

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## DAILY LOTTERY

### SUPER LOTTO

2 19 33 35 40  
Meganumber: 8  
Jackpot: \$7 Million

### FANTASY 5

9 11 26 31 38

### DAILY 3

Daytime: 1 0 2  
Evening: 9 5 0

### DAILY DERBY

1st: 06 Whirl Win  
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George  
3rd: 03 Hot Shot

### RACE TIME: 1:42.16

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: <http://www.calottery.com>

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

City Officials Who Know How to Make News of the Weird: Mayor Felipe Santolia of Espertantina, Brazil, declared last May 9 as "Orgasm Day," pointing out that orgasms seem to make people happier and more productive. And Mayor Gabor Mitynan of a municipal district in Budapest, Hungary, declared in August that female workers should not wear revealing skirts to work unless they have "completely perfect legs," nor crop tops unless they have "well-trained bellies."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 277th day of 2005.  
There are 88 days left in the year.

On Oct. 4, 1957, the Space Age began as the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first man-made satellite, into orbit. In 1777, George Washington's troops launched an assault on the British at Germantown, Pa., resulting in heavy American casualties. In 1822, the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, was born in Delaware, Ohio.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Knowledge is like a garden: if it is not cultivated, it cannot be harvested."

GUINEAN SAYING

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# Report: Anti-gang efforts pay off

## A major cop-out



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

The graduating class of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy took its last team run together early Monday morning along Santa Monica Beach. The run was dedicated to the memory of Santa Monica Police Officer Rick Crocker, a 1995 graduate of the academy who died in combat as a Marine reservist in Iraq in May. Personnel from Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Torrance and other law enforcement agencies joined the 113 graduates on the six-mile run from Bay Street to Santa Monica Canyon and back. The academy is one of a handful in the area that trains new police recruits.

## De la Torre calls on city to appoint a 'gang czar'

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITY HALL** — Amidst a series of gang-related shootings, city officials have issued a report that details steps taken since two workshops staged in the spring geared towards reducing gang violence in Santa Monica.

The city of Santa Monica released a report last Thursday which outlines the accomplishments of community groups who organized during workshops in February and April to help address community problems related to gang violence. Meanwhile, a recent spate of gang-related murders in Santa Monica has prompted some community leaders to suggest more effort is required.

City officials said the report was especially timely considering a number of shootings which occurred during August and September, leaving at least two people dead. One was Jesse Becerra, 24, a Santa Monica resident who was walking westbound on 21st Street toward La Brea Avenue at 12:45 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, when a man ran up to

See **ANTI-GANG**, page 7

## LOCAL

## Accused scammers have Halloween date

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

**DOWNTOWN LA** — The five former Honda of Santa Monica employees who allegedly scammed hundreds of thousands of dollars from customers are set to enter a plea on Halloween, that is, unless their attorneys manage to have the case thrown out of court.

The alleged scam, which occurred from 2000 to 2002, involved the car dealership's sales representatives tacking on charges of "theft etch" to customers' contracts without them

See **CAR SCAM**, page 9

# Samohi students drive for more parking

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

**SAMOH** — Arguably one of the most anticipated days of the school year, dozens of students recently gathered here in the quad, hoping their parking karma will come around sooner than later.

It's not the first day of school that most seniors here wait for with bated breath, it's the fourth — the moment when they'll know whether the upcoming semester will be filled with the convenience of parking just feet away from their classrooms, or fighting for spaces in a neighborhood blocks away from campus.

Welcome to the senior parking

See **PARKING**, page 8



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

A security guard checks the identification of a driver at Santa Monica High School's parking lot, where only 40 students are allowed to park each semester. The limited space has forced students to park in nearby neighborhoods.

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**HOROSCOPE**

**Listen to a friend, Aries**

*Santa Monica Daily Press*

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





**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
★★★ Don't buck the trends. Key discussions today will probably need to happen again. You might only be adding to your frustration. Investigate and evaluate, but take no major actions. Tonight: Listen to a key friend or loved one.



**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
★★ Though you have lots of energy, you still might need to redo a project or anything you do right now. Perhaps you could relax or get some exercise. Play it low-key for now. Tonight: Respond to a call or an invitation.



**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
★★★★ You are up for a key talk, be it about a personal matter or a creative project. Though you are a sign that communicates well, you will have to repeat key discussions right now. Don't assume that someone is getting the gist of your message. Tonight: Lounge around.



**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
★★★★ If you want to handle a domestic or investment situation, postpone it for a day. You might not hit a home run right now, but instead get thrown out of the game. Tonight: Allow your imagination to lead.



**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
★★★ You might think you are quite direct and concise, and you might be. The problem might be your audience and their lack of ability to concentrate right now. Instead, return calls; send out memos; catch up on errands. Tonight: Mosey on home.



**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
★★ Be careful with any decisions, situations or actions that could impact your finances. Postpone anything having to do with this segment of your life, if you can. Later in the day, make calls and schedule a get-together. Tonight: Talk to a close relative.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
★★★★ Sometimes your words fall on deaf ears. Such is the case now. Even if someone shakes his head as if he understands or is in agreement, don't count on not having to address the issue again. Be careful when dealing with an associate. Tonight: Order in.



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
★★ The lower your profile, the better off you are right now. You might hit a logjam if you try to move a situation or project ahead. Even if it looks like you made progress, you might have a backfire later. Relax. Tonight: Nap, then go out on the town.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
★★★ Use the daytime to catch up on news or to network. You might have some spare energy that you want to plug into a project. Careful, because you could make a mistake or trip up. Focus on others. Tonight: Why not an early bedtime?



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
★★★★ Your leadership skills can only be enhanced by your creativity. The problem lies in that others simply don't get it right now. Relax and take it easy. Do as much as you can by yourself. Tonight: Friends surround you.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
★★★ Taking an overview might be tough with someone, or an issue might invade your thoughts. Still, you can do it. Imagine what it would be like to be the other person involved. Empathy and understanding will save the day. Tonight: Call or visit with an older relative or friend.



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
★★★★ Work with others, knowing that anything can change, even if you think you have reached a solid decision. Don't worry, but try to absorb as much as you can about where others are coming from. Tonight: Seek solutions rather than wallow in problems.



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## LOCAL



### A toy story



Photo courtesy

Actress Patricia Heaton ('Everybody Loves Raymond') was recently honored with the 'Special Friend of Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA' award and presented with an honorary white doctor's coat during the Sixth Annual 'Mattel Party on the Pier.' The sold-out crowd of 1,400 packed the pier's Pacific Park where guests enjoyed unlimited rides, carnival booth games filled with prizes donated by Mattel, and a silent auction. Organizers said the event raised more than \$500,000 for Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Montana merchants buck up for hurricane relief

By Daily Press staff

In response to the devastation by Hurricane Katrina to the Gulf Coasts, the Montana Avenue Merchants Association is planning a silent auction and drawing to take place on Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All proceeds will go to the American Red Cross to support its disaster response efforts in the region.

More than 100 shops, restaurants and services on Montana Avenue will be participating in the event which will span Seventh to 17th streets. A few of the participating stores include A.B.S, Planet Blue, House Boutique, Three Bags Full, Hey Kookla, Room with a View, Café Montana, 17th Street Café, Savannah, Classic Kids Photography, Babystyle, Yogaworks, Weathervane, Wild Oats, Mom's the Word, Moselle and Platino. A complete list of all participating merchants and auction items is available at [www.montanaave.com](http://www.montanaave.com). Local students from Roosevelt Elementary School will be participating by selling baked goods to help raise money for the cause.

In addition to the silent auction, drawing tickets will be available to purchase for \$20 each or six for \$100. Drawing items are valued at \$100 and up, and include but are not limited to hotel stays at high-end Ocean Avenue hotels and gift certificates for shops, restaurants and services on Montana Avenue. Many merchants will have Red Cross donation cans for customers who wish to make monetary donations on

See BRIEFS, page 6

**CORRECTION** — A person's name was misspelled in the Oct. 3 edition. The name of the co-owner and president of the Santa Monica Music Center is Paul Fernandez.



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## SURF REPORT

Most west-facing breaks are seeing waist- to chest-high sets. South-facing breaks are running waist-high. Tuesday is expected to see energy from Otis, once again angled from 160+ with waist high + surf. Wind swell should remain as well with waist- to chest-high short period surf. Note that a fairly strong offshore event is expected on Tuesday, which could bring in some off-shore winds by mid morning above 10 mph.

Today the  
water is:

62°

Write us at [alex@smdp.com](mailto:alex@smdp.com)  
and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

|           | LOW TIDES |        |         |        | HIGH TIDES |        |         |        |
|-----------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|------------|--------|---------|--------|
|           | Morning   | Height | Evening | Height | Morning    | Height | Evening | Height |
| MONDAY    | 3:35      | 0.8    | 4:04    | 0.7    | 9:47       | 5.4    | 10:06   | 4.9    |
| TUESDAY   | 3:55      | 1.2    | 4:40    | 0.5    | 10:08      | 5.6    | 10:44   | 4.5    |
| WEDNESDAY | 4:16      | 1.5    | 5:19    | 0.4    | 10:31      | 5.8    | 11:27   | 4.1    |
| THURSDAY  | 4:36      | 2.0    | 6:06    | 0.4    | 10:58      | 5.8    | N/A     | N/A    |
| FRIDAY    | 4:56      | 2.3    | 7:05    | 0.5    | 12:22      | 3.6    | 11:29   | 5.9    |

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The Q Line

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More than 40 residents turned out last week to voice their concerns over a recent report on future development and traffic plans for Santa Monica. They demanded that elected leaders put into effect a "zero" to "minimal" growth policy for the city over the next 20 years. In light of the controversy, city officials are urging staff to make sure the public's comments are heard as the land-use plans move forward.

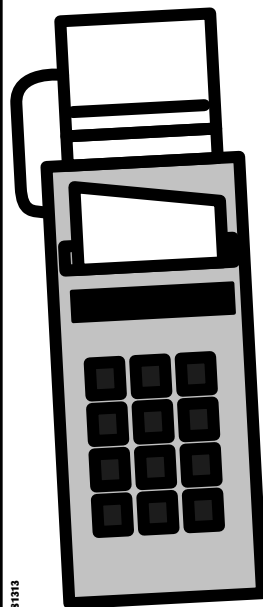
So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "How can City Hall best understand and represent the will of citizens in formulating development plans for the future of Santa Monica?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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## IRS PROBLEMS?

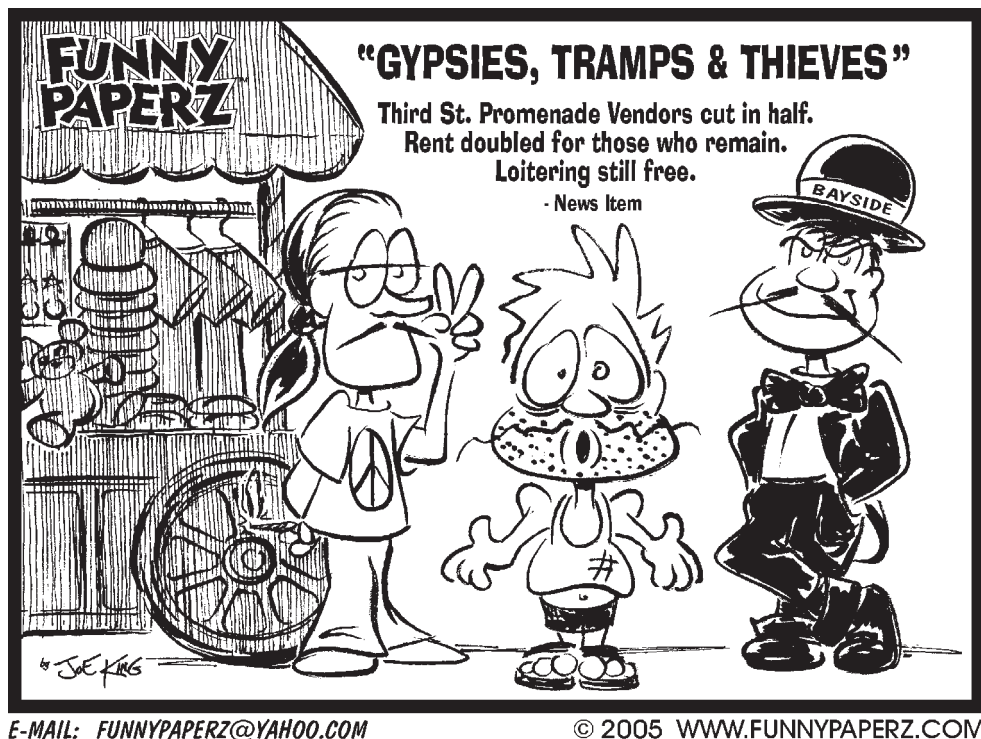
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## OPINION



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### City by the sea going into the sewer

Editor:

Regarding the article in Friday, (SMDP, Sept. 16, page 1), "New cart program rolls onto Promenade," all I can say is that the raising of the rental and other fees is typical and in keeping with the Bayside District/City Council/city planners usual M.O. of their desire and seeming determination to turn what used to be the "little gem by the sea" into an ugly (if the new prison-like library is an example of future architecture), generic, high priced city that reflects everything that is wrong with America — greed, avarice and the haves pushing the have-nots out into the cold. And of course, they are speaking with forked tongues, saying their goal is to "improve the consumer experience." Who are they kidding? The new expensive carts will reflect the dull big business concept of mediocre goods and will happily improve the Santa Monica experience — not. Keep it up folks and Santa Monica will be a place no one will want to visit or live. Have Bayside District/City Council/city [planners been going to the G.W. Bush school of rip off?

**Marilyn Brennan**  
Santa Monica

### Let cart vendors be

Editor:

Why can't small businesses be left alone? They actually care about their customers and are far more interesting than corporate monsters who always bring the little guys down. I've had Perry's pizza a few times and they have great deals. Also, what they're gonna do to the Promenade carts is craziness. Why should the carts who are lucky enough to stay be overcharged in rent? I say let the individual cart vendors decide what is sold, not the big guy behind the carts.

**James Esquivel**  
Santa Monica

### 11th Street needs some salvation

Editor:

There is a problem down on 11th Street. However it must be noted that the majority of the men live in the Salvation House next to the Bourget Brothers Building Center. I have followed them there when I have noticed them relieving themselves on buildings in the alley between 10th and 11th streets. This is even during the day. I have come to note there are four to six men in each group that comes and goes. Sort of pals or a togetherness when they are eating and drinking.

There is a direct shot to the liquor store on Broadway. Very many of them "paper bag" drink before going back to the Salvation Army House.

There is an abandoned house midway on that alley that faces 11th Street. Sometimes there are loiterers there.

I went to the Salvation House and complained and was rebuked and told that none of their people are out there.

In order to clean up the area, there has to be some order generated from that Salvation House. There is a Salvation Army store right next to it and they don't want to talk about it either.

I work in the area many Saturdays and have continually chased those fellas away. I'm sure they mean well, they are not malicious, but their habits are not clean and they do throw trash around; paper, food, bottles and more, even though there are trash cans.

I would not hire any of them if it were legal or not.

A bathroom, a park, a work station — none of these will work. They have a place to go. Giving them money, I noticed they head directly to the liquor store.

I suggest a letter or visit from the City Council to the Salvation Army, which should rectify the situation.

**Dorman Nelson**  
Granada Hills, Calif.

# Giving thanks for a merry Mawlid al-Nabi



## WHAT'S THE POINT?

BY DAVID PISARRA

I love marketing. I love crafting a message and getting it out to the public. I enjoy doing the graphic design, the demographic research, the competitive evaluations.

But I am sick of marketers who have no understanding of the annual calendar.

I was shopping last week in a major grocery store chain. As I walked around the maze of candy bar mountains and soda specials, in between the Halloween decorations of scary/innocuous witches, goblins and ghouls was a sight by far more scary to me than any of the plastic spiders and severed hands. It was an electric light reindeer. You know the kind, the head moves up and down and side to side. It was September. That's wrong.

There are those who use the word "abomination" in regards to just about everything that modern society values. I am no luddite, wishing that we could return to the days of horse and buggy, though with gas prices as high as they are, it seems like a better idea every day. But there was a time when a holiday was a month-long experience.

Most months have a reasonably good excuse to throw a party, whether it be a St. Patrick's Day drunk fest, which somehow honors those of Irish heritage with gallons of dark beer and fools being sick in the parking lot, or the faux romance of St. Valentines Day, a day dedicated to making the single person feel less than accomplished.

Holidays are funny. They basically are used by marketing departments to sell products. Historically, they represented a break in a routine. Bringing a joy to life, where families gathered and spent time together making a feast, and reacquainting with each other.

These days, they are fast becoming nothing more than an opportunity to increase the bottom line for those dreaded corporations who make our lives busier and blander. I can remember as a kid going to Thanksgiving at my cousin Roger's house. He had this great home on Mulholland, overlooking the valley, with a peek at the Hollywood sign.

Being of Italian descent, it was a grand affair of food and family. Lots of people would fly in from New York. There would be these very exotic aunts who were much, much older than everyone else, with their thick New York accents, and they would tell stories about the "old days." My cousin would prepare for days for that party. It was a huge event. There was the traditional Thanksgiving dishes of antipasto, pasta with all kinds of sausages and meatballs, and gallons of espresso and Sambuca were consumed.

It was something I looked forward to as a kid. It was a reconnection with my family, those cousins who lived far, far away in Orange County, and with those aunts who lived in West Hollywood.

Holidays had meaning. They were a time of grounding, of getting a balance in life to remember where you came from. It was a tradition in my family on Christmas Eve to go to the Italian deli to buy antipas-

supplies. This was always an adventure for me — the deli with its wonderful smells and the exotic goods that you could only get there, made for a shopping adventure.

These days, they have become so commercialized, so pre-packaged, homogenized and bland that they no longer seem to have value to us as people, but only as consumers.

It could be that I am longing for a time when I was a child, and looked at the world with the wonder only a child has. Perhaps if I had a child myself, I would experience that same amazement at the changing of the seasons and excitement of waiting with bated breath for what was next.

Frankly I don't think so. In a world where every major grocery store has pre-packaged holiday dinners "for your convenience," where I can buy a Santa in September, and every holiday has been so commercialized as to wipe it free of any religious meaning, I don't think the problem is me.

When I was boy, Chanukah was a simple Jewish holiday of no great importance. Then, the marketers got a hold of it. Today, it is plastered everywhere and is sold as the Jewish equivalent to Christmas. It's not. It shouldn't be sold that way. And the only reason why it gets so much play is to sell products.

Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor of the department of black studies at California State University-Long Beach. It is a cultural holiday, not a religious one. It was designed to be "available to and practiced by Africans of all religious faiths who come together based on the rich, ancient and varied common ground of their Africanness." This "new" holiday is suffering from the same sort of creeping blandness that is taking all the flavor out of what used to be culture.

Not to be outdone, the Muslims have their own soon-to-be-over-marketed holiday. According to about.com, "Mawlid al-Nabi" this date marks the celebration of Muhammad's birth in 570 C.E., and has been fixed at the 12th day of the month Rabi al-Awwal. Mawlid al-Nabi appears to have been first celebrated in the 13th century and involved a month-long festival. Today, the focus is mostly on the actual date itself and includes sermons, gift giving and a feast.

There are between 5 and 8 million Muslims in America. Can it be much longer before the marketers of decide to rename Mawlid al-Nabi, repackage it, and position it as something that everyone can partake in?

I long for the days when I had to wait to December to buy Christmas decorations, when my Jewish friends would gloat about their "eight whole days" of Chanukah, when I had to wait to October to buy a pumpkin for carving and November meant a long wait to get to the Italian feast on Thanksgiving.

Maybe I'm just getting old, but it seems like we used to enjoy our holidays more, when we had them in smaller increments.

(David Pizarra is a business development lawyer in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.)

## COMMENTARY



# What's the wurst that could happen at party?



## ANY DAY IN LA

BY HEIDI MANTEUFFEL

September finally passed, and like the good little German I am, I went to Oktoberfest the very first day that I could.

No, I didn't celebrate in Munich, Frankfurt or any part of Germany for that matter. Oktoberfest in Torrance held sort of an un-replicable charm all its own.

A hop skip and a jump away from Compton, we pulled up to the celebration in the quaint alpine village of Torrance, Calif., ready to raise our beer steins high.

We lined up with the others eager beavers for the opening of Oktoberfest at 6 p.m. We paid the man the steep fair of free Internet passes (printed off a Web site), and entered into our sacred beer garden.

With rows of empty picnic tables covered by a tent tarp, a wall of port-o-potties, and a small souvenir shack placed at the side, it wasn't exactly the sight I was expecting for these blue, German eyes.

No matter, we were hungry. We entered the charming village cafeteria where you could partake of bratwurst, knockwurst, and polish sausage with a healthy side heaping of sauerkraut and German potatoes. We didn't forget to order a little helping of that amber liquid the whole celebration was centered around, either.

In a side wall near the event's entrance stood the shop shack where you could by Robin Hood hats, T-shirts and liter ceramic steins glasses.

I have to say I should have bought a stein, even though its size seemed immense to my waning appetite. Celebrating Oktoberfest in flower Dixie cups doesn't quite capture the full experience.

Once we got some food and a certain liquid in our system, though, the party started to liven up.

Boys and girls dressed in Lederhosen took to the stage. There was a live band of a tuba, trumpet, trombone and clarinet player that increased its swaying as beers lapsed and the night continued on.

Intermittently between songs, the band-

leader, Otto, started cheers to get the audience going.

Siegge zeipe, siegge zeipe, oy oy oy!

I just went along with it at the time, not even wondering if I was saying something offensive, like 'your mom smells like herring — yes yes yes!'

It's amazing the things people can make you do at Oktoberfest, like cheering foreign phrases, and doing the chicken dance three times in one night. I didn't even care that it went out with the Macarena. I was clapping and shaking with the best of them.

**I just went along with it  
at the time, not even  
wondering if I was saying  
something offensive, like  
'your mom smells like  
herring — yes yes yes!'**

Taking a quick scan of the event, I wouldn't say that the crowd is exactly German. No, I would say this Oktoberfest had more of a Hawaiian, Mexican and Japanese influence. Even a couple from India raised their steins high. There was one girl from Germany celebrating away from home, but even she had never been to the real deal.

Who better to start the Oktoberfest conga line than a Japanese man dressed in lederhosen?

But it didn't really matter. I think he had more German stolz in his personality and getup than my cousin Karl. German Americans often resent being put into classic German garb for their first-grade school photo. That wasn't a personal reference — no, not at all.

The lesson here is it doesn't take Germany to hold a great Oktoberfest and it doesn't take a German to fill a man's lederhosen. I guess what I'm trying to say is, Siegge zeipe, siegge zeipe, oy oy oy!

I really need to find out what that means.

(Heidi can be reached at anydayin-la@gmail.com.)

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## A moomat moment



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

The Tongva, indigenous people of Los Angeles, conducted a ceremony ending the World Festival of Sacred Music-Los Angeles on Sunday with a traditional blessing and a series of ancestral songs that are commonly used during community ceremonies. Offerings were paddled out in the moomat ahiko, also known as a canoe.

## Lei over in Los Angeles



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Two Hawaiian hula halaus (hula schools) came together this past weekend on Santa Monica Beach to offer traditional rituals and prayers in honor of Kanaloa, the Hawaiian god of oceans, during the closing ceremonies of the World Festival of Sacred Music-Los Angeles.

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

the spot and some merchants also will be donating a percentage of the evening's sale to Hurricane Katrina relief.

### What's on tap, according to science

By Daily Press staff

A free lecture series on science at Santa Monica College starts today with a talk from a distinguished geography professor.

William Selby will discuss what shapes California, what changes to expect and how science and technology help people better understand the state's diverse geography in "California's Evolving 21st Century Landscapes" that begins at 11:15 a.m. as do the other two lectures.

The series goes into November and takes place in the science lecture hall 145, 1900 Pico Blvd.

Other lectures on the agenda are:

■ Oct. 18: "Dark Energy and the Runaway Universe," which is about the universe's accelerating expansion rate and the dark energy driving it, presented by a UC Berkeley astronomy professor, Dr. Alex Filippenko, fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and co-author of "The Cosmos: Astronomy in the New Millennium."

■ Nov. 10: "Surviving on the Edge: Carnivore Ecology in Southern California," which is about the effects of the expansion of urban growth on bobcats, coyotes and other wildlife in Southern California by Dr. Ray Sauvajot, the chief of planning, science and resource management at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Service.

Call (310) 434-4003 for more information.

### Space exploration

By Daily Press staff

What planet are you on?

You'll be on Mars if you show up to Santa Monica College's weekly astronomy series. The series starts this Friday night with "Mars Returns." It is held every Friday at 8 p.m. in the John Drescher Planetarium, second floor of Drescher Hall at 1900 Pico Blvd., for the next four weeks ending on Nov. 4. The lectures take place in the Science Lecture Hall 140.

A show that gives the latest on space exploration called "The Night Sky Show" comes before every astronomy show and lecture at 7 p.m.

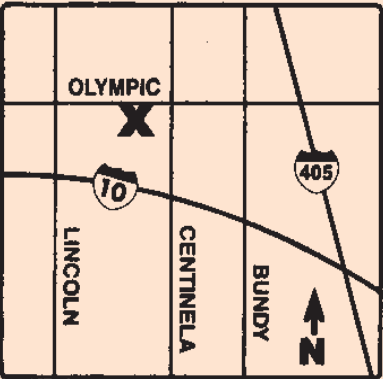
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# LOCAL



## Anti-violence strides detailed amid violence

ANTI-GANG, from page 1

him and shot him multiple times in the back of the head with a .22 caliber handgun. According to Los Angeles police, who are investigating the case, Becerra was a member of the Santa Monica 13 gang.

Over the weekend, Michael Leon Gatewood, 25, was fatally shot near the Santa Monica Pier. Police said Gatewood belonged to the Los Angeles-based gang Playboy Gangsta Crips. Two suspects have been detained for the shooting, but investigators haven't yet determined if the incident was gang-related.

The first workshop, held Feb. 26, was sponsored by the city of Santa Monica and State Sen. Sheila Kuehl. The goal was to pool ideas from community members, leaders and experts geared towards reducing gang violence in Santa Monica.

A second session was originally scheduled in March, but postponed until April 9 due to the murders of Hector Bonilla, 25, and Jonathan Hernandez, 19, both of whom were shot multiple times on March 5 at a birthday party held at the Moose Lodge at 16th Street and Ocean Park Boulevard.

After working on the case for more than four months, Santa Monica Police detectives identified three suspects believed to be 18th Street gang members from Los Angeles. One of the suspects, Jose Mojarro, 21, is being prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office and is set for a preliminary hearing Oct. 26, after which a judge will determine if the evidence merits a jury trial.

The city of Santa Monica has been coordinating the work between groups involved in the gang workshops and promised to report on their progress in September.

### CITY HALL POINTS TO SUCCESS

Participants in the gang workshops decided to focus their efforts in three areas.

The first focus area, "Bring It Home," addressed family needs for services, resources and education. According to City Hall's report, success in this area includes a change in focus for Santa Monica's grant cycle to consider the needs of youth. There will also be an expansion of programming that will be helpful for struggling families at the newly renovated Virginia Avenue Park. A new community day school, which opened this fall at Memorial Park, is intended to help expelled youth return to an educational environment and pursue productive goals.

A "community dialogue" was held on Sept. 25 in which a panel discussed "What is a just society in Santa Monica?" The event, sponsored by the Human Relations Council, was intended to help encourage cross-cultural experiences.

The second focus area, "Make It Work," addressed needs to provide a source of income and pride for struggling youth through jobs, training and mentoring. According to City Hall's report, success includes a May 25 job fair organized by the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Stacey Serber, an employment specialist with the Work Source Center, a non-profit organization which helped organize

the job fair, said 380 job-seekers attended, along with 33 employers offering more than 125 jobs. The jobs available included work in the fields of auto repair, computers, health, retail and the entertainment industry.

Serber said the goal was to help youth between the ages of 18 and 24 secure 50 jobs offered by 20 different employers. Serber said, based on the turnout, both goals were exceeded.

Another "Make It Work" strategy was to involve 100 at-risk in mentoring programs, a task also taken on by the chamber. So far, Big Brothers and Big Sisters have expressed an interest in providing services at Virginia Avenue Park two to three times per week.

In addition to the job fair and mentoring program, there have been a series of skill development sessions to help local youth. In June, the California Development Department spearheaded a discussion at the Pico Youth & Family Center.

The third focus area, "Keep It Safe," addressed needs expressed by some community members for better communication with local law enforcement and a beautification of neighborhoods to assuage public safety concerns. As part of this effort, the Santa Monica Police Department continues to embrace a philosophy of neighborhood-centered policing, in which citizens participate in the public safety process by informing law enforcement of suspicious activity.

Also, the SMPD has transitioned from an agency that was less than one quarter minority in 1991 to nearly half non-Caucasian as of September.

Representatives from the SMDP also emphasized the value of the Police Activities League to provide alternatives to a violent life for struggling youth. PAL, located at Memorial Park, provides a variety of educational and recreational activities for youngsters which help keep them on a path to a productive life.

### COMMUNITY WEIGHS IN ON EFFORTS

Lt. Frank Fabrega said organizations in Santa Monica such as PAL, the Big Brothers and Big Sisters and the Pico Youth & Family Center all play a pivotal role in shaping young lives.

"If you give the youth an opportunity to learn, work or get involved, they're not going to have time to be mischievous," Fabrega said. "I think great efforts are being made citywide to create these kinds of opportunities for at-risk youth."

"The city is very proactive."

Fabrega said PAL, which has been in operation for several years, currently has at least 10 mentors who have gone on to college and returned to Santa Monica on a volunteer basis, helping youngsters as they were once helped. Calling the process a "cycle of mentoring," Fabrega said it's the key to organizations which touch the lives of youngsters and help fight the influence of gangs.

"It's the kind of work that's from the heart," Fabrega said. "They figure, 'somebody put their hand out for me, and now it's my turn to give a helping hand.'"

Fabrega said the efforts underway in Santa Monica were in many ways exceptional, considering how little gang violence occurs in the city compared to other

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# LOCAL

## Samohi students, staff study parking crunch

PARKING, from page 1

lottery — when 40 out of 138 students in early September were randomly picked and granted permission to park in the lot for the first semester. Another 40 students will be picked for next semester.

“It’s a huge deal for them because our kids are so stretched for parking,” said Cathy Marsh, activities director at Samohi. “It’s pretty disappointing when they don’t get a spot.”

There are close to 3,500 students who attend Santa Monica High School, hundreds of whom have driver’s licenses. Many of them choose to drive, despite the fact only 40 can park on campus. Their options are to park across Pico Boulevard at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel for a daily rate, or for free in nearby neighborhoods.

That’s much to the dismay of residents in those neighborhoods, who for years have battled students for spaces and say the teenagers use the streets as dumping grounds.

That was the case just a few blocks east of the high school campus until the City Council last year dedicated 60 spots on Ninth Street between Michigan Avenue and Pico Boulevard for residents. Previously, residents shared the spots with students and local businesses, although surrounding streets were restricted for residents only.

Students, businesses and other visitors can still park on the street, but only for two hours at a time and only between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Those rules also apply to other streets in the neighborhood.

Samohi students at the time rallied before the City Council for more parking spaces, but council members refused to raise by one level a planned parking structure across from the school, instead directing the students to take their message to the local school board.

The lack of parking for Samohi students is not a new one. A task force was created in the 2003-04 school year and possible solutions arose from meetings with the school board members, students and City Councilmembers. But, apparently, that’s as far as it went.

This year, the displaced students have taken to the streets west of Lincoln Boulevard, where it’s still a free-for-all. Because City Hall cannot introduce any more permitted parking areas there, residents have no recourse to fight against the influx. City Hall is barred from creating any permitted zones in that area because it’s controlled by the Coastal Commission. The Coastal Commission oversees everything west of Lincoln Boulevard.

“If I was a neighbor, I would be really pissed off,” said Samohi senior Madeleine Moore, 17. “It also breeds bad behavior, kids are smoking pot down there and leav-

ing stuff everywhere.”

Moore, who didn’t get picked in the last lottery, said she goes as early as 7:30 a.m. to find a place near Strand Avenue in Sunset Park — six blocks away from campus. She said if she didn’t have activities to do after school, she wouldn’t drive.

But at the very least, she’d carpool if the lottery system gave preference to those who did.

Moore recently looked for empathy from City Councilman Richard Bloom, who as a father of a Samohi student, might be able to help find solutions to the parking crunch. Moore has suggested that a portion of the nearby Civic Center parking lot be dedicated to students.

“It’s huge and close to campus,” she said. “My goal is to get 75 to 100 spots allocated for a \$1 a day.”

Bloom, who hopes to work with students and school administrators this year to find a solution, said the Civic Center isn’t really an option because the parking lot is used by people who use the courthouse, as well as other civic buildings.

“What we perceive as extra spaces isn’t necessarily so,” he said.

Bloom added that a couple of years ago the City Council offered the beach parking lots to students, but it wasn’t well received because it was too far from campus. Now, students from Santa Monica College are parking at the beach and are shuttled to the main campus on Pico Boulevard.

“I remember that same reaction from SMC, but it’s working so far,” said Bloom, adding that he doesn’t think it’s good policy to encourage students to drive to school.

Samohi, nestled on a small parcel between Olympic Drive and Pico Boulevard, is just blocks away from downtown Santa Monica. Consequently, its students compete for parking with residents, shoppers, employees and professionals doing business here.

And at an average cost of \$30,000 a space, and not much land left, there will never be enough parking for everyone, said Lucy Dyke, City Hall’s transportation planning manager.

“There is so much demand for parking in this city,” she said. “We can do a lot of regulating and provide the parking but no one ever in the end thinks it’s a great policy for students to drive to school and park.”

Marsh, who is the advisor of a student-led leadership group, said the issue will most likely be brought to the school board this year.

Bloom said he’s got a few possible solutions in the works, but isn’t ready to publicize them until he meets with Samohi students and school staff.

“I’m confident a meeting will happen,” he said.

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# Alleged scammers are down with demurrers

CAR SCAM, from page 1

knowing it. Theft etch marks a vehicle's parts with traceable numbers in the event of a theft.

Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Dana Aratani, who works in the consumer protection division, said more than \$500,000 of theft etch had been sold at Honda of Santa Monica, which would show up on the sale contract as a VT registration charge.

Ali Asghar Hussain, Hamid Reza Khaki, Yaprem Zohrab Yaralian, Ahtamet Uersunthornwattana, Yaser Alkasem and Thomas Holterhoff all face felony counts related to the overcharging of customers, according to the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, which filed the felony complaint on Friday. Holterhoff is being charged, but an arrest warrant has not been issued for him.

Superior Court Commissioner James Bianco, who met with attorneys on Monday at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center, agreed to postpone the arraignment until Oct. 31 so the defendants' attorneys can organize their case.

On Monday, Hussain, Khaki, Uersunthornwattana and Holterhoff appeared in court. Yaralian is expected to appear in court later this week and also take part in the Oct. 31 arraignment, Aratani said.

Alkasem didn't appear in court on Monday as requested by a contact letter sent to him last week, making him the only defendant still unaccounted for, Aratani said. An arrest warrant has been issued for Alkasem and police are investigating his whereabouts.

Fred Friedman, an attorney representing Hussain, told the DA's office he may be seeking to file a demurrer, a move that would request the court to throw out the charges against his client.

Friedman wouldn't comment on the case.

Gary Lincenberg, an attorney representing Khaki and Uersunthornwattana, said Monday that he may also seek to file a demurrer.

John Passanante, an attorney representing Holterhoff, said the Oct. 31 arraignment will allow him to become more familiar with the case. He said he also may

consider filing a demurrer, but indicated such motions rarely prove successful.

The DA's office launched an investigation into the dealership, owned by Sonic Automotive, in July 2002, after an employee tipped investigators off to the alleged scam. The dealership was raided by investigators, including FBI agents, who seized boxes of files from the finance and sales departments on Sept. 25, 2002.

Ever since, investigators and prosecutors have been sifting through files, computer records and other evidence to build their case.

The informant, James Alexandre, who worked as general manager at Honda of Santa Monica until April of 2002, wrote a letter to the DA's office detailing the allegations, which was received July 9, 2002. The next day, the investigation was launched.

Overcharges and fake charges for Low-Jack systems, and what was called a "California tire fee/doc fee," and "Touch of Class," "tint," and wheel locks also were part of the alleged scam, according to the complaint.

The 25-page complaint details 114

overt acts that the defendants allegedly took part in. There also are 24 additional counts that charge the defendants with grand theft of personal property exceeding \$400.

Hussain, 37, who was director of finance at the dealership from December of 2000 to June 2002, faces 25 counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

Khaki, 38, who was finance manager from December 2000 to July 2002, faces nine counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

Uersunthornwattana, 44, who was finance manager from January 2001 to August 2001, faces seven counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

Yaralian, 39, named as a coconspirator in the complaint, faces five counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

Alkasem, 43, also named as a coconspirator, faces six counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

Holterhoff, 63, another coconspirator, faces two counts related to conspiracy to defraud another of property.

## SMPD: Santa Monica incidents few, far between by comparison

ANTI-GANG, from page 7

areas in the region.

"If you look at the global picture, we probably have one percent of the incidents as other portions of L.A. County," Fabrega said. "When you look at what some of those areas have over a weekend in terms of violent crime, it would equate to maybe four or five years of similar activity in Santa Monica."

Indeed, nearby communities seem to have their own gang woes. Bill Rosendahl, newly-elected councilman for West Los Angeles, including Venice, has made the gang issue a top priority in his term.

Brodie Seagrave, Rosendahl's gang field deputy, has worked with community organizations to host a gang summit in September, during which job opportunities started to be addressed, he said.

The summit follows six gang-related homicides that have occurred in the Venice area since January.

Seagrave anticipates future summits will be successful. However, much of that

success may rest on being able to provide gang members a viable alternative to criminal life.

"What we're looking to do is ensure we have a gang intervention specialist working with the Culver City Boys, Shoreline Crips, V3 and the 8th Street Gang," Seagrave said. "But what we really need to do is also come up with money for employment for the post-intervention world."

The next Venice gang summit will be held at 10 a.m. on Oct. 11 at the Vera Davis Center in Venice.

Oscar de la Torre, a local school board member and director of the Pico Youth & Family Center, said Santa Monica is taking positive steps to address gang violence. However, he feels much of the gang violence stems from other communities where it may not be as adequately addressed.

As a result, de la Torre said a more regional approach may be needed to address gang violence.

"How can we solve the gang problem when they're not even kids from Santa

Monica who are necessarily causing the violence?" de la Torre said. "Kids are born in to this and we need to approach it from a regional level."

De la Torre suggested City Hall consider hiring a "gang czar" to help address the regional gang problem, such as the

proposal currently being undertaken to address homelessness in Santa Monica.

De la Torre said some Los Angeles communities would also have more success combating gangs if there were more social service groups in place to help them.

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Dear Dorie,

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What you’re experiencing is a very typical display of minor separation anxiety. This is completely normal and healthy. It is your daughter’s way of saying, “I’d rather be with you today.” You don’t mention any trouble at drop-off and the teacher is pleased with your daughter’s educational experience, so I’m going to assume that all else is going well. Congratulations on getting through this new situation with relative ease.

You may, however, benefit from a few catch phrases to use in the morning when this comes up. Something along the lines of, “Mommy must go to her job and preschool is your job,” or “I know you’d rather stay home, but your friends and teacher really want to see you today.” You also can redirect the focus with questions like, “What is your favorite activity in the classroom? Can you show me at drop off?” Whatever words you choose, use respect to assure her that you understand her feelings. Trust is being developed here and that is what’s most important. Good luck.

— Dorie

*(Dorie Meek is director of the Infant & Family Support Program, provided by Saint John’s Health Center in partnership with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Meek answers questions concerning children ages birth to 5 years old. Submit your questions to “Dear Dorie” at meek@smmusd.org, or call (310) 452-6132; fax (310) 452-6392).*

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GUEST COMMENTARY **BY LAUREN CULP, M.A., MFT, CD, CPD**

# Postpartum depression: Don’t dismiss anxiety

National Depression Screening Day is Oct. 6 and this year’s focus is on postpartum disorders.

As a licensed marriage and family therapist, a certified postpartum and birth doula and an educator, I have worked with moms with newborns with various postpartum adjustments for more than 15 years. I often make house calls to families with newborns supplying educational, emotional and psychological support.

It’s my experience that many new mothers feel high levels of fear and anxiety, and won’t seek treatment because they cannot identify themselves as having postpartum depression.

Awareness of postpartum depression is growing, and many professionals and people identify mood disorders of mothers with this term. Clinicians such as myself who actually work with these mothers try to identify this hormonally imbalanced state as a postpartum mood or health disorder. Often anxiety is a dominant condition, but unfortunately it’s not as well recognized which leaves many women confused about their experience. Mothers often report feeling overwhelmed by daily chores and tasks, caring for the baby, fear of being alone, making meals, doing laundry, etc.

Postpartum mood disorders also are an issue for the couple. Many times the pregnancy went very well; there is an expectation that when the baby comes there will be such joy, though most have been warned to expect little sleep. Men are often experiencing their own complex feelings as new fathers and are confused by their wives’ difficulty. Women often feel afraid of abandonment by the husband, rejection from the baby, and loss of the self that used to be able to multi-task.

There isn’t enough research identifying who may be

at risk for postpartum mood disorders except for women who have experienced them with a previous delivery. Even if there are no obvious difficult issues (breastfeeding is successful and the baby sleeps well) some well-adjusted women still experience postpartum mood disorders due to hormonal imbalances after the delivery.

Support for new families is essential. A medical evaluation by a psychiatrist or referral by an obgyn to a psychiatrist is the first step, with individualized follow up medication adjustments. Counseling by a mental health professional that takes the form of crisis intervention, which gives the mother step-by-step tools to get through the day and evening is most helpful. Bodywork or massage helps any woman after delivery but can be especially grounding to a new mother. Good nutrition also is essential. After a while, gentle exercise can benefit the mother as well. For those who can afford to have in home help, The Chapman Family Center of Santa Monica has a doula and a postpartum doula registry that can send postpartum doulas immediately to the home of a new mother. The center can be reached at (310) 453-5144.

Family members and friends of new parents can bring food to the new family, do errands for them or can volunteer to stay with the mother and baby while the mother rests or seeks professional care. With immediate support and good professional care, a couple will recover and discover the joy of being parents.

*(Lauren Culp, MFT (www.Laurenculp.com) has a private practice in Santa Monica and can be reached at (310) 917-9969.)*



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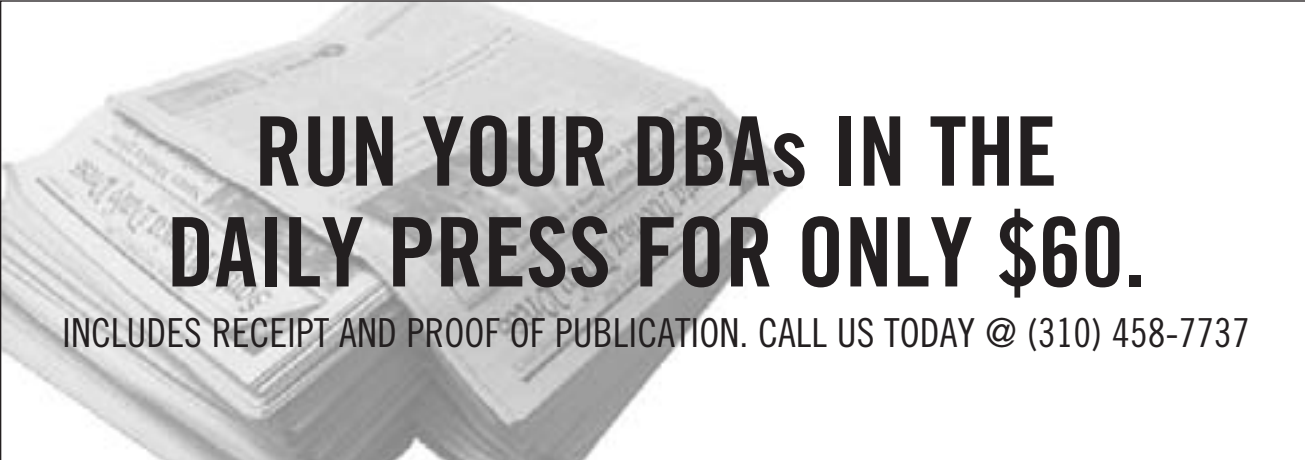
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# SANTA MONICA PARENTING

## FOR SANTA MONICA PARENTS AND PARENTS TO BE

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**CHECK HERE EVERY TUESDAY in OCT. for PUMPKIN PATCH and HALLOWEEN INFO.**

### UNDERWOOD FAMILY FARMS – 8TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Pumpkins of all shapes and sizes are available here as well as tractor and pony rides, a corn maze and food. Open 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Oct. 1–9 and 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Oct. 30-31. \$3 per person weekdays, \$5 Oct. 8-9, \$7.50 other weekends. Free parking. 3370 Sunset Valley Ranch, Moorpark, 805-529-3690, [www.underwood-familyfarms.com](http://www.underwood-familyfarms.com).

### FAULKNER FARM PUMPKIN PATCH and HARVEST FESTIVAL

Activities include exploring a giant sunflower forest, hayrides, train rides, a petting zoo, entertainment and food. 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. thru Oct. 30. \$1 weekdays, \$2 weekends for ages 3 and up. 14292 W. Telegraph Rd., Santa Paula, 805-525-2226, [www.faulkner-farm.com](http://www.faulkner-farm.com).

**MON., OCT. 17, NOV. 7 & 21 and DEC. 5 & 12** 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. & 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

### SANTA PIER AQUARIUM – MICRO BIOLOGISTS PROGRAM

This two-hour educational program for children ages 3-5 includes stories, games, aquarium exploration and crafts with a changing ocean theme. Space is available on a first come, first served basis so enroll as soon as possible. Non-refundable, advance payment is required to reserve space. Help the Bay members - \$20 per class, non-members - \$25. Please plan to leave your children for the class. For more info or to register by phone call 393-6149, ext. 102 or stop by the aquarium at 1600 Ocean Front Walk, directly under the pier.

**SAT., OCT. 8**

### RHYTHM CHILD FAMILY JAM – 4:30 p.m.

Bring the family for a percussive jam. \$15 per child, \$10 siblings, parents are free. 575-9372, 3025 W. Olympic Blvd.

**AUTUMN FAIRIE TEA – 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Don fairy wings and garlands for an afternoon of teas, delicate fairy cakes, entertainment and treats. Ages 5 and up, \$35. Sweetpeas and Scrapbooks Tea Room, 11726 Pico Blvd., West LA, 479-2444.

**SAT. and SUN. THRU OCT. 30**  
**ABSOLUTELY HALLOWEEN at the Santa Monica Playhouse**

12:30 and 3:30 p.m. A family theatre world premiere this show tells the heartwarming tale of a young girl who learns valuable lessons about life, love and laughter from her cat on Halloween. 1211 4th St., 394-9779, ext. 2 for reservations, \$10.50 children under 12, \$12.50 adults.

### TUESDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroup – 11:00 a.m.,** for children born 1/04 – 9/04. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

**Movies for Moms! 11:00 a.m.,** Loews Cineplex Broadway Theatre, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. Visit [www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms](http://www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms) for details. Oct. 4 – A History of Violence starring Viggo Mortensen, Maria Bello and William Hurt. Drama, Rated “R.”

### Storytelling

**Main Library –** held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.  
**Toddler Storytime;** 10:00 a.m. For 2 year olds with adult.  
**Preschool Story Time;** 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**Cuentos Para Pequenos – 10:00 a.m.,** six-week series in Spanish for 24 – 36 month olds.  
**Lap Time – 11:00 a.m.,** six-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant & Family Support Program. Current sessions thru Oct. 11

**Twilight Story Time -7pm –** an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m.,** all ages.

**Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.**

**Toddler Storytime,** 10:00 and 10:30. Music, rhymes and stories for 2 to 3 year olds. Current session Sept. 13 – Oct. 18. Registration required.

**Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis**

For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, [www.storyopolis.com](http://www.storyopolis.com)

**Barnes and Noble at the Grove**

Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

### Classes

**YWCA – A Place for Parents – Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. –** walkers to 3 years, (Mon – Fri); Infant & Me Class – 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 0 – 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**YMCA – Attachment Parenting Classes - 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.,** 1332 Sixth St., 393-2721 (ask for Shelana Philip-Guide or Audrey Meyer). This new class for mothers/dads and babies up to 12 months is presented by Karol Darsa, PsyD, a licensed psychologist with extensive experience working with children and families. Fees: Members – 1 class - \$40, 5 class pass - \$180; Non-members - \$50, 5 class pass - \$200.

**BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.**

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, [jm@BPinAction.org](mailto:jm@BPinAction.org).

### Yoga & Exercise

**Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA**

10:00 – 11:00 a.m and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Thursday nights 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

**Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150;** Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15.

**Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.** Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)  
**Itsy Bitsy Yoga –** Baby IBY (6 weeks to pre-crawling) – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. With Khefri Riley at Ocean Oasis, 1333 Ocean Ave. Register at [www.khefri.net](http://www.khefri.net) or call 323-549-5383.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m.** Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station,** 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroups – 4:30 p.m.,** separate groups for children born in 2000 and 2001. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

### Storytelling

**The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052**

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**Toddler Story Time – 9:30 a.m.,** for two year olds with adult.

**Preschool Story Time – 10:30 a.m.;** for 3-5 year olds with adult.

Current session thru Oct. 12.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Lap Time - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m.,** ages 0-2. Current session thru Oct. 12

**Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. –392-3804.**

**Preschool Twilight Story Time – 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.** Parents/children ages 3-5.

**Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 2 pm –** ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144

**Border’s, Westwood – 11a.m. – 310-475-3444.**

### Classes

**Rhythm Child Parent & Me Rhythms, Santa Monica Studios,** 3025 Olympic Blvd., 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Children explore rhythms through drum play. For toddlers. \$100 for 8 weeks. Call 204-5466 or visit [www.rhythmchild.net](http://www.rhythmchild.net) for more info and session dates.

**YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. –** walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre at Santa Monica Playhouse,** 1211 4th St., 394-9779 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. For ages 3 – 5 with parents. This theatrical adventure includes story time, theatre games, crafts, play building and lunch. Reservations required 24 hours in advance, \$19.50 includes lunch for child and lunch.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Kids’ Yoga Circle,** 1814 14th St., 260-2736 – Yoga and more for ages 4 – 7, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. 8 week session \$125/Drop-in \$18

**Yoga Works,** 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15

**Fitness for Moms – Babies Welcome!** Step Aerobics, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m.** Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station,** 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### Other

**Puppetolio – 1:00 p.m.,** 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

### THURSDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroup – 3:30 p.m.,** for children born 3/03 – 12/03. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

### Storytelling

**Babystyle,** 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

**Main Library –** held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.

**Toddler Storytime;** 10:00 a.m.; for 2 year olds with adult.

**Preschool Story Time;** 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**La Hora Del Cuento – 7:00 p.m.** Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Toddler Story Time – 10:15 a.m.,** for 2 year olds, current session Sept. 8 – Oct. 13.

**Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m.;** for 3-5 year olds.

**Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.**

**Lap Time – 9:20 & 10:20 a.m.,** for babies up to age 2. Current session Sept. 1 – Oct. 6.

### Classes

**YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. –** walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.**

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, [jm@BPinAction.org](mailto:jm@BPinAction.org).

### Yoga & Exercise

**Kids’ Yoga Circle,** 1814 14th St., 260-2736 – Yoga and more for ages 8 – 11, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.; ages 12 – 15, 5:15 – 6:30 p.m. 8 week session \$125/Drop-in \$18

**Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA**

7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

**Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150;** Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15.

**Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.** Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m.** Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station,** 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica – New Mother Group –** for new moms with babies born from 10/04 to present. Meet for conversation, support and playtime. All new Moms welcome! Call or e-mail Alison at 393-4481, [riversalison@hotmail.com](mailto:riversalison@hotmail.com) for more info.

**Parent’s Night Out at Child’s Play,** 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. [www.child-splayonline.net](http://www.child-splayonline.net)

**La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista –** meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call 310-390-2529 for info.

**Planetarium Show at SMC’s John Drescher Planetarium,** 7:00 p.m. - Night Sky Show, 8:00 p.m. – featured program. \$5 adults, \$4 children. Pico and 17th St., 434-3000.

### Classes

**YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. –** walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Fitness for Moms – Babies Welcome!** Indoor Cycling, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-

members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

**Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150;** Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., \$15.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m.** Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Other

**Baby Attuned -** Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., A new program promoting sensitive parenting and developmental awareness. Eileen Escarce, PhD, MSN. (PSY 18819). Introductory fee: \$15 per screening with feedback. 1137 2nd Ave, Suite 213. By appointment only 310-367-1155.

### SATURDAY

### Storytelling

**Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Kid’s Story Time – 10am,** 310-260-9110

**Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 10:30am –** ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.

**Children’s Book World,** 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-BOOK.

**Village Books,** 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.

**826LA,** 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

### Classes

**YWCA – Toddler & Me** every other Sat., 9:45 – 10:45 a.m., \$15 per class; Parent Enrichment once per month , 11:00 a.m. – noon, \$15 per class, \$25 per couple.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Santa Monica Yoga –** Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, [www.santamonicaayoga.com](http://www.santamonicaayoga.com)

**Mommy Care –** at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711.

Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:00 a.m.,** Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Other

**Absolutely Halloween at the Santa Monica Playhouse**

Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, thru Oct. 30; \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, [www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com), 1211 4th St.

**Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm,** 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

**AGICopolis – 2 and 8 p.m.,** 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

**Precious Prints –** Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime

Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit [www.preciousprintsstudios.com](http://www.preciousprintsstudios.com) for more info.

**Lakeshore Learning Stores “Free Crafts for Kids” –** Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.

“A Faery Hunt” – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday at Franklin Canyon Park. An interactive children’s show, searching for fairies and other enchanted creatures in the magical canyon and finding

them! \$10, call for reservations – 818-324-6802. [www.faeryhunt.com](http://www.faeryhunt.com). Meet in the parking lot of the Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills.

### SUNDAY

**Main Street Farmer’s Market – 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.,** corner of Main St. and Ocean Park Blvd. Pony rides, live music, lots of vendors and great family socializing.

**Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm,** 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

**AGICopolis – 2 p.m.,** 1418 4th St., Admission is \$15. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

**Absolutely Halloween at the Santa Monica Playhouse** Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, thru Sept. 25; \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, [www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com), 1211 4th St.

**Family Funday at the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum – 11:00 a.m** Live music and theatre for all ages. \$8, 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga, 455-3723, [www.theatricum.com](http://www.theatricum.com).

### Breastfeeding

**Working Mother’s Support Group**

**The Pump Station,** 2415 Wilshire Blvd. - Call 998-1981 for more info.

### MONDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroup – 9:30 a.m.,** for children born 1/02 – 2/03, Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

### Storytelling

**Main Library – Lap Time at Joslyn Park – 9:30 a.m.** Current session thru Dec. 12.

“Family Connections” – 10:00 a.m., immediately following Lap Time - a series of discussions related to early childhood development and growth. Children welcome, free.

**Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main Street,** 310-392-3804.

“Spanish for Little Ones” - 11:15 a.m., for ages 2 – 5.

**Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Toddler Story Time – 10am –** 310-260-9110

### Classes

**YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. –** walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station,** 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.



# NATIONAL

## Hispanic groups upset that Bush didn't put Hispanic on high court

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — President Bush's decision to make White House counsel Harriet Miers his second Supreme Court nominee upset Hispanic groups that had hoped to see the nation's first Hispanic Supreme Court justice.

"President Bush has again ignored highly qualified Latino judges, attorneys and law professors who could serve the nation ably on the United States Supreme Court," said Ann Marie Tallman, executive director of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, after Miers' nomination was announced Monday.

Several Hispanic lawyers and judges were thought to be on the president's short list, including Attorney General Alberto Gonzales — the first Latino attorney general and a close friend of the president — and federal appellate judge Consuelo Callahan.

Also mentioned during the search were Hispanic lawyer Miguel Estrada and Judge Emilio Garza of the New Orleans-based 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Garza was President George H.W. Bush's second choice for the Supreme Court after Clarence Thomas.

Hispanics are a highly prized voter base, and Republicans have made increased effort to court their support. Bush won more than 40 percent of the Hispanic vote in his 2004 re-election, compared with 35 percent four years earlier.

"The failure of this administration to nominate a Hispanic judge to the Supreme Court is a slap in the face to all those highly qualified Hispanic judges that dutifully serve on our federal courts across the nation," said Raul Yzaguirre, former president of the National Council of La Raza. "Our community continues to contribute to the greatness of this nation and yet, we are ignored for a vital role on our third branch of governance."

The Supreme Court has had only two black justices: the late Thurgood Marshall and Justice Clarence Thomas, and two female justices: Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the retiring Sandra Day O'Connor.

Miers is nominated to replace O'Connor.

## Probing for clues to capsizing

BY CHRIS CAROLA

Associated Press Writer

**LAKE GEORGE, N.Y.** — The captain of a tour boat that capsized, killing 20 people, told authorities it was hit by waves from another vessel or vessels and went over as he tried to steer out of them, authorities said Monday.

The postcard perfect day of sailing on Lake George suddenly turned horrific Sunday when the 40-foot boat the Ethan Allen flipped over so quickly that none of the 47 passengers could put on a life jacket. Seven people were hospitalized.

All the passengers were from Michigan, Warren County Sheriff Larry Cleveland said Monday. Their names were not immediately disclosed. A hospital spokesman had earlier put the toll at 21, but Cleveland said it was 20.

"The boat was sideways in the water, and people were screaming," said Joanne Rahal, who was in a boat when the Ethan Allen flipped. "Bodies were floating by our boat."

"We were just cruising along, and all of a sudden, the boat tipped. We thought it was kind of like a joke," Ann Mae Hawley, 74, told the Glens Falls Post-Star. "Next thing I knew, I was in the water under the boat."

"I could see my husband, and I called to him, but he didn't respond. I don't know where he is now."

The sheriff said none of the passengers was able to put on a life jacket. "Some of the victims were in fact found still trapped in the boat by divers," he said.

The National Transportation Safety Board arrived on the scene early Monday.

There had been hundreds of boats on Lake George on the sunny Sunday afternoon, causing "a lot of wave action," Cleveland said.

Investigators had not tested Richard Paris, who is an experienced boat captain, for drug or alcohol use because there was no evidence of intoxication, the sheriff said. He said there didn't appear to be any criminal conduct. Paris was the sole crew member on board with the 47 passengers.

Many of the bodies were laid out along the shore Sunday, and the site was blocked off by police with tarps. A hearse, police vehicles and several sport utility vehicles later began taking the dead from the scene.

Adult boat passengers are not required to wear life jackets in New York, but boats must carry at least one life jacket per person.

The glass-enclosed boat was carrying a tour group from the Trenton, Mich., area, and was sailing just north of the village of Lake George, a popular tourist destination about 50 miles north of Albany in the Adirondack Mountains.

With calm waters, clear skies and temperatures in the 70s, it seemed perfect boating weather and the lake bustled with activity. The lake is approximately 32 miles long and nearly 3 miles wide.

Trenton, Mich., Mayor Gerald Brown, whose community is about 20 miles south of Detroit, said 14 of the passengers were part of a group that left Tuesday on a week-long bus-and-rail trip to see changing fall colors along the East Coast.

Of the 14, three were killed, and 11 survived, Brown said.

"It's a sad time in our community. We're a small community, and we handle things differently in small communities," Brown said. "We know names. We know faces. We have relatives. It's all intertwined. It's a sad day for us."

The trip was arranged through Canadian-based Shoreline Tours, Brown said. Representatives of Shoreline could not immediately be reached for comment by The Associated Press.

A separate company, Shoreline Cruises, owns the boat. Jim Quirk, whose family has operated the company for decades, told the Glens Falls Post-Star: "It is a tragedy and it's very unfortunate."

Twenty-seven people were taken to a hospital in nearby Glens Falls. Some suffered broken ribs and others complained of shortness of breath. Seven survivors were admitted, hospital spokesman Jason White said.

Cleveland said there were 47 passengers and the captain onboard, close to the boat's maximum capacity of 50. The boat was last inspected in May and no problems were found, according to Wendy Gibson, spokeswoman for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

At daybreak Monday, the lake's surface was glassy, with a buoy 100 yards offshore where the tour boat sunk in 70 feet of water.

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## NATIONAL



# Seattle City Council approves stricter strip club guidelines

GENE JOHNSON  
Associated Press Writer

**SEATTLE** — Lap dances have been banned in Seattle for years. Soon, they'll be really banned.

The City Council on Monday approved some of the strictest adult entertainment regulations of any major city in the country, voting 5-4 to require that dancers stay 4 feet from patrons — a far cry from the almost entirely ignored “no touching” rule currently in place.

The new rules mean no lap dances and no folding dollar bills into G-strings.

In addition, the clubs must maintain at least parking-garage brightness throughout the premises and can have no private rooms. Dancers will no longer be allowed to take money directly from customers; instead, customers will put the money in a tip jar.

“For the most part, the attraction’s gone,” said Gil Levy, a lawyer for Rick’s adult nightclub in Seattle. “It will make the clubs less fun.”

The legislation was requested by Mayor Greg Nickels and will take effect six months after he signs it. The mayor’s office said the restrictions were needed to prevent a rash of cabarets from opening after a federal judge struck down the city’s 17-year moratorium on new strip clubs.

Several officers submitted testimony about witnessing acts of prostitution or near-prostitution in the clubs, but said that because the clubs are dark, it was sometimes hard to prove the no-touching rule was being violated without buying a lap dance.

“It is somewhat offensive, as taxpayers, to be paying our vice department for lap dances,” said Kelly Meinig, a Seattle resident who supported the legislation.

Only one council member, Richard McIver, spoke in

favor of the regulations Monday. He said he supported them because the people responsible for regulating strip clubs wanted them.

Those who opposed the rules suggested a better way to regulate strip clubs would be through zoning, to keep them away from schools, churches and homes. Seattle has no zoning regulations governing adult entertainment.

Furthermore, they said, the rules are unbecoming of a city that prides itself on being liberal and tolerant.

“Without being prudish, we can be prudent,” said council member Nick Licata.

“For far too long, men have tried to tell women what work they can do,” added council member Jean Godden.

The number of cabarets in Seattle jumped from two to seven in the late 1980s. Concerned residents persuaded the city to impose a 180-day moratorium, to keep the number where it was while officials studied the social effects of the clubs and whether zoning regulations were needed.

Over the next two decades, the City Council repeatedly extended the moratorium as a way of avoiding the politically sensitive issue of deciding in which neighborhoods to allow strip clubs.

Last year, a man who hoped to open a club downtown sued. U.S. District Judge James Robart sided with him last month, ruling the moratorium an unconstitutional restraint on free speech. The city could wind up paying the man millions of dollars in damages.

A previous City Council hearing on the matter drew more than 100 of Seattle’s 554 licensed dancers, many totting small children, but only four attended Monday’s vote.

Afterwards, none would comment on the record. Asked why, one said, “Because we have families, we go to school, we’re very emotional and we’re pissed off about this.”

# Drug forfeiture auction pits local housing needs against the feds

REBECCA BOONE  
Associated Press Writer

**BOISE, Idaho** — Affordable housing is scarce in the tony Sun Valley resort area, so when the federal government ordered some convicted drug dealers to forfeit three apartment complexes, local officials eyed the property eagerly.

But the Internal Revenue Service isn’t going along with local plans. The buildings were set to be auctioned Tuesday to the highest bidder.

Sun Valley Mayor Jon Thorson has sent a letter — signed by state Rep. Wendy Jaquet and other leaders — asking the IRS and U.S. Attorney Tom Moss to delay the auction for 45 days to give local governments either enough time to come up with a competitive bid or to find another way to get the property.

“Affordable housing is critical for the school district, critical for the hospital, critical for every service business in our area,” Thorson said. “This represents an opportunity to get land in the center of Ketchum to be redeveloped for workforce housing.”

That request came awfully late, said Jean McNeil, spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney’s office. The property was seized several years ago in a drug case against Patrick O’Malley Cannon of Ketchum and David Stanley Brocklebank of Hailey, and was officially forfeited in February 2004 when they were sentenced to 40 months in prison for money laundering and conspiring to smuggle and distribute drugs.

“This property was seized a very long time ago. It’s always been known that we would auction it,” McNeil said. “As far as I know, we first heard of the request to stop the auction last week.”

Even if his office had gotten the request earlier, it’s unlikely anything could have been done, U.S. Assistant Attorney Tony Hall said. He can’t find any statutory basis allowing him to deal directly with local government to set the property aside for public housing.

“I’ve been making other phone calls to other districts and attorneys and I haven’t found a similar situation that we could analyze,” Hall said. “Certainly we’re sympathetic to the situation, but in two weeks it’s not fair to us, not fair to the bidders and not fair to anybody to try to derail something that everyone’s put so much effort into.”

Blaine County has only 563 affordable housing units, said Rebekah Helzel, the founder of Advocates for Real Community Housing, or ARCH. The most recent housing study suggests that an additional 1,200 housing units are needed, and that number grows every day, Helzel said.

Many of the region’s affordable housing units get bought, torn down and replaced with high-end condos and extravagant homes, she said, because the land underneath the building is more valuable than the structure itself.

“We’ve actually lost more units than we’ve gained in the last three years,” Helzel said. “We’re going to fall further and further behind until we have some systemic solutions, like housing impact fees and real estate transfer taxes.”

It’s difficult to estimate the average cost of housing in Idaho, because state law does not require owners or sellers to disclose their property purchase price, Helzel said. With about two-thirds of Blaine County residents reporting, the average home there costs about \$415,000.

Thorson puts the estimate much higher. He believes that the average person would have to make more than \$400,000 a year to buy a home today in Sun Valley, at a cost of about \$1.2 million.

Though the auction won’t be stopped, Helzel will be bidding on the properties on behalf of ARCH, with the backing of the Blaine-Ketchum Housing Authority. If she wins, the land will be used for affordable housing.

But she likely faces some deep-pocketed competition. Anthony Pounders with EG&G Tech Services, the private contractor handling the auction, said he has had calls from about 50 interested bidders and expects at least 20 bids.

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## INTERNATIONAL

# Australians snag Nobel for ulcer work

BY MATT MOORE

Associated Press Writer

**STOCKHOLM, Sweden** — Australians Barry J. Marshall and Robin Warren won the 2005 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine on Monday for showing that bacterial infection, not stress, was to blame for painful ulcers in the stomach and intestine.

The 1982 discovery transformed peptic ulcer disease from a chronic, frequently disabling condition to one that can be cured by a short regimen of antibiotics and other medicines, the Nobel Prize committee.

Thanks to their work, it has now been established that the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* is the most common cause of peptic ulcers.

"This was very much against prevailing knowledge and dogma because it was thought that peptic ulcer disease was the result of stress and lifestyle," Staffan Normark, a member of the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska institute, said at a news conference.

The Australians' proposal of a microbial cause instead was "very controversial and unexpected," said Goran Hansson, who chairs the Nobel committee that awards the medicine or physiology prize. "They had to spend the first few years convincing the rest of the world."

Marshall, 54, and Warren, 68, celebrated their new honor with champagne and beer.

"Obviously, it's the best thing that can ever happen to somebody in medical research. It's just incredible," Marshall told The Associated Press by telephone from the Western Australia state capital, Perth, where the pair were celebrating with family members.

Warren said he was "very excited also a little over-come," at the honor.

"The idea of stress and things like that (causing ulcers) was just so entrenched nobody could really believe that it was bacteria," Marshall said. "It had to come from some weird place like Perth, Western Australia, because I think nobody else would have even considered it."

The discovery has stimulated research into microbes

as possible reasons for other chronic inflammatory conditions, such as Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, rheumatoid arthritis and atherosclerosis, the assembly said in its citation.

Warren, a pathologist from Perth, Australia, "observed small curved bacteria colonizing the lower part of the stomach in about 50 percent of patients from which biopsies had been taken," the Nobel Assembly said. "He made the crucial observation that signs of inflammation were always present ... close to where the bacteria were seen."

Marshall, became interested in Warren's findings and together they initiated a study of biopsies from 100 patients.

"After several attempts, Marshall succeeded in cultivating a hitherto unknown bacterial species — later denoted *Helicobacter pylori* — from several of these biopsies," the assembly said. "Together they found that the organism was present in almost all patients with gastric inflammation, duodenal ulcer or gastric ulcer."

Based on these results, they proposed that *Helicobacter pylori* was involved in causing these diseases. By culturing the bacterium, they were able to make studying it and the illnesses easier.

"It is now firmly established that *Helicobacter pylori* causes more than 90 percent of duodenal ulcers and up to 80 percent of gastric ulcers," the assembly said in its citation.

Marshall is a researcher at the University of Western Australia in Nedlands. Warren retired in 1999 from a pathology position at the Royal Perth Hospital.

The coveted award honoring achievements in medical research opened this year's series of prize announcements. It will be followed by prizes for physics, chemistry, literature, peace and economics.

The medicine prize is awarded by the Karolinska institute in Stockholm as stated in the will of Alfred Nobel, a Swedish industrialist who founded the prestigious awards in 1895.

The winners were picked by the institute's Nobel Assembly. The process for selecting winners is extremely secretive leaving Nobel-watchers little to go on in their speculation. The medicine prize includes a check for \$1.3 million, a diploma, gold medal and a handshake with the king of Sweden at the award ceremony in Stockholm on Dec. 10.

Warren and Marshall are not the first Australians to win a Nobel Prize. In 1973, Patrick White, the author of "The Aunt's Story" and "The Tree of Man" was awarded the 1973 Nobel Prize in literature.

Other Australian winners include John Warcup Cornforth, who won the chemistry award in 1975, and medicine winners Sir Howard Walter Florey (1945), Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet (1960), Sir John Carew Eccles (1963) and Peter C. Doherty (1996).

## Three people slain in violent border town

By The Associated Press

**NUERO LAREDO, Mexico** — Professional hit men killed three people and injured five, including two young children, in this violent border city over the weekend.

The first incident happened Saturday night, when a lone gunman shot and killed Miguel Camacho Garcia, 26, and wounded his 22-year-old wife, Jessica Contreras Vera, and his children Joselin and Miguel Camacho, 5 and 7 years old, respectively.

Police said they did not know of the motive for the killing, which took place in a poor neighborhood of this city of 275,000 across the border from Laredo, Texas.

Before dawn Sunday, two young men were shot and killed while they were driving in Nuevo Laredo. Two others in the back seat threw themselves on the floor of the car and escaped serious injury, police said.

Authorities believe at least three shooters were involved in the slaying of Salvador Vives and Jesus Vela Nuno, whose ages were not released.

More than 135 people, including 14 police officers, have been killed in violence here since January.

Authorities say Nuevo Laredo, rife with key drug-smuggling corridors into the United States, has become the front lines of a bloody battle for territory between two of Mexico's largest and most-powerful drug gangs.

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## INTERNATIONAL



# Police use heads to ID Bali bombers

BY CHRIS BRUMMITT

Associated Press Writer

**BALI, Indonesia** — Investigators hunting for the masterminds of three suicide bombings on the popular resort island of Bali hoped to quickly identify the bombers Monday, with Indonesia's newspapers publishing photographs of their severed heads.

Police also sought three accomplices believed to still be on the resort island, and enlisted a former operative of Southeast Asia's top terrorist group to help track down the plotters of Saturday's attack, which killed at least 22 people, including the bombers, and wounded 104.

The bombers in the near-simultaneous blasts at three crowded restaurants were believed to have used explosive vests loaded with ball bearings to maximize the damage. Their torsos were blown apart, but their heads were intact, said Indonesian anti-terror official Maj. Gen. Ansyad Mbai.

A chilling video capturing a suspected bomber strolling past diners at one of the cafes moments before it was blown up could provide a tremendous boost to the investigation.

Police think at least three other people were involved in the attacks and probably were still at large on Bali, Mbai said, adding that results could come within days.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attacks at two seafood cafes on Jimbaran beach and a restaurant in the bustling tourist center of Kuta, all packed with diners on the busiest night of the week. The bombs went off within six minutes of each other.

Mbai said the alleged masterminds of the blasts were Malaysian fugitives Azahari bin Husin and Noordin Mohamed Top.

They have eluded authorities for years, several times slipping through the fingers of Indonesian police who earlier offered a \$100,000 reward for information leading to their arrest.

Azahari and Noordin are alleged to be associated with Jemaah Islamiyah, whose members were convicted in attacks on two crowded nightclubs on Bali three years ago that killed 202 people, and two other deadly terrorist attacks in the world's most populous Muslim country in 2003 and 2004, both in Jakarta.

Authorities have enlisted the help of a former Jemaah Islamiyah operative to help track down the masterminds in Saturday's bombings. Nasir Abbas, who has testified against former colleagues in trials, arrived on Bali two hours after the blasts, working as an informant for police.

"Police are using him to help find which group is behind this operation. Former terrorists can help give details," Mbai said.

Southeast Asian intelligence officials have repeatedly warned that the group could attempt a major terrorist attack in the region and, fearing more strikes, were clamping down.

Thailand, which draws millions of sun-seeking tourists every year, put all of its major resort areas on full alert Monday after Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra warned that terrorists "are commuting and rotating around in the region."

Indonesia, the Philippines and Australia were also on heightened alert.

"If the past is any precedent, they have planned safe houses and are lying low, letting the first dragnet pass overhead," said Ken Conboy, a Jakarta-based security consultant and author of an upcoming book on terrorism in Southeast Asia.

Death tolls varied because the blasts dismembered the bodies, making them hard to count.

Sanglah, the main hospital treating the victims, posted a death toll of 29 on a bulletin board. A police spokesman, Maj. Gen. Aryanto Budihardjo, told reporters in the capital that 22 had been killed, including the three bombers.

Fourteen Indonesians, two Australians and one Japanese man were among the dead. Officials were trying to identify the nationalities of the other corpses.

The 104 wounded included 49 Indonesians, 17 Australians, six Americans, six Koreans, and four Japanese, officials said.

Though Jemaah Islamiyah members have said their goal was to punish the United States and its allies for killing Muslim civilians most of the victims in Saturday's blast were Indonesians.

In one neighborhood in Bali, residents erected a banner reading: "What has my Bali done to deserve this?"

Australian tourist Vicky Griffiths was dining with her husband, Kim, when the bombers struck at a packed seafood restaurant, throwing her over a table and to the ground. She told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. television Sunday that she was able to get up and walk away.

"But I didn't realize I had the ball bearings in my back until they X-rayed me. I've had a lot of pain. I thought it was a broken rib, but I've got ball bearings from the blast," Griffiths said.

Drink vendor Carsen was among many Balinese residents whose shock has started turning to anger after the

tropical resort island, which relies heavily on tourism, again became a target.

"When we catch these guys, there's no point providing them with defense lawyers, just string them up and let us punish them," said Carsen, who goes by one name.

One of the victims, Gusti Sedana, a 33-year-old waiter at Raja's restaurant, was cremated Monday in line with Hindu tradition. Hundreds of mourners crammed into the narrow streets close to his home, clanging gongs and chanting as they escorted his body on a golden yellow float.

"I grew up with him. I feel devastated," said his older brother, Gusti Mandalika. "But as Hindus we believe that everything is part of God's plan."



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# PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

## Clooney lets loose with liberal dose of 'L' word

By The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — George Clooney is mad that liberal has become a dirty word.

"I'm going to keep saying 'liberal' as loud as I can and as often as I can," Clooney told Newsweek magazine in an interview about the film "Good Night, and Good Luck," which he co-wrote and directed.

The black-and-white film about journalist Edward R. Murrow will be in theaters nationwide on Oct. 14. Clooney plays the role of CBS producer Fred Friendly.

The 44-year-old actor is taking on another politically charged role later this year, as real-life CIA agent Robert Baer. The film, "Syriana," is a drama about terrorism, oil and the Middle East.

To prepare for that role, he has gained 30 pounds, trimmed his hairline and grown a beard, he told Newsweek. The movie will probably get him in "a lot of trouble" politically, he said.

**PARIS** — Jane Fonda canceled plans to attend a premiere of a documentary about her former husband Roger Vadim in southern France because of hip and back problems.

Karine Lyons, a spokeswoman for the French Riviera resort of Saint-Tropez, where the screening was to be held Monday night, said flying to France had left Fonda with hip and back pain, which prompted her to seek treatment at a Paris hospital.

Lyons said Fonda, 67, had previously undergone a hip operation.

Philippe Aubert, producer of "Vadim, This Billionaire of Happiness," said the actress was expected to attend a second showing of the 90-minute documentary Tuesday night in Paris.

"Jane Fonda did indeed undergo exams this morning at the American Hospital, but she was back at her hotel by the early afternoon," Aubert said Monday.

Aubert said Fonda was expected to spend several days in France to promote her memoir, "My Life So Far."

Fonda was married to Vadim from 1965 to 1973. He died in 2000.

He directed her in his 1968 sci-fi sexual spoof, "Barbarella."

**LOS ANGELES** — Oscar-winning actor Nicolas Cage is a new father.

His wife, Alice Kim Cage, gave birth Monday to a boy, Kal-el Coppola Cage, in New York City, said Cage's Los Angeles-based publicist, Annett Wolf. No other details were available.

"They are healthy and happy and it's quite lovely," Wolf said by phone from New York.

Cage is a nephew of filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola.

The couple married in July 2004. It was the third marriage for Cage and the first for his new wife, who was 20 when they were wed. They met when Cage visited a Los Angeles restaurant where she was working as a waitress.

Cage, 41, who won an Oscar for his role in "Leaving Las Vegas," has a son from a previous relationship.

His screen credits also include "Lord of War," now in theaters, "Adaptation," "Honeymoon in Vegas" and "Moonstruck."

He was previously married to Lisa Marie Presley and actress Patricia Arquette.

**NEW YORK** — Hugh Hefner, king of the Playboy empire, says he had to reinvent his identity to leave his Puritan roots behind.

Hefner tells Time magazine he is a direct descendant of William Bradford, a Puritan who came over on the Mayflower.

"There was a great deal of repression in their lives and the way they were raised and, in turn, the way I was raised," he said.

Hefner said he first reinvented himself in high school, when he was rejected by a girl. He started call-

ing himself "Hef" and wore yellow cords, saddle shoes and flannel shirts he wouldn't tuck in instead of what his parents wanted.

Later, after Playboy became successful, he reinvented himself again. He started smoking a pipe, bought a Mercedes-Benz and bought the Playboy mansion.

"I became the personification of the prototype that I was describing in the magazine. I became, in effect, Mr. Playboy," he said.

He credits his success to his transformations.

"Instead of the Puritan world that my folks accepted and, from my perspective, paid the price for, I created a world for myself," he told Time.

**MACON, Ga.** — Concertgoers won't have to pay for a Little Richard concert in the singer's hometown. But who will?

Macon Mayor Jack Ellis announced the concert Friday. He asked local business leaders — including the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce — to pick up the estimated \$75,000 tab for this Saturday's event, the chamber's president said.

But business leaders say they haven't been given enough time to come up with the money. Mike Ford, who heads the city's NewTown revitalization effort, said he wasn't approached until Wednesday about the concert.

Ron Wildman, a city spokesman, said the mayor was disappointed that the business groups aren't "stepping up to the plate since they've been using Little Richard now for several years to promote Macon and he's not charged them one dime."

The Macon native's picture appears on billboards promoting Macon and a recording of his voice greets callers at the convention and visitor's bureau. There are also tentative plans to erect a statue for the music star in front of a local theater.

The mayor said through a spokesman he'll turn to local residents and businesses to pay for the show.

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