

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Wasps** (Research by a Department of Agriculture scientist and a University of Georgia professor, reported in December, showed that with five minutes' training, certain wasps can detect drugs, bombs and dead bodies as well as dogs can). (2) A parrot (The wife of Frank Ficker of Freiberg, Germany, filing for divorce, said in November that she learned of her husband's infidelity when her parrot, Hugo, imitating Frank's voice, continually cried out for some woman named "Uta.")

■ **Animals Being Animals:** (1) The Harbor Commission of Newport Harbor, Calif., met in emergency session in September after news that 18 200- to 800-pound sea lions had jumped onto a 37-foot sailboat and sunk it. (Elsewhere on the coast, sea lions eat boogie boards, vomit on docks and bark cacophonously, and efforts to disperse them are ineffective because they are protected by a 1972 federal law.) (2) In September, an exceptionally rare American veery (a thrush-like songbird) landed in Britain's Shetland Islands and briefly excited the country's birdwatchers, but just as word was circulating, according to Scotland's Daily Record, a local cat ate it.

■ **Readers' Choice:** In November in Leeuwarden, Netherlands, as the staff of the television company Endemol NV were working to set up 4 million dominoes in an attempt at a new Guinness Book record, a sparrow flew in through a window, landed on the formation, and toppled about 23,000 of them before built-in gaps stopped the collapse. (An exterminator with an air rifle tracked the bird down in the building and killed it, to the outrage of animal rights advocates.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 360th day of 2005.
There are five days left in the year.

One year ago, on Dec. 26, 2004, more than 200,000 people, mostly in southern Asia, were killed by a tsunami triggered by the world's most powerful earthquake in 40 years beneath the Indian Ocean.

INDEX

Horoscopes

Easy going, Libra 2

Snow & Surf Report

Water temperature: 60° 3

Opinion

Cleaning up our act 4

State

Something old, something new 8

National

A cloudy future 9

International

From riches to reward 11

Comics

Strips so tease 14

Classifieds

Ad space odyssey 15-16

People in the News

Actor hits the skids 20

Sitting tight



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Kelly Bolton, a staff member at the Skatepark at Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street, performs a "Flair" (180-degree back flip) on his BMX bike. The skatepark is reserved for bicycles only on Thursdays, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. No skaters are permitted during those hours.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

COMMUNITY PROFILES IS A WEEKLY SERIES THAT APPEARS EACH MONDAY AND DELVES INTO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY IN SANTA MONICA.

Minding the shop in time of change

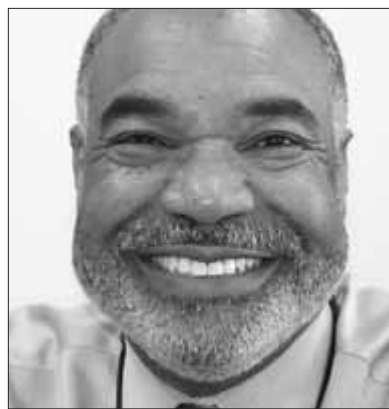
BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Gordon Anderson is thankful that managing the city's day-to-day operations isn't rocket science, especially since he nearly flunked out of college because he couldn't cut it in physics — his chosen major.

He quit college to climb the ladder in the financial banking industry, a field he'd been working in since the age of 15. And even

though he had been taking college courses when he was still a high school student in Compton, a college degree wasn't necessary in the banking industry.

After working for various banks for several years, the 54-year-old Santa Monica assistant city manager found his real calling when in 1982, the mayor of Pasadena recruited him to be the economic development adminis-



See PROFILES, page 6

City Hall could be courting disaster

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES — It appears that City Hall is losing its battle in the largest legal case Santa Monica has ever faced.

Several motions filed by City Hall against contingency lawyers who were hired to fight giant oil companies for contaminating Santa Monica's drinking water have been shot down in both the trial court and Court of Appeals in recent months.

The result is the lawsuit has been put on hold and attorneys hired by City Hall continue to maneuver through the courts, in hopes that a judge somewhere will side with them. Meanwhile, millions of dollars in attorney fees continue to rack up on both sides.

City Hall's attorneys and contingency lawyers who represented Santa Monica in its litigation against 18 oil companies for allowing MTBE to contaminate drinking water are set to wage war at trial expected in February. At issue is just how much City Hall owes its team of contingency lawyers for securing a \$121 million cash settlement, plus building a water treatment facility to clean up seven water wells.

At least five motions filed by the city have been denied by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Minning, as well as by the Court of Appeals.

A few of the motions asked that the court allow the city to amend its complaint, which added claims that the lead contingency attorney, Fred Baron, had a conflict of interest because he allegedly represented the other lawyers in their planned litigation against City Hall over fees without city officials knowing it.

See MTBE, page 5

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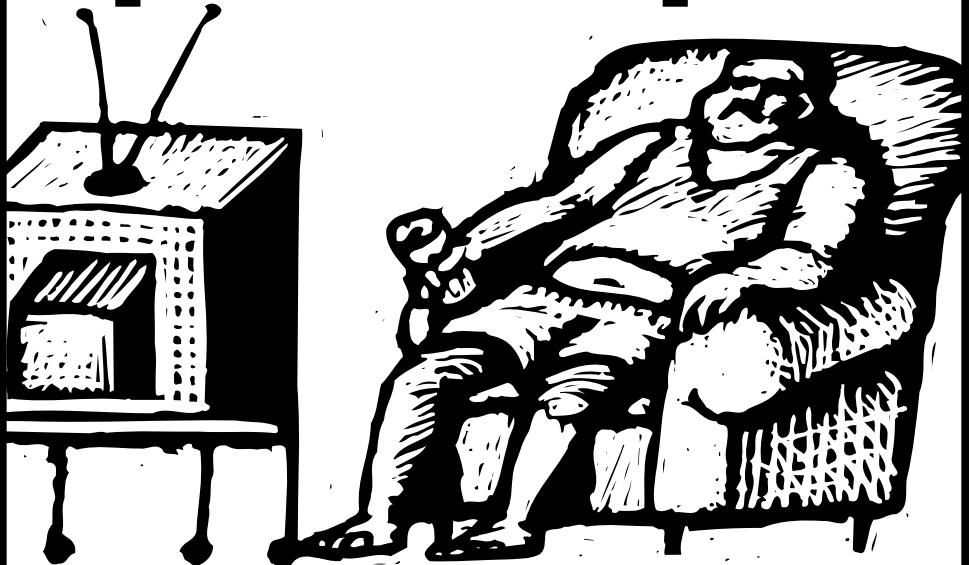
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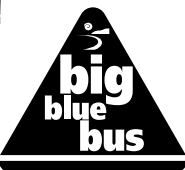
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Santa Monica Daily Press



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)
★★★★ If you can avoid dealing with money matters, do so. Many people, including yourself, could be cranky. Pull back and maybe take a nap. Be low-key in whatever you take on. Listen to a loved one's trepidations. Tonight: Say thank you or write thank-you notes.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You could easily find yourself in a rage, feeling like you have had enough. Though you love your family, you could be tired of the complaining or your role. Hence, let others do everything for a change. Tonight: Accept an invitation.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might feel a bit down or tired after all the festivities. Others will work or run some errands. Don't let a disagreeable person get to you. Right now, do your thing and what you are good at. Tonight: Make it an early bedtime.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Laugh and don't worry about the practical details of life. You probably enjoy yourself more than many. Perhaps get on your hands and knees and share a new toy with a child. Smile, laugh and enjoy. Tonight: In a mistletoe mood.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ Though you could be tired, you still might enjoy a family member to no end. You might not have to participate, just be there. Others could definitely be out of sorts. Steer clear if you can. Don't get uptight; you're not responsible. Tonight: Your home is your castle.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ People call from out of nowhere. Perhaps you have to travel or someone is coming back into town. You can muster up the energy to handle whatever you need to. Your enthusiasm comes back later in the day. Tonight: Get into the moment.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might find an associate, friend or loved one disruptive. You don't see eye to eye with this person. Worry less and make it through a hassle. You might want to buy yourself that one item you didn't get. Tonight: Make it easy.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ How you view someone could change radically. You have always respected this person, but you find his or her attitude and cantankerous nature hard to deal with. You're not the only one! Avoid a fight or sharp words. Tonight: Indulge.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
HH You might want some space or time alone. Make this request or plan your day accordingly. You still have some must-do errands or a project that needs completing. Let yourself relax. Tonight: Make it your night.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Catch up with friends and share recent news. You might feel as if someone is unusually difficult or hard to deal with. Perhaps he or she is exhausted from all the excitement. Tonight: Where you are happy.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Others could be cold and austere. Don't take their attitudes personally. Why not head out the door and either get some extra work done or visit with an older friend or loved one? He or she will appreciate you. Tonight: Out as late as you want.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Detach from your immediate surroundings. You will be a lot happier as a result. Others can be difficult. You also could lose patience, as you have been very nurturing and are tired. Take a drive to relax. Tonight: Write thank-you notes.



AUDIT PENDING

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LOCAL



Blank expression



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

The first person to identify where this mystery photo was taken will win a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. E-mail answers to editor@smdp.com.



Don Teager is this week's mystery photo winner. Teager accurately described that this photo was taken at the flooring store at Michigan Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard. Check out this week's mystery photo contest (above).

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Walking Santa Monica's line

By Daily Press staff

A local group is on the lookout for walking routes in the Santa Monica area. Walk Santa Monica is sponsoring a contest to find great walking routes in Santa Monica, and the 10 best written descriptions of those walks will earn the authors an opportunity to appear on CityTV, the local access channel. Anyone and everyone is eligible to win, and entries from people of all ages, including children, are encouraged. Employees and agents of the city of Santa Monica and their immediate relatives are not eligible to participate. Entrants need not be a resident of Santa Monica.

The walk must be at least 75 percent within the city limits. To enter the contest, write a one-page typed or two-page handwritten description of your favorite walk in Santa Monica and explain why it's your favorite. Winners will be chosen for the description they provide, not for the walking route itself. Only one entry per person is allowed.

Entries can be sent to:
Favorite Walk Contest
Community Programs Division
1527 4th St., Suite 106
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Include your name, address, telephone number and age at the top of the page.

See BRIEFS, page 8

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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	12"-12"	8:30am - 4:00pm	6	6/12

CONDITIONS: Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

JUNE MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
20"	24" - 36"	8:30am - 4:00pm	35	6/16

CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed, Obstacles

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	60" - 84"	8:30 am - 4 pm	150	24/48

CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed

MOUNTAIN HIGH

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	10"-10"	8:30 am - 10:00 pm	10	8/16

CONDITIONS: Machine Made, Wet, Thin Cover

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	0"-1"	8:30 am - 4:00 pm	0	0

CONDITIONS: N/A

SNOW SUMMIT

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	12"-12"	7:30 am - 9:30 pm	8	8/13

CONDITIONS: Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

SNOW VALLEY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	12"-12"	8:30 am - 4:00 pm	5	5/11

CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Made, Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 60°

DATA PROVIDED BY WETSAND.COM

SWELL FORECAST (8-16 FT)

Today the WNW swell peaks with size running 2-3 feet overhead at most west facing breaks, and DOH around standouts on the better sets.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

Significant WNW swell hit NCal on Christmas, day after for SoCal...

More significant NW swells on tap this week...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

SATURDAY	LOW TIDE: 11:03PM HIGH TIDE: 4:15AM	2.0FT 4.4FT	9:38PM 4:06PM	1.7FT 3.0FT
SUNDAY	LOW TIDE: 11:56PM HIGH TIDE: 4:45AM	1.3FT 4.8FT	10:23PM 5:38PM	2.0FT 3.0FT
MONDAY	LOW TIDE: 12:39PM HIGH TIDE: 5:17AM	0.5FT 5.2FT	11:08PM 6:48PM	2.2FT 3.1FT
TUESDAY	LOW TIDE: 1:17PM HIGHTIDE: 5:50AM	-0.1FT 5.7FT	11:53PM 7:42PM	2.3FT 3.3FT
WEDNESDAY	LOW TIDE: 12:56PM HIGH TIDE: 6:27AM	-0.7FT 6.1FT	N/A 8:28PM	N/A 3.5FT
THURSDAY	LOW TIDE: 12:38AM HIGH TIDE: 7:07AM	2.3FT 6.5FT	2:36PM 9:11PM	-1.2FT 3.6FT
FRIDAY	LOW TIDE: 1:02AM HIGH TIDE: 7:39AM	1.7FT 5.9FT	3:04PM 9:40PM	-0.9FT 3.1FT

SURF AND SNOW QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? EMAIL ALEX@SMDP.COM



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The QLine

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There's a lot of issues facing Santa Monica and 2006 is shaping up to be a big year of changes. New leadership in the City Manager's office, a new homeless czar and a new president at SMC will all happen in January, as well as a major revamp on a city-wide plan that will shape development for the next 20 years here.

So this week Q-Line asks "What should the City Council's resolutions be for 2006?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking back on the year that was

Editor:

A question to ponder: Why after the millions of dollars the republicans spent during Bill Clinton's administration to prove financial wrong-doing via Whitewater (and failing), why oh why is no one investigating this administration's dubious connections to Halliburton, which would enable them to profit heavily from the war and from Katrina, and all the other no-bid contracts awarded to them? Just wondering.

Another topic: In Cliff Nichols' The Witness Stand (SMDP, Dec. 21, page 4) he shows he is obviously against a woman's right to decide what goes on in her own body by comparing abortion to Scott-Too-Hottie (as he bills himself) Peterson's murderous attack on his wife and almost full-term child. He is pro war, and is also obviously for capital punishment in his remarks about the execution of Tookie. He states that the execution was that the "best lesson was that Tookie seemed to be in a unique position to give our young people a way of affording them a practical demonstration of the act that if people do things like he did (i.e. murder people) they are going to be put to death."

Not in most civilized countries, Mr. Nichols. I guess the lesson that people can change given a chance, and that Tookie was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize and was trying to make up for his past doesn't count. It wasn't as if the question was death or his freedom. The man would have spent the rest of his life in prison, but that's not good enough for the blood thirsty among us. We'll show them. We'll be a vicious as you. I personally commend Austria for removing Schwarzenegger's name from a stadium. I can't wait to see it removed from the governor's stationary. For Mr. Nichols, I guess killing is all in the timing. Wars and capital punishment, yes. Abortion, no.

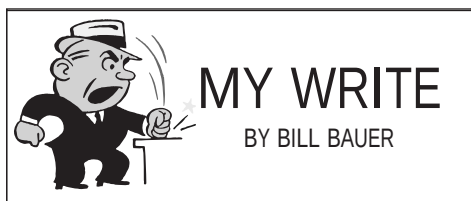
I would also wish at the end of this year and the holiday season that the present administration and all the "religious" people who think like them, that they view the Oscar-winning cartoon which describes an older animal explaining to the young animals that mankind, as a result of their wars, have finally eliminated themselves from Earth. He states at the end that he guesses they forgot to follow the words in a book they thought important. The words they forgot were: "Peace on Earth and good will towards men," "love thy neighbor" and "thou shalt not kill."

I guess the Bush administration and his ilk, for all their Bible thumping, forgot these words also. Like his murderous wars (over 2,000 of our young people, "30,000 Iraqis — more or less," according to George W. Bush — others say over 100,000); mistreatment of prisoners; spying on John Q. Public; outing CIA agents, etc.; ad infinum, as nauseum.

It would be nice if our goal as Americans this next coming year would be to act on just those three statements.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

Good, bad and ugly



2005 has been quite a year.

This was a year that the citizens and bureaucrats alike began thinking seriously about the future of Santa Monica. In addition to updating land use and circulation elements of the city's general plan which will dictate development for decades to come, a number of major new projects were initiated, under construction or just buried.

Macerich Co.'s proposal for a new Santa Monica Place included plans to completely rebuild the facility with full underground parking, an office complex, and three, 20-story condominium towers faded into the sunset — not because of community opposition which was substantial, but because of uncertainty over who would occupy one of the two major anchor spots after it was announced that Robinsons-May would close in early 2006.

An expanded and enhanced Virginia Park finally opened as did the new skate park, "The Cove." The new Santa Monica Public Library was completed and officially opens in a couple of weeks. Santa Monica College's Madison Theater — now named the tongue-twisting "Performing Arts Center and Music Academy of Santa Monica College" — is under construction.

Disasters weighed heavily on our minds in 2005. Between the Dec. 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and Hurricanes Rita and Katrina that devastated parts of the deep South in August and September, Santa Monicans generously contributed millions of dollars to disaster relief. After Katrina, the Santa Monica Red Cross alone serviced 256 families representing 423 individuals, including dozens of school-aged children. Many of these families are now living here and we welcome them to our community.

Familiar places have gone. The old main wing of St. John's Health Care Center is dust. Fisher Lumber on 14th Street and Toys R Us in downtown Santa Monica are both closed. The old Rand Corp. buildings are history as are the old police headquarters.

Many city problems are still with us. Homelessness is still No. 1 and \$200,000 was allocated to hire former Los Angeles County Supervisor Ed Edelman to find regional solutions to homeless problems. City Hall has added a number of expensive new programs to get the chronically homeless off the streets and will spend tens of thousands of dollars more to mea-

sure the effectiveness of city's homeless services next year.

Parking and traffic problems will continue as a result of inane planning decisions. Islands and modifications to Colorado Avenue have been approved to slow and discourage traffic. Parking variances eliminating on-site parking requirements are forcing drivers to compete for shrinking parking space on already choked streets. This, along with dozens of blocks of new restricted parking zones, means you can kiss off finding a parking spot in our commercial areas.

Gang violence is still with us. Two young Santa Monica men were gunned down on March 5. Santa Monicans Hector Bonilla and Jonathan Hernandez died in a hail of bullets at a private party at the Moose Lodge on Ocean Park Boulevard. The alleged shooters are awaiting trial for the murders, as is a 17-year-old Pico neighborhood youth who has been charged with the 2003 murder of Jalannie Carter.

In early October, an alleged Los Angeles gang member was shot to death near the Santa Monica Pier. Unfortunately, complaints of gunfire, primarily in the Pico neighborhood, are still commonplace and for the most part, ignored by our politicians.

Due to continued high prices for real estate, Santa Monica residents are being forced out of rent-controlled apartments in record numbers. Instead of imposing fees and/or implementing other restrictions to protect rent controlled tenants, city leaders do nothing while speculators price gouge and intimidate, buildings get flipped and developers line their pockets on the backs of the poor and powerless.

2005 saw many community leaders move on and new ones move in. Santa Monica College president Dr. Piedad Robertson left and Dr. Chui L. Tsang, from San Jose City College, was tapped to fill her shoes. Planning and community development director Suzanne Frick resigned to accept the position of planning director in Long Beach. Her replacement has not been named. City Manager Susan McCarthy retired and was replaced by former San Diego City Manager Lamont Ewell. We wish them all good luck.

Next year is an election year. Barring a huge scandal, the three incumbents for City Council will probably be reelected if they run again. The two political powers — the Santa Monicans For Renters' Rights folks and the business interests — will spend humongous amounts of money promoting their own agenda. Unless voters wake up and smell the coffee.

In the end, I predict nothing much will change and that's too bad.

(Bill Bauer is a longtime Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer.)



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City suffers setbacks in case versus lawyers

MTBE, from page 1

All of those motions were shot down, as well as another one arguing that the contract between City Hall and the contingency lawyers was so ambiguous that the fee structure outlined in it should be voided.

Next, City Hall filed for summary judgment, effectively asking Judge Minning to rule in the city's favor before the case heads to trial. The motion was denied. It was then appealed to the high court, where it also was denied.

City Hall's attorneys also were unsuccessful when they sought reversals of Judge Minning's denials to allow privileged documents from the contingency lawyers to be handed over to Santa Monica officials so they could make the case that Baron had a conflict of interest.

Then a motion filed by the city that the case go to arbitration was denied at both court levels. The motion to compel arbitration was based on the argument that because City Hall had terminated one of the law firms included in the original legal services agreement, the fee structure outlined in it isn't applicable.

"It doesn't provide a way for the lawyers to slice and dice the fees," said David Halbreich, a lawyer at Los Angeles-based law firm, Morgan Lewis & Bockius, which has been hired by City Hall to represent it.

Halbreich said he has a filed another motion in the Supreme Court appealing the courts' decisions on the arbitration issue.

"We thought the judge's rulings were clearly incorrect and we thought the Court of Appeals would agree," Halbreich said, adding the denials of the motions by the Court of Appeals doesn't necessarily mean the city's case is weak.

"It's not a statement from the Court of Appeals that the judge is right," Halbreich said. "The judge has not, for whatever reason, granted us any of our motions and given the rulings. We thought we could get a look by the Court of Appeals but that's not the case."

However, Santa Monica-based Marshall Grossman, who is representing the law firms of Texas-based Baron & Budd; Sacramento-based Miller & Sawyer and San Francisco-based Sher & Leff — the three law firms that worked on the MTBE case for City Hall — believes the courts' denial of the city's motions speak for themselves.

"The city of Santa Monica has simply taken it in the chops in the appellate courts and the trial court," Grossman said. "If

this was a football game, the score would be 99 to 0 with 59 minutes to play."

Grossman argues that City Hall reneged on a signed contract with his clients and are refusing to pay close to \$70 million.

City officials announced in November of 2003 that the MTBE litigation was over — \$121 million in cash was to be paid by the oil companies — less \$18 million that was earmarked to go into an operating account to begin planning for a water treatment plant to clean up the wells, and \$1 million obligated by City Hall to pay Shell Oil Company in a separate case. The net result is \$92.5 million and a water treatment plant yet to be valued, designed or built.

Grossman's calculation is that City Hall should pay the attorneys 25 percent of the \$121 million cash settlement; 25 percent of the costs and operation of a yet-to-be-built water treatment plant — preliminarily estimated to cost \$120 million — plus 7 percent interest and his attorney fees.

But city officials and their attorneys now argue that the amount is well below that, based on their claims that the contingency attorneys put their own interests ahead of the public's, as well as delayed the case to get a higher percentage of fees. City Hall argues it should pay closer to 10 percent of the \$121 million cash settlement and the undetermined value of a water treatment plant.

It will all come down to how a judge and jury interpret a 15-page complicated legal services agreement signed between City Hall and the contingency lawyers that is as ambiguous as the sliding scale of fee percentages outlined in it.

But Grossman argues that if city officials didn't feel the contract was clear enough or that the settlement was good enough, they shouldn't have signed off on either of them. But they did and are now refusing to pay.

"Somebody somewhere must be astute enough to ask why the city has spent, in my estimation, \$10 million in legal fees to continue to fight the lawyers and why the city simply doesn't pay the legal fees that are due under the contract that the city attorney negotiated and the City Council approved," Grossman said. "What we are observing here is some of the most reckless conduct I've ever seen on behalf of any municipality."

"The citizens of Santa Monica will wake up one morning and ask themselves what went wrong."



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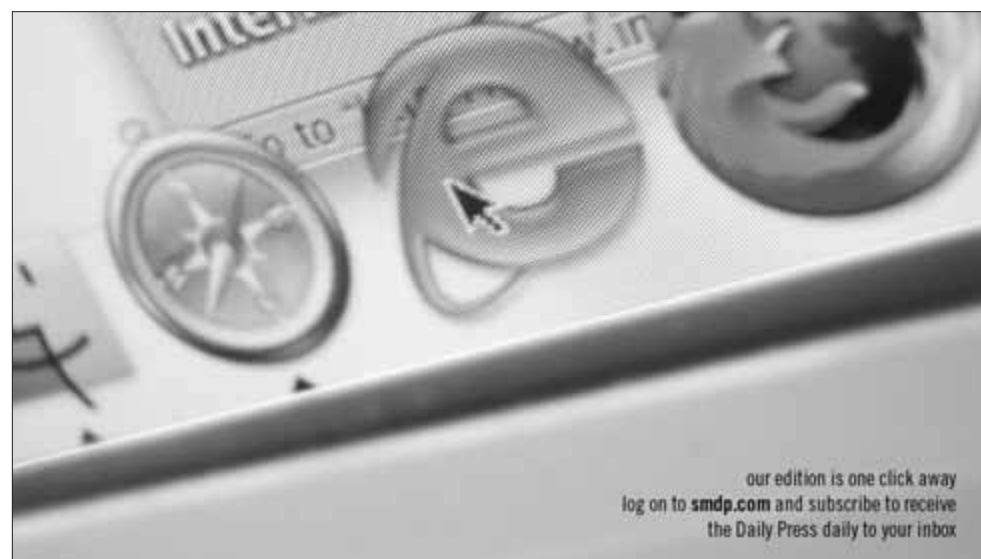
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COMMUNITYPROFILES

PROFILES, from page 1

trator there. After presenting a development plan to the City Council on behalf of the bank for which he worked, officials at City Hall were impressed with Anderson’s knowledge of how commercial development deals were put together, among other things.

It was Anderson’s experience in Pasadena that made him realize that working in the public sector was the most rewarding work he could do. He went on to other cities in the Bay area — San Pablo and Hayward — where he helped rebuild the city’s economy and restored historic buildings, respectively.

And because education is a value coveted in the public sector, Anderson went back to school and finished his degree at Occidental College, where he had originally pursued physics. He received his bachelor’s degree in urban and public administration in 1988, then a year later graduated from the executive management program at the University of California-Long Beach. In 1993, Anderson got his master’s degree in business administration at Saint Mary’s College of California.

Then the job of assistant city manager came up in Santa Monica in 2000. He knew it was going to be a good fit after he sat down with then-City Manager Susan McCarthy, who retired earlier this month.

“When I came down and interviewed, and met Susan McCarthy, that was a meaningful factor in my determination,” Anderson recalled. “I had met someone who immediately gave me a sense of cooperativeness, fair dealings and ethical standards.”

After nearly five years as the second-in-command in City Hall, Anderson threw his hat in the ring to become the next City Manager of Santa Monica when McCarthy announced in July that she was retiring. The City Council ultimately decided on Lamont Ewell, the City Manager in San Diego. Anderson is serving as the interim City Manager until Ewell begins his job on Jan. 14.

Although Anderson believes he would have made a stellar City Manager, he said the City Council made the right decision in hiring Ewell. He said he’s looking forward to working with him on some of the city’s key issues, which Anderson believes are the growing mistrust between the community and government, as well as the ongoing problems of homelessness.

Anderson, who has never been married and has no children, lives in Ladera Heights, spends his free time cycling along the Pacific Coast Highway and the canyons of Malibu, as well as skiing whenever and wherever he can.

He recently sat down with the Daily Press in his office on the second floor of City Hall to talk about the future of the city and his thoughts on what local governance is all about.

What is your job as interim City Manager?

“It’s to not totally disrupt. I would like to be able to hand to Lamont what Susan left — a good operation that has room for improvement, that has a financial base that’s there. I probably can’t disrupt that too much in 30 days. I’d have to do something really weird to disrupt that. (Ewell) is going to come on board when the city and the community start talking about the upcoming budget so he is hitting us at the right time and I’d like him to be able to launch from there with everything that

will help him to be successful, including me.”

What are your thoughts on the City Council’s decision not to hire you as City Manager?

“I think the council did well and the reason I think that is too often City Manager recruitments become very divisive times within a community. Our council was able to select a good recruiter and come together and build a consensus of what they thought they wanted in a new City Manager. It’s my understanding they received 60 applications from people from all over the nation and that speaks volumes for our community.”

But it wasn’t you.

“I’d like to think that I could have done a good job for the community but I think they thought Lamont could bring just a little bit more and I’m optimistic about it.”

Is it because he’s new blood, offering a fresh perspective?

“It could be that and I’m not afraid of that type of thought process. I think new blood is good and healthy. I’m looking forward to how that new blood is going to help me continue to grow. I like to look at myself as the continuity, if you will, in the manager’s office and I look at Lamont as the new blood who can judge things with new eyes.”

What are the biggest challenges in Santa Monica from where you sit?

“The biggest challenge is going to be how do we improve upon the sense of trust among the community, the council and the staff? We need to have a greater recognition of that when we speak of government here in Santa Monica because it really does involve all three of those players. You cannot say that staff is weak and not recognize you don’t have a weak community. You cannot say you have a weak council and not say you don’t have a weak staff. We are all together ...”

Is it an “us versus them” attitude?

“That type of dialogue does happen and that type of dialogue is very unfortunate. I firmly believe it should not be an us versus them. We are the representatives of the council who are representatives of the community.”

How do you think it got that way?

“I don’t really know. If you think back to Santa Monica’s growth from when I got here, Santa Monica was like Berkeley — there were always the ones to push the envelope. They were always the ones to totally step up to the plate on human rights, human access, to say what they want to say, to be who they want to be. That’s a value in the community and I’m not saying that’s not an important value, period. But for communities that are willing to pay the price, if you will ... there is a lot more activism.

“But I would dare to submit that the issues are largely the same in all communities, it’s just how they’ve chosen to deal with them ... I think that the citizenry has a way to be connected to its government and it’s important for local governments to maintain that.”

What’s one of the challenges for local government?

“I think here, unfortunately, one of the things I do hope we can do in the future is to improve upon the trust factor that I think is important for the community and municipal government to be the best that they can be.”

Why do you think the Santa Monica community mistrusts its local government?

“I haven’t quite put my finger on it yet. I have to honestly say that as a person who has come from the toughest community to work in, Pasadena, we had some weighty issues going on there ... so coming here ... from being very successful at working from a very strong trust base to coming to Santa Monica where the level of trust is growing, I think it could be a whole lot higher and the community would realize so much more than the great things the community has already benefited from.

“I think that one of the strongest models here is the childcare task force. There is a strong sense of trust among the residents, among the agencies that are involved and among the staff. It is a delight to work with them. I don’t know if that trust was generated because the fundamental essence of the children and meeting the needs of children, reasonable minds were able to come together and create a consensus. What’s important is when I look at that model and sat through the RAND Corp. negotiations, everyone didn’t agree but they were able to talk through their issues with a lot of respect and civility toward one another.”

What is the childcare task force?

“The childcare task force is a coalition of all of the providers in Santa Monica, private as well as the city, and the school district and the college and even the ancillary communities. It’s a coalition that comes together to address the needs of children. City staff provides an umbrella for them. The city provides a lot of the childcare opportunities in the city. We have a scholarship program ... It has worked really, really well.”

That program came from the RAND Corp.?

“Yes. My very first day on the job, I had to meet with the executives at RAND because the city was just closing on the land transaction to purchase the land from RAND and RAND was ready for the entitlements in the agreement. That is what led me to the childcare task force — RAND’s commitment to early childhood development. It was a big meeting. It was a very exciting meeting.”

What are your thoughts on ethics in local government?

“The International City Manager’s Association (ICMA) is the premiere organization for government professionals. One of the things nationally is that there is a distrust growing in local government, in national government and I think it’s important to recognize how and why and what institutions there really are to hopefully counteract that a little bit. Local government, professional government, is something that recognizes that we staff members are professional managers. That’s all we are. Communities are run by its people, its elected officials. They have the right to choose whatever they want to do ... we are just here to give them the best possible advice we can to make those determinations ... ICMA helps to equip us to do that. ICMA is an organization of nearly 9,000 people worldwide. We have a code of ethics that every member has to subscribe to. We have what’s called the committee on professional conduct that we use for violations of that code. I was chair of that committee twice. It’s amazing, unfortunately, what managers do sometimes around the world. Sometimes they have be judged by their peers and held accountable for that. ICMA is a very

important organization to me. I was fortunate to serve on their board twice.”

Why is it so important to you?

“Because part of me is that whatever I am involved in, I like to get into the essence of it, the governance of it ... it was important to me to understand what local government was about other than what one could see on the surface. And what I discovered, is it is something that I can feel intrinsic about ...

“We are supposed to be transparent. We are not supposed to allow our own political thoughts and biases influence our professional decisions and that’s very hard to do sometimes. People will ask me often times, ‘what do you think about the design of this? What do you think about that?’ Personally, I might think one way but let’s talk about what I think of it professionally and why we are recommending it. It’s not what I think personally. It helps you stay transparent and helps you sleep at night. You don’t have to worry about whether ‘should I have gone to that dinner?’ ‘Should I have not taken that gift?’ It helps you say ‘no’ or helps them understand why you say ‘no.’”

What’s the most challenging part of your job?

“I’m doer, a fast-paced doer. The most challenging part of my job is wading through process. But what I’ve learned in the 26 years of being in local government, especially here, is that process is everything. I spend a good part of my life trying to figure out how to respond to the process requirements and get it done a lot faster.”

What’s your least favorite part of the job?

“The notion of non-trust. That can be with the community, the council and even with the staff. As a person, I’m a trusting person initially. I go from a base of trust, not mistrust.”

What’s your favorite part of the job?

“I love it when people who see the fruition of something they’ve wanted. I had such a kick at the Public Safety Building grand opening. The library grand opening is just going to be a blast. The dedication of the (Martin Luther King) auditorium is going to be great. The opening of Virginia Avenue Park, walking around with those residents ... people were just marveled over it. That is the most fun part of the job.”

What’s your favorite place in Santa Monica?

“I’ve made a goal that in every place that I work, I do all my shopping there because it does support my salary. I do all of my shopping in Santa Monica. My soon-to-be favorite place will be the new library, I’m sure. I walk down Fourth Street down to Wilshire and then walk back on Ocean. I’ve met a lot of businesses along that street. There is a glass place there that I make a purchase at every year ...”

Least favorite thing about Santa Monica?

“Traffic. And the most troubling is the homeless here. The council and the staff are working so hard at re-engaging itself toward the homelessness initiative. It’s very important. We just had the homeless services report come out and it was great to talk about the accomplishments that are underway, but as several of the council members pointed out, we can’t just rest on those accomplishments. And probably our biggest challenge is how not to become complacent.”



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

'Know before you go' is a weekly update on construction projects throughout Santa Monica. Here is a schedule of construction projects initiated by public agencies for the week of Dec. 26:



Airport Park and Airport Avenue

Site grading, constructing new artificial turf soccer fields, constructing new playground, restrooms and dog park area, and reconstructing a portion of Airport Avenue. On-site detour possible during street reconstruction.

Pier structural rehabilitation

Structural upgrade of Municipal Pier roadway and miscellaneous repairs on Newcomb Pier.

Los Angeles County storm drain repair

Installation of low-flow diversion unit on Ashland Avenue, between Main Street and Neilson Way. There will be detour signs posted around the work area.

Montana Avenue storm drain repair

Repair of an existing outlet structure, several drainage facilities and approximately 200 square feet of asphalt near the 1550 beach parking lot. Project will include construction of 24-inch and 63-inch reinforced concrete pipes. Portions of the bike path will be used during construction. Follow posted detour signs.

Marine Street utility undergrounding

Relocation and undergrounding of electric, phone and cable facilities on Marine Street, between Lincoln Boulevard and Prospect Court. Parking limitations will be posted daily, and detours may be announced as necessary.

Cingular telecommunications lines

Cingular is installing telecommunication lines on San Vicente Boulevard from 17th to 19th streets.; San Vicente Boulevard from Fourth Street to 100 feet west of Fourth Street; and Fourth Street from San Vicente Boulevard to alley south of San Vicente Boulevard. There will be detours around the work areas.

Civic Center parking structure

Construction continues on a new 900 space Civic Center public parking structure, located on Fourth Street next to the Public Safety Facility. Construction will require the closure of Avenida Mazatlan and the Fourth Street sidewalk. One lane on southbound Fourth Street is subject to closure while work is occurring. There also may be delays entering the Civic Center parking lot from Fourth Street. Use the Main Street entrance.

Electrical vault installation

Southern California Edison will be installing an underground vault on Santa Monica Boulevard at Seventh Court. There will be detours around work areas. Please follow posted signs.

Gas company main replacement

Southern California Gas Company is replacing a 4-inch main on San Vicente Boulevard, between 17th and 16th streets; 17th Street, between San Vicente Boulevard and Georgina Avenue; Georgina Avenue, between 17th and 16th streets; and 16th Street, between San Vicente Boulevard and Georgina Avenue. There will be detours around work areas. Follow posted signs.

Main Library

Construction is near completion on the new main library, located at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. During construction, visit any of the branch libraries. Vehicular traffic patterns and parking availability have been restored on Sixth and Seventh streets, between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Avenue. However, temporary no parking will be permitted on the northwest side of Santa Monica Boulevard, between Sixth and Seventh streets.

Memorial and Los Amigos Park building replacement

Demolition of existing park buildings and construction of new restrooms, concession stands and storage buildings. Park buildings will be inaccessible during construction. Memorial Park is located at Olympic Boulevard and 14th Street, and Los Amigos Park is located at Fifth Street and Hollister Avenue.

On-Fiber telecommunications lines

On-Fiber is installing telecommunication lines on 26th Street from north of Colorado Boulevard to Pennsylvania Street. There may be detours around the work area along Pennsylvania Street, from 26th to Stewart streets.

Traffic signal upgrade

City Hall's transportation management division is upgrading traffic signals on Ocean Park Boulevard at Cloverfield Boulevard and at 23rd Street. There will be detours around the work area. However, the contractor will maintain at a minimum one lane in each direction on all streets. For information on the project, call (310) 458-4982.

Water main replacement project

Installation of new water main complete with service connections. Detours and lane closures may occur, and will be posted at various sites throughout the city during construction.

(For more information, log on to http://santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug_project_list.asp or call 310-458-8721.)



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BIG DEAN'S CAFE-Where the 'locals' meet and the 'fun-loving' tourists always return! Come enjoy our highly acclaimed beach fare, beer, and wine at the best people watching place on the beach. Music, satellite sports, 2 outdoor patios, and smoking allowed. This nostalgic eatery has been here since 1902! The prices are reasonable and children are welcome. Now serving breakfast. Also serving lunch and dinner. 1615 Ocean Front, Santa Monica. (310) 393-2666.

BRITANNIA PUB-This English pub has a traditional charm with a Californian flair. Traditional British breakfast is served all day along with all your American favorites. Fish & Chips (our biggest seller) is a must try along with Bangers & Mash and Shepherds Pie or go American with our assortment of appetizers, burgers, salads, soups and sandwiches. We also serve our own hand cut fries. Join us after the restaurant closes for Quiz night, Karaoke, and DJ nights. We now have a late night menu available 10pm-1:30am. Outdoor patio, pool table, full bar, Gold Award from Guinness. Hours: 11am-10pm Monday-Friday, 9:30am-10pm Saturday and Sunday. 318 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica. (310) 458-5350.

BUCCA di BEPPO-gets to the heart of Southern Italian cooking with authentic, family-style recipes like Chicken Parmigiana, Shrimp Scampi, and Tortelloni. Dishes are available in Buca Small portions for 2 or more people, and Buca Large for 4 or more. The full menu is available for curb-side take out; we'll deliver your order right to your car! Located one block off the Promenade at 1422 2nd St, Santa Monica. Call 310-587-EATS for reservations and take out.

CASA ESCOBAR-This family owned institution in Santa Monica has been serving excellent food since 1965. A friendly bar and dinner house frequented by the "locals" and tourists alike. We feature the best Mexican dishes in town. Among the favorites are the crispy beef tacos, spinach enchiladas and our house-cut NY Strip steaks on the grill. Our full bar is home of the famous Casa Escobar Margarita-a winner! While at the bar, enjoy our classic piano bar along with cable TV. Valet Parking available. All major credit cards. Open lunch and dinner. 2500 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. (310) 828-1315.

GLADSTONE'S MALIBU-One of SoCal's busiest seafood restaurants; a million visitors each year. A landmark known for its fresh seafood, live lobsters and crab, and its famous Mile High Chocolate Cake. Gladstone's ocean-front location offers diners huge portions and a casual atmosphere. Dine inside or on the outside deck with unbelievable views and waves of fun. Gladstone's "Good Vibrations" Live Music, 6pm-8:30pm every Friday night, all summer long. Lunch, dinner daily; Saturday and Sunday brunch. 17300 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu. (310) GL4-FISH.

JOHNNIES-The Best Little Neighborhood Italian Restaurant. Come in to our new location and enjoy Traditional or Stuffed pastas, Mile High Salads, Grinders, Roman Style Sandwiches, Hearty Calzones, and New York Style Thin Crust Pizza, in a relaxing neighborhood setting. When you're looking for a reasonably priced, traditional Italian meal with authentic New York attitude, Johnnies delivers. Hours: Sunday-Thursday 11am-10pm and Friday and Saturday 11am-11pm. Dine In, Take Out and Delivery. 1456 Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica. (310) 395-9062.

JULIANO'S RAW-"Welcome to RAW!" Flourish on raw gourmet delights. Unbelievably rich and decadent, we only taste sinful. The experience is waiting for you. Increase energy, stamina & vitality. Everything is certified organic from the earth and delectable. Julianio's RAW offers an assortment of appetizers, soups, main courses and salads. Raw Food with Rejuvenating Power. Six blocks from the beach, enjoy our outdoor patio or sit at the RAW Food Bar. Totally raw restaurant...upscale, artsy, and gourmet in one. All major credit cards accepted, reservations for six or more only. Open 7 days/ week. Visit www.planetraw.com for directions and full menu. 609 Broadway, Santa Monica. (310) 587-1552.

OVERUNDER SPORTS GRILL-Located on the corner of 14th Street and Santa Monica Blvd., OVERUNDER features 12 draft beers and a fine selection of wine making it a great place to watch any and all of your favorite teams. The house specialty is the Philadelphia cheese steak. OVERUNDER also offers great burgers, salads, Mexican food and more. OVERUNDER is the viewing home for the Cleveland Browns and strongly supports the Lakers, Clippers, Dodgers, and Kings. Frequent food and beer specials are also offered at OVERUNDER Sports Grill. All football, baseball, and basketball games are televised via satellite for every team. 1348 14th Street, Santa Monica. (310) 576-9913.

PANINI GARDEN-This authentic European eatery serves traditional Italian and French style food. Panin style sandwiches grilled on a cast-iron panini grill that seals all the savory flavors inside a bread envelope of your choice, from very soft and thin like the tramezzini, soft and crispy for the al forno and crusty for the rustico. A large selection of meats and cheeses, organic produce, fresh and healthy combinations of menu items to enjoy everyday have made PANINI GARDEN the local's favorite. In addition, delicious crepes are served all day, for breakfast or just dessert, it is always a treat. The setting is quiet in the lavender garden with the bubbling fountain. Hours: 8am-9pm Sunday-Thursday, 8am-10:30pm Friday and Saturday. 2715 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 399-9939.

THE OMELETTE PARLOR-For 28 years The Omelette Parlor has been offering the finest in breakfast fare. With high fluffy omelettes, super sandwiches, and the freshest of salads, it's more than breakfast. Enjoy your day on our garden patio and experience the friendliness of service. Quality and value prevail forever at The Omelette Parlor. We open everyday at 6am. Come early! Hours: 6am-2:30pm Monday-Friday, 6am-4pm Saturday and Sunday. 2732 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 399-7892.

THE GALLEY-Rediscover Service - Rediscover The Galley. Visit Captain Ron at what Zagat Guide refers to as the place to go for "marvelous" steaks and "stiff drinks". NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH ON THE WEEKENDS AT NOON featuring 1/4 lb. Kosher hot dogs with fries served at the bar for \$2.00 until July 31st. GREAT PATIO DINING. All fresh fish from Santa Monica Seafood and the best tuna salad sandwiches you will ever get at any restaurant! Capt. Ron will walk the plank if you don't agree! Hours: 5pm-until Capt. Ron gets tired Monday-Friday, noon until the party stops Saturday and Sunday. 2442 Main Street, Santa Monica. (310) 452-1934.

THE SLICE-A true neighborhood pizzeria serving authentic New York pizza & buffalo wings. We also offer a selection of hot & cold subs, pastas and salads. You can also create your own calzone. Eat in, take out, or delivery. Catering is available. Hours: open daily 11am-9pm. Visit one of our three locations: 915 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica (310) 451-7542, 1622 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica (310) 399-4060, 13151 Fountain Park Drive, Playa Vista (310) 437-7499.

VIOLET-At Violet restaurant the atmosphere is casual, comfortable, and, like its cuisine, is uncluttered. Chef Jared Simons' flavorful small plate fare has something to suit everyone, from light eaters to those with a taste for a more robust fare. The Braised Short Ribs with Shallot Potatoes (\$14.50) melt apart while the Multi-Colored Beef Salad with Eel delights with Kumquat and Ginger Vinaigrette (\$9) and the favorite among the regulars is the Baked Macaroni and Gruyere Cheese with Serrano Ham (\$7.50). Unique selection of new and old world wines by the bottle, glass or flight as well as an impressive list of domestic & imported artisan beers. Hours: Lunch: Tuesday-Friday, 11:30am-2pm. Dinner: Tuesday-Friday, 6pm-10pm & Saturday and Sunday, 5:30pm-10pm. 3221 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. www.violetrestaurant.com (310) 453-9113.

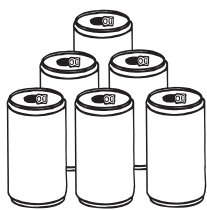
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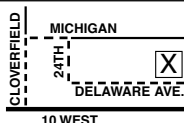
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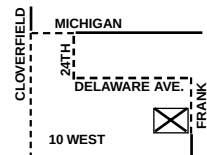
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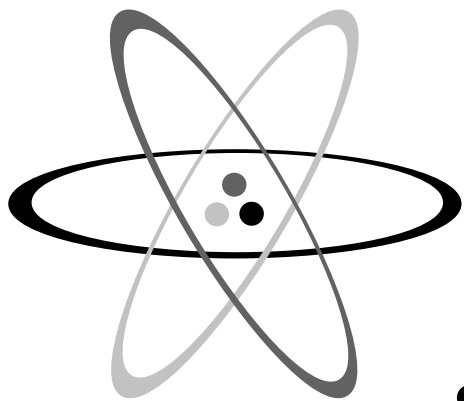


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LOCAL □ STATE



Immigrants mixing tradition with advice

BY JULIANA BARBASSA

Associated Press Writer

MADERA, Calif. — A thick tangle of marigolds reaches chest-high around 19-year-old Caritina Cruz, who plucks one of the deep orange flowers and explains to her little sister how to prepare it in a tea that soothes indigestion.

The teenager was born to one of Mexico's native Indian tribes, and grew up steeped in healing traditions that pre-date the Spanish conquest. To her and other immigrants to Mexico's dozens of indigenous groups, a garden tucked behind a whitewashed church in rural Madera County is a pharmacy.

With Cruz's care, the plot eventually will sprout plants that other Mexican Indians in the area may use to treat insomnia, kidney problems, stomach cramps and other ailments.

The garden is part of a larger effort to preserve pre-Columbian health care customs even as community leaders work to forge ties with the local medical establishment. It was planted with the help of a non-profit group that speaks up for the Mixtecs, Zapotecs, Triquis and other native Mexicans who labor as migrant farmworkers in California's Central Valley.

The arrival of immigrants with radically different beliefs about health and the patient-healer relationship is pushing doctors to broaden their understanding of what it takes to care for their new patients. For example, doctors working with Hmong refugees who arrived from Southeast Asia in the 1980s have had to bridge a language barrier and a gap between Eastern and Western medicine in

situations where miscommunication could be the difference between life and death.

Indians from Mexico unwilling to let go of customs that have served them for generations are also reaching out to health care providers here, trying to find a delicate balance between the Old World and the new.

Members of Mexico's 60 Indian groups are even more likely than other recent immigrants to fall outside the reach of the American health care system, said Nayamin Martinez Cossio, of the indigenous organization Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indigena Oaxaqueno.

Isolated in remote farmworker settlements and usually uninsured, they often speak languages most Spanish-speaking Mexicans don't recognize. It's an added barrier when a baby gets sick or when a pregnant woman wants a prenatal checkup.

Often discriminated against in Mexico, they also are "at the bottom of the ladder" in the United States, said Jonathan Fox, a researcher at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

"No one represents their interests, here or in Mexico," Fox said. "They have to speak up and do it themselves."

The 2000 Census showed there were about 154,362 such immigrants in the state, according to an analysis by researchers at UC Santa Cruz.

But Mexico's Indians are making up a growing share of migrants entering the country, according to estimates from the National Agricultural Workers Survey. Between 1993 and 1994, Mexicans from states such as Oaxaca, Chiapas and Guerrero accounted for 9 percent of immigrant farmworkers coming to the country, a figure that rose to 19 percent between 2001 and 2002.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Judges will not have access to personal information when reading the entries. Deadline to enter is Monday, Jan. 9 at 5:30 p.m. Entries may be mailed to the address above, or you can walk over and drop it off at any of the following locations:

- Clover Park — Ocean Park Boulevard and 26th Street.
- Community Programs Division at Ken Edwards Center — 1527 4th St., first floor
- Miles Playhouse at Reed Park — Seventh Street at Wilshire Boulevard.
- Senior Recreation Center — 1450 Ocean Ave.

Typed entries may not be longer than one page (single-spaced with a font size at least 11 points) and handwritten entries may not be more than two pages long. Full rules are available by calling the human services division at (310) 458-8701.

Santa Monica YMCA showcases new facility

By Daily Press staff

Want to learn more about the Santa Monica YMCA? Now's your chance.

The Santa Monica Family YMCA will host a community open house Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Community members unfamiliar with the YMCA, or those who are simply curious to see the expanded facility are invited to attend.

Attendees will be treated to tours, health and fitness activities and also will be eligible for door prizes and giveaways. There also will be programs for adults, children and seniors. Current members are encouraged to bring their friends and family.

The Santa Monica Family YMCA serves the Santa Monica, Venice and Westside communities, and features a 85,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility for people of all ages, as well as 270 underground parking spaces.

The YMCA is committed to basic Christian principles and offers high quality, family-centered programs that bring parents and children together, giving families a chance to strengthen their relationships in a safe, caring, and welcoming environment, representatives of the organization said.

The YMCA provides a variety of additional programs and services that support the growth of people in spirit, mind and body and works for the complete development of each person in physical strength, confidence, and self-worth. For more information, call the Santa Monica Family YMCA at (310) 393-2721.



Foggy future for former aerial firefighter

BY BECKY BOHRER

Associated Press Writer

GREYBULL, Wyo. — In the three years since two of its large fire-retardant bombers broke up in mid-flight, Hawkins & Powers Aviation Inc. has gone from being one of the country's largest aerial firefighting firms to the brink of bankruptcy.

It has lost key government contracts for the use of most of its heavy air tankers and essentially has been forced from a business it helped pioneer.

There have been lawsuits, layoffs and a change in direction: New management has taken over in an effort to satisfy creditors and turn the company into a viable airplane refurbishing business that could be sold to a new operator.

With what may be its final refurbishing job, fixing up a C-130 as part of a military contract, only a few weeks from completion and no buyer for the company committed, maintenance director Tim Mikus and other employees are weighing job offers and hold only dim hope that the doors here will stay open.

"If it had been one accident, I think the air tanker business would still be going strong and that the company would still be going strong," Mikus said in a recent interview at the company's headquarters in rural northern Wyoming. "But the two of them ..."

Like Hawkins & Powers, the entire aerial firefighting industry is facing an uncertain future.

Some companies are struggling to regain financial footing in the 19 months since the federal government canceled contracts for large air tankers used to fight wildfires. The move was prompted by concerns raised about the planes' airworthiness and public safety after the crashes. While some were allowed to return to service later, their numbers were sharply reduced. And the government has fortified its firefighting arsenal with single-engine air tankers and large helicopters.

Though tanker operators like Len Parker, an owner of Minden Air Corp. in Minden, Nev., maintain that their planes are safe — and are even more so today — questions remain about what role the aging fleet of modified military bombers and other aircraft should have in the future.

"The operators in business now put every effort they possibly can into ensuring these aircraft are safe," Parker said. "If you look at this business, you could make the argument that, without the two structural failures, maintenance-wise, this business has been a very, very safe business."

Aerial firefighting is inherently risky, involving the use of low-flying air tankers that must endure high-stress maneuvers in the turbulent air over forest fires. Since 1974, 62 people have been killed in 39 air tanker accidents, according to a U.S. Forest Service official in Boise, Idaho.

Some say the loss of five aerial firefighters in June and July of 2002 was a wakeup call for the government and industry. But so were the later findings of federal safety investigators, that fatigue cracks in the wings of the planes — a C-130A and PB4Y-2 — probably caused the fatal crashes, with inadequate maintenance procedures for detecting such cracks contributing.

The PB4Y-2, whose left wing snapped in Colorado, killing two, was among the oldest aircraft in the firefighting arsenal, dating to the mid-1940s, according to a fire official and accident report by the National Transportation Safety Board.

Mikus and George Dubry, Hawkins & Powers' chief inspector, maintain the cracks were in areas that couldn't be seen without taking the plane apart and that, had the company known about the potential for fatigue cracking in the wings, they would have looked for and corrected it.

At least one lawsuit is pending that lists the company and a number of others as defendants and alleges wrongful death, among other things. It was filed by relatives of the two men killed in the Colorado crash.

"We knew that it wasn't our fault directly, but if we'd known then what we know now, then our friends would be here now," Dubry said.

The federal government, which for years relied on the private companies it contracted with to ensure the air tankers were safe to fly, never terminated contracts with Hawkins & Powers for inspection or safety violations, said Rose Davis, a spokeswoman for the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho.

But after the crashes, the government stopped using both types of aircraft involved, leaving Hawkins & Powers unable to fly most of its planes for the federal agencies, company officials said.

Hawkins & Powers got one of its P2V-7s into the air, briefly, in 2004. But that May, the government terminated the contract it had for all 33 air tankers after concerns were raised with the planes' airworthiness. Though some aircraft were later cleared for service, Hawkins & Powers eventually decided to get out of the aerial firefighting business, officials said.

"It left a dent in the industry when they folded," said Bill Broadwell, of the American Helicopter Services and Aerial Firefighting Association.

It wasn't just the cancellation of contracts that hurt Hawkins & Powers. Bills were mounting, and the company owed the Justice Department \$1.6 million as part of a settlement over the transfer of surplus military planes with incomplete flight data, according to U.S. Sen. Craig Thomas' office.

Layoffs began in late 2004; the number of employees, at one time around 200, fell to about 19 by year's end,

See FIREFIGHTER, page 11

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Santa Monica Daily Press



NATIONAL

Scientists urge for more air pollution research

BY DAVID PACE

Associated Press Writer

Dick Wittberg knows that each year factories rain hundreds of thousands of pounds of manganese dust over his hometown of Marietta, Ohio. He also knows that manganese is a heavy metal that can harm the brain and nervous system.

What worries Wittberg, a biologist who heads the mid-Ohio Valley Health Department, is what he doesn't know and can't find out: How all that toxic pollution is affecting the lives and health of children in his community.

Wittberg has been pressing for a full-blown government study of the manganese pollution's health impact since he took part in a pilot study in the late 1990s that compared Marietta children to those in a similar-sized Ohio town on academic and physical tests. The Marietta kids fared significantly worse.

"We didn't do anything that in any respect proves that this is manganese that has done this, because there are other scenarios that are entirely possible," he said. "But in my opinion, it really points to some environmental problem that is causing some neurological differences, and one has to suspect manganese. Nobody knows for kids how much is too much."

Similar concerns span the country, though communities with the worst factory pollution sometimes are frustrated they don't have more research to rely on.

In the Detroit suburb of Ecorse, which has sued U.S. Steel after enduring decades of air pollution, Mayor Larry Salisbury wants the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to investigate how industrial toxins affect health.

"We think there have been citizens who had an early death because of health issues related to that steel plant," Salisbury said. "It would be great if the CDC would study certain towns to make the case."

"Sometimes I think the government doesn't want to know the answers," he said. "Once they do, they have a certain liability to enforce."

U.S. Steel spokesman John Armstrong said his company took over the Ecorse plant in 2003 from bankrupt National Steel and has spent millions cleaning up problems. "We take great pride in our environmental stewardship and are addressing these issues as quickly as possible," he said.

An Associated Press analysis of federal pollution, health and Census data found that more than 30 neighborhoods around the Great Steel Works plant in Ecorse rank among the worst 5 percent nationally for potential health risks from industrial air pollution.

AP used health risk scores calculated by the Environmental Protection Agency. The measures can be used to compare the chronic health risk from industrial air pollution from one part of the country to another.

The study found that eight states — Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Texas, Michigan, Wisconsin and Missouri — account for almost half the total health risk nationally from factory air. Nearly one-tenth of the total risk is concentrated in Ohio, especially along the heavily industrialized Ohio River corridor.

Farther east, Camden, N.J., has more

than 100 contaminated industrial sites and seven minority neighborhoods that rank among the top 1 percent in the nation for the long-term health risk from factory pollution.

Dr. Robert Pedowitz said his Camden practice sees about 25 patients a day for asthma or allergy complaints, more than any other private practice in New Jersey. One of the main triggers, he said, is air pollution.

"It severely affects the quality of life," Pedowitz said. "It makes people tired, affects their ability to function."

In the Ohio River Valley where Wittberg lives, nine neighborhoods in and around Marietta and Wood County, W.Va., rank among the worst 100 nationally for health risks from factory emissions.

There are more than 20 industrial plants along or near the Ohio River in those two counties. The plants regularly spew tens of thousands of pounds of manganese, chromium, sulfuric acid, and formaldehyde.

"It's a toxic soup of contaminants because of all the different facilities in the area," said Michelle Colledge, an environmental health scientist with the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The river corridor also is a major contributor to factory air pollution in West Virginia, which has the highest health risk per person of any state. Indiana ranks second in per capita health risk, followed by Ohio, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Alabama.

Residents around Marietta, with the help of Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, petitioned the government several years ago to study the health impact of the region's air.

Tina Trombley, president of Recover, a local environmental group, said the community wanted to find out for sure if the high incidence of asthma and several types of cancer are the result of air pollution.

The study found arsenic and manganese in the air consistently exceeded levels that scientists believe harm health, but provided no definitive link to disease. Further monitoring at specific sites was ordered.

"We need to do a full-fledged study and we're hoping that's what they will be able to do for us," Trombley said.

The initial federal study focused on an industrial complex south of Marietta that includes four major facilities. The largest, the Eramet Marietta metal refinery, released more than 550,000 pounds of manganese compounds in 2000, and more than 25,000 pounds of chromium compounds. Another facility, Eveready Battery, releases more than 16,000 pounds of manganese compounds a year.

Jeff McKinney, environmental manager at Eramet, said neither the study nor any other data suggest that "emissions from area industry have adversely impacted the health of residents. Moreover, we have not seen manganese exposure-related neurological effects in our long term employees."

For Colledge and Wittberg, the area offers a unique opportunity to determine conclusively how long-term exposure to manganese dust affects humans, particularly children.



American nun shuns ‘good life’

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

TIJUANA, Mexico — The cell at the end of the dark hallway barely fits a cot, a desk and a folding chair. There lives Sister Antonia Brenner, an aging American nun who was raised in Beverly Hills but abandoned a life of rare privilege to live in a notorious Mexican jail.

Her neighbors are no longer Hollywood stars, but murderers, drug runners and human smugglers. They know her as “angel de la carcel” — the prison angel.

Brenner, 79, looks puzzled when asked what motivated her riches-to-rags choice.

“I don’t understand why people are so amazed,” she says. “To give help is easy. To ask for it is hard.”

Just 5-foot-2 but crackling with energy, Brenner’s days are jammed. She administers quick counseling sessions and does countless small tasks on behalf of the 7,100 inmates at La Mesa State Penitentiary, just across the U.S. border from San Diego. In come bandages, soap and medicine; out go messages to loved ones beyond the prison’s high walls.

Brenner has long been a caretaker — she raised seven children.

Then, at 50, she traded her dresses and a spacious home for a homemade habit and a prison where conditions have led to inmate riots — including three that she helped quell.

“I’m effective in riots because I’m not afraid, I just pray and walk into it,” she said. “A woman in a white veil walks in, someone they know loves them. So silence comes, explanation comes and arms go down.”

Her work has been recognized in books and, this month, the Washington-based

Hall of Fame for Caring Americans named Brenner as one of 12 new inductees. Her admirers include not just inmates, but wardens and guards as well.

“Wardens come and go, and I will go, too, but Mother Antonia will always be here,” said Jose Francisco Jimenez Gomez, warden for the last 1 1/2 years. “She is like a ray of sunshine.”

The only sunlight in her tiny cell filters through two small windows with a view of a guard tower and barbed wire fence. A white sheet serves as the door to a cramped bathroom with a cold-water shower.

She walks through the prison with a beaming smile, waving at inmates and guards and kissing many on their cheeks. She address them as “mi hijo” — “my son.” Many smile, confide a few words and thank her for some odd favor.

“Everyone loves her,” says Jose Luis Romero, who is serving 4 1/2 years for stealing a car. “You always feel better about yourself after seeing her.”

Brenner was born Mary Clarke in Los Angeles, the second of three children. Her father made a fortune selling office supplies to defense contractors during World War II. The family lived in Beverly Hills and had an 11-bedroom, ocean-view summer home in Laguna Beach, south of Los Angeles. Later, she moved to Ventura County, her last home before the prison.

After two failed marriages, Brenner immersed herself more deeply in charity work and was deeply influenced by a Los Angeles priest named Anthony Brouwers. When she became a nun in 1977, 13 years after Brouwers died, she named herself Sister Antonia in his honor.

Brenner first visited the prison in 1965 on a trip to deliver medicine and supplies

to Tijuana hospitals. She moved in 12 years later, and her routine has changed little.

She rises around 5 a.m. for prayer, then distributes prayer cards to inmates who are crammed inside a boxed chain-link fence waiting for a court appearance. Four days a week she speaks at the prison’s new church, an orange building with five rows of wooden benches and white plastic chairs.

“Everything eventually ends — your money, your sickness, your family, your time in jail,” she tells about 20 inmates dressed in gray sweatsuits, speaking in flawless though American accented, Spanish. “The only thing that won’t end is Christ’s love for you.”

From there, she walks the grounds, where a guard thanks her for finding a wheelchair for his grandmother, who died that morning.

“She can talk to a the prisoners in a way that the guards cannot,” says Ulises Romero Rubio, a guard for 12 years. “She knows how to calm their nerves.”

Another nun drives her a few blocks to her office at Casa Campos de San Miguel, which she named for Rigo Campos, a drug dealer gunned down in 1991 after his release from La Mesa. The house is also a shelter for former female inmates and cancer patients and a home for some of the 13 sisters in the Eudist Servants of the Eleventh Hour, the Catholic order that Brenner founded in the 1990s.

Her idea was to give women 45 to 65 years old a way to be accepted as nuns.

“Their families have grown up, their husbands have died, they’re divorced, or they were never married,” Brenner says. “They’re free to give the rest of their lives. That’s why it’s called the 11th hour.”

Flailing flyers look for recovery

FIREFIGHTER, from page 9

President Jim Taggart said. Secured debt was between \$14 million and \$15 million, he said.

“Most people, I think, are amazed we didn’t have to file for bankruptcy,” he said, though the company did sell all its assets.

Taggart, a crisis manager, assumed leadership of the flailing company late last year in a bid to turn it around. Dan Hawkins and Gene Powers, who had run the company since the late-1960s, did not respond to interview requests.

Taggart hopes an outside group will take over what he says has become a profitable, promising refurbishing business — and maybe give it a new name, a fresh start. The 50 or so workers left in Greybull know, though, that they could be out of work come February if that doesn’t happen.

Mikus respects the company name — and the work the firm still does — but he fears Hawkins & Powers’ legacy will be forever defined by 2002.

“I don’t believe it was Hawkins & Powers’ fault that those airplanes crashed; I know the facts,” he said at one point.

“I think there were just a lot of bad circumstances and bad luck,” he added later. “It’s not been a good few years. Even if this whole thing goes out of business, we’re a whole lot smarter.”



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S. Korean scientist resigns after school says he faked work

BY BO-MI LIM

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean researcher Hwang Woo-suk resigned from his university on Friday after the school said he fabricated stem-cell research that had raised hopes of new cures for hard-to-treat diseases.

A university panel, releasing initial findings of a probe, accused Hwang of damaging the scientific community with his deception, while South Korea's government rued the scandal surrounding the country's star scientist and said it may pull its funding for his research.

"I sincerely apologize to the people for creating a shock and disappointment," Hwang told reporters as he was leaving his office at Seoul National University, considered the country's top institution of higher learning.

"With an apologetic heart ... I step down as professor," he said.

However, Hwang still maintained that he had produced the technology to create patient-matched stem cells as he claimed in a May article in the journal Science.

"I emphasize that patient-specific stem cells belong to South Korea and you are going to see this," said Hwang, a veterinarian.

Earlier Friday, a panel of Seoul National University experts said Hwang had faked results of at least nine of 11 stem cell lines he claimed to have created in the May paper — the first confirmation of allegations that have cast a shadow over all his purported breakthroughs in cloning and stem-cell technology.

"This kind of error is a grave act that damages the foundation of science," the panel said.

The South Korean government, which had strongly supported Hwang and designated him the country's first "top scientist," said Friday it was "miserable" over the reported results of the investigation and will start its own probe over ethics breaches.

Choi Seong-sik, vice minister of science and technology, said it's impossible to recover money already spent for Hwang, a total \$39.9 million for research and facilities since 1998. But his ministry, which admitted errors in its handling of Hwang's projects, will look at ending other funding and withdraw the "top scientist" designation.

Still, the government said it would support other similar research.

The university panel said Friday it found that "the laboratory data for 11 stem cell lines that were reported in the 2005 paper were all data made using two stem cell lines in total."

To create fake DNA results purporting to show a match, Hwang's team split cells from one patient into two test tubes for the analysis — rather than actually match cloned cells to a patient's original cells, the university said.

"Based on these facts, the data in the 2005 Science paper cannot be some error from a simple mistake, but can only be seen as a deliberate fabrication to make it look like 11 stem-cell lines using results from just two," the panel said.

"There is no way but that Professor Hwang has been involved," the university's dean of research affairs, Roe Jung-hye told a news conference. Hwang "somewhat admits to this," he added.

The panel said DNA tests expected to be completed within a few days would confirm whether the remaining two stem-cell lines it had found were actually successfully cloned from a patient.

The earlier claims of patient-matched stem cells were seen by scientists worldwide as a key step to creating tailored therapies for hard-to-treat diseases, such as paralysis or diabetes.

In light of the revelations, the panel said it would now also investigate Hwang's other landmark papers — which include another Science article in 2004 on the world's first cloned human embryos, and an August 2005 paper in the journal Nature on the first-ever cloned dog — an Afghan hound named Snuppy. The journals already are reviewing all the work.



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1214 Idaho Unit 7
2+1.5 townhouse \$2325
1835 7th 1+1 \$1295

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MAR VISTA, townhouse style. 11621 Braddock Drive \$1300. 2 bdrm/1 1/2 bath. Stove, blinds, carpet, washer/dryer hook-ups, patio, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets (310) 967-4471 jkwproperties.com

MDR ADJACENT. Single, fireplace, newer gated building with gated parking, courtyard area, quiet neighborhood. Laundry rm. 1 year lease, no pets. \$995. (310) 396-4443 x 2002 ellynesis.com

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Santa Monica \$750/mo. Bachelor/1Bath, pet ok, hardwood floors, laundry, refrigerator, yard, microwave. (310) 395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

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VERY LARGE 2bdrm/2bath in Venice. Lots of closets, laundry on premises. Small friendly building. Off street parking. \$1850/mo (310) 399-1476, (310) 476-2724

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Sunny studio. 1 block from the beach. Hardwood floors and full kitchens. Clean, controlled access building. 1 year lease, no pets, no smoking. \$975. (310) 396-4443 x 2002 ellynesis.com

WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th Pl. Unit E. 2bdrm/1bath. stove. microwave, dishwasher, carpet, blinds, laundry, gated parking, no pets. \$1375. (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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WLA: 2BDRM/1BATH. \$1600/mo. Great location, new carpet, tile, clean, quiet, parking, patio. Brenda (310) 991-2694.

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 * As of December 14, 2005

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3 Units

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Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S)

Date of Filing Application: December 16, 2005

To Whom it may concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: 310 WILSHIRE RESTAURANT ASSOCIATES LLC.

The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 312 WILSHIRE BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401.

Type of License(s) Applied for: 47 – ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE.

Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.

SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 12/26/05

Statement of Withdrawal from Partnership Operating under Fictitious Business Name: Current File No: 05 1988545
 The following person(s) has/have withdrawn as a general partner(s) from the partnership operating under the fictitious business name of Bear Taxi Cab located at 1335 S. Azusa Ave, Suite 212, West Covina, CA 91791. The fictitious business name statement for the partnership was filed on August 18, 2005 in the County of Los Angeles. The full name and residence of the person(s) withdrawing as a partner(s): Edgar Martinez, 18433 Desidia Street, Rowland Heights, CA 91748. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct, signed: Edgar Martinez.
 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/19/05, 12/26/05, 01/02/06, 01/09/06

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2727635 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Performance Bicycle Shop, Al #/ON 594543, 501 Broadway, Santa Monica, CA 90401. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Bitech, Inc., North Carolina, One Performance Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Bitech, Inc., CFO/VP, David Pruitt
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/10/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808130 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Familia Realty, 8060 E. Florence, Downey, CA 90240. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Rosemary Diaz, 5012 Quigley St., LA, CA 90040, Rito Diaz, 5012 Quigley St., LA, CA 90040, Armando D'La Cuba, 8060 E. Florence, Downey, CA 90240 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/18/2005. /s/: Rosemary Diaz, Rito Diaz, Armando D'La Cuba

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/18/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808113 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Project Focus Consulting, 2609 W. 235th St., #C, Torrance, CA 90505. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Lebron Delane Knight, 2609 W. 235th St., #C, Torrance, CA 90505 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Lebron Delane Knight

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/18/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808192 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Sonic Group Services, 3380 Flair Dr., #233, El Monte, CA 91731. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ming Lung Hwu, 615 Rainbow Pl., Diamond Bar, CA 91765 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ming Lung Hwa
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY

DBAS

PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2758679 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Subway 35965, Al #/ON 2776230, 11411 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Peya, Inc., 11916 Abingdon Street, Norwalk, CA 90650 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Peya, Inc., President, Jupiter Angcao
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/15/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808133 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Tutor for the Future, 12 Y Village Loop Rd., Pomona, CA 91766. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jim Haber, 1779 Storrs Pl., Pomona, CA 91766, Viviane Haber, 1779 Storrs Pl., Pomona, CA 91766 This Business is being conducted by, husband and wife. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Jim Haber, Viviane Haber

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/18/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808193 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Unity Group Services, 3380 Flair Dr., #233, El Monte, CA 91731. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ming Lung Hwu, 615 Rainbow Pl, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ming Lung Hwa
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2808194 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Vivi Express Group, I Express Group, 3380 Flair Drive, #232, El Monte, CA 91731. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Nan Xiao, 315 E. Broadway, #205, San Gabriel, CA 91776 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Nan Xiao

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2933453 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FirstFedDirect, 401 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : First Federal Bank of California, 401 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401 This Business is being conducted by, an unincorporated association other than a partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ann E. Lederer

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2933454 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ActionJobs.com, 1907 Lincoln Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90291. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Mark Verge, 434 Euclid, Santa Monica, CA 90402 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/28/2005. /s/: Mark Verge
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish

DBAS

12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2933455 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NYS Collection, 6716 Clybourn Ave., #104, N. Hollywood, CA 91606. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Anthony Lee Tripoli, 6716 Clybourn Ave., #104, N. Hollywood, CA 91606 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/29/2005. /s/: Tony Tripoli
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2935181 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NICHOLSON ROHLFING DEFOREST JACKSON HAMILTON, 8608 Holloway Dr., #318, Calif 90069. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Peter Nicholson, 8608 Holloway Dr., #318, Calif 90069 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Peter Nicholson

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/1/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/5/2005, 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2906995 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as American Tree Service, 3651 Victoria Ave., LA, CA 90016. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Alfred Edwards, 3651 Victoria Ave., LA, CA 90016 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Alfred Edwards

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/29/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2920055 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Asia Gold, Asia Gold N Jewelry, Asia Gold Company, 629 S. Hill St., #203, Los Angeles, CA 90014. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Vivat Chai, 18236 Guildford, Northridge, CA 91326 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Vivat Chai

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/30/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2906996 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as efashion sense, 4610 Densmore Ave., Unit 17, Encino, CA 91436. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Aileen Del Sol Martinez, 4610 Densmore Ave., Unit 17, Encino, CA 91436 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Aileen Del Sol Martinez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/29/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2935132 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Tom's Mobile Detailing, 2877 Glenn Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90023. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Thomas Rodriguez, 2877 Glenn Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90023 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Thomas Rodriguez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2932986 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Handy Man, 1222 N. Westmoreland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90029. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Amadeo S. Devera, 1222 N. Westmoreland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90029 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Amadeo S. Devera

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2920089 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Michael Han Appraisal Services, Associated Appraisal Services, 1335 Sonora Ave., Glendale, CA 91201. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Michael Han, 1335 Sonora Ave., Glendale, CA 91201 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Michael Han

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/30/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2898374 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Moreno Family Child Care, 970 E. Stockton Ave., Compton, CA 90221. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Elizabeth Moreno, 970 E. Stockton Ave., Compton, CA 90221 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)1/3/2005. /s/: Elizabeth Moreno

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/29/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2935170 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Poor Boy Vacuum and Supply, Al #/ON 2774179, 535 West 130th Street, LA, CA 90061. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Xena Planet, Inc. (CALIFORNIA), 535 West 130th Street, LA, CA 90061 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/17/2005. /s/: Xena Planet, Inc., CEO, Jerry Elkind
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/01/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2932987 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Production Castro Foto Y Video, 1919 6th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90018. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : German Castro, 1919 6th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90018 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/1/2005. /s/: German Castro

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/1/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2968214 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Avident, 8700 Venice Blvd., 104 LA, CA 90034. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Luis Antonio Avila Cruz, 3339 Sherbourne Dr., Culver City, CA 90232 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Luis Antonio Avila Cruz

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/05/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2898399 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Quintero Brother's Mobil Truck and Car Wash, 758 S. Woods Ave., Los Angeles, CA . The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Monica Ramirez, 5814 Montebello Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90022 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)8/1/2005. /s/: Monica Ramirez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/29/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2903347 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Senna Auto International, 21176 S. Western Ave., Torrance, CA 90501. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Senna International USA Inc., 21176 S. Western Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date), /s/: Senna International USA Inc., CEO, Yuko Nakazawa

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/29/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2935168 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Tacos Del Sol, 15223 E. Gale Ave., Industry, CA 91745. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Miguel Mendez, 1004 West Wind Circle, Placentia, CA 92870 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)12/1/2005. /s/: Miguel Mendez

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/1/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/12/2005, 12/19/2005, 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2932942 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as THE BATTERY SERVICE, 4426 North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90065. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Virginia Socorro Galeano, 2726 West Avenue 31, Los Angeles, CA 90065 This Business is being conducted by, an



LEGAL NOTICES

DBAS	DBAS	DBAS	DBAS	DBAS	DBAS
Clarendon Spices, Inc., (CA), 2165 West 29th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90018 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Clarendon Spices, Inc., CEO, Keith Barnett This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3045051 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Caprice Cars International, 10162 Stonehurst Ave, Sun Valley, CA 91352. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) /s/: This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish , , , FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3045060 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SHAI NE TRANSPORTATION LLC, AI #/ON 200532310226, 18444 Mecca St., Hesperia, CA 92345. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Shaine Transportation LLC, 18444 Mecca St., Hesperia, CA 92345 This Business is being conducted by, a limited liability. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Shaine Transportation LLC, CEO, Thomas Pico This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use	in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3047256 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as TLC Guest Home I, AI #/ON 2685439, 18309 Fairview Lane, Torrance, CA 90504. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Xyris Enterprise Inc, (CA), 18309 Fairview Lane, Torrance, CA 90504 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)8/16/2004. /s/: Xyris Enterprise Inc, President, Muqet Dadabho y This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3045092 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LA Party Bus, Los Angeles Party Bus, AI #/ON 26-3226, 5600 Lenore Ave, Arcadia, CA 91006. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Charter Harder Tours Inc (NEVADA), 5600 Lenore Ave, Arcadia, CA 91006 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)12/11/2005. /s/: Charter Harder Tours Inc, President, Brent Moser This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3047225 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Bear Taxi Cab,	1335 S. Azusa Ave, Suite 208, West Covina, CA 91791. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Eliseo Castaneda, 9146 Huntington Dr, Apt. O, San Gabriel, CA 91775 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)8/18/2005. /s/: Eliseo Castaneda This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/12/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3092035 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Yanez Producers, 8316 Cheyenne St., Downey, CA 90242. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Guillermo Yanez, 8316 Cheyenne St., Downey, CA 90242 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)12/15/2005. /s/: Guillermo Yanez This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/15/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3057535 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Herchmer, Carrie Scott, Man One Design, Jamband, Bite Club, Herchmer Consulting Group, AI #/ON 200429210169, 813 18th St., Santa Monica, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Herchmer Enterprises LLC, 813 18th Santa Monica, CA 90403 This Business is being conducted by, a limited liability. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Herchmer Enterprises LLC, President/Owner, Scott Power This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/13/05. NOTICE: THIS	FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3174136 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Machine Tune, www.machinetune.com, 1565 Penny Rd., Topanga Cyn, CA 90290. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Ali C. Hosseinian, 1565 Penny Rd., Topanga Cyn, CA 90290 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Ali C. Hosseinian This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/23/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 2952229 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LA : UK, 1436 Butler Ave, #13, Los Angeles, CA 90025. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Katie Antonia Plumb, 1436 Butler Ave, #13, Los Angeles, CA 90025 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/14/2005. /s/: Katie Plumb This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/02/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE	NO. 05 3073943 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Earthworks, 1412 Old Topanga Cyn Rd., Topanga, CA 90290. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Esther Raucher, 1412 Old Topanga Cyn Rd., Topanga, CA 90290 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/1/1967. /s/: Esther Raucher This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/14/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3163246 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Duratech Tools, 1159 Stanford St., #3, Santa Monica, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Vernon Pan, 1159 Stanford St., #3, Santa Monica, CA 90403 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)12/22/2005. /s/: Vernon Pan This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/22/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 3163245 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Extreme Toys, 2332 Wellesley Ave, #301, LA, CA 90064. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Omar Alexander Sherman, 2332 Wellesley Ave, #301, LA, CA 90064 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Omar Sherman This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/22/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS	FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 058 3174135 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BULC STUDIO, 13428 Maxella Avenue, Suite #511, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Benjamin Pohn, 125 Fleet Street, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Benjamin Pohn This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/23/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/26/2005, 1/2/2006, 1/9/2006, 1/16/2006 Statement of Abandonment of Use of Fictitious Business Name Document Record # 05 2808149 Current File No. 03 1727003 State of California, County of Los Angeles The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious Business name: Ministerios Cristianos La Victoria Final located at 657 N. Glendora Ave., La Puente, CA 91744 The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 6/17/2003 In the county of LOS ANGELES. Eduardo Sanchez, 16540 Inyo St., La Puente, CA 91744 Sonia M. Sanchez, 16540 Inyo St., La Puente, CA 91744 This business is conducted by: an unincorporated association other than a partnership Eduardo Sanchez, Sonia M. Sanchez The above declares that all information in this statement is true and correct. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit: 12/05/05, 12/12/05, 12/19/05, 12/26/05

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‘Client’ star snagged in Skid Row sting

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Brad Renfro was arrested in a sting operation after he allegedly tried to buy heroin near downtown’s Skid Row, police said.

The 23-year-old actor was booked for investigation of felony attempting to possess heroin, Detective Ron Hodges said.

“He was intending to buy real heroin from an undercover officer,” Hodges said.

Renfro, the star of the 1994 film “The Client,” was caught during a random sting operation Thursday that resulted in the arrests of 14 other suspects, Hodges said.

Renfro’s lawyer did not immediately return a call for comment placed after business hours Thursday.

The actor was charged in 1998 with possession of cocaine and marijuana, but avoided jail time in a plea deal.

He was sentenced to two years’ probation in January 2001 on charges of trying to steal a yacht in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

He was arrested in May 2001 and charged with underage drinking. The next year, he was charged with driving without a license and public intoxication. Both violated terms of his probation.

Renfro was ordered into an alcohol rehabilitation program in March 2002.

His movie credits include “Ghost World,” “Bully” and “Apt Pupil.”

BOSTON — Howie Day was arrested at Logan International Airport for rowdy behavior on a Boston-bound flight after he became intoxicated from a mix of alcohol and a sleeping pill.

The 24-year-old pop singer pleaded innocent to a charge of interfering with a flight crew at his arraignment Friday in East Boston District Court. He was released on personal recognizance and refused to comment to reporters afterward. He’s due back in court March 16.

Authorities said the charge carries a fine of \$10 to \$500, a jail term of one month to six months, or both.

Day, who is from Brewer, Maine, was returning home for the holidays and took a pill to help him sleep on the flight from Dallas, said his lawyer, Paul Kelley.

“He had a couple of drinks. The pill interacted with the drinks and he became intoxicated.

He feels badly if he inconvenienced anyone, or caused any discomfort,” Kelley told reporters outside court. “He has and will apologize, and our hope is that we’ll be able to resolve this thing as promptly as possible.”

David Procopio, a spokesman for the Suffolk District Attorney’s office, said Day smoked a cigarette in the airplane bathroom.

“He was verbally abusive to the flight crew and was kicking the backs of seats of passengers in front of him,” Procopio said.

The flight arrived at Logan on Thursday.

In March 2004, Day was arrested in Madison, Wis., for allegedly locking a woman in the bathroom of a tour bus after she refused his sexual advances. He then broke the cell phone of another woman who tried to call police, according to the criminal complaint.

The singer-songwriter received critical acclaim for his 2003 album, “Stop All the World Now.”

LOS ANGELES — Nora Aunor, one of the Philippines’ most popular film and music stars, was accepted into the county’s drug court program and may avoid time behind bars for a drug possession charge.

“Nora will be going through a program requiring much introspection and discipline,” her lawyers from the firm Edelberg & Espina wrote in a statement released Thursday.

“This is a challenging process for anyone and more particularly for Nora, who is far away from her country and her family, especially during this Christmas season.”

Aunor, 53, was arrested March 30 at Los Angeles

International Airport after security screeners allegedly found 8 grams of methamphetamine and a glass pipe in her carryon bag.

Known as “The Superstar” to her fans, she has appeared in more than 170 films and recorded more than two dozen albums, including scores of hit singles.

On-screen, she has starred with leading men of her time, including Joseph Estrada, who became the country’s president.

Although she retains her Philippine citizenship, Aunor has spent much of her time in recent years at her home in Linda Vista, several miles north of San Diego.

Aunor, whose real name is Nora Cabaltera Villamayor, will receive counseling and treatment at a live-in or outpatient center and will undergo frequent drug tests, said Jane Robison, a spokeswoman for the district attorney’s office.

Her criminal case will be dismissed if she completes the program by remaining drug free for at least six months, Robison said.

NEW YORK — Girls just want to have fun _ on Broadway.

Cyndi Lauper will join Alan Cumming, Jim Dale, Ana Gasteyer and Nellie McKay in the Roundabout Theatre Company production of “The Threepenny Opera,” opening April 20 at Broadway’s Studio 54.

The pop singer will play Jenny in the Bertolt Brecht-Kurt Weill musical, which begins preview performances March 24. Cumming will portray Macheath, the show’s celebrated Mack the Knife; Dale and Gasteyer, Mr. and Mrs. Peachum; and McKay, their daughter, Polly. Scott Elliott directs.

Wallace Shawn will provide a new adaptation from the original German book and lyrics. Fashion guru Isaac Mizrahi will design the costumes.

“The Threepenny Opera” was last seen on Broadway in 1989 in a short-lived revival starring Sting as Macheath and Maureen McGovern as Polly.

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