

# The Government Center Gazette

## & Van Nuys News Press

Weekly  
Every Monday

Serving Van Nuys,  
Sherman Oaks, Encino,  
N. Hollywood & Glendale

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"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body." ~ Sir Richard Steele

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## MAN ATTEMPTED TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTS WITH MINOR

LOS ANGELES, CA -- Detectives from the Sexually Exploited Child Unit have announced the arrest of 34-year-old Joseph Lee Hedderich, a resident from Culver City.

On September 1, 2011, at around 11:30 a.m., the Los Angeles Police Department, Juvenile Division, Los Angeles Regional Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, arrested 34-year-old Joseph Lee Hedderich, a resident from Culver City, for Attempted 288A (c)(1) California Penal Code (Oral Copulation with a Minor under the age of 14). Hedderich had been employed as an independent musical contractor at the Colburn School of Performing Arts, The Westside Academy of Dance, The California Institute of the Arts and the Los Angeles Ballet, all of which are in the Los Angeles area.

The investigation was initiated when the parent of an 11-year-old girl discovered inappropriate photographs and e-mail messages sent by Hedderich via an I-touch digital device, which he provided to the victim. Detectives assumed the 11-year-old girl's identity and continued contact with Hedderich. He was arrested in the city of Pacific Palisades when he showed up to meet with the minor in order to engage in Sexual acts with her.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed 1 count of attempted lewd act upon a child, 664/288 (a) PC, 1 count of meeting minor for lewd purposes, 288.4(b) PC, 1 count of sending harmful matter 288.2(b) PC and 1 count contact with minor for sexual offense, 288.3 (a) PC. The suspect was held on \$100,000.00 bail. On September 2, 2011 he bailed out of jail and is currently awaiting his next court appearance.

The Los Angeles Regional Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force is spearheaded by the LAPD with 44 federal and local affiliate agencies that detect and investigate child predators who use the Internet as a means to contact children or deal in child pornography. The public is reminded that any suspected inappropriate contact with a minor should be immediately reported to their local law enforcement agency or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678, or missingkids.com, who will forward the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency on a nationwide basis.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact the Sexually Exploited Child Unit Detective Gilbert Escontrias at 213-486-0580. During non-business hours or weekends, calls may be directed to 1-877-LAPD-24-7. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (800)-222-8477). Tipsters may also contact Crime Stoppers by texting to phone number 274637 (C-R-I-M-E-S on most key pads) using a cell phone. All text messages should begin with the letters "LAPD." Tipsters can also go to LAPDOnline.org, click on "web tips" and follow the prompts.

## SIT 'N SLEEP OPENS FIRST-EVER STUDIO CITY SHOWROOM

STUDIO CITY, CA -- On Saturday, October 1, Sit 'n Sleep, Southern California's largest mattress retailer and sleep expert will open its inaugural Studio City store, a 12,000-square-foot showroom, which will be the largest mattress store in the area.

Larry Miller, CEO of Sit 'N Sleep, told *Van Nuys News Press* that the location at 2318 Ventura Blvd in Studio City was chosen for the 27th Sit 'N Sleep store for its abundant parking and convenience for so many people in the Valley. He says it is "exactly where needs to be," within a 10 to 15 minute drive for half a million people. According to Miller, the new store will employ six sales associate, and for every sales associate, at least 10 other people will be employed in manufacturing and warehouse positions, customer service, delivery and support services. When asked how Sit 'N Sleep was managing to expand while the economy continues to present its challenges, Miller attributed his company's growth to scientific breakthroughs, a commitment to constant reinvention and the drop in real estate prices that has caused favorable storefront locations become more readily available. The new store will feature Sit 'n Sleep's complimentary Sleep to Live Body Diagnostic Technology, which takes over 17,000 body calculations to help customers wade through the often-confusing mattress buying process by providing feedback on body, posture and sleep needs to pinpoint a customer's ideal sleep surface. The benefits of the right mattress go beyond comfort: Larry says a great night's sleep helps your mental and physical health, job performance and children's performance in school.

The new store will be open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 9 pm, Saturday from 9 am to 6 pm and Sunday, 10 am to 6 pm. Ample free parking is available. For more information, visit [www.sitnsleep.com](http://www.sitnsleep.com)

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## -- PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK --



*Pictured Above: The Grand Del Mar Resort in San Diego, CA. Set amidst the breathtaking Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, this 249-room luxury San Diego resort captures the elegance and comfort of an old-world Mediterranean estate with the advantages of a Southern California locale. The Grand Del Mar's design honors the indelible style of visionary architect Addison Mizner (1872 – 1933), who drew his inspiration from Spain's palaces, France's sun-washed coastal retreats, and Florence's decorative arts, to define the resort communities of Palm Beach and Boca Raton. Given San Diego's enviable climate — and the community's affinity for outdoor living — Mizner's aesthetic is especially well-suited. The resort's breezy interiors lead gracefully onto generous patios and sweeping verandas, overlooking a lush mix of tropical and indigenous flora, punctuated by dramatic fountains and meandering walkways. Considering the resort's impeccable service and unrivaled amenities — including an award-winning spa, championship golf course, acclaimed restaurants and boutique shopping, it's really no surprise The Grand Del Mar was named one of the "World's Best Places to Stay" by Condé Nast Traveler. ([www.thgranddelmar.com](http://www.thgranddelmar.com))*



*Larry Miller, CEO of Sit 'N Sleep.  
(He's the Larry in "you're killing me Larry!")*

*It will be too sunny to get excited about pumpkins yet.*

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
H:	78	83	82	87	86	85	82
L:	58	60	60	60	60	59	59

*Some clouds may be seen earlier in the week, but they will blow away later.*



## --WEATHER CORNER --

**WHAT IS THE SHOWALTER STABILITY INDEX?** The Showalter Stability Index is a measure of the local static stability of the atmosphere. It is determined by lifting an air parcel to 500 millibars and then comparing its temperature to that of the environment. If the parcel is colder than its new environment, then the atmosphere is more stable. If the parcel is warmer than its new environment, then the atmosphere is unstable and the potential for thunderstorm development and severe weather increases.

*Source: [weather.com](http://weather.com)*

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