At one time, Hillis and Tauzer were friends, neighbors and co-workers in the district attorney's office, where Chris Hillis was an investigator for 11 years until his medical retirement in 1995.

But Lance's descent into drug use as a teenager fractured that relationship as both men chose different paths to help him.

Chris Hillis went back to school to become a drug counselor and then opened a treatment center called Haven. When he realized his son was too deeply involved in drugs, he took a tough-love approach, advocating jail time.

Tauzer, however, worked behind the scenes and wrote letters to judges and probation officers urging leniency for Lance — an unusual posture from a prosecutor in an office that prided itself on being the toughest in the state.

The attorney general's office was called in to handle the cases because of Tauzer's conflict of interest and a state prosecutor said his role was inappropriate.

Court records show that Lance started using methamphetamine as a teenager and was addicted by 1998. Despite numerous breaks from courts that sentenced him to probation instead of prison, he couldn't stay clean.

In August 2000, after Lance left one program, his father handcuffed him in his apartment after finding meth on a coffee table and drug paraphernalia.

A short jail sentence was followed by probation and more broken promises.

Tauzer thought Lance was doing better when he visited him at a rehab center in Placerville in June, reporting in a letter to Judge Lee Felice that Lance "looked healthy, happy and more importantly, drug-free."

But a few weeks later, Lance wrecked Tauzer's car while driving under the influence, according to a police report.

On Aug. 7, Lance stole a car from a Kentucky Fried Chicken parking lot in Placerville and sped toward the American River, where he swerved into oncoming traffic and was killed when he struck a rafting bus.

In September, Tauzer visited El Dorado County, the place where Lance died. Tauzer was killed within days of returning home.

Chris Hillis was arrested five weeks later at the clinic he had renamed "Lance's Haven."

STATE



Sales tax on Internet buys could help fill budget gap

BY JIM WASSERMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Though it may seem like chump change compared to California's projected \$35 billion budget deficit, sales taxes on online shopping could spare countless small government programs from extinction by raising \$200 million yearly — and possibly much more.

This newest potential budget fix resonates far beyond California. Nationally, analysts believe local and state governments could add hundreds of millions — if not billions — of dollars to their treasuries as shoppers increasingly buy online.

"We can no longer ignore an entire segment of the retail marketplace," said Pat Leary, lobbyist for the California State Association of Counties and a frequent online shopper herself. "This is no longer a fad. This is a genuine legitimate part of people's retail behavior now."

Even as retail sales are sluggish, Internet shopping is expected to climb to \$40 billion this year over last year's \$30 billion, according to New York-based Jupiter Research. It could reach \$105 billion within five years, senior Jupiter analyst Ken Cassar said.

Still, many online shopping deals are closed without sales tax — \$10 billion for computers and accessories, \$4.7 billion for clothes and \$2.8 billion for books wasn't taxed, according to Jupiter.

The reasons are complex and have defied solutions.

Many online retailers balk at having to compute the hodgepodge of local sales taxes

across the nation. Most customers, in turn, duck their duty to pay the sales tax themselves and most states don't go after them.

But the issue is taking on fresh urgency in state capitals, where last fiscal year governors collectively sliced \$13 billion and are preparing to whack billions more, according to the National Governors Association.

At the height of Silicon Valley's technology explosion two years ago, Gov. Gray Davis vetoed a bill that would have forced California's online retailers to charge state residents an online sales tax. Davis, then presiding over a budget awash in surplus funds, said the bill would send the wrong message to an emerging new marketing medium and robust job generator.

Now, facing a record budget shortfall, Internet sales taxes are among many options on his table.

"We'll be looking at all ideas," said Davis spokeswoman Hilary McLean.

That might encourage some tax reform advocates.

"There are a lot of programs that cost \$10 million that I care about," said Lenny Goldberg, a budget lobbyist and head of the California Tax Reform Association.

Estimates vary widely on how much local and state governments are losing while they devise plans to encourage online retailers to collect sales taxes voluntarily.

Sales taxes account for more than 30 percent of California's income. This year the state expects its 7.75 percent tax on sales will generate \$22.3 billion. At least 18 of California's 58 counties add another half cent for highways and transit.

High unemployment insurance taxes add to economic burdens

BY JESSICA V. BRICE
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Alzada Knickerbocker is getting ready for another tough year.

Knickerbocker, the owner of a small bookstore in Davis called The Avid Reader, says she is still struggling through the sluggish economy and a disappointing holiday shopping season.

But starting in January, California businesses will face another hardship: Unemployment insurance taxes are set to rise by as much as 28 percent.

"Any additional increase in tax rates, especially in this economy, is going to be tough," Knickerbocker said. "It's really going to put an extra burden on the folks who provide the jobs."

State officials say the tax hike is needed to help restore dwindling unemployment insurance reserves, which have dropped from \$5.6 billion in December 2001 to just \$4.3 billion at the end of this year, according to the California Employment Development Department.

The drop is largely because people are collecting unemployment at a higher rate than the fund is being replenished, according to the employment department, and they will soon collect larger checks, too. Maximum benefits are set to increase in January from \$230 to \$330 per week.

The new tax rate — which automatically jumps if the insurance trust fund falls below set levels — means most

employers will pay about \$14 to \$21 more per worker per year.

But many business leaders say it's the latest in a string of tough breaks for businesses hampering economic recovery.

"It's been a train wreck of circumstances," said Martyn Hopper, California state director for the National Federation of Independent Businesses. "Although the cost of the unemployment insurance tax itself is fairly small, it could be that last straw that breaks the camel's back."

And with high unemployment rates plaguing the nation, employers from Missouri to Oregon to Texas also are facing higher taxes.

Most states use a countercyclical tax schedule to raise money for the fund. That means the tax rate is low during good economic times and increases during economic contractions, when more people tap into unemployment insurance.

However, during the boom of the 1990s, many states failed to build up adequate unemployment insurance reserves, said Wayne Vroman, an economist at the Urban Institute, a nonpartisan think tank in Washington, D.C.

The federal government recommends that states hold in reserve enough cash to cover 12 months of high unemployment claims in case of a recession. But as of June 2001, about 24 states, including California — which had about nine months in reserve — didn't meet those guidelines. Four states could only cover six months or less.

PEST & TERMITE CONTROL
(310) 829-1827
OFFICES THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA
 Home or Business
 Fumigation • Thermal Pest Eradication
 Pest Bird Relocation • Rodent Control
 Termite Inspections and repairs
 Marina del Rey • Santa Monica • Venice
<http://www.deweypest.com>

Oldest Diner in Santa Monica
Breakfast Special!
 *Ham & Eggs w/hashbrowns, toast & jam **\$4.99**
 *2 Hotcakes, 2 sausages, 2 Bacon, 2 Eggs **\$4.95**
Lunch
 Sandwich, Soup or Salad **\$4.95**
316 Santa Monica Blvd. (310) 396-4273

Printing B/W & Full Color

- Invoices
- Letterheads
- Envelopes
- Business Cards

SANTA MONICA COPY & PRINTING
 924 Wilshire Blvd.,
(Between 24th & 10th Street, Across from Fed Ex)
(310) 319-1341
 Fax: (310) 319-1343
FREE Pick-Up & Delivery
Free Passes in Read
Email: sam.copyp@ig.net
Volume Discount Also Available

Canon Color Laser Copies
79¢
On 6 1/2 x 11 PAPER
Reduction & enlargement extra from your dealer. CD-Rom also available.

Personalized Calendar
\$19.95
12 Months Full Color

FIRST LESSON FREE!
GROUP & PRIVATE TRAINING
MEN WOMEN & CHILDREN (AGES 7 & UP)
Group & Family Discounts Available!
WE PROUDLY OFFER:

- Wing Chun Kung Fu
- Chi Gung & Meditation
- Film & Stage Combat
- Women's Self-Defense
- Law Enforcement Techniques
- Sports Enhancement

IMPROVE YOUR:

- Self-Defense
- Focus/Discipline
- Stress Management
- Physical Fitness
- Mind/Body Coordination
- Self-Confidence

The Los Angeles Traditional Wing Chun Kung-Fu Academy
Founder/Chief instructor: Si-Fu Eric Oram
 816 Pico Blvd. (1/2 block east of Lincoln) Santa Monica.
 Call us at **(310) 664-1404**
 And visit our website @ www.fewingchun.com

Since 1993
Available for private parties

14th

NEW YEARS EVE!

"BUTTERFLY JONES"
featuring members of Dada

"DIRTY BLUE"

\$12 cover includes complimentary champagne toast and party favors for everyone!

B48 14th Street Santa Monica
(corner of 14th & Santa Monica)
(310) 451-5040
www.14below.com

"Retail Therapy"
75-90% off



From Gap
to Gucci...
L.A.'s hottest
resale store!

GREAT LABELS
Designer Resale

310.451.2277

Open 7 Days
1126 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica



Paddington's
TEA ROOM

**"Home of L.A.'s Most Famous
English High Tea"**

Since 1986

Open 7 Days – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ZAGAT'S 2001 AWARD OF DISTINCTION

**355 S. Robertson Blvd.
Beverly Hills
(310) 652-0624**

NATIONAL

Archdiocese seeks First Amendment protection

BY ROBERT O'NEILL
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — The Boston Archdiocese asked a judge Monday to dismiss the hundreds of sexual-abuse lawsuits against the church on freedom-of-religion grounds. But the archdiocese said it is still committed to reaching a settlement.

The archdiocese said it made the dismissal request to satisfy its insurers that it has employed all possible legal defenses.

"Failure to do this could very well result in the insurance companies walking away from us, saying that we have not exercised all of our avenues of defense," said Bishop Richard G. Lennon, who was named interim head of the fourth-largest U.S. archdiocese on Dec. 13.

In court papers, the archdiocese argued that under the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of religion, civil law does not apply to how religious organizations supervise their personnel.

The argument was filed with Superior Court Judge Constance Sweeney even as Lennon renewed his request that all legal maneuvering in the lawsuits be suspended to that settlement talks could be intensified.

Jeffrey Newman, whose firm represents about 200 alleged victims, said he believes the archdiocese remains sincere in its efforts to move toward a settlement of the more than 400 lawsuits filed over child-molesting priests.

A law firm advising the archdiocese has concluded that the church has at least \$90 million available for a settlement, most of it through coverage provided by two insurance companies, Travelers and Kemper.

Archdiocese spokeswoman Donna Morrissey said the archdiocese "believed in the argument" it filed with the court, but is still committed to reaching a settlement.

"I believe these cases are best resolved through a comprehensive settlement and so I renew my request that all parties accept a moratorium on all discovery and court proceedings in order that all parties actively pursue such a settlement," Lennon said in a statement issued Monday.

**"Will it be successful?
Probably not."**

— JEFFREY NEWMAN
Attorney

The move comes days after plaintiffs' attorneys submitted estimates of how much they want the archdiocese to pay their clients. The estimate has not been made public, and the archdiocese has until mid-January to respond.

Massachusetts judges have already rejected previous arguments by the archdiocese that the church's activities are immune from judicial scrutiny, and lawyers questioned the archdiocese's chances of success this time.

"Will it be successful? Probably not," Newman said. "But do they have to comply with the terms of the contract in order to obtain money from the insurance contract? Yes. So they're in a Catch-22. Our belief is that Lennon is doing what he's promising, that he's committed to resolving the cases."

Judge Ellen 'Maximum' Morphonios dead at 73

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — Judge Ellen "Maximum" Morphonios, who prosecuted rock star Jim Morrison for allegedly exposing himself, took her pet chimpanzee to the office and was known as "Time Machine" for her long sentences, has died at 73.

Morphonios died Sunday of stomach cancer.

"It's just not like her to die," said Anne Cates, a former assistant. "She was always a fighter."

She got her nickname "Maximum" for the 1,000-year sentences she gave robbers and rapists.

"Even the criminals had a lot of respect — they nicknamed her 'Time Machine' because they knew if they went before her and were found guilty, they were going to do a lot of time," said Lloyd Hough, a retired Miami-Dade County police detective.

Morphonios was known for her idiosyncrasies: decorating her chambers in lavender, moonlighting as talk-radio personality "Lady Ellen," and taking Toto, her chimpanzee, to work.

Morphonios sentenced one robber to 1,197 years in prison after he urinated on the courtroom floor. She made him leave without his pants.

When another defendant's mother passed out on the floor, Morphonios continued with her business.

"Next defendant," she said. "Step for-

ward. Step over the body."

Mensa, the organization for people with high IQs, says in a profile of notable members on its Web site that Morphonios was a former model who passed an exam that allowed her to enter law school without an undergraduate degree.

Before becoming a judge, she was the prosecutor in the case against Morrison, the lead singer of the Doors, after he allegedly exposed himself before 10,000 people at a 1969 Miami concert.

He was convicted the next year of indecent exposure and use of profanity, but was acquitted of lewdness and public drunkenness. The guilty verdicts were appealed, but Morrison died in 1971 before the case was resolved.

She also presided over football player Eugene "Mercury" Morris' 1982 cocaine trafficking trial and sentenced the former Miami Dolphin great to 20 years. He served four before being granted a new trial, then pleaded no contest to a reduced charge. Morphonios sentenced him to time already served.

Morphonios first retired in 1991 amid Operation Court Broom, a judicial corruption investigation. She was investigated but never charged. Three colleagues were convicted.

In 1997 she returned as a part-time judge, but she retired months later after a state board questioned why she had not reported an alleged bribe attempt.

NATIONAL



Bush pardons seven Americans

BY SCOTT LINDLAW
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush has pardoned seven Americans for an array of mostly minor offenses, from a Mississippi man who tampered with a car odometer to a postal employee who stole \$10.90 from the mail, the White House announced Monday.

The seven were the first pardons of his administration.

Bush also pardoned a Tennessee man sentenced in 1962 for making untaxed whiskey; an Oregon man convicted in 1966 in a grain-theft conspiracy; an Iowa man sentenced in 1989 for lying to the Social Security Administration; a Washington state man sentenced in 1972 for stealing \$38,000 worth of copper wire; and a Wisconsin minister who refused to be inducted into the military, sentenced in 1957.

Bush granted the pardons on

Friday, but the White House announced his pardons on Monday with little fanfare. Bush maintained a long-standing tradition by doing it near the holidays.

While he personally approved the pardons, the announcement was made by the Department of Justice, with the White House quietly signing off. Bush is spending part of the Christmas week at Camp David.

"What all these cases have in common is that each pardon recipient committed a relatively minor offense many years ago, completed his prison sentence or probation and paid any fine, and has gone on to live an exemplary life and to be a positive force in his community," said Ashley Snee, a White House spokeswoman.

The seven people Bush pardoned: ■ Kenneth Franklin Copley of Lyles, Tenn. Sentenced to two years probation in 1962 for manufacturing untaxed whiskey.

■ Harlan Paul Dobas of Portland,

Ore. Sentenced to three months in jail in 1966 for conspiracy involving the sale of grain stolen from his employer.

■ Stephen James Jackson of Picayune, Miss. Sentenced to three years probation and fined \$500 in 1993 for altering an odometer.

■ Douglas Harley Rogers of Brookfield, Wis. A Jehovah's Witnesses minister sentenced to two years in jail in 1957 for failing to report for military induction.

■ Walter F. Schuerer of Amana, Iowa. Fined \$15,000 in 1989 for making a false statement to the Social Security Administration regarding his employment.

■ Paul Herman Wieser of Tacoma, Wash. Sentenced to 18 months probation in 1972 for stealing \$38,000 worth of copper wire.

■ Olgen Williams of Indianapolis. A postal worker sentenced to one year in jail in 1971 for stealing \$10.90 from the mail.

Paddling out



Daniel Hulshizer/Associated Press

Ted Ricchiuti paddles his kayak back to Island Beach State Park in Berkeley Township, N.J. at dusk on Dec. 12. Ricchiuti says that he goes out whenever the temperature is above 45 degrees.

Consumer spending rises slightly for biggest increase since summer

BY JEANNINE AVERSA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Early bird holiday shopping helped to lift consumer spending in November by the largest amount in four months. That, plus solid income growth, underscored economists' belief that consumers will keep spending, supporting the economic recovery.

Consumer spending rose by 0.5 percent in November from the previous month, led by a burst of buying of big-ticket goods, such as cars and appliances, the Commerce Department reported Monday. The increase — the biggest since July — came after a 0.4 percent advance in October.

Americans' incomes, including wages, interest and government benefits, climbed 0.3 percent in November for the fourth month in a row.

Consumers, whose spending accounts for two-thirds of all economic activity in the United States, have been the main force carrying the economy all year.

With incomes growing modestly and Americans' confidence in the economy improving, economists believe consumers will keep their pocketbooks and wallets open wide enough to help along the recovery, preventing a new recession.

But for the nation's retailers, it remains to be seen just how much cheer they'll get from this holiday shopping season.

Retailers had a good start to the season with better-than-expected sales during the Thanksgiving weekend. But subsequent sales have been weak. Retailers are offering heavy discounts to lure buyers and are keeping their fingers crossed that last-minute shoppers will come to the rescue.

"November's consumer spending results were boosted by people getting a jump on their holiday shopping," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at LaSalle Bank. "But despite the nice November, the news so far for the important holiday retail period has not been outstanding."

And, heavy markdowns might take a toll on retailers' earnings.

"Heavy discounting might not bode well for retailers profits," said Richard Yamarone, economist with Argus Research Corp. "I don't think holiday sales will be as bad as some think. The parking lots are full and people are not just walking the malls. They are buying."

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average lost 18.03 points to close at 8,493.29 as some retailers said holiday sales were continuing to fall short of expectations.

So far this year, consumer spending has been supported by a number of factors. They include: low interest rates, zero percent financing offers, rising home values and extra cash left from a flurry of home mortgage refinancing. Those factors have been offsetting negatives

one including the turbulent stock market and a stagnant job market.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, in a speech last week, described both consumer spending and new-home sales, which are on track for a record year, as "remarkably firm this year."

In November, consumer spending on durable goods, such as cars and appliances, jumped by 1.5 percent, the biggest gain since August 2000. November's increase also marked a turnaround from the 1.4 percent decline in spending on durable goods recorded in October.

On nondurable goods, such as food and clothing, spending rose by 0.4 percent, down from a 0.8 percent increase in October.

Spending on services climbed 0.4 percent in November, following a 0.5 percent gain.

Americans' disposable, or after-tax, income rose 0.4 percent in November for the fourth month in a row.

"World Famous"
Big Dean's Cafe
At Santa Monica Beach
Enjoy the "best" food and the "fun" music making the difference!
SEA • STEAK • GREAT FOOD • BEER • WINE • MUSIC
Serves: 11 • 2 Outdoor Patios • Smoking Allowed
Reasonable Prices • Children Welcome!
1615 Ocean Front, Santa Monica 310.391.2666
All other 11 ways to enjoy the "fun" music making the difference!
The "fun" music making the difference!

EXTRA!! EXTRA!!

SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS AT NEWSSTANDS AROUND THE CITY!

Readers and customers can find the Daily Press in permanent newsstands at these locations:

- 17th Street and Montana Avenue
- 14th Street and Montana Avenue
- Montana Avenue, between 14th-15th Streets
- 7th Street and Montana Avenue
- 3rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard
- Ocean Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard
- Wilshire Boulevard, between 22nd-23rd Streets
- 14th and Santa Monica Boulevard
- Wilshire Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard
- Colorado Boulevard and 3rd Street
- Santa Monica Courthouse
- Arizona Avenue and Second Street
- Arizona Avenue and Fifth Street
- Three newsstands at the intersection of Arizona Avenue and Fourth Street
- Broadway and Lincoln Boulevard
- Broadway and 10th Street
- Colorado Avenue and Second Street
- Santa Monica Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard
- Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway Avenue
- Lincoln Boulevard and Pico Boulevard
- Lincoln Boulevard and Strand
- Two newsstands at the intersection of Lincoln Boulevard and Raymond
- Main Street and Kinney
- Main Street and Strand
- Main Street and Ocean Park
- Main Street and Ashland
- Montana Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard
- Montana Avenue and Euclid Street
- Montana Avenue and 16th Street

WATCH FOR FUTURE NEWSSTANDS AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!

SANTA MONICA SCENE

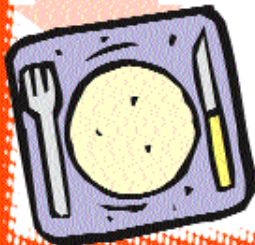
your complete guide to culinary entertainment

COMING SOON!

**Keep an eye out
for the most
comprehensive,
up to date *dining*
and *entertainment*
guide available in
Santa Monica.**

**BROUGHT TO
YOU EVERY DAY**

**For listing reservations
call your rep at:
(310) 458-7737**



NATIONAL

Tamales, hot cocoa are Bush holiday traditions

BUSH, from page 1

brations have become a blend of each of their families' traditions and their own accumulated history.

Included in the holiday decorations brought with them to Washington are two crèches, one a Mexican nativity scene. Earlier this year an addition was added when Jenna, mindful of her parents' fondness for manger scenes, bought one while visiting Prague with her mother. Mrs. Bush, a former librarian, also likes to display Christmas books such as the children's classic "The Polar Express" on the coffee table.

A perennial favorite tree ornament is one made of construction paper displaying photos of the twins. The ornament, which they made as a school project when they were about 2 years old, joins some from Mrs. Bush's childhood and even from her grandmother's collection. More recent acquisitions depict their beloved Scottish terrier, Barney, and other animals.

With Bush's ascension to the nation's highest office and the construction of a new home in Crawford, Texas, new traditions are being born.

The Christmas dinner menu was still mostly undecided several days out, with Mrs. Bush leaning toward a beef tenderloin. She had considered, but then discarded, a recipe for red velvet cake she recently spied in a magazine.

The gifts that will appear Christmas morning were being kept secret by the first lady's staff. One thing is certain: Per presidential order, they will remain wrapped until the family gathers in their pajamas around the tree on Christmas morning. Stocking gifts, usually the purview of Bush, will likely be waiting outside the girls' bedroom doors.

Some traditions do change with age, however. Jenna and Barbara, now 21, probably will not try to attach the gift bows around their pets' necks as they did every year when they were younger.

And one more change. "Unlike when they were younger, they sleep later," said Mrs. Bush, who answered written questions through her spokeswoman. "They are not the ones waking us up. We make the hot chocolate and wake them up. By that time, the president and I have already eaten our cereal."

Flashier displays used to attract new donations

CHARITIES, from page 1

Joseph Bergen, chief operating officer of the American Lung Association, which nearly a century ago created "Christmas Seals" to raise money for the public. The organization recently sent out a holiday gift-wrapping kit.

Paulette Maehara, president of the Association of Fund Raising Professionals, acknowledged, "Guilt is a reason that people do give in response."

"But you're also providing something of value, so they're willing to give," he said. "Everybody can use labels, everybody can use greeting cards."

Yet some people find the giveaways to be a wasteful or cynical way to raise money, as if the cause alone is not compelling enough to get people to donate.

Bergen says his group gets occasional complaints from people who say all the money should be going to fight lung disease.

"I feel that way myself, to be honest with you," he said. "If I give a contribution, I don't want something in return. But there are a big block of donors out there who ... look for those kinds of things, and they respond to them."

Those people are known as premium responsive. Another group of donors, known as mission responsive, will give because they support the cause and do not care about getting gifts — or may even resent them.

Some charities take care to identifying premium-responsive donors when they send solicitations, because it is more expensive to market to them. Still, charities say the freebies work; they drive up the response rate by nearly two-thirds.

"That literally translates into millions and millions of dollars in additional net income," said Max Hart, who raises money for the Disabled American Veterans.

Charities hope they do not run into too many people like Janet Mondello, 55, a Washington legal secretary who uses the

free labels and has gotten over her qualms about not giving in return. "I feel they could save that money and put it toward the charity," she said.

About 90 percent of households gave to charity in 2000, according to a survey by the Independent Sector, which represents hundreds of charitable groups. The average household gave about \$1,600 in a year.

Fund-raising appeals peak this time of year, when people are in a giving mood and some want to boost donations to claim on their tax returns.

Yet, the groups are mindful that not everyone they solicit with freebies will send money.

"They have enough of a response rate to make it worth their while to do it," said Bennett Weiner, who runs the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance, a national watchdog for charities.

People who receive giveaways are not obligated to make a donation, but some people believe they should not accept something for nothing. It's an impulse charities count on.

Lorraine Cwieka, marketing director at a Washington law firm, loves getting the address labels but said she avoids using the greeting cards because people can tell she got them free.

Cwieka, 31, also said charities could spend their money better but thinks the giveaways are a "good way of getting their name out there."

Giving to one charity opens the door to repeat solicitations as well as numerous requests from other groups, which can be annoying.

Weiner says donors who do not want multiple solicitations should include a note saying so with their next donation. Hart agrees.

"We try to honor their request no matter what it is," he said. "We don't want to turn them off. We do need their support."

INTERNATIONAL



Troops use tear gas to disperse Venezuelan protesters

BY ALEXANDRA OLSON
Associated Press Writer

CARACAS, Venezuela — Troops fired tear gas and rubber bullets Monday to disperse demonstrators blocking a key bridge across Lake Maracaibo as Venezuela's opposition protested the president's threat to fire striking oil workers.

National Guard troops swiftly broke up the protest by several dozen people on the bridge over the oil-rich lake in western Venezuela. Blocking the bridge is illegal because it's the only land connection between oil refineries on the east and west sides of the lake.

Opponents of President Hugo Chavez planned a candlelight march later Monday to the Caracas offices of the state-owned oil monopoly, Petroleos de Venezuela SA, or PDVSA.

Carlos Ortega, president of Venezuela's largest labor confederation, insisted citizens were "resolved to spend Christmas in the streets" protesting Chavez's rule.

"Cost what it may, we will continue with this strike," Ortega said Sunday. "The authoritarianism and violence of the Chavez regime will not force us to retreat."

The work stoppage, now in its 22nd day, has paralyzed an oil industry that provides more than 70 percent of the country's export revenue and is the fifth largest supplier to the world.

Scarcity of gasoline was complicating food deliveries, and many supermarkets

only had enough supplies to last four more days, warned Rafael Alfonso, president of the Venezuelan Chamber of Industry and Food, in comments published Monday in *El Universal* newspaper.

Still, more businesses and shops were opening in downtown Caracas, which has bustled with street vendors and traffic throughout the strike.

Also Monday, several computers were stolen or destroyed in a break-in at the Caracas offices of the Organization of American States, which is mediating talks between the government and the opposition.

There were no arrests. Police didn't believe the burglary was politically motivated, said OAS office director Carlos Carbacho.

Chavez, who already has fired four executives at the state oil company, vowed more dismissals and said strikers would be prosecuted.

"We have begun to recover PDVSA and we will start a cleansing in PDVSA," Chavez said during his weekly television and radio show Sunday. "Those who didn't show up for work ... well, they will be fired."

Chavez seized a gasoline-laden ship whose crew joined the strike by dropping anchor in Lake Maracaibo. Soldiers then moved the tanker *Pilin Leon* to shore after Friday's seizure.

A judge freed the crew from jail Sunday but prohibited them from leaving the country.

Twelve other tankers remained idle in

various ports, though crews from two of the vessels were forced off and arrested, according to lawyer Gonzalo Himiob.

Chavez announced that the government has exported more than 2 million barrels of oil to the United States, the largest customer for Venezuela, in the last nine days. Another tanker carrying 500,000 barrels will leave port in the next hours, he said.

However, oil exports have been cut by about 90 percent since the strike began Dec. 2, helping drive up world prices.

Chavez said in an interview Sunday that the government has activated emergency measures to import gasoline from Brazil and Colombia. He also told Brazil's *O Estado de S. Paulo* newspaper that Russia offered to send oil tankers.

Business, labor and opposition political parties called a general strike Dec. 2 to demand Chavez step down or submit to early elections, accusing him of failing to

revive the economy, widening class divisions and ruling autocratically. Under Chavez, Venezuela's economy shrank 6 percent in the first nine months of this year, unemployment has climbed to 17 percent and inflation to 30 percent.

His popularity has slipped to about 30 percent, though it remains as high as 45 percent in the slums that ring Caracas.

Chavez, a former army paratrooper commander who led an unsuccessful coup in 1992, was elected in 1998 and re-elected in 2000, on promises to help the poor. He is not constitutionally obligated to submit to a recall referendum until halfway into his six-year term, or August.

The National Elections Council, however, has accepted a petition signed by more than 2 million people calling for a nonbinding vote Feb. 2. Voters swarmed to registration centers across the country, forcing authorities to keep them open for an extra day Monday.

Iraq attends Mideast Summit



Nasser Nasser/Associated Press

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, right, attends the opening ceremony of Emergency Conference of Arab Solidarity Committee in Baghdad.

Ex-royal family returns home after half-century ban

BY TOM RACHMAN
Associated Press Writer

ROME — After a half-century of exile and longing, Italy's former royals returned Monday to the land where their family once reigned, ending the shame of banishment imposed for the monarchy's support of Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini during World War II.

Victor Emmanuel, the son of the last king, made an unannounced one-day visit to Italy as a commoner, along with his wife and son. The family went straight to the Vatican for a private meeting with Pope John Paul II, then jumped back on a private plane for Switzerland, their home in exile.

The 65-year-old former prince — exiled from Italy since age 9 — promised he would return to Italy in February and live out a dream: to travel around the nation like a tourist.

"I'll start to visit the whole of Italy with my son, who doesn't know it," Victor Emmanuel said. "Seeing how well we've been received, it will be a great pleasure to be among you all again."

"I want to go to Naples and then we will go to Venice, and visit all the other parts of Italy — like someone who doesn't know the country."

They became legally able to enter Italy last month, when a law went into effect overturning a 54-year-old constitutional ban on the presence of the last monarch's male heirs in Italy.

His 30-year-old son, Emmanuel Filiberto, was born and raised in Switzerland, and hadn't stepped foot in the country before Monday. He described the trip with his father and mother, Marina

Doria, as "magnificent."

"For me it was something magical," he said.

In recent years, many Italians began to feel that the constitutional ban on male descendants of the House of Savoy was a relic. Over the summer, parliament lifted the ban after much lobbying by the royal family.

"After all, they have not been personally responsible for anything and you cannot maintain that ban indefinitely," political analyst and author Sergio Romano said.

"Lots of people have no regard for the present members of the family, but feel that they should come back. They realize that this country has been made by the monarchy to a certain extent."

The family delayed taking advantage of the right to return because Victor Emmanuel recently suffered a back injury in a motor-rally accident in Egypt. His bad back led the family to limit their trip Monday to five hours.

The visit may have been brief, but it was emotional.

Family friend Hana Husak, who flew with the royals from Geneva to Rome, described Victor Emmanuel's response on arrival.

"I saw him tremble," she said. "He stood silent and was very emotional."

The family took a drive through central Rome, giving Victor Emmanuel a chance to see grand monuments he hadn't seen since he was a boy. Arriving at the Vatican, they had a 20-minute audience with the pope, exchanging Christmas greetings and gifts.

Each of the three ex-royals bowed before the pontiff and kissed his hand. Victor Emmanuel presented the pontiff

with two books about the Savoy family and a print of a family member. The pope gave them a rosary.

John Paul offered his blessing, wished them "Merry Christmas," and added "Until next time," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said.

The exile goes back to a time when Italy had suffered wartime defeat and devastation, and its people looked for someone to blame. Among those deemed guilty was King Victor Emmanuel III, who had been a figurehead monarch during Mussolini's government.

On May 9, 1946, Victor Emmanuel III abdicated in favor of his son Umberto II. But Umberto lasted only a month before a referendum in which Italians voted to scrap the monarchy and make the country a republic.

Two years later, the republic's new constitution barred Umberto and his male descendants from Italy.

For the few remaining Italian monarchists, Monday's return marked the end of an unfair chapter in Italian history.

"An injustice is wiped out," said a delighted Sergio Boschiero of the Italian Monarchic Union, regretting only that the ban had lasted so long.

Another formerly exiled European royal, Simeon II of Bulgaria, returned to his homeland last year and became premier when his party swept parliamentary elections. Italy itself was home to exiled Afghan King Mohammad Zaher Shah until his return in April to help the rebuilding of his nation.

But analysts said it was unimaginable that the royal family — regularly mocked on TV comedy shows and earning little affection from the vast majority of Italians — would have a direct impact on national politics.

Analyst Romano said their return only restores a piece of the nation's history that had been missing for decades.

"All sorts of things make the history of the country," Romano said. "To keep them out is to keep them out of the history of the country."

At the Pantheon, the ancient Roman monument where the Savoy family's ancestors are buried, an elderly volunteer stood guard Monday in front of the tombs.

Retired Lt. Col. Francesco Silvestri, 83, said he was loyal to the royal family — even if he didn't think much of the current crop.



SPORTS

Redskins release Sanders, may start for Oakland

BY JANIE MCCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND — Deion Sanders was released by the Washington Redskins on Monday, clearing the first of several obstacles for him to play for the Oakland Raiders.

The retired cornerback was on the reserve-retired list with the Redskins, the team from which he retired after the 2000 season, one year into his seven-year contract — meaning the Redskins own his rights.

Sanders now must clear waivers for the Raiders to be able to sign him. It was not immediately clear whether the team wants him, despite Sanders' comments about trying to return to the NFL with the Raiders.

The Raiders would not confirm they were in discussions with Sanders.

"That remains highly speculative at this point," coach Bill Callahan said Monday. "I don't want to take away or detract from the team and what we did yesterday. It's very speculative and there is no reason to address it."

Being placed on waivers means any of the NFL's 32 teams — including an AFC playoff team looking to spoil the Raiders' plans — can claim Sanders and place him on their reserve-retired list.

Sanders said Sunday he was talking with the Raiders about joining them for the playoffs. Oakland (10-5) clinched its third straight AFC West title with a 28-16 win over Denver on Sunday.

There are two ways Sanders could play for another team: by being traded or by having Washington release him.

Since the trade deadline has past, he would have to be released.

Redskins spokesman Karl Swanson said the team wouldn't hold Sanders back from joining the Raiders.

"The Redskins have no problem with Deion going to Oakland," Swanson said. "If Oakland is interested in us (releasing him), we have no problem with it."

Calls to Sanders' agent and Raiders senior assistant Bruce Allen were not immediately returned Monday.

The 35-year-old Sanders announced Sunday he was considering a comeback.

"I may come back to a playoff team," he said Sunday on CBS Sports' "NFL Today," where he's a studio host. "I've made contact, I have spoken to my attorney, we have spoken to the Oakland Raiders."

Allen would not confirm the team was negotiating with Sanders, who retired after 11 years in the NFL.

But Allen didn't deny it, either.

"No, I can't say it's false," Allen said. "Yes, he did say that, didn't he? I think he's always liked the Raiders. I think he's having some fun imagining the possibilities. Everything is possible. Earlier in the week, we were short on corners."

Sanders finished his career with 474 tackles, 385 of them solo, 48 interceptions, 10 forced fumbles and eight touchdowns. He also was a standout kick returner.

Some of the Raiders would welcome his talent, while others believe Sanders would disrupt the team's chemistry despite the need to boost the depleted secondary.

"I don't see that starting anything up," injured cornerback Charles Woodson said Monday. "Whether we bring in Deion or someone else, we need help in the secondary. It's no secret."



Dave Kennedy/Associated Press

Denver Broncos Ed McCaffrey and Oakland Raiders Clarence Love collide, knocking the ball from the grasp of McCaffrey in Oakland on Sunday. Oakland won the game 28-16 over Denver.

Finding a way to make Pete Rose eligible for Hall of Fame

BY JIM LITKE

AP Sports Writer

Bud Selig's latest solution to baseball's Pete Rose problem sounds like something he cooked up while watching the season finale of "Survivor."

Selig plans to invite the 58 living members of the Hall of Fame to a meeting next month in Los Angeles. There, the commissioner intends to find out how they'd feel about Rose joining their ranks.

For sheer drama, it could rival that moment at the end of the TV series when the tribal council is convened — except no one will carry torches and these guys will be polled about letting Pete onto the island, not kicking him off.

Oh, one other important difference: It's probably a done deal.

Whatever side Selig was on the day Rose was banished from baseball 13 years ago, Bud almost certainly wants Pete in the hall now. The commissioner can't say so, not for the record, anyway, and he knows it can't happen overnight.

All Selig can do is reinstate Rose and make him eligible for the hall; the rest is up to the baseball writers who cast ballots. But with this latest lobbying effort, Selig is hedging his bets.

On Sunday, the commissioner's point man in the Rose talks wouldn't even confirm a meeting with hall members was in the works. But Bob Dupuy did say, "The commissioner is interested in hearing ... the myriad issues."

Interested?

Selig is so desperate to serve baseball he'd auction off one of his kidneys during

a seventh-inning stretch if he was convinced it would do the game lasting good.

Myriad issues?

Selig so loves consensus that he'd poll convicted felons and Gamblers Anonymous — two other groups Rose carries credentials for — if he thought their support would make his decision seem any more credible.

But the commissioner already has all the cover he needs. Every fan poll conducted the last 10 years poll backs Rose by a 3-to-1 margin. Selig has also been on hand to hear the thunderous ovations and see the ballyard light up the two times he allowed Rose to set foot on the field during sanctioned events.

So, if Selig is only interested in making the popular decision, his research is already done. But if leadership means trying to make the right decision, then his next step is to make Rose come clean about his gambling — and that's before Selig announces his decision. There's plenty of time afterward to meet with the Hall of Fame crowd.

When Rose was banned in August 1989, he signed a document acknowledging then-commissioner Bart Giamatti had a "factual basis" for imposing the lifetime sentence. Rose has threatened several times since to hand over evidence that baseball's lawyers "blackmailed" witnesses, and produce experts of his own to shred the testimony of the experts who found his handwriting and fingerprints on betting slips.

Now would be the perfect time for Selig to call Rose's hand — instead of trying to help stack the deck. Everybody can

see through that trick.

Reached at his suburban Tampa home Sunday night, Hall of Fame pitcher Robin Roberts said he wouldn't fly across the country to meet with Selig. He said he didn't see any point debating Rose's worthiness for the hall until the commissioner determined his eligibility.

"Until he's off the banned list," Roberts said, "there's no point talking about it."

Hall of Fame pitcher Bob Feller, who has been an outspoken critic of Rose, said over the weekend he wouldn't pass up the opportunity to make his sentiments known. But Roberts, who could be every bit as tough as Feller on a pitching mound, thinks there will be time enough for that.

First, he wanted a full accounting from Rose. That, Roberts argued, is the only

way the hit king's candidacy will get a fair hearing from both the baseball public and the hall's voters.

"Because of the reaction of the fans, the commissioner had to say, 'Look, I'll review the situation.' But just because Pete is eligible doesn't mean he gets in. I don't think it's as cut-and-dried the way a lot of others do."

"Most people don't even remember what he was accused of. I think the Hall of Fame voters do, and so if Pete's a guy who comes forth and says, 'Hey, look, I did wrong, I put baseball in a bad spot,' that's one thing."

"But look at the other side: Whatever he admits to so he gets off the list might make some people say, 'Whoa, we believed him about being innocent and now this.'"

S.F. Giants' catcher, Benito Santiago, denies pot use

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Benito Santiago, the San Francisco Giants' star catcher, claims he has no idea how a Federal Express package bearing his name and containing two ounces of marijuana ended up at an airport in his home country of Puerto Rico.

Santiago told the San Francisco Chronicle Sunday that he suspects someone is trying to tarnish his good name.

"I'm not going to throw my career away with a stupid thing like this. I'm not going to embarrass my family," Santiago said.

Santiago was questioned in his hometown in Puerto Rico after agents there discovered the package at the airport bearing the player's name and address and containing a small amount of pot, Puerto Rico police said Friday.

Santiago maintains his innocence in the whole matter.

COMICS



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
 1 Stun
 8 Lamb serving
 10 Perm place
 11 A question of piece
 12 Foolish
 13 Puts on the wall
 14 Thilled woman
 15 Political contributor
 16 Swelled head
 17 Cunning
 18 Print unit
 19 Released state
 22 Relax
 23 Dropped
 26 Treason
 29 Kipling work
 32 Fruitcake ingredient
 33 Stage prompt
 34 Exaggerate
 36 Zou's spouse
 37 Namely
 38 Psychologist Alfred
 39 Guiding principle
 40 Old auto
 41 Jekyll's counterpart

DOWN
 1 Stage comments
 2 Team leader
 3 Pie order
 4 District
 5 Compass pt.
 6 Online discussion
 7 Therefore
 8 Hymn accompanier
 9 Nuisances
 11 "So?"
 15 Cal. abbr.
 17 Take care of
 20 Ninny
 21 Salsa, for one
 24 Permit
 25 "Walk on the Wild Side" singer
 27 Pair
 28 Without mess
 29 1971 Walter Matthau film
 30 Tusk material
 31 Implied a killer
 35 Take the bus
 36 Secrets
 38 Hoss' pa

PAINE FETCH
 ADDON OMAHA
 GEORGE CUKOR
 ELL RDA ERR
 DESPOIL TAI
 EST PELE
 DOPES BONEA
 OMAN FUR
 BAG RICKMAN
 ALE ADD APE
 GEORGE LUCAS
 ERNIE INERT
 STEMS COSTS

Yesterday's answer
 20 Ninny
 21 Salsa, for one
 24 Permit
 25 "Walk on the Wild Side" singer
 27 Pair
 28 Without mess
 29 1971 Walter Matthau film
 30 Tusk material
 31 Implied a killer
 35 Take the bus
 36 Secrets
 38 Hoss' pa

edge city

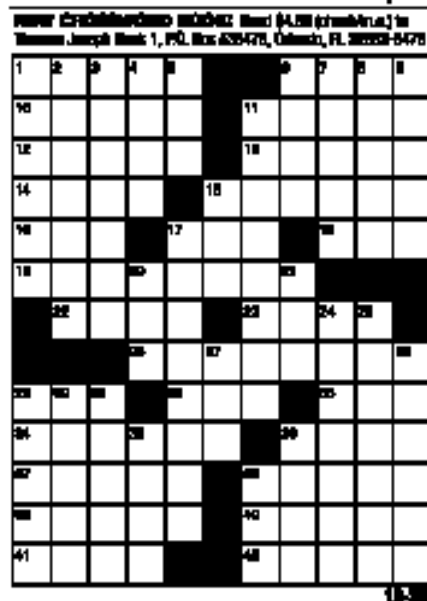
by TERRY & PATTY LEBAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-225-3151 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Quotes that will put a smile on your face

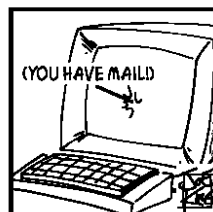
■ "It's sick, disgusting and perverted. I know all these things (but) I can't go to prison for the rest of my life ... without seeing (some)." (spoken by confessed murderer Cory Stayner, offering police a deal in which he'd describe his crimes in detail if they'd give him a "good-sized stack" of child pornography to look at) (San Jose, Calif., July) [San Jose Mercury News, 7-24-02]

■ "It was like a 'Blazing Saddles' routine, because every time these (management) guys would move on their seats, you could hear flatulence." (spoken by a participant at a September labor-management session in San Francisco, describing a union man's prank of having placed a small flatulence-sound-producing device under the table during a Pacific Maritime Association negotiating session with the dockworkers union, according to a report in the San Francisco Chronicle).

WEBSTER Joe King

"SPECIAL DELIVERY"

From the other wandering king at FUNNY PAPERZ ... where we all want for Christmas is what we used to have - LOTS AND LOTS OF TOYS!





CLASSIFIEDS

Sell those old skis. Classifieds for \$2.50 per day.

up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word
call 310-458-7737 and sell your old sporting goods to someone who will actually use them.

Employment

FUNDING COORDINATOR

Dynamic individual needed for established co. to direct school funding programs. Help PTA's, teachers, coaches, students. 1st yr. \$38-46k (813)782-9112

PART-TIME REAL Estate. \$12 to \$25 per hour. Santa Monica. See details and apply at www.nsreal.com.

TEACHER NEEDED: Topanga Co-op preschool. Design, direct, expanded classes and toddler programs. Must be credentialed. Begin now. Flex hours. E-mail resume to: ces9801@hotmail.com. Cessilie (310)455-9801. Join our fun!

THE SANTA Monica Daily Press is looking for Advertising Account Executives. Print advertising and consultative/solution based selling experience a plus. E-mail resume and cover letter to Ross at ross@smdp.com or fax it to (310) 576-9913

Wanted

CASH FOR ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, ESTATE JEWELRY, DISHES, PHOTOS, X-MAS DECORATIONS. 40 YRS. OR OLDER BUYING ESTATES OR ONE ITEM. (310)393-1111

PARKING or SPACE for Modern MOTORHOME WANTED on vacant land or beside residence. With or without utilities. Santa Monica/Malibu close. Writer/Mediator/Philosopher. Age 59. Code 4567. Pager (323)433-4848. E-mail: zenawake@yahoo.com.

For Rent

BEVERLYWOOD ADJACENT \$1050.00 Large 2bdrm/1ba upper front unit w/lots of natural light in 12 unit building. Fresh paint and carpet. 1 car off street parking. Laundry in building. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443, ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

BEVERLYWOOD ADJACENT \$525.00 Bachelor in quaint smaller building. Fresh paint and carpet. 1 year Lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

FABULOUS, REMODELED, Resort style condo, 1bdrm/1ba, ocean, mountain views. Security building, all appliances included. Available immediately. \$2,300 Call (310)230-3700.

MARINA PENINSULA 2bdrm/2ba, 2 car parking on quiet street. Amazing views. Steps to beach, shopping & restaurants. New paint and carpet, fireplace, dishwasher, stove. 2 units available. \$1,495.00 to \$2,395. (310) 396-4443 x102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

MDR ADJACENT \$1395.00 2+2, fireplace, dishwasher, stove, large private patio, new paint & carpet in newer gated building w/gated, subterranean parking, AC, quiet neighborhood, laundry room. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)578-9729.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

SANTA MONICA \$275wk Dorm-style Hotel, prvt rm, free local calls & cable, util incl, prkng. Westside Rentals (310)429-9920

For Rent

MDR ADJACENT \$825.00 Studio, gated building with gated, subterranean parking. Newer building with courtyard area, fireplace, dishwasher, stove, laundry room, prkng, 1 year lease, no pets. (310)578-9729

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

NEW STUDIO Apartments available from \$1295.00 to \$1355.00. Six blocks from the beach. Three blocks from Third St. Promenade area! (310)656-0311. www.breezesuites.com

VENICE BEACH \$1045.00 1BD/1BA, w/ocean view, hardwood floors, 1/2 block from beach on quiet walk street. Bright and airy, fresh paint, new blinds. 1 year lease, no pets. (310) 396-4443 x102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$2,400.00 Residential loft, completely renovated. 1bdrm/2ba, oakwood floors, high ceilings, rooftop patio, balcony, 2 car parking, lots of windows, lots of storage. Great looking unit. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 x102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$1050.00 Large 1bdrm/1ba w/ new paint, carpet and 1 car parking off street. Close to beach and restaurants. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)577-0206.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$1495.00 1bd/1ba with ocean view. Very sunny apartment, fireplace, dishwasher, stove, 2 balconies, 1 car garage. 1 year lease, no pets. (310) 396-4443x102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$850.00 Single w/lots of charm and original hardwood floors. 1 block from the beach. Close to shopping and restaurants. 1 year lease, no pets, paid parking available. (310)396-4443 ext.102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

SM NEW Town Homes! 3 + 2.5. All appliances, W/D included. 2 parking spaces. Security building. \$2950 to \$3250 (310)261-2093.

For Rent

ROQUE & MARK Co.

2802 Santa Monica Blvd.
310-828-7525

SALES - RENTALS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

RENTALS AVAILABLE NO PETS ALLOWED

SANTA MONICA

1230 Berkeley \$1095
Upper 1 bed, huge & stove, parking, laundry room

1448 Princeton \$1495
Upper 2 bed + 1/2 baths, new carpet, fireplace, parking

143 Hollister \$1690
Upper 1 bed, great entry, near beach, hardwood floors

511 Ashland \$1695
Lower 1 bed + den, hardwood floors, very quiet, large patio

2107 Montana \$1800
Upper 2 bed, 2 bath, great parking, dishwasher, balcony, fresh paint

1020 21st St. \$1830
Upper 2 bed, complete remodel + new floors, windows, kitchen & bath

843 18th St. \$2350
Upper 2 bed, 1.75 bath, new carpet, formal dining, fresh paint

1111 17th St. \$3300
Owners unit, 3 bed, 3 bath, 2800 SF, bonus room, 4 car garage

FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO
WWW.ROQUE-MARK.COM

SANTA MONICA \$1350 Roomy 2bdrm/1ba lower. 19th near SM Blvd. Large private patio. Attractive 6-unit building. Redecorated, new carpets. Appliances incl., gas range, 2-door refrig., dishwasher. Consider small pet. (310)828-4481.

SANTA MONICA \$2600 3bdrm/3ba, 827 18th St. #F. Huge upper apt., fireplace, big balcony, NEW carpet, built-in dishwasher & stove, wet bar. No pets. Parking, 1-year lease, 1/2 block S. of Montana. Sullivan-Dituri Co. (310)453-4342.

For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$567.00 Bachelor, r/s, 1 blk to Promenade, prkng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$695.00 Bachelor, near beach, util incl, prkng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$900.00 1BD/1BA, crpt, yard, near SMC, prkng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$925.00 1BD/1BA, hrdwd flrs, Indry. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA Canyon \$695.00 Guest Apartment, near beach, prkng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

W. LA \$900.00 Extra large 1bdrm/1ba w/garden view. Great centralized location and private parking. Laundry room, carpet, private entry. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

Houses For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$850.00 Guest House, N of Wilshire, r/s, French doors, util incl, Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$900.00 Triplex, pet ok, hrdwd flrs, prkng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

VENICE CANALS House \$3,250 3bdrm/2ba, 2 car garage, canal front patios and views, fireplace. Great location! Repainted inside and out, new carpet downstairs, new wood trim, new garage door, new deck, new windows. 1 year lease. No pets. (310)396-4443 x102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

Roommates

S.M. SHARE 2bdrm furnished apt. 9th & Wilshire. \$2200.00 a month. You pay only \$675.00! (310)394-1050.

SANTA MONICA \$380.00 Prvt rm, pet ok, high ceilings, month to month. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$490.00 Prvt rm, r/s, bright, month to month, cable. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$850.00 2BD/2BA in High-tech Condo. 10 blks from beach. Security. Covered parking. (310)399-5439

Roommates

VENICE \$900.00 plus utilities. House to share. Room plus bath. Pets ok, yard, garage. (310)980-7075.

Real Estate Loans

0 POINTS REFINANCING through small town company with competent, honest broker and low overhead. Local contact. (310)260-9140.

Storage Space

GARAGE WANTED! 2-car street entrance. W. Los Angeles, Santa Monica. \$200.00 (310)442-9595.

Massage

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue, energy balancing, non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$45.00/hr. In/out. Lynda, L.M.T. (310)749-0621

REVITALIZE & Rejuvenate. Body, Mind & Spirit with a therapeutic Swedish/Deep-tissue massage. Laura (310)394-2923 (310)569-0883.

STRONG & SOOTHING deep-tissue massage. Near Promenade. Intro: \$35/90min. Paul. (310)741-1901.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

Services

HOUSE CLEANING Janet's at Your Service! House, yards, garage. Parties w/hot dog cart! (310)367-5436/(818)545-8914

HOUSE CLEANING - Available 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848.

PROFESSIONAL, RELIABLE Female Bartender for your private parties. House-sitting/ house-cleaning services also offered. Jill (310)582-1120.



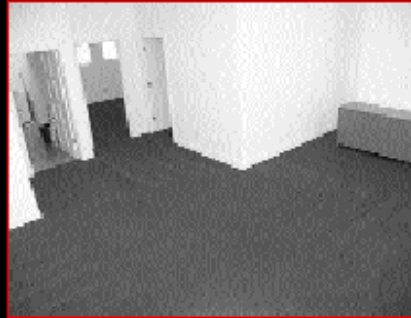
Classified Advertising Conditions :REGULAR RATE: \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

CLASSIFIEDS



Be in the middle of it all!

Professional office space available on the Third Street Promenade.



950 square feet of office space conveniently located downtown, a walk away from shops, restaurants and the beach. Bright office space with high ceilings, natural light, two large private offices and a spacious reception area. Quiet location with a shared kitchen. New paint and carpet. Parking. Available now.

Call (310) 458-7737 ext. 104

SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2002

CHRISTMAS

The annual Santa Monica Nativity Scenes is on display at Palisades Park along Ocean Avenue near Arizona. The 14 lighted scenes with life-size figures depicting events surrounding Christ's birth will remain on display through January 1. For more information please call (310) 453-4445.

THURSDAY

The annual Santa Monica Nativity Scenes is on display at Palisades Park along Ocean Avenue near Arizona. The 14 lighted scenes with life-size figures depicting events surrounding Christ's birth will remain on display through January 1. For more information please call (310) 453-4445.

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in Men's Group. Thursdays, 11:15 to 12:45. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

Dharma at the Clubhouse. A weekly book and multimedia study group, no fee. Applying studies of

Buddhism-Dharma into our daily lives. Every Thursday night at the Clubhouse at Douglas Park, 25th & Wilshire. 7:30 to 9pm. Dan (310) 451-4368 www.santamonicaakkg.org

O'Briens Irish Pub, 2941 Main St., Santa Monica, pours A Pint of Funny, every Thurs., 8 p.m. FREE! (310)396-4725.

Gotham Comedy Night! Standup at Gotham Hall, 1431 3rd St. Promenade, Santa Monica; every Thursday, 7:30 pm, \$5.00 + 2 item min. 21/ over. (323) 525-5254

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Unurban Coffee House presents Komey Crunch every Thursday evening. Showtime is 7pm. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Gotham Hall presents Comedy Night! Featuring professional stand-ups. Every Thursday, 1431 3rd St. Promenade, 8pm. Admission is \$5 + 2 item minimum. 21 and over. (323)525-5254.

MOVIE °GUIDE

LOEWS CINIPLEX BROADWAY CINEMA

1441 Third St. at Broadway
Empire (2002) (R) 3:00, About Schmidt (R) 12:15, 1:15, 3:15, 4:15, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15. **Two Weeks Notice** (PG-13) 11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30.

MANN CRITERION

1313 Third St.
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG) 11:30, 3:15, 7:05, 10:30. **Adaptation** (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20. **Treasure Planet** (PG) 12:00. **The Hot Chick** (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:10. **Gangs of New York** (R) 11:15, 3:00, 7:00, 10:40. **Narc** (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00. **The Wild Thornberrys Movie** (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50.

AMC THEATRE SM 7

1310 3rd Street
Analyze That (R) 11:35, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15. **Die Another Day** (PG-13) 10:25, 1:20, 4:25, 7:25. **Drumline** (PG-13) 11:25, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40. **Maid in Manhattan** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45. **Star Trek: Nemesis** with Captions (PG-13) 11:15, 2:00, 4:50, 7:35. **The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers** (PG-13) 11:15, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00 6:45, 8:00.

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Bowling for Columbine (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:30. **Far From Heaven** (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00.

LAEMMLE MONICA

1332 2nd St.
Rabbit-Proof Fence (PG) 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55. **Frida** (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:05. **Evelyn** (PG) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15.

AERO THEATRE

1328 Montana Ave.
Bloody Sunday 5:00 Secretary 7:30, 10:00

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section.

Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913



BACK PAGE



Librarian calls cops on missing books

By The Associated Press

ENFIELD, Conn. — When books go missing at the Enfield Public Library, Henry Dutcher doesn't just send out late notices. He calls the police.

The library director did just that in the case of Thomas Hoey, who checked out more than \$400 worth of library items last summer and didn't bring them back, even after the library repeatedly wrote letters and called.

Hoey has since skipped town. But there's a warrant for his arrest and if police ever catch up to the 60-year-old library patron, he will be charged with misdemeanor larceny. He is the first, and so far, only citizen to be charged in Enfield for failing to bring back his overdues.

For about a year now, the Enfield Public Library has called on the police to solve its cold cases: books, CDs and movies missing for months, even years.

The approach has worked. Since January, the library has recovered hundreds of missing items, worth more than \$7,000. It's material that would have otherwise disappeared forever, Dutcher said.

Santa's helpers wear prison stripes

By The Associated Press

ELLSWORTH, Kan. — Some of Santa's helpers wear prison stripes.

Inmates at the Ellsworth Correctional Facility in Kansas are helping to make the holidays a little brighter for needy kids. The inmates are making old bikes as good as new for youngsters whose families can't afford to buy them.

Prison officials say by Christmas Eve, the inmates will have rebuilt about 275 bikes. Since 1999, more than 500 used bicycles have been given makeovers. The bikes are donated to service and nonprofit groups for distribution to the kids.

And at the Osborn Correctional Institution in Somers, Conn., about a dozen inmates use scraps of fabric from the prison's clothing shop to make rag dolls for needy children.

They are learning to sew for a program that makes mattresses and other items for private industry like prisons, hotels and hospitals. With the leftover material, they make the dolls.

"We have no use for the scraps," said Michael A. Kiczuk, industries supervisor.

Business man gives a dollar at a time

By The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A downtown businessman has decided to share some of his good fortune with others a dollar at a time.

Mike Jeffcoat, 42, a corporate furnishings consultant, taped 300 \$1 dollar bills to his office window Friday along with a note: "Please take only what you need. Remember others."

Many in the crowd took nothing, while some took a few bucks for a cup of coffee, Christmas presents or a bus ticket. It was all gone in 35 minutes.

Jeffcoat said he believed wallpapering the window would allow people to grab what they needed without much hassle.

As he hung money, Jeffcoat said one stranger gave him \$20. The man didn't have singles and wanted to help. Others gave a few bucks.

Sharmel Shirley, 23, and Sadaka Kimble, 24, split the final \$41. Shirley needed to pay a power bill. Kimble's daughter needed diapers. Both women said they've been out of work for four months.

"Money just flapping in the wind," Shirley said. "It was like, 'Wow!'"

Man chaperons field trip in 'drag'

By The Associated Press

O'FALLON, Mo. — A father who chaperoned a fourth-grade field trip while dressed as a woman has told the school district he regrets creating a stir.

"He went on the trip because his daughter asked him to go," said Superintendent Dan O'Donnell of the Francis Howell district, which includes Castlio Elementary School fourth-graders who took the Oct. 18 trip. "If he had known it would have caused this much of an uproar, he wouldn't have gone."

The father's identity has not been revealed, and he has not spoken publicly.

Parents complained to the school board after the man, during a class outing to Jefferson City, apparently wore a woman's hairstyle, makeup and apparel, including jeans and shoes.

During a board meeting earlier this month, a man whose wife teaches at Castlio said in defense of the father that the man had been volunteering at school and attending parent-teacher conferences for at least eight years while dressed as a woman.

"No one has said a word. No one has had a problem with him until now," said Marty Hodits, 54.

Anniversary Collection



FUNNY PAPERZ

BESTEST EDITORIAL CARTOONS

OF THE YEAR

2002

JOURNAL EDITORIAL COLLECTION

Santa Monica Daily Press

"Bring 'em Back Home, Home"

\$9.95

STUFF THIS

IN YOUR STOCKING!

Celebrating SMDP's Anniversary!

-110pp, signed by the Artist
-Softcover \$15/CD \$10/Both \$20

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
PLUS \$3 P&H TO:

JOE KING
2801 OCEAN PARK BLVD.
#300
SANTA MONICA, CA
90405