

Santa Monica Daily Press

MISCHA IN CUFFS
SEE PAGE 3

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE ON A HOT STREAK ISSUE

DEVELOPMENT

IN LOVE AND WAR

New legislation bans all future commercial development
at the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration campus

STORY BY MELODY HANATANI PAGE 8



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

Pregnant pause continues

Fired bus driver, attorney
wait for city to settle up

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL An attorney representing a former Big Blue Bus trainee who sued the transportation agency for dis-

crimination and won is calling on City Hall to drop its appeal and pay up.

Michael Nourmand, the attorney for former BBB motor coach trainee Wynonna Harris, said a jury in February of this year awarded his client more than \$177,000 in damages, and granted him more than \$400,000 in attorney fees.

When city attorneys appealed the decision, Nourmand asked for and was granted interest on the judgment in

September. The interest on the \$583,433 judgment is 7 percent per year, Nourmand said.

Harris sued BBB for discrimination, claiming her supervisor fired her on May 18, 2005 after learning that she was pregnant. City Hall said Harris was fired because of her poor driving record, which included two preventable accidents.

SEE BBB PAGE 9



Gary Limjap

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Simon says

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: 07APP008 (Appeal of Conditional Use Permit 07CUP005)
 2000 Main Street

APPLICANT: In Hwan Kim
APPELLANT: Ramon Gastelumiribe, Concerned Citizens of S.M.
PROPERTY OWNER: Archstone Smith Operating Trust

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Appeal (07APP008) of Planning Commission's approval of Conditional Use Permit (07CUP005) to allow the off-site and on-site sale and dispensation of alcoholic beverages at a retail grocery store.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, January 8, 2008, AT 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
 Re: 07APP008
 1685 Main Street, Room 102
 Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Tony Kim at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at tony.kim@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Calendar

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Lula Washington's Kwanzaa Concert

3773 Crenshaw Blvd., L.A., call for times

The Lula Washington pre-Kwanzaa celebration features high-energy performances by members of the company and recitals by local students; some of whom hail from Washington's dance program for inner-city kids. Gospel choirs, poetry readings, jazz revues and a few Christmas selections round out the festivities. For more information, call (323) 292-5852.

the1921A

3101 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.

Featuring upright bass, resonator guitars and junkyard drums, this young, motley crew (including a couple of McCabe's staffers), brings their brand of ramshackle, Dust Bowl-era blues and folk to McCabe's. Water Bears and Ferris & Caravello will also perform. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting www.mccabes.com.

Holiday performance

Santa Monica Mall, 10 a.m. — noon

Kindergarten and first grade students from Grant Elementary perform in Center Court at Santa Monica Place.

Funky Lemonade Fridays

1301 Fifth St., 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.

Zanzibar presents DJs spinning hip hop, rock, top 40, and some reggae and house to round off the night. \$5 drink specials. For more information or to RSVP, e-mail rsvpmenow@gmail.com.

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.

Saturday, Dec. 29, 2007

Cafe R & B

1432 Fourth St., 9:30 p.m.

Cafe R & B performs passionate, intense, and explosive music tonight at Harvelle's. Cover is \$12. For more information, visit www.harvelles.com.

'La Vida Lowrider: Cruising the City of Angels'

6060 Wilshire Blvd., L.A., check for times

Orate vato, cruise on over to the Petersen Automotive Museum to check out their current exhibit on custom Lowriders and auto-inspired artwork. Entrance fees are \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors and students; \$3 for children, ages 5 — 15; kids under 5 are free. For more information, visit www.petersen.org.

'Extraordinary Deceptions'

3116 Second St., 2:30 p.m.

The Powerhouse Theatre presents magician Michael Gutenplan, who will bring some magical Christmas cheer by catching a bullet, sawing someone in half and more. Tickets are \$25. For further information, call (310) 396-3680, ext. 3 or visit www.powerhousetheatre.com.

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 ice at the city's new public rink. Admission is \$10, including skate rental.

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.





BARTON

Actress arrested for DUI

BY ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

WEST HOLLYWOOD Mischa Barton was arrested Thursday morning for investigation of driving under the influence of alcohol and possessing marijuana after sheriff's deputies saw her car straddling two lanes of traffic.

The 21-year-old actress, who starred on Fox's teen drama "The O.C.," was driving on La Cienega Boulevard in West Hollywood when she was stopped at about 2:45 a.m., authorities said.

Deputies saw her vehicle straddling the lanes and failing to signal for a turn, according to a sheriff's press statement.

"During Ms. Barton's detention, it was determined that she was an unlicensed driver and was driving while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage," the statement said.

Barton was arrested for investigation of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving without a license, possessing a controlled substance and possessing marijuana, according to a statement from sheriff's Sgt. John Hocking.

She spent about seven hours in the West Hollywood jail before being released on \$10,000 bail. A court hearing was scheduled for Feb. 28.

Calls to her manager and publicist weren't immediately returned.

Her arrest was first reported by the Hollyscoop.com Web site.



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

GETTING ON THE BALL: Youth tennis instructor Joseph Choi (right) brings out a cart of tennis balls Thursday for use by the elementary and middle school students taking part in a city of Santa Monica-sponsored Youth Tennis Camp at Memorial Park. The week-long program is split into two sessions, one that kicked off on Monday and will conclude today, and another that will commence on Dec. 31.

Kids find new racket

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY Forget trips to grandma's house, hitting balls over a net is the thing to do during holiday break.

More than 20 elementary and middle school-aged kids have spent their time off from learning math and English to learning the fundamentals of tennis this week, practicing backhands and perfecting their serve.

The students are participating in a city of Santa Monica-sponsored Youth Tennis Camp, a program traditionally held during summer and spring break, but being offered for the first time in the winter.

The week-long program is split into two sessions — one that kicked off on Monday and will conclude today, and another that will commence on Dec. 31.

"Tennis is an individual sport, but when it's in big groups like this, it teaches them teamwork and cooperation and a

sense of fair play," Richard Goldenson, a tennis instructor with the city since 1996, said on Thursday after practice. "It teaches them that tennis is a year-round sport."

Parents whose children are enrolled in the program say it keeps their kids active during a time when they would otherwise stay indoors and watch television all day, giving them daily exercise and a chance to be among their friends.

SEE TENNIS PAGE 10



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Solution for runoff takes root

Editor:

Instead of spending at least \$50 million of taxpayer money over the next decade for much needed projects to capture stormwater runoff, the city of Santa Monica can reduce that amount by lifting its eyes from the gutters to the trees.

Free stormwater runoff devices grow on trees, large ones like our ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets. In his article faulting cities for uprooting their trees, Dan Cray, of Time Magazine states: "The crown of a large tree is a freestanding anti-flood reservoir, in some cases intercepting so much rainfall that more than 1,500 gal. a year evaporates instead of hitting the ground. Chop down the tree, and you increase the volume of storm water a city must manage ..." (6/21/07)

The city's determination to continue its path of deforestation – giving at least 55 trees on Second and Fourth streets the ax or slow death by transplanting – will result in at least 82,500 more gallons of stormwater runoff per year in the downtown area. Added to the bill of \$600,000 for destroying these trees, appraised at a minimum of \$571,105, will be the expense of alternative and expensive stormwater runoff projects. The city needs to realize that free anti-flood reservoirs in the downtown area grow on the ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets. The city needs to not squander more taxpayer money and taxpayer assets. The city needs to decrease, not increase, stormwater runoff and save these trees.

Susan Hartley
Santa Monica

Letter writer needs to 'get a life'

Editor:

This is a message for Mr. (Ron) Lowe, who writes these inane letters: "Get a life. Money talks and B.S. walks."

Jacqueline Kestler
Santa Monica



“
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Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com



The Soap Box

Bennet Kelley

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Seven memories to savor from '07

AS THE YEAR WINDS DOWN, HERE ARE seven things from 2007 that we should carry with us into the new year.

1) ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES

Sen. Barbara Boxer had the best sound-byte of the new Congress during a hearing of the Senate Environment Committee, in which she reminded the former chairman, Republican Sen. James Inhofe, that she held the gavel as "elections have consequences." Now only if she can convince Sen. Feinstein and other Democrats in the roll-over-and-play dead caucus to make this a reality.

2) NEW ORLEANS IS STILL STRUGGLING

Two years after Katrina, in Orleans Parish only 65 percent of public schools are open, 57 percent of hospitals, 36 percent of day care centers, 50 percent of bus routes and not a single police department structure has been repaired. Two telling facts are that foreign governments have provided almost as much aid to Louisiana colleges as the Bush administration and that neighboring and Republican Mississippi has received almost three times as much aid on a per capita basis.

3) BUSH IS AWOL IN DEFENDING VETS

Despite the fact that the Army's Surgeon General admitted that the VA was underfunded and unable to hire enough nurses and mental health specialist to treat returning war vets, President Bush's FY2008 budget fell nearly 10 percent below consensus estimates of amounts needed. Last month, Bush vetoed a bill that would have restored \$4 billion in funding for the VA. While the bill ultimately signed by Bush restores \$3.7 billion of this sum, it is "contingent emergency" funding which becomes available only if Bush makes a formal request for the money by Jan. 10.

4) GOVERNMENT IS THE ENEMY ...

Ever since Ronald Reagan, the Republicans have openly professed that government is the enemy. In light of the recent rash of dangerous defects in toys from China and the largest increase in coal mine fatalities in 107 years, along with the fact that the Bush administration has cut staffing at the Consumer Product Safety Commission by 16 percent, the Mine Safety Commission by 19 percent and OSHA by 35 percent, you realize that government is not really our enemy but rather is the enemy of GOP donors who want to cut corners at our expense and get away with it.

5) DEPARTMENT OF MENDACITY

In case it had not become evident after the litany of lies about Iraq, Katrina,

Guantanamo and 50 percent of anything else said on a day ending in "y," the National Intelligence Estimate on Iran confirmed what John Dean said in 2004 — that mendacity was an essential element of public policy in the Bush White House. Even after receiving the NIE, which reported that Iran had suspended its nuclear program in 2003, the Bush administration continued to warn about "World War III" and a potential "nuclear holocaust" in beating the drums for war with Iran.

The report only highlights the Bush administration's view of government in which the Presidency is about maximizing power for its cronies and the Congress and the American people are mere pawns to be manipulated to implement their ideological agenda (which can only prevail by subverting the democratic process). Congress should address this issue not only because it is a serious offense in its own right, but also to send a signal to others, such as Republican front-runner Rudy Giuliani, who appear to have embraced this model of governance.

6) SCOOTER LIBBY CONVICTED OF A FELONY

Scooter Libby was found guilty of perjury and obstruction of justice in connection with the outing of Valerie Plame. With former Bush White House spokesman Scott McClellan's new book indicating this was part of a conspiracy that included the President and Vice President, both Congress and the Special Prosecutor should pursue McClellan's claim.

In addition, Plame's lawsuit against Libby and Cheney was dismissed by a Republican judge in part because the defendants were acting within the scope of their employment. This is troubling, since the Vice President is sworn to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States," and the Constitution expressly provides that he may be removed for treason, so how then can a treasonous act be within the scope of the Vice President's duties? While Republican talking points try to deflect this argument by reducing Ms. Plame to an office clerk, if she was so insignificant why did the CIA want to redact 35 percent of her book?

7) RED SOX NATION

In 2008, we will discuss whether we are a Red or a Blue nation, but 2007 was definitely the year of Red Sox nation! Have a happy and healthy 2008!

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A newspaper with issues

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy

HOW CRUDE: Chevron's decision to name an oil tanker after Rice was one big, loud 'thank you.'

New Year's resolution: Quit the procrastinating

I ALREADY HAVE DECIDED ON MY NEW Year's resolution for 2008: "Don't wait until the last minute to write your column!" With the holidays, I've been too busy eating. Actually, my resolution should be: "Make sure you eat food." My friend Alison brought over some pastries on a platter, including a piece of cherry pie and flower-shaped torts. It turns out they were real flowers but, in my holiday eating frenzy, I assumed they were deserts. Fortunately, I caught myself. Had I taken a bite of a flower, I might have checked into some sort of dessert rehab.

Frankly, I'm not sorry to see 2007 go. Each year seems crazier than the preceding one. Surprise, surprise ... for me, it all started when Bush became president. Some consolation is, by this time next year, he'll almost be gone, except for the slew of pardons he'll be giving out.

Last week, things were more suspicious than usual at the White House. On the very day the administration attacked the New York Times for its coverage of the destroyed CIA tapes, Vice-President Cheney's office caught on fire. After the blaze Cheney was seen outside schmoozing with the fire investigators. What I want to know is why didn't somebody search his pockets for matches?

According to Secretary of State Condi Rice, even though 815 Americans died in Iraq, 2007 was a good year for the U.S. (Which has the same credibility of Michael Vick saying it was a good year for dogs.) Condi cited progress in Iraq, as evidenced by less sectarian violence. And yet on Christmas Eve, 24 Iraqis died, with 22 kidnapped, and on Christmas, 35 were found dead, including one American. We're five years into the war, with nearly 4,000 Americans dead, and the cost will be in the

trillions. That's some progress.

Of course, Condi is known for questionable quotes. In speaking about Saddam in 2003, she said she didn't want the "smoking gun to come in the form of a mushroom cloud." As we look back, it sounds like she was eating mushrooms. When she makes these types of statements, along with Bush, and Cheney with his "last throes," I wish I was John McEnroe and could scream, "You can't be serious!"

Did you know that years ago Chevron named an oil tanker after Condi? I'm not saying the war in Iraq had anything to do with oil, but go on the Internet and type "A tanker is named after Condi Rice" and you'll see the photo. Chevron quietly renamed the tanker the "Altair Voyager" when Bush appointed Condi National Security Advisor. Appearances, you know.

Bush's New Year resolution seems to be to work on his legacy. There's not much he's done at home to brag about, so in 2008, W. is going to travel the world restoring America's image. The problem is, except for in Albania and a couple other countries, he isn't exactly loved abroad. (He isn't exactly loved at home either.) The truth is, I don't see how Bush will be able to leave the hotel room. Maybe he can teleconference this goodwill tour?

Psychologists claim the reason most resolutions fail is we make too many of them. That's why I'm sticking to, "Don't wait until the last minute to write your column."

I'll start next week.

JACK also writes "Channel Surfing," a TV review column, for the Daily Press' Current section. He can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.



John McGrail, C.Ht.

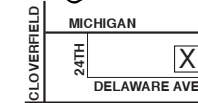
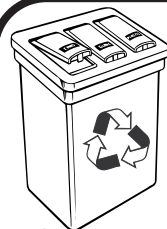
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The Q-Line

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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?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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- Damp wipe cabinet doors
- Clean counters
- Hand wash floor
- Load dishwasher

BATHROOMS

- Clean sinks, counters; change towels
- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- Hand wash, disinfect floors

ALL ROOMS

- Pick up & straighten
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- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

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- Clean window over kitchen sink

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to discuss general policy matters and issues pertaining to the City's ongoing effort to prepare new Land Use and Circulation Elements of the City's General Plan. Regular policy discussion meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of each month. Discussion topics are set in advance of the meeting are available at City Hall and online at www.santa-monica.org.

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on a Proposed Zoning Text Amendments to amend the definitions of fence height and hedge and to modify the existing fence, wall, and hedge standards. Modification of the City of Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.02.030.305 [Definition of Fence Height], Section 9.04.02.030.395 [Definition of Hedge], and Section 9.04.10.02.080 [Fence, Wall, Hedge, Flagpole] to modify fence, wall, and hedge standards; to grandparent existing non-conforming fences, walls, and hedges; to establish criteria for the repair and replacement of existing nonconforming fences, walls and hedges; to establish administrative and discretionary height modification procedures; to clarify the criteria for assessing objections to nonconforming fences, walls, and hedges; to require the maintenance of hedges; and to specify a self-help remedy for overhanging hedges. [Planner: Tony Kim] APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica. LOCATION: Citywide.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California



HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact Jonathan Lait, AICP, Principal Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TTY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.



Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
<http://www.shapethefuture2025.net> (Land Use Element)
<http://motion.santa-monica.org> (Circulation Element)



CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

A case of jealous rage

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

MONDAY, DEC. 17, AT 12:45 A.M.

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1800 block of Michigan Avenue regarding a report of an assault with a deadly weapon. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim, who said he had just dropped off a friend at her residence when a man opened the unlocked passenger side door of the car and placed a knife up against the victim's throat, causing superficial stab wounds. Police said the suspect was the ex-boyfriend of the female friend and was apparently jealous of the driver who dropped her off. The suspect threatened the driver and ran off before police arrived. Armed with a description of the suspect, officers found him in the area and he was positively identified by the victim. The suspect was placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. He was identified as Christopher Eric Moss, 28, of Santa Monica. No bail was set because the suspect was on felony probation, police said.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16, AT 11:03 P.M.

Police officers assigned to the Pico Neighborhood observed a person walking on the sidewalk with what appeared to be a 40-ounce bottle of beer in his left hand. Officers stopped the suspect to investigate and discovered that he was on parole for narcotics violations. Officers searched the suspect and found what appeared to be white residue in a cigarette box that they believed to be cocaine. As officers were about to place the suspect under arrest, he allegedly ran away on foot. He was apprehended a few seconds later and transported to the Santa Monica Jail, where he was booked for having an open container of alcohol in public and for possession of a controlled substance. No bail was set.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20, AT 4:45 A.M.

Officers on routine patrol in the 2000 block of Pico Boulevard saw a green Kia Sofia traveling westbound that appeared to have a broken left brake light. Officers conducted a traffic stop and questioned the driver, who allegedly gave officers a fake name. Officers asked if the driver had a license. He said he did not and was taken into custody, after which his real identity was discovered. Officers said the suspect had a suspended license for driving under the influence and was booked for driving on a suspended license and for giving officers a false name. The suspect was identified as Francisco Blas, 48, from Mar Vista. His bail was set at \$10,000.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, AT 12:15 A.M.

Officers responded to the 1800 block of Lincoln Boulevard regarding a person who allegedly threatened a gas station attendant. When officers arrived, they spoke with the gas station attendant, who said he was counting cash with another employee just after his shift had ended when a man approached and demanded that he be let into the store to get some ice cream. Because they were counting the night's receipts, the employees would not open the door. The man became irate and threatened to harm the employees. He then left the area. Armed with a description of the suspect, officers were able to locate him a short distance away from the gas station. He was placed under arrest for making criminal threats. He was identified as Alan Daniel Maman, 30, of Panorama City. His bail was set at \$50,000.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19, AT 4:10 P.M.

Officers from the Homeless Liaison Team did a check at Ralphs in the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard after receiving a report about chronic camping, drinking and drug use. When officers arrived, they found a man holding a burnt marijuana cigarette, which he quickly placed on the ground upon being contacted by cops. Officers questioned the suspect and found that he was on parole for theft charges and had previous arrests for narcotics. Officers called the suspect's parole agent, who ordered that the suspect be placed on a parole hold for violating the conditions of his release. The suspect was taken to jail and booked for possession of marijuana and for a parole violation. He was identified as Paul Windham, 48, a transient. No bail was set.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19, AT 2 P.M.

Officers responded to the 900 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Sunkissed Tanning Salon – regarding a fraud in process. When officers arrived, they spoke with the salon manager who said that someone had come into the business asking for money on behalf of Santa Monica High School for a calendar. The man apparently was asking for donations in exchange for advertising in the calendar. Management became suspicious and called police. Officers made contact with the high school and learned that no such calendar existed. As the officers were at the salon, one of the employees recognized the suspect, who was standing nearby. Officers detained the suspect and after some further investigation, placed him under arrest on suspicion of fraud. The suspect was identified as Lawrence Miller, 20, of Palmdale. His bail was set at \$20,000.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

Officers responded to the 1500 block of 17th Street after receiving a report about a credit card theft that occurred. When officers arrived, they spoke with a woman who said that she noticed some strange charges on her credit card bill. The purchases were made at stores located within a block of her home, leading her to believe that one of her neighbors had grabbed her credit card off her coffee table. Officers found there were \$380 worth of allegedly illegal charges that were made. Officers conducted an investigation and arrested Kevin Fitzgerald O'Donnell, of Santa Monica, for suspicion of credit card theft. No bail was set, police said.

Staff Writer **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

Busting out

2008 looms as the year of reckoning for state's prison system

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO The crisis-fueled momentum that produced a nearly \$8 billion prison-spending plan earlier this year has lost some of its steam, leaving the state vulnerable to federal judges ordering an early release of inmates.

California has fallen behind in its race to relieve the overcrowded conditions in its state prisons by adding thousands of cells, and time is running out to produce results.

A special panel of federal judges will decide in 2008 whether the state should be forced to address its overcrowding by releasing some prisoners early.

"This is a chain of broken promises," state Sen. Mike Machado, D-Linden, said of the state's construction and parole delays. "I think the court is going to look at it and say, 'There's no commitment here to do anything.'"

A three-judge panel was created in July by federal courts in Sacramento and San Francisco, and is charged with solving a problem that has eluded lawmakers and state prison officials for years.

The judges plan an initial trial to decide if crowding is delaying efforts to improve inmate medical services and mental health care. If they find that to be the case, they would conduct a second trial to decide how to release inmates to relieve the crowding.

They also could cap the prison population, perhaps keeping thousands of convicts at county jails that, in many cases, have their own space crunch.

Conservative state lawmakers who support the building program say they plan to fight any decision to let prisoners out on the street before they have served their full sentences.

"These three justices want to release prisoners early. I don't see any doubt about it," said state Assemblyman Todd Spitzer, R-Orange, who chairs the Assembly Select Committee on Prison Construction and Operations.

Spitzer also opposes a plan by Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Secretary James Tilton to free nonviolent, well-behaved ex-convicts from parole after six months instead of the usual three years.

THIS IS A CHAIN OF BROKEN PROMISES. I THINK THE COURT IS GOING TO LOOK AT IT AND SAY, 'THERE'S NO COMMITMENT HERE TO DO ANYTHING.'"

State Sen. Mike Machado
D-Linden

Ending supervision early means fewer ex-convicts would be sent back to state prison for parole violations. It's the first in a series of parole changes that national experts say is critical to reducing California's prison population.

The corrections department originally projected it could have the first new cell-blocks built by early 2009, but now projects construction will take an extra year.

Grounded F-15s leave a gap

BY SCOTT LINDLAW
Associated Press Writer

FRESNO The grounding of hundreds of F-15s because of dangerous structural defects is straining the nation's air defense network, forcing some states to rely on their neighbors' fighter jets for protection, and Alaska to depend on the Canadian military.

The F-15 is the sole fighter at many of the 16 or so "alert" sites around the country, where planes and pilots stand ready to take off at a moment's notice to intercept hijacked airliners, Cessnas that wander into protected airspace, and other threats.

The Air Force grounded about 450 F-15s after one of the fighters began to break apart in the air and crashed Nov. 2 in Missouri. An Air Force investigation found "possible fleet-wide airworthiness problems" because of defects in the metal rails that hold the fuselage together. It is not clear when the F-15s will be allowed to fly again.

Compounding the problem created by the grounding, another fighter jet used for homeland defense, the F-16, is in high demand for Iraq operations. And the next-generation fighter, the F-22 Raptor, is only slowly replacing the aging F-15.

Military officials say they moved quickly to patch any holes in the homeland air-defense system, and they report an

increase in air defense sorties in the past month, using replacement F-16s. But they acknowledge difficulties.

"When you're filling in, obviously it's going to cause some strain," said Mike Strickler, a spokesman with North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD, which is operated by the U.S. and Canada. "You're spreading resources a little thinner than we would like."

But air defenses have not been compromised, Strickler said. "We can be anywhere at any time," he said.

With the F-15s in Massachusetts out of commission, the Vermont Air National Guard is covering the whole Northeast. The Minnesota Air National Guard is manning sites in Hawaii. In Louisiana, the Illinois Air National Guard has been filling in.

And with Oregon's fighters grounded, the California Air National Guard is standing watch for the entire West Coast, an area of more than 300,000 square miles that is home to more than 46 million people in California, Oregon, Washington, and slices of Arizona and Nevada.

The California Air National Guard said this is first time in history that a single state's fighter wing is providing coverage for an entire coast. The California Guard is keeping three alert sites — in Riverside and Fresno, Calif., and Portland, Ore. — equipped.



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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: 07APP-001 (Appeal of Certificate of Appropriateness 06CA-021)
2402 4th Street #4
APPLICANT: Tammy Cameron
APPELLANT: Tammy Cameron
PROPERTY OWNER: Alpha Primo, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Appeal of the Landmarks Commission denial of Certificate of Appropriateness 06-021 for the reconstruction of the brick work on the front porch of a contributing residence located within Hollister Court, a designated City Landmark property. The Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to deny the Certificate of Appropriateness on December 11, 2006.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, January 8, 2008, AT 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 07APP-001
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Jing Yeo, AICP, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at jing.yeo@smgov.net. The Landmarks Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica sobre una solicitud para remodelar un edificio que tiene valor historico importante. Para mas informacion, llame a Carmen Gutierrez al numero (310) 458-8341.



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

HOLD IT: Construction continues at the site of the Veterans Hospital in West Los Angeles. New legislation signed by President Bush on Wednesday bans all future commercial development on the site.

Development banned at VA

Bill expands on 1988 Congressional ruling

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

WEST LA As a belated holiday present to the veterans of armed forces, President Bush promised on Wednesday to ban future commercial development at the West Los Angeles Department of Veterans Affairs campus.

It's one present that won't be returned.

As part of the \$555 billion spending bill inked on Wednesday, Bush signed off on legislation that would prohibit the VA campus from being sold or commercially developed, a move celebrated by veterans that have criticized the federal government for portions of the site that have been leased or relinquished throughout its history as a haven for veterans.

The VA provision was added by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.).

"It's been a long fight for us," said Keith Jeffreys, the president of Culver City-based Citizens for Veterans' Rights. "This frees us up to work on other things, ensuring that veterans that are receiving the services at the hospital actually get those services."

The West LA campus is one of 18 sites across the country currently being reviewed by the Department of Veterans Affairs to modernize health care facilities. The Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) study assesses the inventory of buildings at each campus, identifying opportunities for consolidation of services, reuse, renovation and construction of facilities.

The local CARES advisory panel comprised of experts and city officials reconvened for a public meeting in September, during which time it voted unanimously to recommend to then-VA Secretary Jim Nicholson that it ban further leases for commercialization and place a moratorium on sales of any piece of property for commercial development.

"As a veteran, I cannot tell you how much that veterans strongly believe that the land is for veterans and veterans only," said LA City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, whose a member of the

CARES panel.

The 388-acre site off the 405 Freeway was donated by Sen. John P. Jones, one of the founders of Santa Monica, and Arcadia B. de Baker in 1888, deeding the land with the intent that it be used solely to serve soldiers and veterans of wars. Those who have criticized the direction in which the VA has headed the past few decades say the land isn't being used per wish of its former owners.

"In 1888, the government promised to permanently maintain the West LA VA property for veterans," said Congressman Henry Waxman (D-Calif.). "Because this administration does not want to recognize that promise, we needed to put an exclamation point behind it."

"I'm very proud of what we were able to accomplish."

The efforts to eliminate commercialization of the VA dates back several decades. Passed in 1988, the Cranston Act placed developmental restrictions on 109 acres of the VA site — roughly 28 percent of the site. The new legislation expands on the Cranston Act, covering the entire VA, Jeffreys said.

VA officials will now be able to concentrate their efforts on providing quality health care service to veterans, Jeffreys added, calling the movement to limit commercial development a "distraction" for both his group and the VA administration.

Jeffreys cited a incident in early 2007, when 27-year-old veteran Justin Bailey, suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and drug addiction, died of an overdose of prescription medicine at the VA hospital.

"When they're supposed to be taking care of veterans, they were distracted by other administrative duties," Jeffreys said.

Those who spoke out at the CARES meeting in September celebrated the bill's signing.

"The land was deeded for veterans' use only and what certain powers that be wanted was not for veterans only," said Tim Goodrich, a veteran who served in "Operation Enduring Freedom" in Afghanistan. "Now the challenge that this land preserved for veterans' use only is to get the services that veterans need and make the facilities fully functional."

melodyh@smdp.com

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HEY NOW

Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

Santa Monica Hooters' Girls (from left to right) Brytny, Jen, Christina and Stephanie pose in front of the Hooters restaurant. Hooters has one of the biggest selections of beers in Santa Monica.

Former trainee waits for money

FROM BBB PAGE 1

"Now that the jury has ruled in Ms. Harris' favor, the city is still playing games, and at the end of the day, the people are the ones who are at a loss because of this discriminatory conduct," Nourmand said in an interview earlier this month.

"The taxpayers are the ones who have to pay this judgment," he added. "Instead of trying to resolve these type of cases, the city is choosing to fight."

In the past, City Hall has opted to challenge the merits of cases involving employee discrimination and personal injury, but has also settled many cases before they went to trial.

Deputy City Attorney Carol Rohr said no evidence was presented at trial that proved BBB supervisors fired Harris because of her pregnancy and said she is confident that the verdict will be thrown out on appeal.

"As a common carrier, the Santa Monica Big Blue Bus had a duty to provide the utmost care and safety towards its passengers, as well as provide reliable and timely service," Rohr said. "Based on Ms. Harris' unsafe and unreliable record, the Big Blue Bus severed ties while she was an 'at will' employee on probation."

THE CASE AGAINST BIG BLUE

Harris was hired by Big Blue Bus on Oct. 4, 2004 as a motor coach trainee. She completed the training program just over a month later and was promoted to a part-time driver, Nourmand said.

In April 2005, Harris claims she called into work telling the person in charge of scheduling to put her on a "late run" because she had to report to juvenile court with her daughter. While at court, Harris claims she called the dispatcher to say that she probably would not make it to work on time for her 5 p.m. shift. Harris was allegedly instructed to call back later in the day to check in.

Harris forgot to call back because her daughter was charged with a felony and ordered to register with a probation officer, Nourmand said, adding that his client was under a lot of stress.

When she returned to work a few days later, she was called into her supervisor's office to talk about her absence. She explained where she was and provided her manager with documentation from the court, her attorney said. A few days after the meeting, a supervisor asked Harris why her shirt wasn't tucked in. Harris told the supervisor she was pregnant.

THE TAXPAYERS ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE TO PAY THIS JUDGMENT."

Michael Nourmand
Attorney for Wynonna Harris

Harris claims the supervisor responded by asking, "Wow, how far along are you?" and "What are you going to do?"

About a week later, Harris was called into her manager's office and was terminated.

Harris sued, saying she was unfairly treated once people found out about her pregnancy.

She points to the absence which resulted from her daughter's court appearance. When she met with her manager to explain her absence, she claims that her manager dismissed it because she had phoned in to give dispatchers enough time to find a replacement driver.

However, when she was fired, that absence was included, something Harris believes was done because of her pregnancy.

Nourmand said he does not expect a decision from the appeals court until sometime in the summer of 2008.

"It's a shame how the city has treated Ms. Harris," Nourmand said.

Rohr said BBB did nothing wrong and believes the jury may have let emotion play too big a role when deliberating.

"Employment discrimination cases are tough, emotionally driven cases, but the jury is required to rely on the law," Rohr said.

kevinh@smdp.com

Bitch! Whine! Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 3.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Community Meeting for the Travelodge Hotel Project 1515 -25 Ocean Avenue and 1530 Second Street

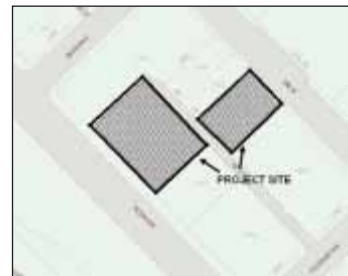
DATE: January 10, 2008 at 6:30 PM

MEETING LOCATION: Santa Monica Main Library
Multi-Purpose Room [2nd Floor]
601 Santa Monica Boulevard



You are invited to attend a community meeting to review the design for a proposed 89,900 square foot, four-story Travelodge Hotel with 164 guestrooms, approximately 4,700 square feet of ground floor commercial/retail uses and subterranean parking. The new hotel will consist of two buildings (one on Ocean Avenue and one on Second Street) connected by a pedestrian bridge across the 1st Court alley, and will replace the existing Travelodge Hotel at 1525 Ocean Avenue and the Pacific Sands Hotel at 1515 Ocean Avenue and the associated Annex at 1530 Second Street.

This meeting is a new City Planning initiative to solicit comments from the public prior to the project being heard by the Planning Commission. You will have an opportunity to provide direct feedback to the staff and the developer with regards to the project design.



For further information, please contact:
Laura Beck, Associate Planner
(310) 458-8341

Project Location:
The 1515-25 Ocean Avenue parcel is located within the RVC (Residential/Visitor Serving Commercial) District; the 1530 2nd Street parcel is located within the C-3 (Downtown Commercial) District.

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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

WORK IT: Tennis camp participants run through drills Thursday on the courts at Memorial Park. Parents whose children are enrolled in the program say it keeps their kids active during a time when they would otherwise stay indoors and watch television all day.

Tennis program keeps kids active and healthy

FROM TENNIS PAGE 3

Sally Kutsunai enrolled her daughter because she had already taken several tennis lessons with Goldenson, whom she credits with sparking the Roosevelt Elementary fourth grader's interest in the sport.

Tennis has helped her daughter, Michelle Lajoie, with her hand-eye coordination and has taught her an activity that she can enjoy for the rest of her life, Kutsunai said.

The tennis camp is open to kids between the ages of 6-17, though the majority of the pupils seem to be of elementary and middle school age.

"It's more fun (during winter break) because I don't have to go home tired and do homework," said Shay Denison, a John Adams sixth grader who is taking lessons with her twin sister, Sommer.

Other students find the program and the sport useful to build their physical endurance.

"It makes you strong in the arms," said Mary Polhemus, a third-grader at Edison Language Academy, who is taking the class with elder sister, Emma.

The program is taught by several members of the women's tennis team at Santa Monica College, a team that Goldenson coaches.

Sarah Anderson, a sophomore at Santa Monica College, joined the Youth Tennis Camp staff on Monday. The nine-year tennis veteran plans to join the women's team at SMC next semester. Being the first time that she

is teaching for money, Anderson said she has found it challenging to work with young kids, trying to keep the lessons orderly and sustain the children's interest.

**TENNIS IS AN INDIVIDUAL
SPORT, BUT WHEN IT'S IN
BIG GROUPS LIKE THIS, IT TEACHES
THEM TEAMWORK AND
COOPERATION AND A SENSE OF
FAIR PLAY."**

Richard Goldenson
Tennis instructor, city of Santa Monica

"When I see the kids get into it, it makes me want to come out again and teach them more," Anderson said.

There are still spaces available for the second session, which costs \$100 for Santa Monica residents and \$110 for non-residents. For more information, call (310) 458-2239

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy MGM

'Rocky' The Complete Saga Collection

All six titles following the life of one of filmdom's most beloved pugilistic characters arrives in one package on six discs. From the first film (released in 1976) which won three Academy Awards including Best Picture to last year's "Rocky Balboa", Sylvester Stallone's inspiring story has touched millions. (MGM)

'Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End'

This first-class production under the flags belonging to Jerry Bruckheimer, features Johnny Depp in top form once again as captain Jack Sparrow. Sparrow is the last of the nine Pirate Lords of the Brethren Court who must unite in one last stand to preserve the buccaneers' freedom-loving way of life. A treasure chest of bonus features include: A brilliant extended look at creating the maelstrom, bloopers, deleted scenes, detailed stories regarding the film's music and design, plus cast and crew interviews including that old scalawag Keith Richards. (Disney)

'Balls of Fury'

The creators of "Night at the Museum" and "Reno 911!" present this tale about a down-on-his-luck former table tennis phenom (Dan Fogler as Randy Daytona), who is recruited by the FBI (George Lopez) for a secret mission. This ping pong meets martial arts comedy also features Christopher Walken as a weapons dealer running an illegal ping pong tournament. Special features include: Balls Out-The Making of Balls of Fury; Under the Balls: The Life of a Ball Wrangler; deleted scenes and an alternate ending. (Universal)

'The Wire' The Complete Fourth Season

This Peabody-winning series created by David Simon ("Homicide: Life on the Street") is the continuing drama of the dangers of adolescent angst in the crime-ridden inner city of Baltimore and the lure of easy ill-gotten money with the local police operating in a corrupt bureaucracy. (HBO)

'The Mod Squad' Season 1 Volume 1

Three young adults in trouble with the law (Michael Cole, Clarence Williams, and Peggy Lipton) are brought together to work as undercover detectives. They are recruited for a covert unit to help bridge the turbulent generation gap of the late '60s. This "Mod Squad" is determined not to compromise their own values as they wrestle with both criminals and their own consciences each week. The inaugural thirteen episodes on four discs also include special features about creating the series. (Paramount)

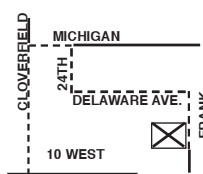
'Gomer Pyle, USMC' Third Season

Shee-zaym! The hit spin-off off series from "The Andy Griffith Show" starring Jim Nabors as the bumbling yet innocent marine private along with his cantankerous drill instructor (Frank Sutton as Sgt. Carter) are back. All 30 episodes from season three (originally airing in 1966-67) come on five discs. Storylines involve aliens from outer space, Gomer getting engaged after one date, exposing a card hustler, sleepwalking, and a Chinese gambling parlor. (Paramount)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local retail store. He can be reached at writtenbyrw@yahoo.com.

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SURF REPORT

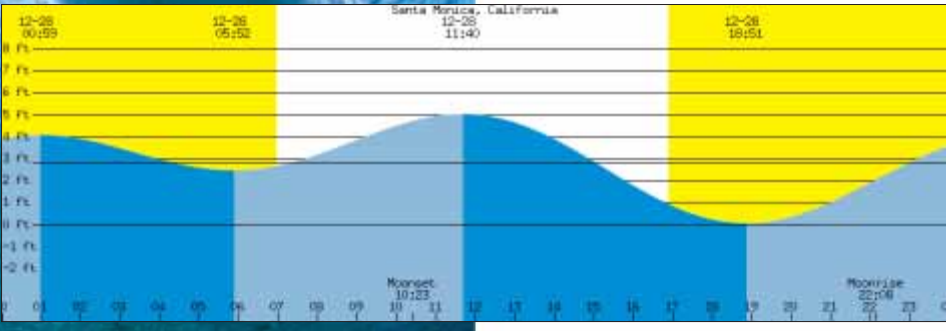


SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 56°**

SWELL FORECAST (2-2 FT)
Today looks similar with chest to head high sets at west facing breaks, waist to chest at south facing spots picking up the steep angled, 310+ wrap. Winds should have subsided, but a trough passing through the region could bring an ever-so-slight chance of precipitation. This morning's models though have really downplayed any chance of rain, but the NWS is keeping a 20% chance in the forecast for today.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SOME NW LINGERS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR, BUT BETTER FOCUSED UP NORTH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD
NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **December 11, 2007**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills —	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 

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 Castle Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (beacastle)	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachasa and Las Aliso creeks	A+	ns
Escalante Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Bread 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+
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante State Beach	A+	ns
Ladiga Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+
Saltire Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach	A+	ns
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Maric Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Mulliken Rd.	A	ns
Sunridge Beach at Mulliken Canyon fence	A+	A+
Sunridge Beach (beach location)- daily	F	F
Mulliken Pier - 50 yards east	A	A
Carlson Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zone)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	F	A+
Pena Creek at Las Torres County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	C
Cardenas 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+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Palms Canyon storm drain	C	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chatsaugas)	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/Kentler storm drain	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant)	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 Tapsell 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 Calver 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- adjacent 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.
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Odd Man Out
By Mark Marchillo

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Solitary holiday on the homefront

GAY AND SINGLE. PRACTICALLY synonymous. Gay and single on Christmas ... the rhythm of being pathetic pulses the eardrums. Coming home for the holidays to Timbuktu from someplace metro like Santa Monica, when you're one of us, is bound to find you eating away at the tin of holiday fudge unceremoniously in a dark corner of the kitchen. Witness my six-pack fading into six pounds. Six more pounds, that is. But who's counting - other than me? My nickname around here has evolved from Dippy to The Manarexic. Funny how there never seems to be anywhere to hide when family storms the homefront.

My family is cool, better than most, I'd guess. Dysfunctional, but whose isn't? Waiting for the next fight to erupt is like waiting for the snow to fall. And I just keep watching out that window, waiting. So drama.

But there are always problems in families, issues to be resolved, fought about, silent about. Anger runs rampant in family. I'm always involved. Sometimes - usually - I'm the cause. My big mouth gets me in deep. Some people just don't like honesty. I know the feeling. Mine wasn't a closet, it was a wardrobe.

Ironically, however, I'm as involved as I can be and as much an outsider in this family as ever. Because regardless of how much I stick my ore in, we're always work-

ing to solve somebody else's problems. My gay life is not in their repertoire. I'm not one of them. And they'll never conceive to know what it's like to be me. The Saturday before Christmas we had a little party, a soiree of 14. It was my job to gather the mistletoe (well, one of my jobs). So I went outside to get it (I grew up in the woods, we grow it here). But scratching around in the brush with the flashlight, cold and in a rare moment of holiday solitary, it hit me. I was hunting for mistletoe. And mistletoe is for kisses. Kisses for everyone else.

Hopeless cynic? Naw. Hopeless romantic? That's gotten me nowhere. There are many of us like me. Alone. Single. And gay, of course. Can't forget that particular ingredient. Afterall, there's nothing special about simply being alone and single on Christmas. Oh no. To be gay, too, is much more pathetic. Almost as bad as wishing for a white Christmas the day after Christmas. But as I sit here writing this in my room back home, watching the first flurries of snow fall outside the window, I hope it'll stick. Even if it is a day late. At least I can have that.

And here we are. The loneliest creatures on earth.

MARK MARCHILLO is a freelance filmmaker and all-together nice guy living in Santa Monica. Send comments or suggestions regarding his column to capwellkid@hotmail.com.

Oh, that crazy kid from Brooklyn

BY CYNTHIA CITRON
Special to the Daily Press

Nearly everyone of a certain age can convulse their friends with quotes from Mel Brooks' character the 2000-Year Old Man. ("Joan of Arc? Dummy! I vent with her!") And if you are of an even earlier generation, you can sing all the words to Danny Kaye's "Anatole of Paris." So it's no wonder that the mostly gray-haired groupies at the El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood were bouncing in their seats. For there was Danny Kaye, up on stage, singing the songs they had memorized so diligently as kids.

Well, not Danny Kaye, exactly - he's been dead for 20 years - but a man who channels him so well in a new musical, "The Kid from Brooklyn," that he makes it Nostalgia Night in NoHo. Brian Childers has Kaye down pat: The theatrical poses, the delicate prima ballerina hand movements, the little nod of the head. As for the famous patter songs, not so much. Kaye's brilliance was in his delivery: No matter how nonsensical the words, each one was clear and distinct; you could understand every single syllable. Childers' delivery, unfortunately, was sometimes mushy. And he just gave up on some of the tongue-twisting shticks like "Git gat giddle."

"The Kid from Brooklyn," written by Mark Childers and Peter J. Loewy (who

also directs), was first performed in 2006 in Ft. Lauderdale. This current production is its West Coast premiere. And it begins with Kaye as a Borscht Belt tumbler doing a rather unfunny vaudeville routine about a man trying to buy a suit for his wedding. (This apparently brought down the house in the late '20s and '30s. It was a much simpler time).

Kaye was still pretty much unknown when he met Sylvia Fine, (played by look-alike Karin Leone) who literally "made" him. It was she who wrote the clever lyrics for his most famous songs and became his tough-as-nails manager - and his wife. As he laments later in the show, she took over his life to the extent of managing his every move, even to the point of telling him what to wear. Which may explain why he became known as a notorious womanizer, romancing many of his leading ladies, and carrying on a long-term affair with comedienne Eve Arden (remember Our Miss Brooks?) in the 1940s and a 10-year affair with Laurence Olivier in the '50s. (Hey, it says so in Wikipedia. Would they lie?)

Olivier appears in "The Kid from Brooklyn," reprising an appearance at the London Palladium in which he and his wife, Vivien Leigh, and Kaye performed the hilarious "Triplets." Olivier is played by the superb Joshua Finkel,

Big news

Alba and Warren were first expecting, now engaged

Pregnancy has been an engaging experience for **JESSICA ALBA**. The 26-year-old actress, who announced earlier this month that she's expecting, is now engaged to her boyfriend

and the baby's father, producer Cash Warren. "I can confirm that they are engaged," Alba's publicist, Brad Cafarelli, said in an e-mail to The Associated Press on Thursday.

The couple is expecting their first child in late spring or early summer, Cafarelli said. Alba stars in the thriller "Awake," and recently appeared in "Good Luck Chuck" and

"The Ten." The sex symbol first gained fame as an action star on TV's "Dark Angel," then in films including "Fantastic Four" and "Sin City."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBA AND WARREN



MADONNA THE DIRECTOR



MADONNA

MADONNA'S debut movie as a director will have its world premiere at the annual Berlin film festival in February. "Filth and Wisdom," starring Eugene Hutz, Richard E. Grant and Stephen Graham, will screen in the Panorama section, outside the main competition, a festival statement said Thursday. Organizers didn't specify whether she will come to Berlin.

AP

Judge orders Connery to chill

The legal dispute between **SEAN CONNERY** and his downstairs neighbors has a fed-up judge telling both sides to cool it. In court papers, Burton Sultan calls his neighbor Connery, 77, the antithesis of the suave secret agent he played in numerous James Bond films, branding him "a bully who ignores norms of neighborliness and decency" in the town house they share. Connery and his wife claim the Sultan family's complaints have delayed needed repairs to the roof, imperiling the Connerys and raising the repair costs. In a decision made public Wednesday, State Supreme Court Justice Marcy Friedman tossed out many of the Sultans' claims but slammed the Connerys for what she called their "blunderbuss" legal salvos.

She barred both sides from filing any more lawsuits without her permission, saying they "have engaged in a 'slash and burn' litigation strategy." Connery's lawyer and publicist and Sultan's lawyer did not immediately return telephone messages Thursday. The sides have clashed repeatedly over the Connerys' years-long renovations to their part of the six-story, landmarked 1869 town house. The Sultans claim the renovations have subjected them to noise, fumes, leaks and rats, ruining their collection of antique wicker furniture. Connery played the British secret agent known as 007 in 1962's "Dr. No." He reprised the role in such Bond classics as "From Russia With Love," "Goldfinger" and "You Only Live Twice."



AP

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

You will see more, Capricorn

Happy Birthday!

You are just plain lucky, and no one can take that away from you this year. Even when facing difficult situations, you make a difference. Sometimes when you lose something or feel bad about a situation, indirectly you are being pointed in the proper direction. Trust that the Force is with you. You cruise into an 11-year life/luck cycle. Start it well.



Born Today

Actor Denzel Washington (1954)
Musician Edgar Winter (1946)
Musician Johnny Otis (1921)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You are determined to accomplish a lot. As you relax, you'll accomplish more. New beginnings become possible if you focus on the end result. Seriously, your vision could happen with focus and direction. Tonight: Easy does it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Your creativity emerges no matter which way you turn. New beginnings become possible if you relax and flow. Realize what is happening. Your abilities encourage a venture or project. Reach out for another person. Tonight: Your imagination is limitless.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You are coming from a basic point of view. You could make nearly anything happen, if you so decide. Look at yourself as a plug choosing its socket. Focus on where you want to get involved. Tonight: In the world of mayhem.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Emphasize productivity. Choose your interests rather than scatter your energy. With so much happening around you, you could easily be confused and not sure of yourself. Listen, and you will gain. Tonight: Hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You are able to launch much activity, but to what purpose? Whatever your major interest, you could reverse gears and change directions. Unquestionably, your energy might be close to unstoppable. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You will be able to make waves where others are running in many different directions. Honor your knowledge. Choose your direction with care, because it could define the rest of events in the very near future. Tonight: Togetherness works.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to do something very different from others. If you do, count on forging your own path. Are you ready to lead and be independent? The time has come to do just that. Worry adds to your conservative bent. Tonight: Be a little mysterious.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Reach out for others. Be imaginative and direct. Your optimism could be contagious. Experiment with a new idea rather than close yourself off. Knowing which way to go could be instrumental. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Take a stand and touch base with others. Your ability to move forward and not push will be your trademark. Others see situations differently from the way you believe they are. Your expenses might need cutting back. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your smile touches many. You have a way of infusing others with spirit and courage. You can only say no. Investigate what others refuse. Though it might be hard to break this barrier, you will. Tonight: Push to detach and pull away. You will see more.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Working with others could prove to be difficult. You might opt to share with one or more trusted individuals and stop there. Success cannot be deferred. Start making that extra effort that you feel needs to happen. Tonight: Follow your instincts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Someone is definitely on your side. Listen to news that heads your way through a friend. This news could impact another friend. Listen and work with what you hear. Investigate and open up to news. Tonight: You are who you are.

MOVIEGUIDE

- AERO THEATRE**
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 260.1528
- You Can't Take it With You (NR)**
7:30
- AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4**
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506
- Aliens vs. Predator - Requiem (R)**
10:20am, 12:45, 3:10, 5:50, 8:25, 10:50
Atonement (R)
10:30am, 1:25, 4:20, 7:25, 10:20
The Great Debaters (PG-13)
10:10am, 1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
P.S. I Love You (PG-13)
10:45am, 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, 12:00am
I Am Legend (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 6:50, 7:50, 9:20, 10:20, 11:50
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story (R) DLP-Digital Projection
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story (R)
12:10am

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
SILVER

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

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

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PH0803 11/06

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

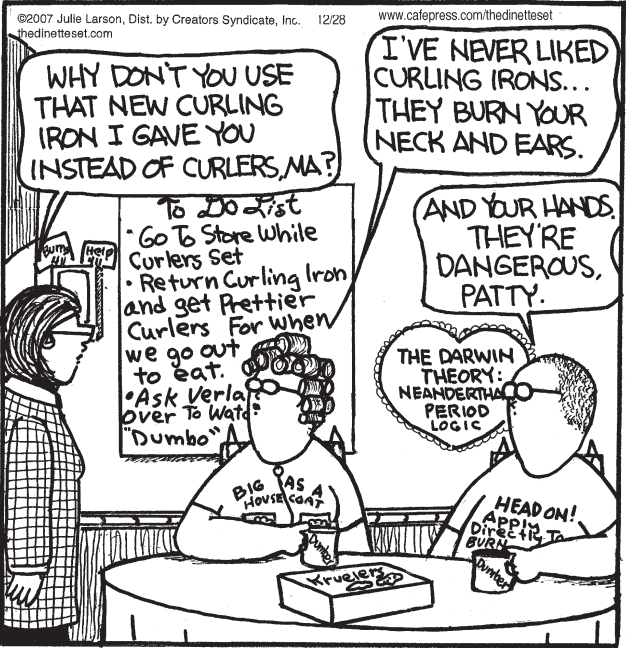
Garfield

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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MYSTERY PHOTO

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Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Resort island
- 6 Tickle
- 11 Comfy eatery
- 12 Fancy home
- 13 Evade
- 14 Flexible conjunction
- 15 Naturalness
- 17 Bears' lairs
- 18 Left at sea
- 20 From the U.S.
- 22 Com-motion
- 23 Speechless
- 26 Tripled trio
- 28 Dugout, e.g.
- 29 Peck of pictures
- 31 Pipe angle
- 32 One or two
- 33 Up to, in time
- 34 "— It Roman-tic?"
- 36 Defect
- 38 Car count
- 40 Stellar hunter
- 43 Cow of commercials

DOWN

- 44 Co-op's cousin
- 45 Skilled
- 46 Wrath
- 1 Throw in
- 2 Carnival setting
- 3 Obvious
- 4 Sired
- 5 War god
- 6 Med. org.
- 7 Nobelist Nelson
- 8 Place of protection
- 9 Shortly
- 10 Screws up
- 16 Stop fasting
- 18 Sharp pain

- 19 Dump output
- 21 Singer Gray
- 23 Tiny particle
- 24 Go it alone
- 25 Conceited one's concern
- 27 Conceited act

- 30 Game caller
- 33 Braves legend
- 34 Inkling
- 35 Hawked
- 37 "Livin' La Vida —"
- 39 Fixed
- 41 Poem of praise
- 42 Negative link

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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						46				

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS	19 36 37 48 52 Meganumber: 8 Jackpot: \$25M
Super LOTTO	2 6 16 33 35 Meganumber: 5 Jackpot: \$25M
Fantasy 5	12 19 23 27 31
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 0 2 0 EVENING: 4 9 1
DAILY DERRY	1st: 04 Big Ben 2nd: 08 Gorgeous George 3rd: 09 Winning Spirit RACE TIME: 1.44.10

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Surprisingly Complicated: A 24-year-old woman in Lawrenceville, Ga. (in July), and a 59-year-old woman in Lincolnton, N.C. (in August), were killed after failing to negotiate driver's-side devices allowing them entrance to, respectively, a gated parking lot and an automatic car wash. The Georgia woman had leaned out her window to insert a card into the gate-opening machine when her car lurched forward and pinned her head between the car and the door. The North Carolina woman had reached out her open car door to punch in a code for the wash when her car lurched forward, similarly pinning her head. (Police in both cases said that the cars should have been in Park.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1917 the New York Evening Mail published "A Neglected Anniversary," a facetious essay by H.L. Mencken supposedly recounting the history of bathtubs in America. (For example, Mencken "claimed" the first American bathtub made its debut in the Cincinnati home of grain dealer Adam Thompson on Dec. 20, 1842, and that the first White House bathtub was installed in 1851 at the order of President Millard Fillmore.)

1694 Queen Mary II of England died after more than five years of joint rule with her husband, King William III.

1832 John C. Calhoun became the first vice president of the United States to resign, stepping down over differences with President Jackson.

1846 Iowa became the 29th state to be admitted to the Union.

1856 the 28th president of the United States, Thomas Woodrow Wilson, was born in Staunton, Va.

1897 the play "Cyrano de Bergerac," by Edmond Rostand, premiered in Paris.

1937 composer Maurice Ravel died in Paris at age 62.

1945 Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance.

1973 A l e x a n d e r Solzhenitsyn published "Gulag Archipelago," an expose of the Soviet prison system.

1982 Nevell Johnson Jr., a black man, was mortally wounded by a police officer in a Miami video arcade, setting off three days of race-related disturbances that left another man dead.

1987 the bodies of 14 relatives of Ronald Gene Simmons were found at his home near Dover, Ark., following a shooting rampage by Simmons in Russellville that claimed two other lives. (Simmons was later executed.)

WORD UP!

gnomic \NOH-mik/, *adjective*: Uttering, containing, or characterized by maxims; wise and pithy.

Late-night gab fests return

BY DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien, Jimmy Kimmel and Jon Stewart all plan returns to late-night television the next two weeks, but aside from their familiar faces, viewers may not recognize much.

After two months away because of the still-unresolved writers strike, NBC's Leno and O'Brien, and ABC's Kimmel, resume their programs next Wednesday, Jan. 2. Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert come back to Comedy Central the following Monday, Jan. 7.

Barring a New Year's miracle, none of their writers will be joining them.

David Letterman is also pushing to return Jan. 2, but his Worldwide Pants production company is still trying to reach its own deal to bring his show's writers back onboard.

The hosts — with the exception of NBC's Carson Daly — are also members of the striking Writer's Guild of America, making them subject to union rules that would severely limit what they can do.

The union's strike rules say members cannot write or perform any material that would normally be written for them. Under this interpretation, for example, Jay Leno couldn't perform a monologue, because his staff of writers normally crafts his jokes.

The comic skits that are a part of several late-night shows would also be off-limits without writers.

"I think that people will see some interesting television," said Chris Albers, former president of Writer's

Guild of America East and a comedy writer for O'Brien. "Obviously, these are some of the funniest people in the country so they're probably going to do a very good job. It's just a different animal than what they're used to and what we're used to."

In a conference call with reporters last week, producers of NBC's "Tonight" and "Late Night" said they were still trying to figure out what their shows would look like. They weren't willing to talk further this week, a spokesman said.

Comic ad-libbing, musical performances and lengthier appearances by interview subjects willing to cross picket lines are the most likely recourse.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO. MY OBVIOUS SPECULATION WOULD BE MORE GUESTS, AND MAYBE TALK TO THEM MORE SLOWLY."

Mike Sweeney, Head writer for O'Brien's NBC show

"I don't know what they're going to do," said Mike Sweeney, head writer for O'Brien's NBC show. "My obvious speculation would be more guests, and maybe talk to them more slowly."

Stewart and Stephen Colbert would appear to have the toughest time reconfiguring their programs, which have a large amount of scripted material. By a strict interpretation of the guild's rules, a member would be prohibited from performing as a character if union writers normally write material

for the character.

Colbert performs his entire show in the character of a blowhard political commentator.

"We don't know how he's going to do it," said Sherry Goldman, spokeswoman for the Writers Guild of America East, "and I'm not so sure that he's figured it out yet."

Comedy Central would not let its executives talk about planning for the shows' returns.

Only two late-night shows were affected when writers went on strike in 1988: Johnny Carson's "Tonight" show and Letterman's program, both on NBC. Carson was not a writer's guild member, so he wrote his monologue himself for the

gag had the show's associate director playing "Lady of Spain" on the accordion, night after night.

"Fifty-five minutes, ladies and gentlemen, 55 minutes to go!" he said early in one show. "That's all we're really trying to accomplish, is to eat up valuable network time."

Letterman weighed in frequently on the strike, calling network management "money-grubbing scum."

While the strike raises the possibility of train-wreck television, some performers may thrive in without-a-net circumstances. A critic in The New York Times wrote that Letterman's strike programs were often "downright exciting," a throwback to the early years of late-night television when there was more improvisation.

It's uncertain whether Letterman will get the chance to repeat the experience. His representatives were still talking with the union on Thursday. Donald Trump and Shooter Jennings are booked as a guest for Letterman's Jan. 2 show — if there is one.

There's a difference of opinion among union members about whether cutting a separate deal with Letterman is wise, Albers said. Some believe it would put pressure on NBC to settle the strike because Leno would be at a competitive disadvantage; others think it would be wrong to effectively reward CBS with a show using the services of writers, he said.

Sweeney has his own secret wish for O'Brien if he returns without writers.

"I hope he tries to hold a telethon to raise money for us," he said.

Kaye's life recreated with exceptional accuracy

FROM BROOKLYN PAGE 12

who also plays Sam Goldwyn, Billy Rose, Cole Porter, Kaye's first agent, Eddie Dukoff, and a number of other significant people in Kaye's life, giving each of them an individuality that makes the show appear to have a cast of thousands.

Eve Arden, Kitty Carlisle, Dena Kaye, Vivien Leigh, and others, are played by Christina Purcell in a series of dazzling costumes, period wigs, and an old-fashioned mink coat (all courtesy of costume designer Shon Le Blanc). She, like Finkel, also appears to be a cast of thousands, female version.

While Childers gets to sing all the Kaye classics ("Tchaikovsky," "Pavlova," "Minnie the Moocher," "Deenah," "Ballin' the Jack"), Karin Leone as Sylvia has a couple of solos ("I Can Do Wonders With You" and "It Never Entered My Mind") that highlight her

warm singing voice and soften her otherwise brittle persona.

Meanwhile, upstage left, playing perfect accompaniment, is a four-piece ensemble consisting of David Cohen as pianist and conductor (alternating with Charlie Harrison), Michael Benedict on winds, Ernie Nunez on bass, and Glenn Ochenkoski on drums. (I attended the show with an old friend, the daughter of Sammy Prager, the man who was Kaye's pianist/accompanist for more than 25 years. She sat there with tears in her eyes and a look of wonder on her face, murmuring, "They're playing my Dad's arrangements ... they sound just like he used to!" Surely you can't get a finer endorsement than that!)

While "The Kid from Brooklyn" did not attempt to whitewash Kaye or Fine, it did have its maudlin moments. Kaye's meek and deferential return to Fine and their daughter in the end was a not terribly

believable capitulation for this extremely narcissistic performer. The entire ending, in fact, was surprisingly flat. Passing mention was made of Kaye's long-time service as a world-traveling ambassador for UNICEF, and then the show just dribbled off. Kaye, smiling sanctimoniously, strolled offstage with his grown-up daughter. Period. End of performance.

Then, as if recognizing that this was not a very satisfying ending, the cast returned for their curtain-call with a rousing encore, "Life Could Not Better Be," and Kaye led them through the audience and out of the auditorium in a boisterous conga line.

Overall, however, despite its minor shortcomings, the show was lots of fun. And for true-blue Kaye fans, it is definitely a must-see.

The El Portal Theatre is located at 11206 Weddington St. in North Hollywood. For information call, (818) 508-0281.

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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.

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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.

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Notices

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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. 20072554930 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as CAUGHT UP MUSIC, 1530 NORTH POINSETTIA PLACE APT. #318, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90046. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : DAREK LEINER, 1530 NORTH POINSETTIA PLACE APT. #318,LOS ANGELES, CA. 90046, JOSHUA ICKOVICH, 1530 NORTH POINSETTIA PLACE APT. #318, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90046, CESAR GUEVARA, 1530 NORTH POINSETTIA PLACE APT. #318, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90046 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: DAREK LEINER, JOSHUA ICKOVICH, CESAR GUEVARA This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/15/2007. 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 12/14/2007, 12/21/2007, 12/28/2007, 1/4/2008

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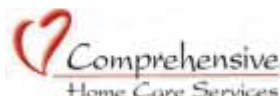
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