

Manhattan Beach Sun

The Weekly Newspaper of Manhattan Beach

Herald Publications - El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hawthorne, Lawndale, & Inglewood Community Newspapers Since 1911 - Circulation 30,000 - Readership 60,000 (310) 322-1830 Vol. 9, No. 2 February 5, 2015

Cruising the Strand, Manhattan-Style



Two bikes sit chained up on the Strand, waiting for their owners to come back and resume riding. Photo by Osvin Suazo, oqoimages@gmail.com.

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Forecast Realty Knows Property in the South Bay

By Laura Sorensen

Real estate in the South Bay can be tricky to navigate. Those looking to buy want the perfect home in a great community, a house which meets their price point as well as has the right type of amenities nearby. Each community has its own feel and budgetary concerns, property laws and other quirks. It's always best to find someone to help navigate through the maze: someone who is an expert on local real estate because they know the area by heart. Forecast Realty, owned by Roger Hart, has made local knowledge its bread and butter for decades.

Forecast Realty has been in business for 34 years, having first opened in 1980. Hart kept the business small to midsize through 1991, employing about 50 real estate agents, but in 1991 moved to his current location at 2420 Carson Street and downsized. "In real estate you have about 10-15% of agents making 90% of the money," he said, so it didn't make sense to have so many people in the office who weren't bringing in sales. Currently, he has an operation that is mostly family: he has three sons and they have all joined him in the business, as well as two of his daughters-in-law. He also has four agents who have been with him for many years. Hart values a companionable working environment and highly trained agents, so he has spent time training each agent himself to meet his standards.

Forecast is not a strictly residential or strictly commercial real estate business. Hart says that in the years he's been in business, he's done a little of everything, from avocado groves to apartment buildings to homes to ranch land. He just concluded a "tricky transaction" which sounded very tricky indeed, involving a shopping mall that was built across three separate parcels of land owned by three different sets of people. The mall was built sixty years ago with an original lease agreement, but of course the price of land has gone up just a bit since then. Hart spent two and a

half years dealing with developers, commercial brokers, attorneys, the City of Torrance, the LA City tax assessor, and the title company. "It was a real challenge ... that took a very unique buyer and a sophisticated buyer." The deal was finally concluded successfully and Hart was proud to say that he got the best outcome possible for the families of the owners.

Land and homes in Torrance are in great demand because of the atmosphere in Torrance. Since the early 1990s, developers have spent, according to Hart, about \$70 million rejuvenating the Old Town area making it

more accessible and interesting to residents. All the homes in Old Town are custom-built and not tract homes, which also helps the real estate market to thrive. The area is also considered very safe and the schools are good, which contributes to a thriving community in Torrance and bolsters a small-town feel even though Torrance itself is spread over a large area. Hart says that when people buy, they tend to stay until they are old and have to sell, or they may pass the home along to their children for another generation of residency.

See South Bay Property, page 2

Neptunians to Make Major Announcement at Upcoming Event

By Lynne S. Gross

At an event named "Building from the Heart," the Neptunian Woman's Club of Manhattan Beach will be making an important announcement about its 90-year old historical Clubhouse. The event will be held at the Clubhouse located at 920 Highland Avenue from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 7, and will include dinner, wine, entertainment and a raffle. Tickets at \$75 per person are available through www.neptunians.org or by calling 310-283-2266. Proceeds will go to the building fund to help with much-needed repairs and renovations.

The clubhouse was built in 1925 and, during World War II, served as a canteen for soldiers passing through town and as headquarters for the local Red Cross. Today, in addition to being used for Neptunian meetings, it is regularly utilized for civic and public service functions. It serves as an election-day polling station and a donation center for Red Cross blood drives. It is also rented by individuals and organizations as a venue for meetings and events.

The Neptunians, themselves, were founded in 1909, when Manhattan Beach

was home to only 600 people. Ten women, who didn't even have the right to vote, came together with the mission of creating an independent city of Manhattan Beach. They helped achieve not only that but also a local school district and police and fire services. They opened the first library, established the first school, were behind the botanical garden and started the original Boy Scout troop.

Beginning its second century of service, the Neptunians continue to be a force in the South Bay. The 250-plus active members of this non-profit 501(c)3 are dedicated to supporting educational, environmental, and civic projects. It holds an annual chili cook-off to benefit the Manhattan Beach Firefighters' Burn Foundation. Its members can be found selling cookies before the Manhattan Beach Fireworks to benefit the Roundhouse Aquarium or wrapping Christmas gifts at the Manhattan Beach Village Mall to support scholarships for Mira Costa and El Camino students. Other recipients of its donations include the USO, Miller Children's Hospital, Community's Child, and the Mira Costa School choirs. •

Weekend Forecast

Friday,
Feb. 6

Partly Cloudy
68°/55°



Saturday,
Feb. 7

P.M. Showers
66°/58°



Sunday,
Feb. 8

Partly Cloudy
69°/58°



Community Briefs

Residents Honored for Community Service

KTLA Channel 5 news anchor/reporter Mary Beth McDade and KCBS2/KCAL9 news anchor/reporter Serene Branson were honored with the Mayor's "I Heart MB" award for distinguished community service at recent MB City Council meetings. Mayor Wayne Powell says of the award winners, "Both are Manhattan Beach residents who, through their distinguished community volunteer work and exemplary careers, have

helped make Manhattan Beach the community we all love."



Above: Mary Beth McDade, anchor/reporter for KTLA Channel 5, with Manhattan Beach Mayor Wayne Powell. McDade was honored with the "I Heart MB" Award for community service. Photo courtesy of Wayne Powell.

Left: Serene Branson, anchor/reporter for KCBS2/KCAL9 news, with Manhattan Beach Mayor Wayne Powell. Branson was honored with the "I Heart MB" Award for community service. Photo courtesy of Wayne Powell.

Lisa Garey Chosen as Chair for AHA Luncheon

South Bay native Lisa Garey, financial advisor and senior vice president at Morgan Stanley in Rolling Hills Estates, is this year's chairwoman of the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women Luncheon scheduled for May 20 at the Manhattan Beach Marriot. Its goal is to raise \$500,000 to support the AHA's mission of



building healthier lives, free of heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. Sponsorship and donation information are available at www.southbaygored.ahaevents.org or (213) 291-7050.

Lisa Garey. Photo courtesy of American Heart Association.

Entries Sought for Neptunian's Art and Photography Contest

The Neptunian Woman's Club is gearing up for its annual student art and photography contest. Each year professional Manhattan Beach artists judge submissions and select the winners.

All artists in grades Kindergarten through 12 may submit art, and students in grades 6 through 12 may also submit photography. Submission deadline is February 23, 2015 before 3:00 pm. Submissions are collected by the local schools. Application forms can be obtained at any Manhattan Beach school or by contacting the Art Show Chair, maryessman@aol.com.

Students must attend a Manhattan Beach school and must submit through their school office. An awards ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at



Student art contest entries from the 2015 Neptunian's annual student art contest. Photo provided by Lynne Gross.

1:00 pm in the Neptunian Clubhouse at 920 Highland Avenue. There are cash awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. •

South Bay Property

from front page

Because of low turnover and tendency to pass housing along to children, Forecast Realty agents are also skilled at dealing with probate and trusts. Hart noted that since he started his business almost 40 years ago, many of his clients' parents are getting older and dying, leaving the clients to deal with sticky situations involving living trusts and wills. Many requirements have to be completed within a certain time frame, and Forecast has a network of trustworthy attorneys and specialists. Sometimes the person who receives the trust doesn't know what they have to do and in what time frame, but "with just a little extra [help], you can get it right."

Forecast also specializes in helping customers find the right home for them, the right area for their family size, and the



Roger Hart, owner of Forecast Realty. Photo courtesy of Forecast Realty.

right loan to buy a place with. Hart loves the community: he has five grandsons and said that he enjoyed having the family close, enjoying Torrance's parks, and walking around area feeling safe in the community. Forecast is also involved in the community, sponsoring local sports teams and making sure that the Daily Breeze is in the schools so the kids can get a feel for a newspaper.

When asked what he wanted to say to the readers, Hart said, Even if they haven't worked with Forecast in the past or just have questions, all are welcome to give him a call. He added, "Thanks for the many years they [the readers of the Trib] have allowed us to represent them, and we look forward to many more years of taking care of real estate needs." •

Looking Up

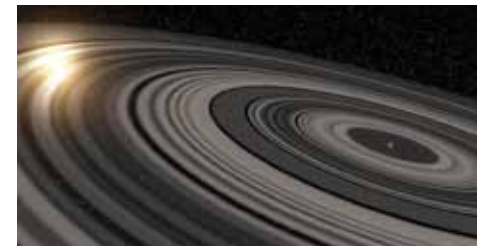
Gigantic Ring System around Planet J1407b

Based on press release from University of Rochester, supplied by Bob Eklund

Astronomers at the Leiden Observatory (The Netherlands) and the University of Rochester (USA) have discovered that the ring system that they see eclipse the very young Sun-like star J1407 is of enormous proportions, much larger and heavier than the ring system of Saturn. The ring system—the first of its kind to be found outside our solar system—was discovered in 2012 by a team led by Rochester's Eric Mamajek.

The astronomers analyzed data from the SuperWASP project—a survey designed to detect gas giants that move in front of their parent star. In 2012, Mamajek and colleagues at the University of Rochester reported the discovery of the young star J1407 and the unusual eclipses, and proposed that they were caused by a moon-forming disk around a young giant planet or brown dwarf.

A new analysis of the data, led by Leiden's Matthew Kenworthy, shows that the ring system consists of over 30 rings, each of them tens of millions of kilometers in diameter. Furthermore, they found



Artist's conception of the extrasolar ring system that circles the young giant planet or brown dwarf J1407b. Credit: Ron Miller

gaps in the rings, indicating that satellites ("exomoons") may have formed. The result has been accepted for publication in the *Astrophysical Journal*.

"The details that we see in the light curve are incredible. The eclipse lasted for several weeks, but you see rapid changes on time scales of tens of minutes as a result of fine structures in the rings," says Kenworthy. "The star is much too far away to observe the rings directly, but we could make a detailed model based on the rapid brightness variations in the starlight passing through the ring system. If we could replace Saturn's rings with the rings around J1407b, they would be easily visible at night and be many times larger than the full Moon."

See Looking Up, page 3

Finance

5 Financial Fitness Habits To Begin In The New Year

(BPT) - While many people focus on personal health goals in the new year, the beginning of the year is also a great time to check your financial fitness. So how can you whip your finances into shape?

South University College of Business, Virginia Beach faculty member Dr. Alan Harper says everyone should adopt these five financial habits in 2015:

Establish a Budget

Harper says the first step in taking control of your finances is to establish a budget. "It is extremely important to know how much money is coming in, where it's going, and allocating it appropriately," he says. "Having a budget allows you to gain a broader understanding of your spending habits."

Make sure your budget includes allowances for food, clothing, gas, and even entertainment, Harper advises.

Start Saving

Your budget should also include money set aside for emergencies. Harper says the old rule-of-thumb that three month's salary is enough to have in your bank account no longer applies in our current economy.

"We found in the last recession that people who lost their jobs tended to stay out of work much longer than three months," he says. "You should have six months to a year's worth of income in savings, just in case."

Harper says you should also try to put away 15 percent of your take-home income toward your retirement. Many retirement savings options are available, including 401(k)s, Roth IRAs and individual retirement accounts. It is important to do your homework before deciding on a long-term investment strategy so that you are aware of terms, conditions and any fees associated with your options.

Manage your Credit

The beginning of the year is a perfect time to check your credit history, and to look for any mistakes on your credit report, Harper advises. Mistakes on your credit report can cost you large sums of money in interest rates, or even keep you from being approved for a loan.

"The law requires the three major credit reporting agencies to provide you with one free credit report a year," Harper says. "Pull those reports and look for discrepancies. If you find one, file a dispute with the credit reporting agency and they will remove the



item if it is incorrect."

Harper also says to check your FICO score on the report, make sure you have an understanding of what the score means, and how to improve it if the score is low.

Shop Smart

Make it a priority to save money while you shop, Harper says. He encourages clipping coupons, and says purchasing membership cards to discount stores like Sam's Club and Costco can help you save money over time.

"Those stores will save you money in the long run on purchases like food, gas, and even personal care items."

Check your Insurance

Setting aside time at the beginning of the year to check your insurance policies can also save you money. Harper advises that you should review your auto, home and life insurance to make sure you have the proper coverage.

"You want to make sure you aren't paying for coverage that you may no longer need, but you also want to make sure you have adequate coverage in case there is an accident or you need to make a claim," he says.

Many companies also offer discounted rates if you hold multiple policies with them. So, if your auto, home and life insurance policies are with different companies, you may want to explore the benefits of choosing just one company.

"It's also important to make sure your life insurance policies are sufficient to protect your family from a financial crisis in the event that something happens to you," Harper notes.

"Establishing a budget, saving, staying on top of credit and insurance, and shopping smart all take some work," Harper points out. "But the rewards to your personal and household bottom line are well worth the effort." •

Women AT Work

Councilmember Heidi Ashcraft Looks for Ways to Be Involved

By Laura Sorensen

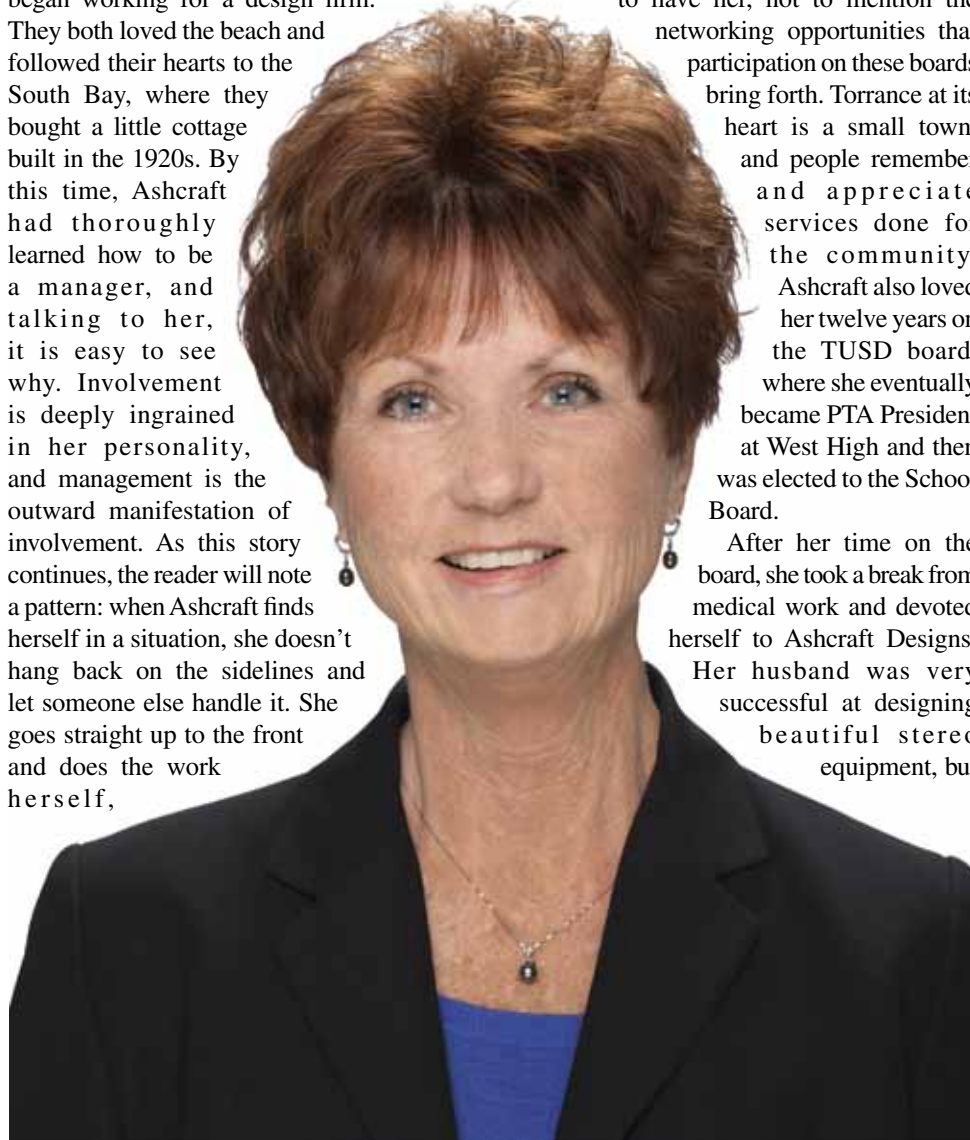
Ashcraft Designs is a spare white building tucked away on Nash Street in El Segundo. Residents might drive by it a hundred times and not know it was there, unless they happened to need a gross of consumer electronics items: the company, founded in 1986, creates beautiful and functional speakers, headphones, and even bathtubs for luxury hotels. But the Ashcraft brand didn't start out in a soaring space full of glass and air; it began with two people who joined forces personally and professionally. One had an artistic vision, and one had the talent for organization and management. They have worked together to ensure not just the company's success, but the successes of their personal lives: childraising, marriage, and religious and personal goals. They are Heidi and Dan Ashcraft, and this year Ms. Ashcraft ran an effective campaign to become Councilmember Ashcraft, the only woman to serve on the Torrance City Council. She has held many positions in the Torrance community because she has always wanted to give back to the city that has meant so much to her.

As the daughter of a machine shop owner and a finishing school graduate, Ashcraft knew that she wanted to go to college, but that she would have to finance it herself. She went to Southwest College and graduated from the medical assisting program, then worked as a medical assistant while attending community college. Then in her early twenties, she married Dan, who was attending school for design. Her first baby came along but she didn't slow down a bit, continuing to work full time.

Ashcraft enjoyed the nursing aspect of being a medical assistant but saw that the "front office" was the place with the higher salary. She became the manager at the doctor's office where she worked, taking care of everything from billing to filing to patient management. Dan would drop her off at 7am with the baby, and pick her up at 7pm after he was done with school. Then at night, Ashcraft would take classes at Citrus College. "You just think of how to get through one day and go to the next one," she said of those long days and long nights.

Three more children followed, and her husband graduated from design school and began working for a design firm.

They both loved the beach and followed their hearts to the South Bay, where they bought a little cottage built in the 1920s. By this time, Ashcraft had thoroughly learned how to be a manager, and talking to her, it is easy to see why. Involvement is deeply ingrained in her personality, and management is the outward manifestation of involvement. As this story continues, the reader will note a pattern: when Ashcraft finds herself in a situation, she doesn't hang back on the sidelines and let someone else handle it. She goes straight up to the front and does the work herself,



Torrance Councilmember Heidi Ashcraft. Photo courtesy of Ashcraft Designs.

saying, "I don't join things just to put my name on a list."

For instance: Ashcraft's children went to school in the Torrance Unified School District, so while working part-time at a doctor's office and raising four children full-time, she also began participating in PTA meetings. Her daughter went to Girl Scouts: she became a Girl Scout leader. Her sons played soccer and baseball: she found herself a spot on the AYSO and Little League boards. I

don't even have to go out on a limb to say that all these boards were probably ecstatic to have her, not to mention the networking opportunities that participation on these boards bring forth. Torrance at its heart is a small town, and people remember and appreciate services done for the community.

Ashcraft also loved her twelve years on the TUSD board, where she eventually became PTA President at West High and then was elected to the School Board.

After her time on the board, she took a break from medical work and devoted herself to Ashcraft Designs. Her husband was very successful at designing beautiful stereo equipment, but

Cindy for many years as part of the PTA and part of the YMCA, where Ashcraft had been elected the first female board president. Mayor Scotto knew of Ashcraft's governing experience and her love of the city, and asked her to run for City Council to give the Council a female perspective. Ashcraft believed she could win a seat, even though there were a total of 16 competitors last June for three seats. She said the best part of the election process was going out and meeting people and knocking on doors, and the worst part was having to fundraise, since she wasn't sure she would win and she didn't like the idea of wasting people's money. She hired Dan as her campaign manager, and her whole family spent nights talking on the phones. The campaign wasn't all fancy social media, because there is still a large bloc of older voters in Torrance who appreciate having things done the old-fashioned way. Ashcraft went onto city cable and talked about herself and her platform, and she was elected to the position.

She believes her perspective can be very helpful to the City Council, and her long experience with other community positions has taught her to make the best decisions without trying to make everyone happy. "I don't feel intimidated stating my position and following through on it," she said. It's her policy to be as courteous and professional as possible at the council meetings. She also encourages her own children who live in the Torrance area to get involved in their city.

Did you think that was all Ashcraft could fit into her schedule? No, indeed. Besides her work as a public affairs specialist for her church community, she is also certified as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), which is a volunteer position overseen by Los Angeles County. A CASA oversees medical and educational needs for children in foster positions, and is also involved personally as a mentor who is there for the child while social workers get switched out or foster homes move a child from place to place. Ashcraft's work as a CASA is one more way for her to give back to the city that she loves. "Once you're involved," she said, "there's a special spirit about Torrance." •

It's Time. Equal Pay for Equal Work.

This is the personal opinion of Heidi Maerker

Looking Up

from page 2

"This planet is much larger than Jupiter or Saturn, and its ring system is roughly 200 times larger than Saturn's rings are today," said co-author Mamajek, professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Rochester. "You could think of it as kind of a super Saturn."

In another recent study also led by Kenworthy, adaptive optics and Doppler spectroscopy were used to estimate the mass of the ringed object. Their conclusions based on these and previous papers on the intriguing system J1407 is that the companion is likely to be a giant planet—not yet seen—with a gigantic ring system responsible for the repeated dimming of J1407's light.

The light curve tells astronomers that the diameter of the ring system is nearly 120 million kilometers, more than two hundred times as large as the rings of Saturn. The

ring system likely contains roughly an Earth's worth of mass in light-obscuring dust particles.

Mamajek puts into context how much material is contained in these disks and rings. "If you were to grind up the four large Galilean moons of Jupiter into dust and ice and spread out the material over their orbits in a ring around Jupiter, the ring would be so opaque to light that a distant observer that saw the ring pass in front of the Sun would see a very deep, multi-day eclipse," Mamajek says. "In the case of J1407, we see the rings blocking as much as 95 percent of the light of this young Sun-like star for days, so there is a lot of material there that could then form satellites." Astronomers expect that the rings will become thinner in the next several million years and eventually disappear as satellites form from the material in the disks. •

Dear Chocolates,
I'll do the melting
around these parts.

Diamond



The Jewelry Source
337 Main St. El Segundo. 310-322-7110
www.jewelrystoreUSA.com



Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

The Boy Scouts and Barack Obama

By Gerry Chong

Once, a stand-up comic did his shtick ridiculing the Boy Scouts, concluding with, "Clean mind, clean body . . . take your pick." Similarly, the President had a choice between two alternative policy objectives. Green world, strong economy . . . take your pick. So he chose.

In his first year in office, his Administration declared its intention to drive the price of gasoline to \$10 per gallon to reduce its usage. To meet that goal, he reduced the amount of oil drilling on Federal land. He slow-walked applications for drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

"Some of his efforts are absolutely comical."

He outlawed oil drilling on both coasts. He stalled for six years, and now appears to deny the construction of the Keystone Pipeline. He has outlawed the coal industry which supplies 40% of the nation's electricity. He signed an agreement with China in which the U.S. agreed to immediately reduce CO2 emissions while the Chinese agreed to begin ten years from now.

Some of his efforts are absolutely comical. In one report, the EPA stated the amount of methane gas released into the air is far less than originally thought. Nevertheless, it issued new regulations requiring escaping methane (the primary component of "natural gas") to be reduced by 45% between 2012 and 2025. Of course, that's the industry's intention also, since they'd rather sell it than allow it to escape into the air. How big a threat is this to the public? The Energy Research Institute says "cows emit more methane when they

pass gas than the natural gas industry." (Look out cows, you're next).

There's good news and there's bad news. The good news is that he failed to raise gas prices to \$10 per gallon; but the bad news is that he managed to double the cost of gasoline that had cost \$1.86 a gallon when he took office.

That doubling was a tax on all drivers and home heating. It increased the cost of anything made of plastic. It increased the cost of moving any manufactured and agricultural product to market, and raised the cost of travel. As wages remained stagnant, our

standard of living fell in one of the worst economic recoveries on record. Now we are all poorer in dollars and spirit. Paraphrasing Maya Angelou . . . these caged birds dance on the graves of dreams.

Ironically, the private sector may reverse the Obama error in judgment. The science of fracking has made the U.S. number one in the world in oil and natural gas production; and in the last quarter, oil prices have fallen by half causing the economy to grow by over 5%, the fastest rate in nearly 20 years. In fact, the private sector is reversing some of the damage done by bad policy, but the economic harm done will reverberate for decades. In fact, the New York Times declared on January 25, "The Middle Class Shrinks Further as More Fall Out Instead of Climbing Up." So let's reconsider the question: "Green world, healthy economy . . . take your pick." •

Another Man's Opinion

It's Time To Become Less Dependent On Foreign Oil

Let me start by saying that I don't believe that everyone has to convert to a fossil fuel-free lifestyle. While we will not stop using crude oil, coal and natural gas in the near future, it is in our best interest to rely less on oil from outside sources such as the Middle East. The basis for this argument comes not from an ecological perspective but from a national security point of view. Several news agencies have reported that ISIS released a video where these terrorists threaten to behead President Obama and covert America into an Islamic province. Much like when a reporter threw a

grenade launchers and automatic assault rifles to throwing a temper tantrum like a child in a candy store unable to get a treat.

Of course politics and economic agreements make such a move more of an ideal situation than a close reality. However, while our military and intelligence agencies find ways to divert attacks and neutralize threats, our private sector and elected leaders should develop the technology that will phase us into local, clean sources of energy. If groups like ISIS lose funding and we transition into a source of energy independent of the Middle East's sources, terrorists will go from holding

"These savages threaten, torture and kill people as part of their distorted ideologies."

shoe at President Bush, this threat launched at President Obama makes me angry. These savages threaten, torture and kill people as part of their distorted ideologies. The thing is that for groups like ISIS to function, they need money and I'm going to go out on a limb and say that some, if not all, of these terrorists groups are funded through oil money.

Much like the criminal activity that takes place south of our borders, which is made possible through drug money, these criminals in the Middle East are funded with local resources and the biggest source of money in the region is oil. So, maybe, just maybe if we stop buying oil from this region in the world we would be able to starve out the threat that is ISIS, and all other militant groups. If we as a country developed local energy sources, and just stopped funneling money to this region of the world, I am pretty sure these barbaric groups would no longer

grenade launchers and automatic assault rifles to throwing a temper tantrum like a child in a candy store unable to get a treat.

These groups already hate us and it makes no sense that our fuel consumption continues to fund their underground, violent and disturbing activities. So what better than to have them hate us anyway, but completely bankrupt them? Believe me, I have no ambition of ever driving an electric vehicle and the thought of driving a Prius makes me cringe. I would much rather drive a 1970 split bumper Camaro. However, since I am too old and overweight to join the military, the best way I can help in this battle against groups like ISIS is consume less fossil fuel. In our lifetime we will never stop using these resources but we certainly can transition into cleaner and more local energy source. If not for ecological purposes, in all seriousness, for national security reasons •

Tech Talk

I'm Concerned About Identity Theft, How Do I Protect Myself?

By Sid Kato, Array Systems, Inc.

Identity theft for your business is different than identity theft for an individual. Rules governing your business are stricter which could result in greater exposure. Here are a few tips to follow to protect your business:

Review your banking agreements. There are shorter timelines for fraudulent activity on business accounts. In some instances, if you don't notice fraud until you reconcile your checking account at month end, it will be too late. Other activity like wire transfers require reporting almost immediately!

Implement two-factor authentication (two people) for any outgoing wire transfers. Even better, implement multi-factor authentication, using different people and different facilities (email, fax, telephone or special tokens).

Utilize online banking and increase your reconciliation frequency, especially if your transaction volume is high. Along with online banking, implement an electronic alerting system, i.e. email alerts that will notify you of potential fraudulent activity.

Use a different computer, than the one you use for email, when accessing your ac-

count online. The best set-up is to use one computer only for financial transactions and connect it to your network when you need to access online banking. Make sure that this computer has all the latest security patches and virus upgrades.

Enroll in Positive Pay with your financial institution. Positive Pay requires a financial institution to process transactions only if information regarding the payee and amount has been provided by the account holder in advance of each transaction.

Use high security checks and always keep your check stock, deposit slips, and authorization materials in a secured location.

It's better to be safe than sorry in today's world. If you would like to better educate yourself on Identity Theft, access the website: www.businessidtheft.org.

Dear Readers, this column addresses frequently asked technology questions by small business owners. If you have any questions you'd like answered, email to pr@herald-publications.com and we will try to answer them. Thank you and enjoy! •

Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

EMPLOYMENT

Display Ad Sales Position. We need an experienced Display Ad Salesperson for Herald Publications. Territories include Torrance, El Segundo and Hawthorne. Full or part-time positions are available. 20% commission on all sales. If interested please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

EMPLOYMENT

Sr. JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Developer: Develop within JD Edwards EnterpriseOne to satisfy documented business requirements. Provide software development estimates. Create & maintain program documentation. Communicate status of work & escalate issues to mgr. Design & run SQL queries for ad hoc reporting. Coordinate development efforts w/ other team members. Use AS/400 to run queries & troubleshoot program issues. Apply knowledge of JD Edwards software (EnterpriseOne 8.11 or higher) to analyze & fix problems & respond to issues. Lead development projects efficiently & mentor junior developers. Bachelor's in Computer Engineering or Computer Science plus 1 yr exp in job is required. Job site: Torrance, CA. Send resume to Farmer Bros. Co., 20333 S. Normandie Ave,

Torrance, CA 90502

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: We are accepting applications for cashier at Valentino's Pizza, El Segundo's location, 150 Sepulveda. Some experience necessary.

FOR RENT

A) 227 E. Oak, unit 103, El Segundo, CA: Beautiful 2 bed/2 bath; condo with view, exceptionally large patio, and 2 car covered parking. Asking \$2,495 per month. Please call 310-647-1635 for more info.
B) 535 Indiana Street, El Segundo, CA: Large 3bed/1.5bath, plus bonus room. Asking \$2,500 per month. a. Please call 310-647-1635 for more info.

FOR RENT

957 Virginia Street, El Segundo Rare new construction home, never been lived in: 1800 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths with a large 2 car garage. Asking \$3,995/month. Please email billruane90245@yahoo.com or call Bill Ruane's office at 310-647-1635 for info.

FOR RENT

723 Loma Vista, El Segundo, Ca...2bed/1bath with 2 car garage... has rooftop deck with city view, and a private yard...asking \$2,800/month. Please email billruane90245@yahoo.com

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FOR SALE

Queen size headboard/foot board all one unit, dark wood Excellent condition. \$200.00. 2 night stands \$50.00 each. 310-720-2022.

FOR SALE

Maytag washer and gas dryer, white, original Neptune series. Both are in great working condition! \$350. for the pair. 310-322-6300

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BID ONLINE! 1998 Freightliner Corp Diesel Semi-Truck Location: Redondo Beach, CA Bid Dates: February 10th-12th Bid Online at: BidOnSurplus.com Search For: FL112 Call: 480-367-1300

SEEKING GARAGE FOR RENT
Wanted to rent garage in El Segundo. 781-910-9210.

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To appear in next week's paper, submit your Classified Ad by Noon on Tuesday.

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Toffee and Almond Fudge Cookie Cups



Cookies, cupcakes or candy? How to choose which one to make? Why choose at all? These cookie cups marry the sweetest of all worlds in a single treat sure to win the heart of any loved one.

Servings: Makes 48 servings

Ingredients

- 2 packages Pillsbury(TM) Ready to Bake!(TM) refrigerated sugar cookies
- 1/4 cup milk chocolate toffee bits (from 8-ounce bag)
- 1 can (14 ounces) Eagle Brand(R) Fat Free Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 1/3 cup Jif(R) Creamy Almond Butter
- 1/2 teaspoon Watkins(TM) Pure Vanilla Extract
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds, finely chopped
- 1 can (6.5 ounces) whipped cream topping (in aerosol can)

Preparation

Prep time: 25 minutes
Total time: 1 hour 15 minutes

1. Heat oven to 375 F. Spray 48 nonstick mini muffin cups with cooking spray. Place one cookie-dough round in each muffin cup. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of the toffee bits evenly over cookie-dough rounds. Bake 13 to 18 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool in pan 15 minutes. Loosen with tip of knife and carefully remove from pan to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 15 minutes.

2. While cookies cool, heat sweetened condensed milk and almond butter in a 1-quart heavy saucepan over medium heat for 5-6 minutes, stirring constantly, until mixture begins to bubble. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Cool 2 minutes. Spoon one heaping teaspoon of condensed milk mixture into each cookie cup.

3. In small bowl, mix remaining two tablespoons of toffee bits and the almonds. To serve, top each cup with about one tablespoon of whipped cream topping and about 1/4 teaspoon of the almond mixture. •

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Q: I just paid my registration online, but forgot to change my address. Can I go back online to make the correction so I can receive my registration tags at my new address?

A: Unfortunately, it is too late. When you pay for your registration tags online, our system immediately updates your information and your tags are mailed to you in approximately three days. Changing your address takes our system a little longer to update. If you do not receive your new registration tags within 30 days, please apply for duplicate registration tags.

Q: I heard that select DMV offices will be open on Saturday beginning in January 2015. Which offices will be open and which types of transactions will be handled?

A: Beginning January 3, 2015, the DMV began offering Saturday hours at 60 select offices statewide from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. where customer representatives will process ONLY driver license transactions for individuals who have scheduled an appointment.

The DMV has also opened four temporary driver license processing centers in Granada Hills, San Jose, Stanton, and Lompoc where individuals with or without an appointment can receive assistance with driver license transactions only. For a list of offices open Saturday: <http://dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/fo/fotocds>

Q: When will the Legacy license plate be issued?

A: There is a lot of excitement building for our new Legacy license plate and you

will soon be seeing them on vehicles driving down our roads and highways. It's estimated that production will begin within nine to 12 months. Legislation introduced the California Legacy License Plate program, which offers vehicle owners the opportunity to purchase replicas of California license plates similar to those issued in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. View them at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Q: What happens if applicants, under AB60, cannot provide the primary identification documents necessary to verify their identity and residency to obtain an original driver license?

A: AB60 applicants may provide additional documentation to verify their identity and residency through the Secondary Review process. An appointment will be scheduled to meet with our specially trained staff in order to review the additional documentation which must be original or certified. The interview may last as long as one hour.

The following documentation may be considered during this appointment: school documents, marriage license or divorce decree, expired foreign passports, foreign driver license, income tax return, and other DMV approved documents. For a full list of DMV approved documents visit ab60.dmv.ca.gov.

If an applicant cannot provide the necessary documentation to verify identity and residency, the AB60 driver license application will not be completed. Individuals can appeal the decision through the DMV Driver Safety Appeal process. •

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Donations Needed

These two little sweeties were seen being dumped and abandoned, in a beach parking lot, in Downtown Long Beach. They were rescued by my neighbor, fellow dog lover and Good Samaritan Mia Bonadona. We think they may be mother and daughter. They are very sweet, gentle and completely devoted to each other. We were hoping that they would be adopted together.

Mia found a family to adopt them, but they live in Seattle and we need help paying for

transportation. Mia's friend, Tamra, set up a website listed below for donations, that has a goal of \$550. Any additional funds will be used to buy their carrier, send them to their new home with flea meds and a year of health insurance for the dogs. Any additional donations after that, will go to "Hope for Paws" or "Rescue from the Hart", because they rescue other dogs that have been dumped by their owners, just like these two.

Their new family has spent 20 years rescuing

Chihuahuas. These pups will be their first dogs in three years and they are keeping them as their own. We couldn't have a happier ending. Their new names will be "Edie" and "Andy".

You can donate at: <http://www.gofundme.com/lflevo>.

I want to personally thank all our supporters. There are a lot of wonderful people doing wonderful things for us. Thank you for your help. — HEIDI MAERKER

Pets Without Partners



Nyla

Adopt a "pet without a partner" and give a homeless pet a second chance in life.

Please note...due to our strict spay/neuter ordinance with the City of LA (they hold our kennel license) Nyla, Bink and his siblings will each need to be adopted into our immediate area, the South Bay or the north Orange County beach cities, since they are not spayed / neutered yet. They will need to come back to us for shots and to be spayed or neutered in May. They are all current on their vaccinations, dewormed, microchipped, fine with other dogs and cat safe.

Nyla is a darling little girl and to us she resembles an Airedale Terrier puppy, but she could be a mix as well. Nyla is happy-go-lucky in her personality, loves to play and has a great disposition. She is not housebroken and is starting her teething phase, so please be sure you have the time and energy to raise a puppy properly for the next several months before you make a decision on a 13-year commitment.

The owners of this litter of eight puppies were out in front of a local veterinarian's office giving them away. One of our volunteers brought the last 3 puppies into our rescue. We also committed to "fix" the mom and the dad of the litter, which the family has agreed to in order to prevent more unwanted litters and help curb pet overpopulation in the shelters. Their dad is a medium-sized

white fluffy Terrier/Poodle mix and mom is a medium-sized brown Shepherd mix with a black muzzle. All the puppies look completely different; they were born November 15, 2014. **Bink** is a great little fellow, so sweet and playful. He has shorter little stubby legs so far, beautiful coloring and is the most colorful of the litter. **Spinner** is a darling girl with a beautiful black and white coat that resembles a Border Collie's coloring.

Hodor is a great little fellow, playful and lovable, and a beautiful charcoal gray coloring with a white blaze down his chest and white socks on each paw. These puppies have had no training and will need to be housebroken, and are currently in their teething phase of puppy hood. Please make sure you are in a position in your life right now with time and energy to raise a puppy for the next 4-5 months and then being able to commit to a lifetime of love.

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at www.animalsrule.org. If a dog is on our website, it's available. Come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Blvd., San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). •



Hodor



Bink



Spinner

Purrrfect Companions

Looking for your purr-fect match? Kitties of every color and size are waiting to meet you.

Minkus is a not-quite 3-year-old orange tabby who can be a little shy, but is very snuggly and affectionate when he gets to know you. Once he knows you're his buddy, he asks for belly and chin rubs. He's used to living both alone and with another cat. As far as dogs go, he hasn't spent much time around them and he gets a little nervous/shy. He's very playful and loves wands, anything that rolls, and anything that dangles. Sunny spots are his favorite when he's feeling brave, and closets or blankets are his favorite spots when he's scared. Minkus will thrive in a calm,



Connie is confident and curious.

upon the people or other cats in the house. From the moment she entered the home of her foster mom, Connie was respectful of the house and furniture; she does her business in the cat box only, and she doesn't scratch the furniture. This smart girl showed a remarkable degree of responsiveness within the first few days of being in her new foster home. Connie will come and hop up on the couch with her foster mom or daddy when called, just like a dog!

These kittens are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kitties, please check our website www.kittenrescue.org or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org. Your tax deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Blvd. #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Blvd. just south of Manchester Ave. and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Ave. just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location. •



Genvieve is soft and cuddly.

loving home – could he find it with you?

Genvieve was left behind by her owner when the person moved out. Just a kitten, she found her way to our rescue and is now searching for a forever home where she will never have to fear being abandoned again. Genvieve has very soft fur and is a bit more outgoing than her sisters. She loves to play with her toys and cuddle with the other kitties. She is not a fan of dogs and would prefer a calm household with another kitty to romp and cuddle with. **Connie** is a confident, curious, intelligent and very well behaved 3-year-old female domestic short hair. She's a delightful companion to live with as she's alert and aware, has a sweet disposition, she wants to know the 'goings on' in the house, and doesn't make any demands

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