

Work on it

1. The woman paces along the pool's infinite edge shooping pigeons out of their baths.
2. Construction is nearly complete. Electrical lines are still being placed, windows set, a man crouching along a low wall, paints the bricks a brighter red and the concrete between a duller grey.
3. They say the hours are no more than 8 a day, but with 3 hours in the middle of it and nowhere to go, work becomes 7:30 to 7:30. Sunday, the day off, becomes 4 movies on my couch and no friends to see. "This is the bachelor lifestyle."
4. Arnold Schwarzenegger is the most famous thing about California.
5. His face is splattered in cement. His arms are stretched along the two by four that acts as a "splash guard" for the concrete that is flung into the ditch, just in front of where he stands. He must be 10 or 11 years old. His expression is stunned.