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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2007
Volume 7 Issue 38



Santa Monica Daily Press

PICKING A PECK OF PEPPERS
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Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE HEY, MOM, WHAT'S UP? ISSUE

ARCHITECTURE

ON THE RISE

SMC REMAKES ITS IMAGE WITH FLAIR

STORY BY MELODY HANATANI PAGE 3



Photo courtesy of Tom Bonner

STRAIGHT UP: **SMC's Bundy Campus, with its glass tower, was among several Santa Monica College structures touted for design.**

YEAR IN REVIEW

Structures not going anywhere

Preservationists prevailed in getting history landmarked

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A series of aging buildings and structures around Santa Monica, once doomed to be reduced to rubble, will be around for the new year.

Starting with the pending demolition of the old Zephyr surf and skate shop at the corner of Main and Bay streets in Ocean Park, historic preservationists had a busy 2007 in which they seemingly were in constant mobilization mode to save structures that held both historic and cultural value.

While a number of buildings, and even a park, were granted a reprieve by the Landmarks Commission (or the City Council, when the commission's decisions were appealed), only a handful captured the attention of the community, galvanizing preservationists that banded together in efforts to salvage buildings from impending doom.

The issues concerning the redevelopment of Horizons West Surf Shop, at 2001-2011 Main St., into a mixed-use project consisting of ground floor retail and 14-residential units actually began when a notice for demolition was affixed to the building in October 2006, drawing cries from long-time Dogtown followers.

The building, while appearing architecturally uninspiring, holds the cultural significance as serving as the birthplace of modern skateboarding, created by a group of street kids, known as the Z-Boys, that rocked the extreme sports world when it introduced a revolutionary style of skateboarding during a national competition in 1975.

The team was led by Jeff Ho, the co-founder and owner of what was then Zephyr and Jeff Ho Productions, which closed in the late 1970s and was subsequently replaced by Horizons West Surf Shop, owned by Randy Wright since 1987.

The demolition permit was withdrawn once the building owner learned about the skateboarding history that took place at the site, said Juli Doar, the property owner, during a Landmarks Commission meeting last year.

Ocean Park residents, former Z-Boys and Ho himself spoke publicly in favor of not only preserving the building, but keeping Horizons and Wright as long-term tenants.

SEE LANDMARKS PAGE 8


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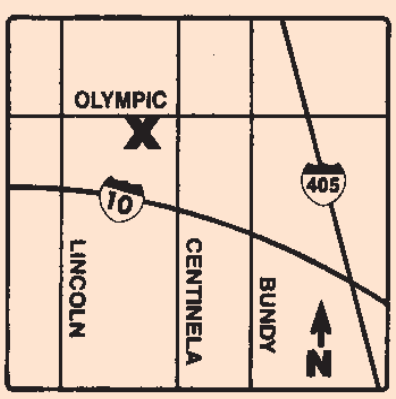
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Jewish story hour
1428 17th St., 3:15 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Story time at Chabad is for children ages 3 — 7. It is recommended that participants RSVP to this free event to ensure there are enough materials for all children. For questions or to RSVP, call (310) 393-7379 or e-mail srljs@juno.com.

Nativo!
1301 Fifth St., time to be declared
Groove to dance-driven soulful and eclectic urban Latin beats featuring resident DJs Mexican Dubweiser, Sloe Poke, Mando Fever and D*Gomez at Zanzibar's Nativo Wednesdays. Door is $5.

Santa Monica Nativity display
Palisades Park, open viewing
The annual Santa Monica Nativity scene, featuring 14 lit scenes with life-size figures, will be on display through the end of the year — continuing a community tradition that began in 1953.

Ice, ice, baby
1324 Fifth St., 10 a.m. — 10 p.m.
Bring back childhood memories — or create new ones — as you slice through the city's new public ice rink. Admission is $10; including skate rental.

Griffith Park Light Festival
4730 Crystal Springs Dr., L.A., times vary
Walk or drive through this annual festival, which turns the north side of Griffith Park into a monument of light displays created by Department of Water and Power employees. Local attractions like the Hollywood sign, the L.A. Zoo and Staples Center are celebrated, along with traditional seasonal imagery. For more information, visit www.dwplightfestival.com.

Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007

Screw 2007
1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m.
The Aero presents a new series tonight with a double feature. "Midnight" (1939) stars Claudette Colbert and John Barrymore. Capping off the night is "Easy Living" (1937) with Jean Arthur. For ticket information, call (323) 466-3456.

"I Made it Through the Holidays Alive"
8162 Melrose Ave., L.A., 8 p.m.
The Improv is putting salve on those holidays-with-the-family scars with some laughter. Tickets are $13, plus two-drink minimum. For line-up information, visit www.improv.com.

What's New This Week
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad.

Santa Monica Laughter Club
717 Broadway, 11 a.m. — noon
The Laughter Club meets at Shakti's Elements for a Laughter Yoga class led by Kim Selbert. For more information, call Kim at (310) 471-5773. Donations are welcome.

Cool School revisited
1611 Electric Ave., Venice, by appointment only
The "Cool School" exhibit, named for the film which features Ferus Gallery artists, will be on display through January 11. A portion of the proceeds from sold paintings will go to the "Films for Schools" outreach program. For more information, visit www.VeniceTrust.com.

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



E-mails that won't take a toll on nature

BY JONATHAN DREW
Associated Press Writer

Though intended to be a paperless communication medium, e-mail has felled more than its fair share of trees.

To fight back, a group that includes bloggers and business folk has begun punctuating its electronic communications with a sentence that's salutation, admonishment and battle cry in one. The message? Stop sending those memos to the laserjet.

Chances are, you've received the appeal, even if you didn't realize it. The line "Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail" and its variants have been gaining on that chestnut of electronic communications, "If you have received this e-mail in error, please delete it and notify the sender immediately." And, some would wryly argue, the environmentally friendly line could become equally unmemorable — drowned out as more "background noise" or "clutter."

Fans of this conservationist creed say they were less likely to waste paper after first seeing it in a colleague's e-mail, later rigging their own e-mail program to automatically paste the sentence alongside their phone number and title, typically in green font. As with many things viral, its origins are murky.

And while it's difficult to quantify its impact, the practice has caught on from the blogosphere to the boardroom. The e-mail tagline earned a plug in March from the blog TreeHugger. And after dozens of employees at project-management and construction company Bovis Lend Lease began adopting the message in the last year, the 10,000-person company made an exception to its rule requiring a standard style of e-mail signature, according to its sustainability chief.

Kate Payne, a 27-year-old film publicist in L.A., adopted the tagline about a year ago after it made her think twice about printing a colleague's e-mail.

The average office worker in the U.S. prints 10,000 sheets of copy paper pear year (or about 110 pounds), compared to about 8,800 sheets by the average British worker, according to the nonprofit Metafore, which advises businesses on how to make their paper supplies more environmentally friendly. Adding in paper products used in the home and elsewhere, the U.S. ranks second in the world behind Finland in per capita consumption, at 686 pounds per person.



Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

THE LOWDOWN ON CAMPUS: **Work continues on Santa Monica College's main campus over the winter break. The central 'quad' area receives a facelift while the new Theatre Arts Building (background) was honored with three architectural awards recently for its innovative design.**

SMC touted for design

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE The newest buildings at Santa Monica College are sitting pretty.

A trifecta of new development at the various SMC campuses — the Theatre Arts Building at the main campus on Pico Boulevard; the Performing Arts Center at the Madison Campus; and the Bundy Campus next to the Santa Monica Airport — picked up a slew of design awards this month.

"The college is very pleased that we're able to offer both a very functional design and an award-winning design to our students and get them far superior facilities to what they had in the past," said Greg Brown, the director of facilities planning for Santa Monica College.

Opened in summer 2006, the $20 million Theatre Arts Building, located in the northeast corridor of the main campus, led with three awards — Best Performing Arts by the California Construction Magazine; Best Design by the Southern California Development Forum; and Top Projects in Southern California by the Real Estate Construction Review Magazine.

The Performing Arts Center on the Madison Campus and the glass tower at the Bundy Campus captured one award apiece — Best Higher Education by California Construction Magazine and an award of merit for the Community College Facility Coalition, respectively.

The 20,000-square-foot Theatre Arts complex was designed by Leo Daly Architects of Los Angeles, the new venue replacing a 1950s-era structure.

The contemporary building is highlighted by its so-called "origami roof," appearing like a folded piece of paper, creating a striking profile against the sky, according to Hraztan Zeitlian, the firm's director of design. Zeitlian was not on the team when the building's design was conceived, though he has worked with the college in the past on previous assignments.

With an outdoor seating area and a tree plaza, the building was constructed to foster a student community.

"The building does things that create life around it," Zeitlian said.

The Performing Arts Center became the college's most recent jewel when the performing arts section of the building opened this summer. The main theater is slated for completion next spring.

The $42 million project took place at the corner of 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, on the former Madison School site, which is still owned by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The 52,000-square-foot center, designed by Santa Monica-based Renzo Zecchetto Architects, includes dressing rooms, an

SEE SMC BUILDINGS PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stop worrying and be merry

Editor:

Only on the west side of Los Angeles at the Sunday Santa Monica Farmers' Market can a Santa Claus sit alone for hours on a white plastic lawn chair. At a comfortable distance are dozens of disinterested children. The face painting lady was quite busy. The buzz among the Santa Monicans' was, "Is this an official, hourly paid, 'real' Claus, or one of the neighborhoods' homeless residents?" Finally an adult tourist made good and sat on the guys lap for a photo op.

Randi Pareira
Santa Monica

Doctors should make the diagnosis

Editor:

So many people don't get medical procedures when insurance companies deny it. Whoever decides a procedure is not warranted should be a doctor who examines the patient, or they should be arrested for practicing medicine without a license.

Mike Kirwan
Venice

Screens should be kept clean

Editor:

I was happy to read that more than 20,000 storm drains have been covered with mesh screens that effectively prevent trash from reaching the ocean ("Doing their fair share," Dec. 14). Unfortunately, these screens tend to become clogged by dirt, leaves and other debris, ... caus(ing) water to pile up around the drains. As a bicyclist, I have had to enter traffic lanes in order to maneuver past a large puddle caused by the lack of drainage. I hope the city (of Los Angeles) will monitor the storm drains and clean them as needed.

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica

GOP Double-speak

Editor:

GOP, the party of prejudice. Hypocrisy at its best. On Thursday Dec. 6, Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney asked Americans to view his candidacy with a sense of tolerance. "We believe that every single human being is a child of God," he said. "We are all part of the human family."

In the next breath he demeans and demonizes immigrants (part of the human family) playing to the lowest common denominator of the Republican Party, the intolerant Southern white base. Republican presidential candidates are diving all over each other to be the best anti-immigration hard-liner.

Hey Mitt, why don't you just call hard working, brown-skinned Hispanics terrorists? It works for Homeland Security.

Ron Lowe
Santa Monica



What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Merry Christ myth just won't go away

YESTERDAY WAS CHRISTMAS, A DAY THAT once meant celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Now, like him or hate him, believe in him or not, it's hard to say that he didn't have an effect on the world. If he existed, and if he was the messiah, he deserves to have at least a day of remembrance. If he existed, and he wasn't the messiah, he still deserves a day of remembrance for the message of peace that he taught that so many do still practice, although generally not from the pulpit.

If he didn't exist, then he's still a major marketing coup for all the world's religions that pay homage to his fictionalized life, not to mention the manufacturers of those candles in a jar that sell so well around the scene of any car crash. If he was just a cobbled together Mr. Spirituality Head, then I say thanks for the message, and yesterday is a great day to stop and think of what the message of his manufactured life is supposed to be.

Whether or not Christ existed isn't really the point anymore. I know that James Cameron wants to believe that he did, but honestly, the myth is more important than the reality. The myth of Christ is much more valuable to church leaders, store retailers, toy salespeople, and those who want to use Christ for some purpose other than what he is supposed to have said, believed, and served.

Christ is supposed to have been a "savior," a man of tolerance and peace. In fact, he is called the "Prince of Peace" by many. His words, so often quoted, but more often misquoted, are a message of love and tolerance for those who offend us.

Every spiritual guide that I've read, and I've read many of them, has said that one must forgive those who do us harm, not for their sake, but for our own. For my own peace of mind, I must forgive those who offend me, who are snippy with me, who cut me off on the highway, who jump into the 10 items or less line with 15 items. This is the message that Christ taught. Along with a few others about belief in self and belief in a God.

How this became a story about a fat man in a red suit, who brings gifts to good children and coal to bad children, is a mystery to me. It makes as much sense to me as how the Easter Bunny is related to a newly risen Christ from the dead. It's myth.

Myth is important, particularly in this town. Myths make morality stories enjoyable. Myths are good things, they teach, they bring light and joy. They are message carriers.

Christ has become myth. Whether he existed or not, his meta-message, his purpose in being, has become the stuff of myth. It is used to teach children to behave according to societal norms. It is used to sell tchotchkes, candles and "miracle water" that will save your soul, and cure your arthritis.

Yesterday is a day that is dedicated to remembering the myth of Christ, and as we go about our day, let us pause for a second to think about what the myth is really about. It is really about finding peace and love on this earth. It is about being happy to enjoy the day for what it brings.

Christmas day is not about whether or not you got the right gift from your spouse, or whether your largesse exceeds that of your neighbors, it is not about being perfect in everything you do. It is about stopping to appreciate those in your life, the good and the bad, for what they bring to you spiritually.

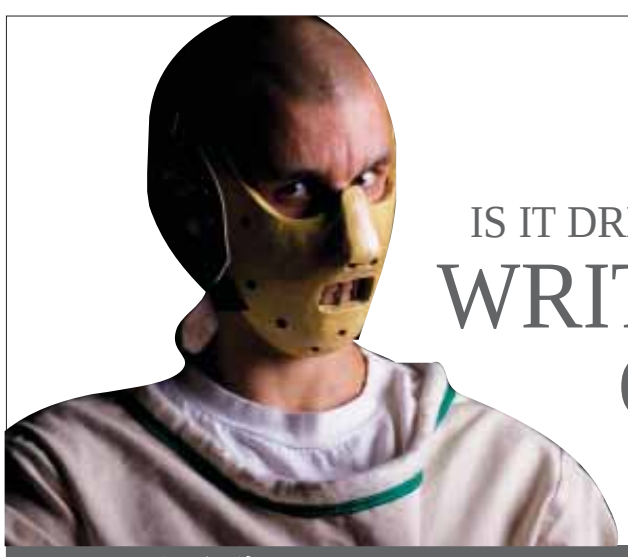
Sometimes the best teachers are those we have the most anger towards. For it is from them, that we get to learn the joy of forgiveness.

I don't mean the smug sense of moral superiority that many of us like to feel, but the sense of real forgiveness that comes from accepting others as they are.

This is the point of the myth of Christ. So when you are at dinner with your great aunt Vera, the one who annoys you to no end and always remembers to get you exactly the wrong gift, forgive her, and know that you are celebrating Christmas in the spirit of what it is supposed to be.

Hey, it's the Christian thing to do. And maybe Santa Claus will be good to you next year if you do.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.



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Your column here

Adam B. Summers

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A private solution to a public problem

IT IS NO SECRET THAT CALIFORNIA'S infrastructure has deteriorated dramatically over the years and has not kept up with population growth. We have arrived at our current state because of a perceived lack of money (even though state revenues have doubled over the past 10 years) and decades of legislative apathy. Yet, despite a soaring budget deficit and a legislature that seems intent on enacting more regulations and boondoggle health care and environmental programs rather than funding needed infrastructure projects, there is a simple solution that may provide some much-needed relief: Allow the private sector to succeed where the public sector has not.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger estimates that the state needs $500 billion worth of public projects over the next 20 years to address the infrastructure problem. This is far too much money for the state government to absorb without massive tax increases or cuts to other programs that politicians are unwilling to make. Moreover, the state already faces an impending budget deficit of at least $10 billion, and, according to various media reports, money from the $42 billion bond package that was passed in November 2006 is already being squandered.

To his credit, Schwarzenegger is seeking to address the state's infrastructure problems by soliciting proposals from private-sector firms to design, build and/or operate public projects such as roads, schools, wastewater treatment plants, ports, levees and hospitals. Such arrangements are often called public-private partnerships, or PPPs. In the case of a road, for example, a private company might agree to build a new stretch of highway and pay a fee or long-term lease to the government in exchange for the right to operate and collect tolls on the road.

In addition to providing a much-needed funding source for projects, PPPs transfer risk to the private sector by allowing the government to structure contracts such that the burdens of liability issues and cost overruns are shifted to the contractor. Furthermore, private contractors typically provide the same or better service at lower cost. This is because of the different incentives faced by the public and private sectors.

In the absence of contracting, the government is a monopoly and faces no competition. Agencies get as much money as they can through political lobbying and don't have to worry about going out of business. In the private sector, however, businesses succeed only by providing lower prices and/or better quality goods and services than their competitors. If a private company does not perform well, it loses its business to someone else.

In short, private businesses have much stronger incentives to innovate and keep their customers happy. If a customer has a problem with a private business, chances are he can go to the proprietor or store manager to fix the problem. By contrast, if the pavement on the freeway is deteriorating who is the taxpayer to call, and how likely is it that the problem will be quickly remedied?

California does have some experience with PPPs. The use of contracts with incentive clauses successfully sped repair of roads and bridges after the 1994 Northridge earthquake and following a gasoline truck accident that destroyed interchanges at the MacArthur Maze in the San Francisco Bay Area earlier this year. But the state has generally taken a piecemeal approach to PPPs and ignored many opportunities to utilize them.

While the United States likes to tout its free-market credentials and the prosperity derived from its spirit of entrepreneurship and faith in the private sector, it is actually rather behind the curve when it comes to infrastructure.

It is time that California catches up by simply getting the government out of the way and rediscovering the virtues of private enterprise. As Thomas Jefferson, demonstrating his grasp of economics, once said, "It is better for the public to procure at the common market whatever the market can supply; because there it is by competition kept up in its quality, and reduced to its minimum price."

If private companies can do at least as good a job as government employees for cheaper, or can provide needed services that otherwise could not or would not be funded, why shouldn't they be encouraged to do so?

ADAM B. SUMMERS is a policy analyst at the Reason Foundation.

GOT OP-ED?

Say it loud, say it proud, **but keep your guest commentary to 800 words or less. Send submissions to EDITOR@SMDP.COM.**

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

News that mattered most

Drinking fluoride ... chopping trees ... biking en masse ... building up and tearing down. The year 2007 is drawing to a close, giving us time to both look ahead with hope, as well as ponder the past. Take this time to assess the top stories in Santa Monica over the past year and how they affected our lives.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What were the top stories of 2007 and how did they shape life in Santa Monica?

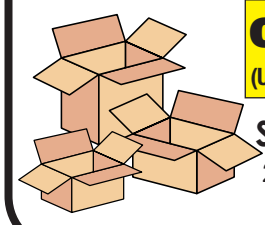
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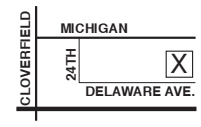


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Time to consider tax deductions



Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn
Send comments to
editor@smdp.com

THE END OF DECEMBER IS A TIME TO enjoy the holidays and celebrate with family. Of course, the end of 2007 marks the beginning of the New Year. When you look back on the year, as the IRS does, you will want to make sure you are taking the correct tax deduction on your personal tax return for mortgage interest on your home.

One of the greatest benefits to owning a home is the tax deduction you earn. The government wants you to own a home and therefore allows you to deduct the interest you pay annually as a tax break. It works like this: Homeowners are allowed to take a deduction for mortgage interest they pay on a loan that is secured by their principal residence or a second home, up to $1 million on personal tax returns.

So what qualifies you may ask? Do you remember that line of credit you used to redo your kitchen? That line of credit, along with any type of home equity loan and of course your mortgage, qualify as deductible interest as long as you are legally obligated to repay the loan. What does not qualify is any type of purchase where you do hold title such as a lease option. A lease option is where you rent a property with a certain amount of your rent going toward the purchase price of the home, with an option to purchase the home at the end of the lease term. With a lease option, since you do not have title of the property you are not allowed to claim the deduction. However, if you purchased a home privately and the seller holds 100 percent of the paper on the home, you have title and are paying the seller back as agreed, you meet the deduction requirements and are allowed to deduct the mortgage interest.

A tax deduction for your primary or secondary home is great, but the IRS does not give you carte blanche on the deduction. The IRS has placed limits of one million dollars on mortgages and $100,000 on home equity loans. Once you pass those limits, you cannot deduct any more. Be aware that you are allowed to deduct interest, not principal. What that means is if you paid $50,000 in mortgage interest and $10,000 in principal reduction, you cannot deduct $60,000, only the original $50,000. However, if you just make interest-only payments on your home, you can deduct the entire payment since none of the payments have gone toward principal reduction.

Knowing what you can and cannot deduct is important, especially at the end of the year when you are deciding how to plan the following tax year. Keep in mind tax planning and keeping clean straightforward records, can save you and your accountant a lot of work. As for deductions, speak to an accountant or CPA for all current tax laws and advice.

Keep in mind: This article is an opinion and does not represent legal or professional advice.

MIKE HEAYN is a Washington Mutual multi-family loan consultant. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342, or e-mailed at michael.heayn@wamu.net.

Mechanized chili harvesting could ensure future of crop

BY MELANIE DABOVICH
Associated Press Writer

LAKE ARTHUR, N.M. A handful of farm laborers are busy at work on a warm day in mid-November, helping harvest 140 acres of Cecil Conklin's red chili crop. But at this southeastern New Mexico farm, the workers aren't stooped over hand-picking the peppers — they're driving Conklin's mechanical chili harvester as it plows through row after row of chili plants, methodically pulling off the peppers.

"The machine harvests about seven acres a day," said Conklin, one of the first farmers in New Mexico to make the switch to mechanical harvesting more than a decade ago. "That's about the same acreage that it took 40-50 workers to pick each day before we had the machine.

Mechanization "was forced on us — we couldn't find the labor. Now, chili definitely has to be mechanically harvested in order for farmers to make money," he said.

Increased market pressure from foreign chili imports, declining prices and lack of labor have made it tough for chili farmers to thrive. Using machines to harvest the state's signature crop is the only way the $400 million chili industry can stay competitive, said Terry Crawford, professor of agriculture business and economics at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

"Time is critical. New Mexico has no more than five years to get competitive. People in the industry need to see the light at the end of the tunnel to stick with it and not say 'Gee, I'll start growing something else," Crawford said. "We have to become more efficient and cut labor costs significantly."

In New Mexico, more than 80 percent of the red chili crop is mechanically harvested, mainly in the southeastern part of the state. The harvest method also is being used increasingly by red chili growers in west Texas and southeast Arizona.

Foreign competition also is driving the change to mechanical harvesting, as farmers try desperately to compete.

Santa Monica Daily Press
The Agent Directory
Your guide to local real estate agents



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Market Matters

Brian Hepp
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tax-friendly picks improve portfolios

MANAGING YOUR PORTFOLIO WISELY can help control your tax bill. As always, you should consider many different factors when choosing investments, but for some individuals, tax cost may be one of the more influential factors in selecting their investments. Let's look at some points to consider when evaluating the tax efficiency of different investments.

Bonds: There are two main types of bonds: Tax-exempt and taxable. Municipal bonds, which are issued by state and local governments, pay interest that is usually exempt from federal income taxes. However, income from certain types of municipal bonds may be taxable for taxpayers subject to the alternative minimum tax.

Taxable bonds are typically issued by the U.S. government or a corporation and they are generally federally-taxed, but certain government bonds may be tax-exempt at the state level, subject to state law.

When evaluating which bond is most appropriate, one factor to consider is its yield. First, you need to calculate the taxable-equivalent yield for the municipal bond. Taxable-equivalent yield is the yield that a taxable bond would have to provide to match the yield on a bond whose interest income is exempt from federal (and possibly state) income taxes. For example, assuming you are in the 25 percent federal income tax bracket, a corporate bond would have to provide a 5.3 percent yield (excluding state tax) to match a 4 percent yield on a municipal bond. A decision between these two bonds would be tax neutral at these rates. Keep in mind that if bonds are sold before their maturity, their yields and market values will fluctuate and they may be worth more or less than their original cost.

Stocks: If your goal is tax efficiency, you may want to choose a stock that pays little or no dividend in order to reduce your current taxable income. Investors who don't need the dividend income usually hold these stocks for their growth potential. The stock grows tax-deferred until sold. By determining when you sell your stock, you are able to manage your gains and losses. Also, if you hold the stock for more than one year, it will be eligible for the long-term capital gains rate (currently a maximum of 15 percent), which is lower than the ordinary income tax rates applied to stock held one year or less.

If you need an income-producing stock, you can choose one that will pay dividends that qualify for the reduced dividend tax rate (as compared to your ordinary income tax rate). These qualified dividends are currently taxed at long-term capital gains rates.

It is important to remember that the return and principal value of your stock, upon redemption, may be more or less than the original investment, based on changing market conditions.

Mutual funds: You may be able to reduce your taxes by choosing funds with minimal yields and low turnover. The yield will provide an indication of the amount of interest and dividends distributed by the fund. The turnover ratio measures the fund's trading activity. Funds with higher turnover ratios typically distribute more capital gains, which are taxable to the investor. Investing in mutual funds involves risk and you should be aware that your principal and investment return in a mutual fund will fluctuate in value, and may be worth more or less than its cost, when redeemed.

Just because an investment offers tax advantages doesn't necessarily mean it's appropriate for your portfolio so before making any decisions, you should consider your goals regarding your return on investment, your time horizon and your risk tolerance. Your financial consultant can also help you decide what investments best fit into your overall portfolio.

BRIAN HEPP is a financial consultant and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@aged wards.com.



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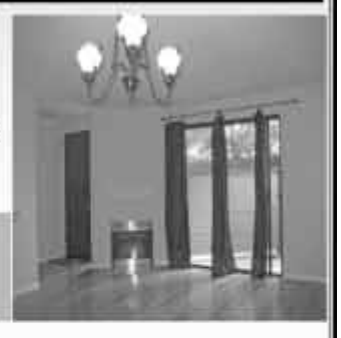
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		Single Family Homes	Condo & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 2,608,000	No Listings
North of Montana	=	$ 4,196,810	$ 1,841,609
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,017,800	$ 1,041,952
South of Wilshire	=	$ 1,049,800	$ 676,993
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,371,353	$ 689,357
Ocean Park	=	$ 2,004,778	$ 963,513

Statistics updated every Friday

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Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

NOT WAVING GOOD-BYE: **The storefront at Bay and Main streets where Horizon West Surf Shop has been located since May of 1977 was declared a landmark earlier this year. Randy Wright (pictured) started at the store in 1984 and became the owner in 1987.**

Old buildings kept for 2007, beyond

FROM **LANDMARKS** PAGE 1

Following a series of community workshops and blueprint iterations, the team at Howard Laks Architects unveiled a proposal in April that would keep the retail space on Main Street, which houses the original Zephyr store and the adjacent Horizons West Surf Shop, and tear down the back units in favor of the apartment building. The compromise plan seemed well-received by the community and the commission, which voted the following month to landmark the building housing the retail space, keeping it intact in perpetuity, while allowing development to take place in the back.

"I'm happy for the city of Santa Monica, glad that they've acknowledged the fact the building needed to be saved for historical and cultural value because of the surfing and skating industry that has been a part of Santa Monica for years," Ho said in May 14.

STILL UP IN THE AIR

A small yellow and dilapidated beachside cottage on Ocean Avenue received a lot of love this year, when more than 1,500 people signed a petition pleading with City Council to save the 102-year-old structure from the wrecking ball.

The Save the Cottage movement started in April 2006, when the building's property owner — the University of Illinois Foundation — filed an application to demolish the permit, but gained steam this year when the final decision on the fate of the building was left to the City Council in June.

Located at 2219 Ocean Ave., the cottage was constructed in the early 1900s and is considered to be one of the very few remaining beachside-facing cottages, if not the only, in Santa Monica. The three-bedroom, three bathroom cottage was owned by William Hobson and was deeded to the University of Illinois Foundation after his death in 2005.

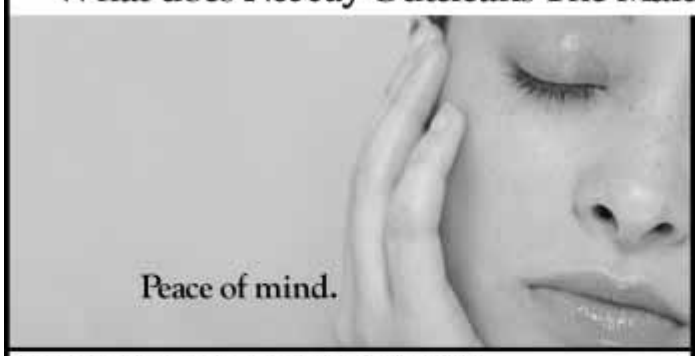
The Landmarks Commission placed the building in its historic registry in August 2006, a decision that was subsequently appealed by the university, that had placed the home on the market. University officials reportedly had a difficult time trying to sell the building before the historic designation

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File photo

GROWING OLD TOGETHER: **People take a stroll through Palisades Park on a sunny afternoon in 2002. The 26.4-acre park recieved landmark status earlier this year.**

because potential buyers were uncertain as to whether or not the cottage would be landmarked, and whether historic designation would prevent them from remodeling or demolishing the home in the future. The 1,526-square-foot home earlier this year was listed for sale at $3.3 million.

Following a series of delays earlier this year, the appeal was finally heard before the City Council in June — to the chagrin of the property owner's attorney, Chris Harding, and three of the councilmembers, each of whom felt the hearing should be postponed because two of the seven councilmembers were absent.

"The appeal warranted a full or near full council," Harding said in June.

The councilmembers went back and forth at each other about whether the matter should be heard. Clearly frustrated that both councilmembers Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown would not support a postponement, Councilmember Pam O'Connor got up in protest and decided to sit out of the discussion, forcing the council to hold the public hearing.

By the end, the cottage's landmark status was upheld by virtue of a lack of action taken by the council, angering Harding, who alluded to a possible lawsuit.

The celebration for the Save the Cottage contingent was short-lived, as the council voted last month to re-hear the appeal in order to avoid a potential lawsuit. The hearing is expected to take place after the new year.

THE NEVER-BEFORE SEEN

Buildings weren't the only structures deemed worthy of landmark status.

The year saw the unprecedented preservation of the largest parcel of green space in Santa Monica — the 26.4-acre Palisades Park — and a call to landmark 153 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets, which if approved, would be another unprecedented designation.

Formerly known as Linda Vista Park, the 1.5-mile-long open space was designated by the Landmarks Commission in September, unique in that it's a living monument, sensitive in that it constantly changes as the landscaping grows.

The park, which extends from the Santa Monica Pier to the 200 block of Ocean Avenue, was donated in 1892 by city founders Sen. John P. Jones and Col. Robert Baker on the condition it be used as a park in perpetuity.

"The respect for the beauty of the spot has continued ever since then," commission Chairman Nina Fresco said in September.

The park has long been an iconic figure in Santa Monica, featured often in commercials and movies, and a popular workout spot for fitness buffs.

Though there are five individually landmarked trees throughout Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Treesavers' movement to spare downtown ficus trees marks the first time a group has sought to preserve a series of a specific breed of trees.

The issue stems from a controversial downtown streetscape improvement project that would result in the destruction and transplantation of 54 ficus trees from Second and Fourth streets, a move decried by environmental activists and several business owners in the district.

The landmark application, filed in October, was the latest move by the Treesavers to keep the ficus trees intact.

A hearing by the Landmarks Commission is scheduled for January. City staff and consultants are recommending the commission deny the request to landmark.

HOLDING ON TO THE PAST

The will of the residents living in the Third Street Historic District was tested when two controversial development projects — one of which involved moving a bungalow forward — came up before the Landmarks Commission.

Long-time district residents mobilized against the two projects — at 2617 Third St. and 2642 Second St., calling them out of scale and in the modernist style, being inconsistent with the overall theme of the Third Street Historic District.

The project on Second Street, which does not contribute to the historic aspects of the district, would demolish an existing one-story duplex in favor of a new two-story house. The project, considered less controversial than its counterpart on Third Street, was approved by the Landmarks Commission earlier this month, a decision that has since been appealed by neighbors and will now go to the City Council for the final word.

Established in 1990, the historic district is bounded by Third Street to the east, Hill Street to the south, Second Street to the west and Ocean Park Boulevard to the north. The district is characterized by the row of five signature bungalows on Third Street, several American Colonial, Spanish Revival and Victorian houses.

At the heart of the issue in the district is a proposal to move forward one of the five signature bungalows, bringing its setback in line with the adjacent properties, creating space to add to the back house, which is opposed by neighbors that believe the building would stick out like a sore thumb. A public hearing on the property has been continued to January.

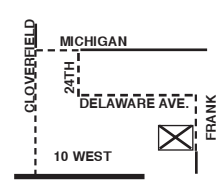
"We took a sensitive approach by doing an addition to an already non-contributing building," Mark Woollen, the property owner, said in November of the back house. "I still believe we are following the guidelines."

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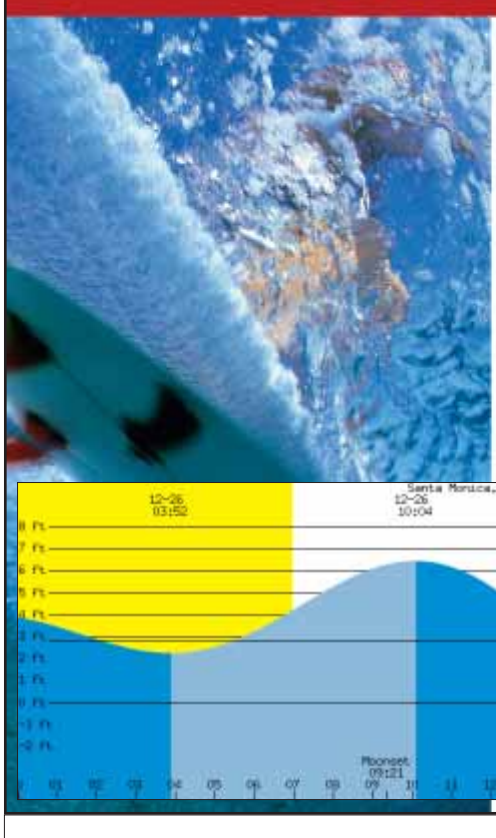
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SURF REPORT



Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 56°

Swell Forecast (2-4 FT)

Today the NW swell should pick up with size running chest to head high on the better sets at west facing breaks. South facing breaks can expect diminishing SW swell with some NW wrap for waist to chest high waves. Winds are expected to take a 180 on Wednesday as the flow turns sharply onshore. Winds should be lighter in the AM, but will likely be onshore.

Long Range Synopsis

Wind issues on tap this week...

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica

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Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **December 11, 2007**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 18
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 15

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from Ford

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

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

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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



WAVES OF EMOTION

File photo

To commemorate one of the worst natural disasters in modern times, Paalama, a Los Angeles-based organization that aims to bring the Sri Lankan community in the United States closer together, is planning a candlelight vigil at the Santa Monica Pier today at 6:30 p.m. The event will honor the 280,000 people who perished in a major tsunami that struck Southeast Asia in 2004.

SMC architecture is fetching praise

FROM **SMC BUILDINGS** PAGE 3

orchestra lift and more than 2,000 feet of rehearsal space.

"It's nice to be recognized of course," said Renzo Zecchetto, the firm's principal owner. "My real award would be that the place is embraced by the community in Santa Monica."

The building pays homage to the city's history as a beachside destination, designed with various angles called "sails," Brown said.

SMC purchased the Bundy Campus site from defense contractor BAE Systems in 2005, renovating the more than 27-year-old, four-story structure. The 64,000-square-foot building, designed as an all-glass tower, houses the nursing and continuing education programs.

MORE IN THE PIPELINE

Now that students are on winter break, the construction crews have come out to work on the new main campus quad, which broke ground this week.

The quad is intended to create a new center of campus — surrounded by the Theatre Arts Building, the recently renovated library, and the Humanities and Social Services building, which opened last summer, on the other side, Brown said.

One of the larger projects expected in the coming years is the creation of the Students Services Building at the current amphitheater. The new building will consolidate the student services department, which is scattered throughout campus.

Included in the project is a new frontage for the Pico Boulevard side of the campus. When the campus first opened, the main entrance faced Pearl Street. A community meeting to discuss the proposed changes is scheduled for Jan. 3, at 7 p.m. at the Bundy Campus.

Construction for the Student Services Building will kick off in December 2008 and the entire project, including the new frontage, is estimated to be completed by March 2012, costing a total of $80 million.

"We're going to make campus much more welcoming to students facing the community," Brown said.

melodyh@smdp.com

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No joke

Bam Margera is a step closer to opening hometown movie theater in Pennsylvania

BAM MARGERA is a step closer to opening a theater in his hometown.

West Chester Borough Council has agreed to withdraw its objection to a liquor license for the MTV star's planned theater after a long list of conditions were met.

The council voted 5-2 in favor of withdrawing its protest of the license after backers agreed not to sell package goods.

Margera, 28, says he was willing to compromise and is just trying to make the borough happy.

The professional skateboarder became a punk hero on MTV's "Jackass" and "Viva La Bam." He is teaming with a business partner to open the theater.

The liquor control board will have a hearing for neighborhood groups opposed to the theater who have filed protests.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

YUNG JOC GETS BUSTED

YUNG JOC was charged Monday with carrying a concealed weapon after police said a loaded gun was found in his carry-on bag at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

The 25-year-old rapper, whose real name is Jasiel Robinson, was arrested about 6:20 a.m. Sunday before boarding a Delta Air Lines flight, police spokesman Lt. Thomas Stacho said.

Police said they found a semiautomatic handgun and ammunition in Robinson's carry-on bag. He told them he didn't know the weapon was there, Stacho said.

Robinson was attempting to go through a standard security checkpoint when he was stopped.

AP

JFK's letter to girl about Santa shows human side of Christmas

Over the years, CAROLINE KENNEDY sometimes wondered about a third grader who wrote to her father, President Kennedy, worried that Russian bomb tests at the North Pole would kill Santa Claus.

Kennedy finally got to meet her during a segment of ABC's "Good Morning America" that aired Monday about Kennedy's recent best-selling book, "A Family Christmas," which includes the letter from an 8-year-old Michelle Rochon.

That girl, now Michelle Rochon Phillips, recounted what prompted her to write the October 1961 letter. She said she sat down to write the letter after hearing her parents talking at the dinner table about nuclear testing at the North Pole.

"I thought well, Santa Claus," she said, according to a transcript of the interview. "And so I ran, sat down at the footstool and wrote the letter."

Then a Marine City, Mich., third-grader, she wrote: "Please stop the Russians from bombing the North Pole because they will kill Santa Claus."



KENNEDY

The president wrote back, and closed his note by saying, "You must not worry about Santa Claus, I talked with him yesterday and he is fine." He added, "He will be making his rounds this Christmas."

Caroline Kennedy said that for her father, as one of nine siblings, "Christmas was huge" and he appreciated the girl's fears. She said the letters capture how the anxiety of the Cold War and nuclear testing permeated everyday life.

"There's just so much about Christmas, and I think the history of Christmas and how it intersects with American history, George Washington, all the way up to President Kennedy," she said. "I think this is kind of the human side of Christmas, and how it's kind of become also a patriotic holiday and it's all wrapped up together."

Phillips, of Pensacola, Fla., told ABC's Claire Shipman that she wasn't trying to make a statement about nuclear testing when she wrote the letter.

"I was just worried about Santa Claus," Phillips said. "Worried about my Christmas."

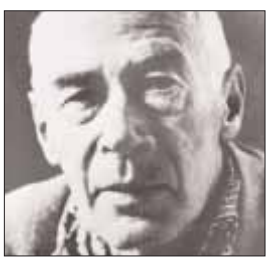
AP

Early to bed, Pisces

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

Happy Birthday!

...You have the unusual capacity to draw out the best in others. Often people want to be with you, and just you. Making time for all the many people in your life might be an issue this year! Deal carefully with a partner or key loved one who might become jealous or reactive. Never forget the stars in your life, and keep these people high on your priority list. You will want a deep, meaningful, intimate relationship this year.



Born Today

Author Henry Miller (1891)
Producer Phil Spector (1939)
Considered "father of the computer" Charles Babbage (1791)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your creativity bubbles forth in this more relaxed mood. You are happy to be past the big holiday. Consider what needs to happen. Extremes punctuate others' moods. Work on being mellow, as others seem a touch out of control. Tonight: Time for more love.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Speak your mind, but if you're angry, try to calm down before starting a conversation. You know what works. How you approach a family member can make or break a situation. Express your big spirit. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You still might be spreading Christmas cheer. How nice, but look at your calendar, my dear Twin. It is time for New Year's resolutions. Help others form theirs, and you will find yours in the process. Tonight: Thank-you-note time.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ If you want, you might share more of yourself. Often you don't realize how much your presence offers. Try it out. You'll find that others react very positively. Consider your immediate options far more carefully. Tonight: All smiles.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You certainly are in the pink. Because you are rested, you could act on strong feelings if you aren't careful. Remember, anger stems from hurt. Try to express the softer feelings. Tonight: As you like. (It's about time!)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Know when to back up and take a timeout. Ask yourself if you want to greet 2008 in prime form. If you do, you know what to do. Others might also be a touch cranky. Don't take it personally. This too will pass. Tonight: Live it up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Knowing what you want allows you to seize the moment. Others scatter left and right. Take charge and use your sense of direction. Know your exact desired outcome, and start visualizing it. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ If you are thinking that responsibilities always drop on you, you are not far from wrong. Knowing when to turn down a chore, errand or project might be important, not only for you but for the other person. Tonight: Adapt to a change in plans or mind-set.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Visualization allows you to relax. Even better might be taking off for a few days. Some of you might dive into a great book. Whatever the case, you need an escape. Detach from the immediate frenzy or situation. Tonight: Let your body follow your mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ How you follow through and what you do could make a big difference with others. If someone is complaining, don't react. Listen. A conversation might prove to be healing. Success lies in working with people individually. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Others seek you out. A need to cover a lot of ground or accomplish a lot could be making you less than gregarious. Do stop, at least for a moment. Are your priorities in order? Only then can you come up with answers. Tonight: Be that special friend to someone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Prioritize. If you still see a problem between what you need to do and the hours in a day, tap into your creativity. You might be surprised by some ideas that bubble forth. Curb a child's wildness. Tonight: Early to bed, if possible.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
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Check theatre for showtimes

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Atonement (R)
12:45, 3:10, 5:50, 8:25, 10:50
Atonement (R)
1:25, 4:20, 7:25, 10:20
The Great Debaters (PG-13)
1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
P.S. I Love You (PG-13)
1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Charlie Wilson's War (R)
10:05am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:15, 10:45
Enchanted (PG)
11:00am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10
The Golden Compass (PG-13)
10:40am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
The Kite Runner (PG-13)
10:55am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:55
National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG)
10:45am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 9:55, 10:50
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (R)
10:15am, 1:05, 4:05, 7:30, 10:25
The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep (PG)
10:00am, 12:40, 3:20, 5:55, 8:30, 11:05

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Juno (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
No Country for Old Men (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Persepolis (PG-13)
12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15
The Savages (R)
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG)
11:10am, 12:10, 1:50, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
The Bucket List (PG-13)
11:30am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
I Am Legend (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 6:50, 7:50, 9:20, 10:20
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story (R) DLP-Digital Projection
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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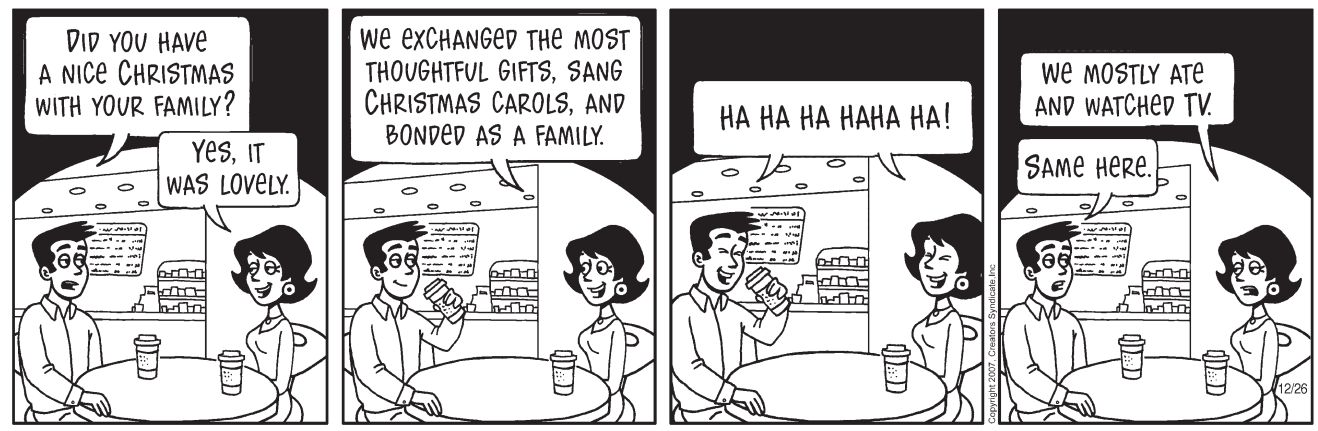
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



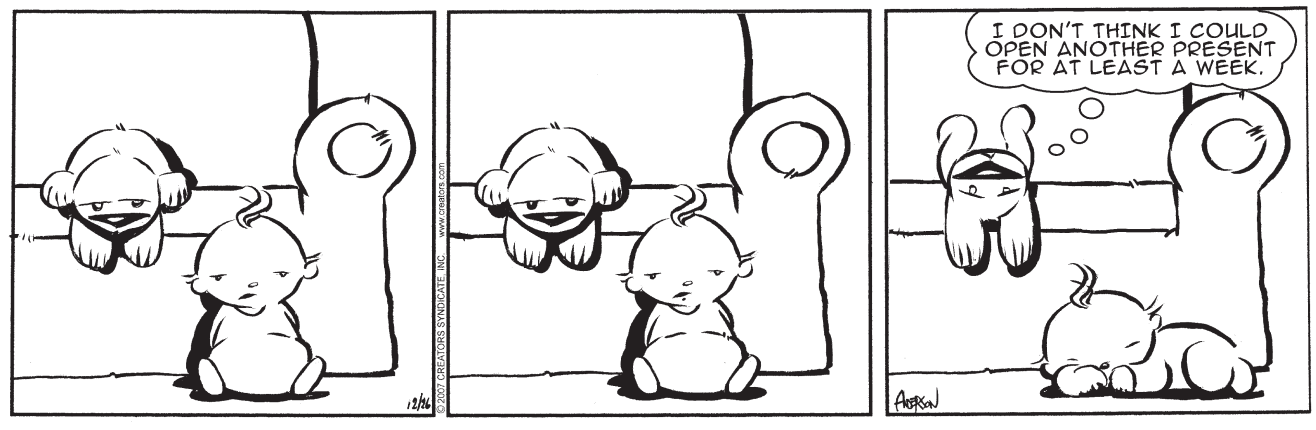
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

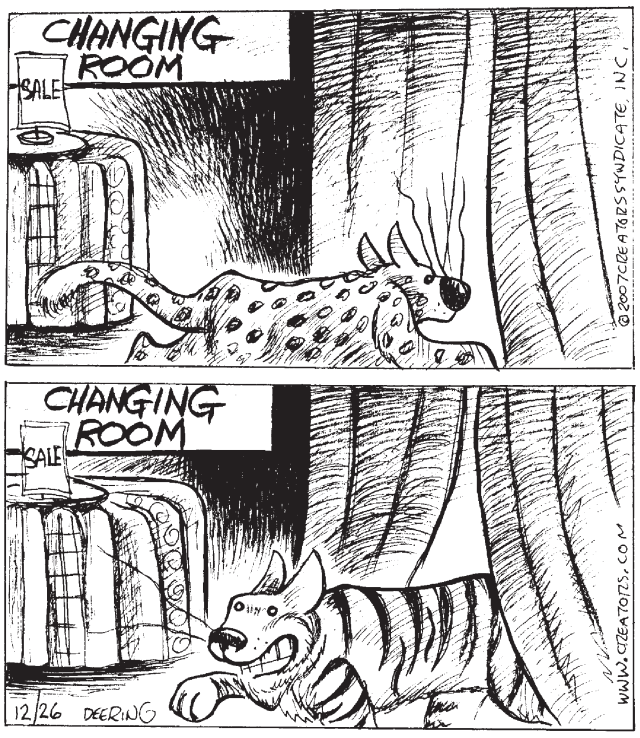


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



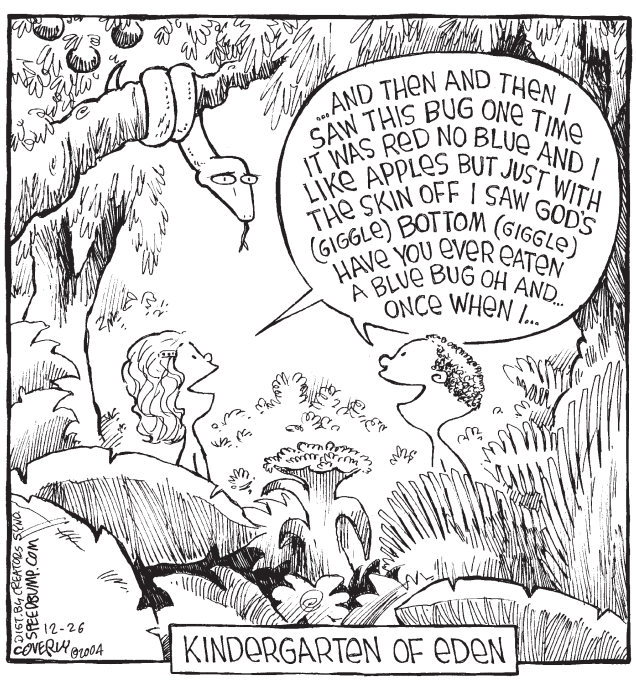
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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THE MAN DELIVERS

Michael Tittinger *miket@smdp.com*

Bill Dawson is the winner of the most recent Mystery Winner contest, being the first to identify that this shot was captured at the Post Office building at Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue. Look for a new Mystery Photo in Monday's edition.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 2000 Super Bowl champs
5 Trawler or tanker
11 Lotion additive
12 Draw breath
13 Be thrifty
14 Doltish
15 Letter before omega
16 Cow's home
17 Like Thor
19 Auction signal
22 Letter after rho
24 Wear down
26 Musical finish
27 Car part
28 Oscar or Tony
30 Took to the slopes
31 Spring month
32 UFO pilot
34 Turning point
35 Role for George Burns
38 Damon of film
41 Keenness
42 Response to a joke
43 Tip off
44 Comfortably warm
45 Peepers

DOWN

1 Rough voice
2 Sighed word
3 Time to load a van
4 Glimpse
5 Travel papers
6 Menu choice
7 Eschew
8 Maple output
9 Quarterback Manning
10 Set the pace
16 Lingerie item
18 Poet Khayyám
19 December 26, in England
20 Goofing off
21 Owner's paper
22 Swindle
23 Corn Belt state
25 Garden tool
29 "Rats!"
30 Middling card
33 Hearty
34 Alley prowlers
36 Story monster
37 Comfy places
38 Humor
39 In the past
40 Thumbs-up vote
41 Farm female

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

12-26

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ People Who Are Messes: (1) Tommy Tester, 58, minister of Gospel Baptist Church in Bristol, Va., was arrested in July after he allegedly urinated at a car wash, in front of children and police officers, while wearing a skirt. (Police said alcohol was involved.) (2) Catherine Delgado, 35, was arrested in Annapolis, Md., in August after she appeared, smudged with fudge, in a hotel lobby around midnight with "large slabs of fudge bulging out of her pockets" (according to a Washington Post story). A police officer later checked a nearby Fudge Kitchen store and found the door inexplicably open and a large display quantity missing from the front window. (Police said alcohol was involved, along with fudge.)

■ News That Sounds Like a Joke : At about 9 p.m. on Aug. 23, a fire broke out in the Comedy Zone nightclub in West Knoxville, Tenn., right in the middle of an act in which a hypnotist had just placed 10 audience members into a trance. However, despite an "everyone for himself" attitude that typically marks such emergencies, the 10 hypnotized subjects somehow managed to make it out of the club safely.

■ People With Too Much Money: The adolescent offspring of some well-to-do parents are serious art collectors, according to a September Wall Street Journal report, and their interest appears not to be motivated solely by parents' strategies to shield income from the tax collector. Ms. Dakota King, 9, for example, owns 40 pieces and specializes in animals and "happy colors." Ms. Shammiel Fleischer-Amoros, 10, who admitted, "I'm really scared, but Daddy told me I have to negotiate," succeeded in getting $200 knocked off of a $3,200 sculpture she really wanted. An 11-year-old last year "waved a paddle" to win a $352,000 Jeff Koons sculpture.

TODAY IN HISTORY

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.

1776 the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.

1799 George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

1917 during World War I, President Wilson issued a proclamation authorizing the government to take over operation of the nation's railroads.

1941 Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.

1944 during World War II's Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division in Bastogne, Belgium, was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.

1947 heavy snow blanketed the Northeast, burying New York City under 26.4 inches of snow in 16 hours; the severe weather was blamed for some 80 deaths.

1957 the Ingmar Bergman film "Wild Strawberries," starring Victor Sjostrom, opened in Sweden.

WORD UP!

jollification \jol-ih-fuh-KAY-shuhn\, *noun:* Merrymaking; festivity; revelry.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Obituaries

MARGARET C. BONACHEA
Bonachea, Margaret C. Passed away on December 5, 2007 at the age of 92. Beloved mother, grandmother, and aunt. Services will be held on Tuesday December 11, 2007 at 10 A.M. Spalding Mortuary (323) 934-1181 may be contacted for further info.

Miscellaneous

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CUSTOMER SERVICE FULL TIME- $30K per year, starting $25K. Telephone services company in WLA with free secure parking. Experience preferred but will train quality applicant. Good language skills and reliability a must. Call 310-281-8888 for recorded details.

DRIVERS: A great career! England Transport now offers on the job CDL training. No credit check. No co-signers. No contract. No down payment. 1-866-619-6081, AD#3110

GIVE OF YOURSELF volunteers wanted at the discovery shop. Help us contribute to the American cancer society by spending 4 hours per week assisting in our resale shop in Santa Monica. Contact Terry or Shaunna at (310)458-4490

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MUSIC CLUB BOOKING CAMPAIGN SALESPERSON. (310)998-8305 XT 88

Employment

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the Environmental Services Department. Looking for part time housekeepers/ floor techs. Hospital Experience preferred. Call (310)829-8431 for interview.

LOCAL CAFE has immediate opening for P/T and F/T customer service position and cleaner position.
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SANTA MONICA $1195 1 bdrm, 1 bath, no pets. Stove, Refrigerator, Parking. 2535 Kansas Ave. #104. Open daily for Viewing 9am-7pm. Additional info in Unit. Manager in #101.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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APR 7.35%	
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APR 7.49%	
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1.25%*
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Notices

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Construction Division, for the installation and modification of traffic signals on an as-needed basis under Project ID No. RDC0015060, As-Needed Traffic Signal Construction Project, 2007-08, in various unincorporated areas throughout the County of Los Angeles.

The bids must be submitted at the Cashier's Office, located on the Mezzanine level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, before 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. The bids will then be publicly opened and read in Conference Room A or at the location posted in the main lobby.

The work shall be done in accordance with the Plans and Specifications on file and open for inspection at the County Board of Supervisors Executive Office and the Department of Public Works. The work is estimated to cost between $2,100,000 and $2,400,000 and shall be completed over a period of one year. The work requires a California Class A or C-10 contractor's license. Prebid questions regarding the Plans and Specifications should be directed to Mr. Harry Cong at (626) 458-3111.

A mandatory prebid meeting for this Contract will be held on Monday, January 14, 2008, at 10 a.m., in the Small Dining Room of the Headquarters Building, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, Thomas Guide page 595, H-6. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory for award of the contract.

The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents, which may be purchased for $14, if picked up at the aforementioned Cashier's Office, (626) 458-6959, Monday through Thursday between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., or for $17, if mailed, which includes postage and handling.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond payable to the County of Los Angeles in an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the bid to guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if it is so awarded.

All persons performing the work shall be paid not less than the General Prevailing Wage Determination prepared by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the California Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are available at the Department of Public Works.

The bid must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, and civil/criminal legal actions as provided for on the forms included as part of the proposal. Failure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the bidder is nonresponsive and/or not responsible.

The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; however, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A responsible bidder is a bidder who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors.

The successful bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the contract or initiation of debarment proceedings.

The successful bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond, payment bond, liability insurance, and workers' compensation insurance with the Contract.

As provided for in Section 22300 of the California Public Contract Code, the contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the contract, or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent.

Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code.

Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves.

The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

Dated December 18, 2007.

Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer
of the Board of Supervisors
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN789048 01557 Dec 21,22,24,26,27,28,29,31, 2007, Jan 2,3, 2008

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20072533208 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as PRETTY PRINCESS PARTY, PRETTY PRINCESS, YOUR PRETTY PRINCESS PARTY, 4381 VENTURA CANYON AVE. #5, SHERMAN OAKS, CA. 91423. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : NIKKI IANIRO, 4381 VENTURA CANYON AVE. #5, SHERMAN OAKS, CA. 91423 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/: NIKKI IANIRO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/13/2007. 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 12/12/2007, 12/19/2007, 12/26/2007, 1/2/2008

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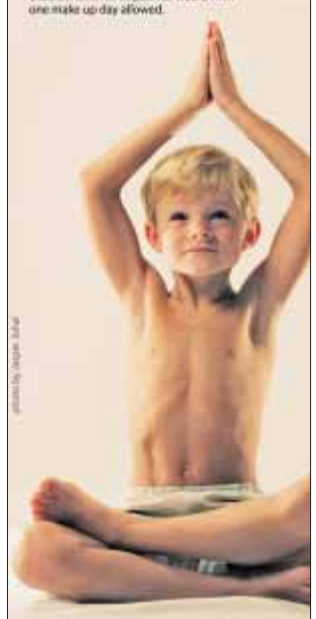
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