

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTO

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

43, 7, 47, 32, 18

Megamember: 10

Jackpot: \$10 million

FANTASY 5

21, 24, 33, 5, 39

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 6, 7

Evening picks: 3, 6, 7

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 6, Whirl Win

3rd Place: 2, Lucky Charm

Race Time: 1:42.81



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

In September in Pinson, Ala., Joseph Logan, 46, was arrested for assault just after watching Alabama's 34-31 football loss to Arkansas on TV, which Logan took pretty hard. He started ranting, slamming doors, and throwing dishes into the sink, and it was at this point that his son, Seth, 20, chose to ask Dad innocently if he would help him buy a car, at which point Dad grabbed a gun, put Seth in a headlock, and fired a bullet near Seth's ear. Said a sheriff's deputy, "I know we take football serious in the South, but that's crossing the line."



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It destroys one's nerves to be amiable every day to the same human being."

— Benjamin Disraeli



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City Hall analyzes how it deals with homeless

Business community expected to question City Hall's effectiveness

(Editor's note: This is the first article in a series this week that addresses the issues surrounding Santa Monica's homeless population. The Santa Monica City Council on Tuesday will hold a public hearing that reviews an annual report, assessing the effectiveness of its social services programs).

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

When it comes to Santa Monica's increasing homeless population, just about everyone has an opinion.

MTBE lawsuit coming close to a resolution

City Hall hammering out deal to clean up water wells

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

What may be the biggest lawsuit ever levied by City Hall appears to be reaching a resolution.

Under a settlement agreement being hammered out now, more than a dozen oil companies will pay hundreds of millions of dollars to clean up the city's drinking water wells.

Seven of Santa Monica's 11 wells were contaminated in 1996 from underground gasoline

See MTBE, page 7

Some believe City Hall does too little to help the homeless, others say it does too much.

But despite the opposite views, just about everyone agrees on one thing — they don't like it. Not the residents, visitors, business owners, politicians, police or the homeless themselves, like the fact that fellow human beings are barely surviving on the street, hungry and cold. Many of them can't help themselves because they are mentally ill, or have chemical addiction problems. But there is a segment of the population that refuses the help offered to them and they are the ones who make life here almost as intolerable as their own situations,

some say.

The problem, which persists on a national level, puts Santa Monica's elected leaders in a precarious position — they are accused of being too compassionate and not receptive to residents' concerns, yet they want to help solve the tragic dilemma of homelessness.

"It polarizes people in the business community and in the social services," said Lois Cunningham, who manages Patagonia on Main Street. "It's like each other demonizes one another and there is no real need for this situation to be this way as it stands."

See REVIEW, page 5

A Hollywood appearance



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

The media swarms around Cindy Crawford and Arnold Schwarzenegger (pictured with actress Jaime Lee Curtis dressed as a police officer) on Saturday at the Barker Hanger at the Santa Monica Airport for a Halloween fundraiser, benefitting children affected by AIDS.



Nearly \$200K raised for farmer's market victims

Police still investigating accident

By Daily Press staff

More than three months after an elderly Santa Monica man drove through the farmer's market, killing 10 and injuring 80 people, the local community has raised \$183,000 for the victims.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has collected and distributed \$183,000 for the Santa Monica Farmer's Market Victims Assistance Fund. The fund was created in July to assist victims and their families who lost a loved one or who were injured in the farmer's market misfortune.

On July 16, Russell Weller, 86, drove his Buick LeSabre through the Santa Monica Farmer's Market near the Third Street

Promenade, causing one of the worst tragedies the community has experienced.

The California Highway Patrol, the leading investigative agency in the accident, has yet to

file its report with the Santa Monica Police Department. That information will then be turned over to the Los Angeles District

See FUNDS, page 6

Managing downtown a million dollar task for Bayside District

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

The nonprofit that manages downtown Santa Monica spent more than \$1 million last year, according to its annual audit approved by officials last week.

More than half of the money went into mar-

keting campaigns to promote downtown and paying the salaries of workers at the Bayside District Corp.

Bayside, which is funded mostly through assessments on downtown businesses, runs the Third Street Promenade and the surrounding

See BAYSIDE, page 6

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, October 27, 2003:

You will often need to deal with finances in detail. You have the ability to see what others can't. Use that detachment to help you make the right decisions this year. Some of you will opt to go back to school or travel more. Your mind appears to be ready to open up. Your day-to-day life could be overwhelming, as you have so many people in your life. Still, honor your space and personal time at home. If single, you will need that retreat in order to center. You actually will enjoy your downtime. You can and will meet someone special this year who can combine friendship and romance. You might do a double-take. If attached, you discover how important your private life together is. Make plenty of downtime for the two of you, even if it means retreats and trips. SAGITTARIUS helps you make money.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ What someone says could trigger a strong reaction once more. How you handle this could make all the difference in what might go down. Your bright ways and direct approach help sort out any problem quickly. Tonight: Make a late meeting.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Work with others on a one-on-one level. How you see a friendship or an association could change because of this person's fiery temperament. You might want to share more of your feelings about a project and others' roles. Tonight: Make nice.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Others seek you out, but you might not like what they have to share. Tempers could flare, but a discussion does settle things down. You actually might see more eye to eye than you realize. Let your imagination speak. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Get into work. If possible, avoid a disagreement that might make you mighty uncomfortable. Read between the lines. Help others understand what is really being said here. A partner's imagination flourishes. Tonight: Get some exercise.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Nothing seems to settle, no matter what you do. Evaluate what you want and expect from a partnership, especially if it revolves around your home life. Others unleash their imaginations; you might question which direction you want to head in. Tonight: Play away. So what if it is Monday?

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Think before you react to what someone says. This person might be a lot harsher than usual. Discussions reveal what might be going on, so you find solutions easily. Pace yourself carefully with work and your personal life. Tonight: Happy to go home.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ How you say what you feel does make a difference to an associate. If he or she reacts strongly, you might need to soften your words and discuss what you want here. Your creativity runs high, so finding solutions proves to be easy. Tonight: Join your pals.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★ Don't get caught up in office politics. Just go in and do your work. You'll like the end results. Others test their ideas on you. If you feel one might be too risky, say so. You will find that associates need your feedback. Tonight: Pay bills.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your personality glows, and the embers of a relationship sizzle, perhaps in a way that you might not like. Let this person know that he or she has no reason to be jealous at all. Express your deeper feelings, even if you're a touch uncomfortable. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★ You might want to call in and take the day off. You find that others test your patience beyond your limits. Try to not participate in a catty argument, but rather look for a reasonable solution. Let your imagination roam. Tonight: A night for you.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Follow your friends, though you might find that someone has an idea that is very expensive. You might want to say "no." Another friend has a better and more workable idea. Go with what feels comfortable, which should be obvious. Tonight: Where your friends are.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★ The boss says what he or she thinks. You might not like what you hear. Choose your words carefully when you explain where you are coming from. Work on keeping a straight face, as your expression could give you away. Tonight: Use your intuition with those in charge.

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LOCAL

Secret treasure of money sells for more than \$10 million

BY LEE RAJSICH
Special to the Daily Press

What may be the largest trove of unused American paper money to survive from the 1800s was recently sold for more than \$10 million by a Santa Monica company.

The entire collection, known as the Atlantic Collection, consists of more than 1,000 extremely rare \$5, \$10 and \$20 U.S. paper notes which first appeared in 1869.

Among the collection of large-size notes are the "Woodchopper" and "Jackass" designs, both of which first appeared in 1869. The designs depict scenes of early American life and are widely considered some of the best examples of the engravers' art. The Jackass note is a design that appeared on several \$10 legal tender notes and are named because when turned upside down, the picture of the bald eagle looks like the head of a donkey.

Before their sale, the grouping had been held as vault cash reserves in a bank on the eastern seaboard. The notes were sold privately to more than 500 investors and collectors — all of whom were previous clients of Goldline International. The notes sold between \$2,075 and \$50,000, based on rarity and condition.

"The existence of the collection was kept secret until now," said Mark Albanian, president and CEO of Goldline International, which is located at 100 Wilshire Blvd. "We offered the notes to a select group of our clients and they sold out very quickly."

Historical collections of paper money are a unique rarity, according to Goldline International. Most of the currency was spent and ultimately destroyed as new notes were issued and as a result, very few paper notes from the 1800s survived.

The collection of paper money has unique historical distinction because of its extremely high quality. Before they were discovered, collectors didn't know that they had been uncirculated.

"Most experts in the paper money field will be shocked that a collection of this quality survived in such incredible condition," Albanian said.

The collection's \$20,000 face value has now appreciated 500-fold — better than four times what one would have earned had the money been held in a bank at 4 percent interest over the 123 years since the notes were introduced, according to Goldline International.



Photo courtesy

On the front of the note, an Alfred Sealy portrait of Daniel Webster, a United States Congressman, Senator and Secretary of State appears in the lower left-hand corner. An illustration on the far right depicts Pocahontas being presented to England's royal court.

The reverse of the note bears an ornate 'greenback' design. The right-hand side declares the note is legal tender and a warning for counterfeiters. Anyone convicted of this crime would be subject to a "Five Thousand (\$5,000) Dollars FINE, or Fifteen (15) years imprisonment at HARD LABOR OR BOTH."

High grade U.S. paper money from the 19th century is usually more valuable than gold coins from the same era. Given the choice of saving a \$20 bill or a \$20 gold coin, most people saved the gold, according to Goldline International. Paper money also is more vulnerable to damage, further contributing to its rarity.

Whether notes from the Atlantic Collection will be available to the public for viewing is not yet known.

Since 1960, Goldline International has helped investors and collectors acquire rare coins and precious metals — mainly gold, silver and platinum.

Goldline International and its affiliate companies have about 70 employees. Their parent company, A-Mark Financial Corp., has recently been ranked the fifth largest privately held company in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles Business Journal and was ranked the 74th largest private company in the U.S. by Forbes.

Goldline International has brought other famous collections to market, including former Horseshoe Casino owner Ted Binion's Silver Dollar Collection and the Wells Fargo Nevada Gold Collection of \$20 gold coins.

surf report

The weird weather wreaked havoc inland, messed up our air and cast a strange shadow over Santa Monica. Fortunately, the waves weren't affected. Consistent bombers blessed our shores, despite the Sunday closeout sessions at beaches here in town.

OUTLOOK: Good surf through Thursday. Enjoy.

Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break. We'll print your report in a future issue of the Daily Press

Today the water is:

67°

Sunrise: 7:15 a.m.
Sunset: 6:12 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	3:09	0.7	4:01	-0.6	9:22	6.5	10:14	5.0
SUNDAY	2:43	1.1	3:49	-0.9	8:56	6.7	10:08	4.6
MONDAY	3:17	1.6	4:42	-0.9	9:33	6.8	11:10	4.1
TUESDAY	3:54	2.2	5:42	-0.7	10:15	6.5	N/A	N/A
WEDNESDAY	4:37	2.7	6:53	-0.4	12:28	3.7	(11:04)	6.1
THURSDAY	5:38	3.2	8:14	-0.1	2:13	3.6	12:08	5.6
FRIDAY	7:36	3.4	9:34	0.0	4:01	3.8	1:35	5.1

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The Q Line

The Santa Monica City Council is reviewing an annual report of how well its social service programs have helped the city's growing homeless population become self-sufficient through shelters and work programs. While City Hall contributes \$1.8 million in funding toward the cause, millions more are spent in controlling the anti-social behavior of vagrants, as well as cleaning up after them.

And business owners, residents and tourists say Santa Monica loses out from lost revenue because they shy away from the

area as a result of its vagrant population.

For the past five years, Santa Monica's homeless population has been the top concern among residents, according to a city survey.

So this week Q-Line wants to know, "Do you feel City Hall's efforts have made a positive difference here? Why or why not?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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LETTERS

Peace needs to happen from Palestine

Editor:

The Palestinian terrorist strategy is to kill and incite Israelis in hopes that Palestinian civilians will be killed in retaliation. Their strategy is to gain worldwide sympathy for the killing of innocent Palestinian bystanders by Israel. To insure Palestinian civilians are killed, the terrorists manufacture bombs and store ammunition in Palestinian cities.

The idea that peace can be achieved with Palestinian terrorist groups, whose aim is the extinction of Israel and exults in the slaughter of small children, is a dangerous illusion.

Israel has used great restraint in subduing terrorists to limit Palestinian civilian casualties. For example, the bombs used by Israel in counterattacks have limited collateral impact, while the terrorists' bombs are made to cause maximum collateral damage.

The "security partition" simply deters suicide bombers from attacking Israeli civilians, this barrier will deprive terrorists of their strategy to incite retaliation.

Peace will come between the Jews and Arabs only when the Arabs decide to live in peace with the Jews.

Fred Alexander
Santa Monica

Nursing home pressed for parking

Editor:

Please accept my wholehearted support of Kathryn J. Morea's letter (SMDP, Oct. 13, page 4). She aptly puts down her well-justified complaints regarding the parking situation in her area.

In our area, we have many parking problems. I constantly see people who have no vested interest in Santa Monica parking their cars because they have jobs here. Meanwhile, we at this facility (a nursing home), are shorted.

I wrote a letter to the City Council with many signatures from the residents here, their relatives and friends. So clearly there's a problem here.

Please see what you can do. Thank you.

Rosemary A. Elton
Santa Monica

Parking problems persist

Editor:

Afraid I had to smile when I read that beautifully written letter (SMDP, Oct. 13, page 4), regarding the trouble on Ninth Street with the annoying student parking from the high school.

Let me tell you about Maple Street. We do not have high school students parking their cars. We have hundreds of Santa Monica College students — during both day and evening classes — parking on our street.

So the few of us who would like to park outside our houses are out of luck, even

though we all have our parking permits. None of the students have permits hanging from their rearview mirrors: \$15 wasted.

Just to add insult to injury, at the far end of Maple and 16th streets, we have motor homes, old buses and even a rusty boat — without parking permits, of course.

In fact, early in the morning you can see men brushing their teeth and changing their clothes, and because these vehicles hardly ever move, the street sweeper never comes. How could it when the street is always full of cars?

The "permit only" signs are comical, to say the least. The police do nothing and there's nothing they can do anyway. It happens every day. And during weekends there are concerts, football and soccer games. The list goes on and on, and the cars keep coming. There is no solution, so we have to put up with it or move away.

Maris Elsie Hall
Santa Monica

We're not going away

Editor:

(This letter was originally addressed to the Santa Monica City Council).

Residents of this neighborhood worked very hard for years to get complete permit parking for our area, a privilege which neighboring streets were granted without even asking. We were shocked and amazed when the city approved limited permit parking — only the west side of Ninth Street and parts of Michigan Avenue — a "solution" which satisfied none of the residents and which created more parking problems than already existed. We were told to come back in six months if the solution didn't work. It didn't. We were back. Another study was done. It was found to be falsified. Again, the matter was studied. This time the results showed that granting full permit parking would not significantly impact parking in the coastal zone, which was already at saturation. The city yawned, ignored the results and carried on business as usual.

I don't know what holds you back from acknowledging and dealing with our problem. Does U-Haul hold some city purse strings? Do the power parents of Samohi students have such political clout that their demand for free parking for their children outweighs the needs of residents?

Never mind that we have met every criteria set forth in the municipal code for full permit parking. Never mind that you won't even give us a valid reason why we can't have what we have asked for. What about your Sustainable City plan? Aren't the needs of residents for clean air and safe streets mandated there? And "residents" is the key word. We live here. We have chosen to stay here and improve our humble corner of the Earth. We won't go away.

We need 24/7 permit parking both on Ninth Street and Michigan Avenue. You are our elected officials. Grant us a place on the city agenda. Grant us full use of our streets, a privilege we already pay for. Work with us here!

We care very much.

Maya Lopez
Santa Monica

Corporate America a cause of the homelessness problem



"Who ever gives to the poor will lack nothing. But a curse shall be upon the head of those who close their eyes to poverty."

This and many other proverbs I have heard, watched and observed as life delivers them upon individuals, entities and society as a whole.

Observation is one of the best ways to "see" through the propaganda about this economic "recovery in progress." With every job gained, it seems another corporation moves out of America. And NAFTA goes to the hogs with this move — completely off the North American continent!

To India and all points east it seems. Levi Strauss is a 150-year-old "All American" company, formerly based in America.

How long are we, as a nation, going to take to wake up to the reality which is beyond the four walls of your dwellings? What is happening is slowly but surely. We have become so used to trusting our "reality" to that which is seen in the press that by the time we see it coming, reality slaps us in the face.

How many homeless do I know that regularly watch television? Not many, unless we, by chance, can afford a hotel room for a few days. The reality is this problem of homelessness is not going to get rectified until our "American" corporations stop putting profitability over people and put the stimulus back into the economy. Provide jobs!

How can anyone afford to buy anything and keep the money printed in circulation if they do not have jobs? It's that simple. Some people might disagree with

me on this but it's true.

Jobs help keep the youngsters from running wild in the streets and help teach them responsibility. Jobs would help to unclog the bottle neck in the shelter system and open up beds sooner so more of us can get off the street. Jobs would also help to keep people from falling into the downward spiral of homelessness. Jobs provide the tax base needed to close the deficit on all fronts as, again I'm guessing here, we need money to survive.

But what we have seen over the past 20 years is a slow mass migration of good paying jobs going everywhere on the planet from our soil. Putting profitability over people, so the corporate upper echelon can keep and even increase their pay. These "American" corporations are thumbing their noses at the America people and dodging corporate taxes, which would help close the deficit if the government collected them. These outside companies then come back to America and

receive sweetheart deals from the government through the employees of the people, which are the officials we elect. To top that off, we buy their products. They pay people in poor countries about \$18 to \$24 a week, about one-twelfth of the pay here, to make an American item while people here on our own soil lose their jobs and go into economic uncertainty.

This economy is getting worse — the amount of new faces among the homeless out here prove this. I feel we need to stop blaming the symptom of the problem of poverty and homelessness and begin to address the causes. I say it's time to stop all this and speak up not only to the elected officials but to the private sector as well. The "10 percent" has to learn the basics of math. Ten percent is less than 90 percent. In a democracy this does matter.

(Charles Springer is a homeless resident of Santa Monica. As well as a freelance artist and writer. He can be reached at Chaz_59@yahoo.com)

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

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LOCAL



Public will be given time on Tuesday to address council

REVIEW, from page 1

On Tuesday, the Santa Monica City Council will review and discuss an annual report that is designed to gauge how effective its social services have been and if the \$1.8 million in city funds thrown to them has been spent wisely. It's also an opportunity for the public to tell elected leaders their feelings about how Santa Monica is handling the situation.

While they are empathetic to the council's dilemma, many business owners and residents say City Hall's program has failed. They cite a perceived increase in crime, a downturn in business and a decreasing quality of life as a direct result of Santa Monica's estimated 2,000 homeless residents.

Social service providers and city officials say their efforts have been a tremendous success, however much more has to be done and limited resources prevent it from happening. The homeless themselves agree more should be done — they say society's treatment of them keeps them down, and the opportunity for jobs and a place for them to sleep, eat and hang out is sorely lacking in Santa Monica.

Staff members from City Hall's human services department will present the annual report to the council, which will be followed by what is expected to be hours of testimony from the public that could stretch into the early morning hours of Wednesday.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce's public safety committee, which has been addressing homeless issues for the past year, met last week to rally business owners to speak in front of the city council about how damaging the vagrants are to the local economy and residents' quality of life.

"I think the review is a rubber stamp and says, 'you're doing a good job,'" said Chamber executive director Kathy Dodson. "But anyone who lives in Santa Monica knows it's not working."

The growing vagrant population has been the No. 1 concern of residents and business owners for five years in a row, yet they perceive there is little response from City Hall. Citizens say they're being ignored by City Hall officials, who continue with their compassion to a point that it's degrading their own community.

That's why chamber officials are urging business owners and citizens to speak up at City Hall on Tuesday.

"We don't believe the program is adequately addressing the homeless, the residents and the business community," said Rykk Mesure, a chamber member. "This is one of the few formal chances to give input into the system and we do need to be present and we do need to be vocal in a diplomatic fashion."

However, chamber officials fear that turn-out will be low because the City Council has placed the public hearing as the last item on the agenda, which means it could be late into the night before people are heard.

In the report, social service providers say much has been accomplished to address public concerns, including laws designed to prevent loitering, trespassing, public camping, panhandling, public urination and defecation, and sleeping in public places.

Yet, all of it still occurs throughout the city, which frustrates residents and business owners. But because of constitution-

al freedoms that all people enjoy, there is only so much that can be done to control individuals on public property, officials say. And while local police enforce the laws, it takes more resources than what's available to make arrests and send people through a criminal court system that's already maxed out, officials say.

The Santa Monica Police Department has a specialized unit to deal with homeless individuals. Those officers responded to 770 calls relating to homeless people last year, according to the report. And in six months, local paramedics responded to 908 calls involving homeless people, the report said.

"I think the review is a rubber stamp and says, 'you're doing a good job. But anyone who lives in Santa Monica knows it's not working.'"

— KATHY DODSON
Chamber executive director

SMPD Chief James T. Butts Jr. told the City Council last year that while transients constitute a little more than 1 percent of the population, they generate one third of the calls for service.

But despite the problems associated with the social services programs, which officials acknowledge in the report, they still say they are making progress. City-funded agencies provided 2,773 homeless people with support services and 1,592 of them received temporary or permanent housing last year. And 682 homeless people who were unemployed before entering the system found and maintained jobs leading to self-sufficiency, the report said.

There are dozens of success stories from individuals in the report that show how the system worked for them. There also are numerous letters from social service providers who say their resources are stretched and their facilities are at capacity.

What's missing are reports from emergency personnel and the police department that itemize the costs associated to the homeless population. There also are few statements from business owners and residents about their concerns, however city staff acknowledges the complaints exist — but that City Hall doesn't track them.

The report also offers strategies for the next year to improve the system, including increased housing, improved day services, managing public spaces better, address public intoxication and asking nearby cities to help shoulder the burden.

A group of homeless individuals also contributed in the report their insights to the problems and offered recommendations to solve them.

The chamber of commerce also plans to provide a list of recommendations and a plan that has yet to be formulated. In the meantime, business owners want the City Council to critically analyze its own plan.

"People want this to be handled," Cunningham said. "This is a typical report from the city ... the verbiage is typical, which is 'we are trying.' Well, you know what? It ain't working."

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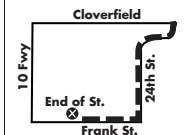


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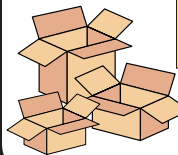
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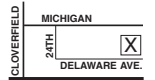
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LOCAL

Bayside funding has remained flat for years

BAYSIDE, from page 1

areas. It oversees the maintenance of side-walks and alleys, keeps track of which musicians are performing in public, communicates with local businesses and markets Santa Monica.

One of Bayside's largest purchases between June 30, 2002, and June 30, 2003, was \$331,865 for holiday decor on the Promenade. Plastic icebergs and faux evergreen trees are part of the decor for Winterlit, a campaign now in its second year designed to draw shoppers downtown during the lucrative holiday season.

Another \$306,368 was spent on wages and salaries for Bayside employees. There are six workers at Bayside — an administrative assistant, a venue manager that oversees street performers and other events, an operations manager that keeps tabs on graffiti, trash and the condition of downtown's infrastructure, as well as a marketing manager, a part-time communications specialist and executive director Kathleen Rawson.

More than \$100,000 was spent on Bayside's lease, and for professional expenses like hiring an outside auditor and an accountant, Rawson said.

The remaining expenses included everything from \$48,942 in employee benefits and \$18,059 for banners and lighting, to \$24,778 in moving expenses, \$8,541 in office supplies and \$10,132 in telephone charges.

All told, expenses totaled \$1,041,460, according to the audit, which was done by L.A.-based auditor Quigley & Miron. Because expenses were slightly higher than revenue last year, Bayside dipped into its assets, which total about \$1 million.

Rob Rader, chairman of Bayside's finance committee, said using an outside auditor gives integrity to the budget process.

"I'm as suspicious as the next person to make sure the public dollars are spent fairly," Rader said. "We definitely do not want to be led by our noses. We want to make sure things are done correctly."

Bayside's coffers are primarily fueled by local businesses who pay local assessment fees to City Hall. According to the audit, \$797,536 of those assessments on downtown businesses was given to Bayside. Some of the assessments also go into funds for police and maintenance, among other things, Rawson said.

The assessments are calculated by taking between .1 percent and 1 percent of total sales from businesses between

Wilshire Boulevard to the north and the Santa Monica Freeway to the south, and from Ocean Avenue on the west to Seventh Street on the east. The higher rate is charged on businesses in the heart of downtown, while businesses further away from the Promenade pay less.

Rawson said this year's expenses probably won't change too much, other than that the holiday decor has already been bought and will only need to be installed and guarded. She said Bayside will look at partnerships with other city groups to see if money can't be saved through collaborative marketing efforts.

"We just have to tighten our belt, because our costs have gone up," she said. "We have a de facto budget cut."

Despite that downtown has become more lucrative in recent years, Bayside's funding has neither increased nor decreased, Rader said.

"We should have really pushed for bigger increases when times were flush," he said. "We've been flat for the last three years and relatively flat for years before that."

Film crews paid Bayside \$40,250 to film downtown between 2002 and 2003; \$53,700 was raised through events; \$17,501 in various contracts and \$9,958 in interest, according to the audit.

The money spent by Bayside is less than is spent by its competitors, Rader said.

"The problem is, when you compare us to the private companies, say the Grove or the Beverly Center or the Century City Mall ... or the Westside Pavilion or the Hughes Center just down south of us, they all have huge marketing budgets compared to us," he said. "Now, nobody's crying because we have so many other advantages ... but we can't become complacent either."

Rader pointed out that Bayside's overhead costs are less than 10 percent of its budget, a figure he said is excellent for the public sector. And with both the auditor and the accountant for Bayside hired independently, Rader said there is little room for mismanagement of the money.

Officials agree.

"Given all the circumstances they're doing a fine job," said City Councilman Bob Holbrook, who offered his opinion on the Winterlit holiday decor.

"I'm more of a Santa Claus, reindeer person, frankly," he said. "Little elves, stuff like that. I'm not that avant garde when it comes to holiday celebrations. I like wreaths, trees — but I'm sure it helps."

Thousands given to victims

FUNDS, from page 1

Attorney's Office, which will determine whether to file charges against Weller, who has remained secluded in his home north of Montana Avenue since the accident.

The fund has distributed money to the following:

- \$5,000 each to 10 families of the deceased.
- \$7,500 to 15 people seriously injured.
- \$1,500 to 12 people moderately injured.
- Additional funds for others injured due to the tragedy.

"We are very grateful to all the individuals and groups that have contributed to this fund," said Dr. Michael Gruning, chairman of the Chamber. "People opened their hearts and wallets with a tremendous community spirit of people coming together. We had people coming in with loose change to individuals donating \$1,000 checks."

The fund's account will be dissolved by the end of October.

LOCAL



Local MTBE lawsuit sets national precedent

MTBE, from page 1

storage tanks that leaked a toxic additive called Methyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether, which was designed to boost fuel performance and reduce emissions.

Under the agreement, the oil companies will pay whatever it costs to filter water at the wells until they are completely cleaned. It's a process that, at worst, will take 35 years and cost \$400 million, officials said.

Representatives from both sides of the dispute are so confident a settlement will be reached in the next few weeks they've already begun the clean-up process.

"The oil companies have actually allowed us to go ahead with some pilot testing," said Craig Perkins, City Hall's director of environmental and public works management.

Perkins added that the only unknown in the agreement is how much additional money City Hall should receive for being inconvenienced and the health risks posed to residents by the contamination.

"We're negotiating a cash payment to the city which would cover some of the out-of-pocket costs we've had to endure over the years ... and then be able to give us extra money to use for other needs," Perkins said.

The lawsuit was levied against 18 oil companies and manufacturers in 2000. City Hall has so far negotiated more than \$18 million in settlements.

"It's a who's who of the business," said Deputy City Attorney Joe Lawrence, who is overseeing the lawsuit.

The City Council earlier this month accepted \$4.5 million from oil giant Ultramar Ltd. And earlier this summer, Atlantic Richfield Co. paid City Hall \$9.75 million. Conoco Inc. settled for more than \$4.5 million in the spring of 2002, Lawrence said.

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said the MTBE lawsuit is "far and away" the biggest lawsuit that City Hall has been involved in during her 10-year tenure.

As of Jan. 1, 2004, it will be illegal to use MTBE, the colorless chemical compound that at very low concentrations smells like turpentine and is a suspected carcinogen in gasoline throughout California.

The additive was originally introduced as a way to boost octane and help meet clean-fuel requirements.

"MTBE was the chemical that was going to improve air quality and improve

"MTBE was the chemical that was going to improve air quality and improve the efficiency of gasoline. But we hadn't considered what might happen if it got into the water. This stuff is super soluble, and it goes right through the earth just like water through a strainer."

— BOB HOLBROOK
City Councilman

the efficiency of gasoline," Councilman Bob Holbrook said. "But we hadn't considered what might happen if it got into the water. This stuff is super soluble and it goes right through the earth just like water through a strainer."

Leakage from underground gas storage tanks closed all five wells at the city's Charnock Well Fields in Mar Vista and both wells at the Arcadia Well Fields in West L.A.

A treatment facility was built at Arcadia and the wells now appear to be clean.

"It's totally clean at this point, that's the good news," Perkins said. "The bad news is Charnock. Charnock has been shut down for more than seven years."

Because seven of Santa Monica's 11 wells had to be immediately shut down in 1996, the oil companies are paying millions of dollars a year to import about 80 percent of the 12-plus million gallons of water Santa Monica uses each day. Perkins said Santa Monica will probably start using treated water from the Charnock fields again in 2007 or 2008.

Despite the headaches cause by the whole incident, Holbrook said some good has come out of it.

"I see light at the end of the tunnel," Holbrook said. "The bottom line is because this case was the first of its kind, MTBE is going to be out of gasoline nationwide."

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STATE

Oregon, other states try to poach California businesses

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS

Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — With California roiled by the recall campaign and struggling to right its foundering economy, Oregon and other states are swooping in to try to lure some of its businesses away.

Two days after the recall election, Oregon Democratic Gov. Ted Kulongoski mailed letters to 250 California businesses, urging them to consider moving to a state with a "clean, green and healthy reputation," lower workers' compensation taxes and less regulation.

"It's always terrible when you take advantage of a sister state in difficult times," Kulongoski said in an interview. "But the truth of it is, I've been talking to a number of people for some time about the advantages Oregon has as a place to do business."

At least half a dozen states have approached businesses in California, trying to capitalize on the political instability and the economic problems that led to Gov. Gray Davis' removal.

"California has become one of the worst places to do business, not only in the United States but around the world."

— **CHUCK MULLOY**
Spokesman,
Intel Corp.

The most aggressive recruiters have been neighboring Oregon and Nevada, but states from Idaho to Oklahoma to Texas have joined in.

Howard Roth, chief economist for the California Finance Department, did not return repeated calls for comment on attempts to poach some of the state's businesses.

But Arnold Schwarzenegger's election as governor has created optimism among the state's business leaders that California is going to turn things around. And the states trying to lure away businesses from

California may find that many industries are more interested in moving jobs overseas than out of state.

California does not keep records on how many of its 1 million businesses leave for other states, but Nevada has attracted up to 35 this year and Oregon up to 25.

During the recall campaign, Schwarzenegger repeatedly charged that California was losing businesses under Davis.

California's tax rate is 24 percent higher than the national average, and workers' compensation rates have increased fourfold since 1999. The state has an \$8 billion deficit and the lowest credit rating in the nation. Also, Davis signed a bill two days before the recall that would require employers to offer health insurance to more than 1.1 million employees and their families.

"California has become one of the worst places to do business, not only in the United States but around the world," said Chuck Mulloy, a spokesman for computer chip manufacturer Intel Corp. of Santa Clara, Calif. Intel has 12,000 employees in California and 15,000 in Oregon.

An April survey of 400 California business leaders by the California Chamber of Commerce found that one-fifth planned to expand or relocate out of state. Fifteen percent reported being actively courted by other states.

Nevada pooled \$650,000 this summer to advertise in major California publications. Oregon leaders have visited Intel and Hewlett-Packard and hosted technology conferences intended to attract invest-

ment from California and elsewhere.

Still, analysts point out that California's economy is no worse than the nation's. In many ways, California is stronger than some of the states stalking its business.

In his letter, Kulongoski failed to mention that Oregon has had the highest unemployment rate in the nation for nearly two years and its Legislature has struggled to plug a multimillion-dollar budget hole by cutting spending and proposing \$800 million in new taxes. Oregon's unemployment rate now stands at 8 percent, versus 6.4 percent in California. In recent months, Wall Street downgraded Oregon's bond rating.

"You keep hearing about California and how bad things are here," said Christopher Thornberg, a senior economist with UCLA Anderson Forecast. "But there's no evidence that California is doing any worse than anyone else."

In addition, an increasing number of companies that choose to expand do so in developing countries, where costs are lower.

Many California high-tech companies are expanding in India, China, Russia and Southeast Asia. According to the research firm Gartner Inc., about one in 10 technology jobs will move overseas by the end of next year.

In the past four years, Intel has opened facilities in Russia, China and India totaling nearly 3,000 employees.

"We've said in the past five years that strategically we must invest in those markets that are growing," Mulloy said. "The U.S. work force will remain relatively flat, but we will invest overseas."

Schwarzenegger, who ran on a pro-business campaign, may help reverse the perception that the state is bad for business.

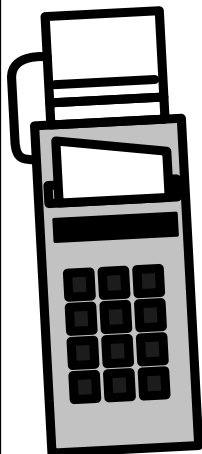
"I think that between his business acumen and his broad-based political support, he might be able to actually do something. We had to get rid of Mr. Gray Davis," said Barbara Adelson, office manager for Plumber 1, a 72-employee company in Carson, Calif.

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NATIONAL



Talking cart coming soon to a grocery store near you

BY JIM FITZGERALD

Associated Press Writer

HAWTHORNE, N.Y. — You just want to get a piece of fish and the makings of a salad, but your shopping cart keeps talking to you.

There's a nice white wine in Aisle 6 that would go perfectly with your salmon, it beeps. Your favorite brand of salami is on sale and, by the way, it's been six weeks since you bought toilet paper.

Nightmare noodle or dream come true, the smart shopping cart is coming soon to a grocery near you, along with an array of other gizmos designed to make your trip to the supermarket more efficient and profitable — and to keep you coming back.

Researchers at IBM recently assembled several of the high-tech machines for a demonstration at their Industry Solutions Lab in Hawthorne. Among them were the smart shopping cart, a computerized produce scale called "Veggie Vision," and a fascinating projection tentatively dubbed the "Everything Display."

Some are being tested in stores while others are in various stages of development. Other companies including NCR, Fujitsu and Hewlett-Packard are also working on similar products, sometimes in partnerships.

"We'll see more change in the next five years in the way people shop than in the last 20," said Dan Hopping, a consulting manager with IBM who specializes in store operations and merchandising.

Kate Delhagen, a retail analyst with

"We'll see more change in the next five years in the way people shop than in the last 20."

— **DAN HOPPING**
Consulting manager,
IBM

Forrester Research in Atlanta, said that until now, most shoppers have seen high-tech applications only at the checkout counter, with its credit card swiper and bar-code scanner.

"But now, the number of applications is multiplying and consumers are becoming more familiar with computer interfaces. So there's a lot of experimentation, a lot of gadgets and gizmos, a lot of high-tech things happening in a lot of different stores."

Many of the applications can be used in any retail setting, but grocers especially are "under tremendous pressure right now to create a better in-store experience for their customers or they're going to lose them on price to Wal-Mart," she said.

The smart shopping cart looks like a normal one except for an interactive screen and scanner mounted near the shopper. Once the shopper swipes his store card, his shopping history is available for all kinds of purposes, from presenting a suggested shopping list to alerting him to discounts or reminding him about perishables purchased a month ago.

If the customer scans her purchases herself for self-checkout, the cart will

know about the salmon she just bought and can suggest a wine or a recipe.

Hopping said a shopping cart could eventually be outfitted to interact with the shelves so a shopper could see an ad or an offer about chicken noodle soup just as he heads into the soup section.

The smart cart raises concerns about privacy for many people. Hopping emphasized that consumers are free not to use a store card and thereby not have their purchases tracked, but he believes they will find that the convenience outweighs the intrusion.

Kathryn Cullen, a technology specialist at Kurt Salmon Associates, a retail consulting firm, said some retailers are shying away from such extensive use of the store card, also known as a "loyalty card."

"This is a very sensitive topic. I may not want the store to be broadcasting what I bought last time I was in here. You're getting closer and closer to being inside my home."

On the other hand, she said, consumers have a history of eventually acceding to such intrusion for the sake of convenience.

"Look at the E-Z Pass," she said.

"They know where we're going but we use it to save time."

On the horizon, the consultants say, is the day when every product is tagged with an RFID, or radio frequency identification chip, instead of a bar code. The chips, which don't have to be scanned, would allow shoppers to leave the store without checking out at all and get the bill on their credit card or store account.

There doesn't seem to be any controversy about "Veggie Vision," a scale for fruits and vegetables that is hooked up to a digital camera and a library of hundreds of pictures of produce. When a shopper puts tomatoes on the scale, the machine evaluates their color, texture and shape to determine what they are, then weighs and prices the purchase.

Not only can it tell an apple from a tomato, but unlike some checkout clerks, it can tell a McIntosh apple from a Red Delicious.

The "Everything Display" is a computerized camera and projector that can flash an advertisement, for example, onto a bare wall in the format of a touch screen on a computer. There is no screen, but when a shopper reacts to the ad by touching a spot on the projection, the camera interprets the movement and the projector flashes the appropriate page onto the wall.

"It turns any wall, or even a floor, into an interactive display," said IBM research scientist Tony Levas. "People react as if it were a touch screen. I think they think it is a touch screen."

Record number of women are childless, data shows

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Anne Hare and her husband made a momentous decision three years ago: They would not have children. It's not that they don't like kids, she says. They simply don't want to alter the lifestyle they enjoy.

"With kids, especially young kids, infants and toddlers, you really can't do the active stuff we like to do," said Hare, 43, a fitness program coordinator from Gainesville, Ga.

Hare is among 26.7 million women aged 15 to 44 who are childless, a record number, according to new Census Bureau data from a June 2002 survey. They represent nearly 44 percent of women in that age group.

The number of women 15 to 44 forgoing or putting off motherhood has grown nearly 10 percent since 1990, when roughly 24.3 million were in that class.

Direct comparisons before 1990 are not possible because the bureau didn't track women younger than 18 until then.

The latest numbers reflect the well-established trend of more women going to college and entering the work force, then delaying motherhood or deciding not to have children. More also are choosing adoption, said Martha Farnsworth Riche, a demographer and former head of the Census Bureau.

Hare said she and other childless friends often are incorrectly tagged as "kid-haters."

"It's just difficult to explain to people that we don't hate kids, it's just that we don't want our own," she said.

The percentage of women 40 to 44 — those at the end of their childbearing years — who have not given birth has hovered around 18 percent since 1994, but that's up from 10 percent in 1976.

Non-high school graduates and those with bachelor's degrees were most likely to be childless. Also women with higher incomes had the highest childless rates, in part a reflection of the increased professional options available to them, said David Popenoe, co-director of the National Marriage Project, a research group at Rutgers University.

Amy Caizza, study director for the Institute for Women's Policy Research, a Washington think tank, said society's attitudes about childless women also have changed.

"Economic reasons are part of it, but it's also the effect

of the women's movement, that you don't have to be a mother to be a complete woman," she said.

Just over half of Asian women were childless, the highest rate among race and ethnic groups. It was 46 percent for non-Hispanic whites, 39 percent for blacks and 36 percent for Hispanics.

Last year about 33 percent of all births were to unmarried women, roughly the same rate since 1998, said Census Bureau demographer Barbara Downs. Blacks were more likely than Hispanics or whites to have out-of-wedlock births.

"With kids, especially young kids, infants and toddlers, you really can't do the active stuff (me and my husband) like to do."

— **ANNE HARE**
Fitness instructor

Roughly 23 percent of the 25.8 million never-married women 15 to 44 were mothers in 2002, about the same rate from 1998 but up from 18 percent of the 20.7 million never-married women in 1990. There was a pronounced increase among never-married women in managerial or professional jobs who were mothers — the percentage has nearly doubled from 9 percent in 1990 to 16 percent in 2002.

Many women in these occupations can earn salaries that enable them to raise a child on their own if they choose, Riche said.

"In earlier days, you had stigma and economic reasons" for these unmarried, professional women not to have kids, she said. "It's much less so now."

Also, about 8 percent of births were to women in unmarried partnerships, the first time the bureau had tracked such a category in the survey.

The report also showed a birth rate of 61 births per 1,000 women 15 to 44 in 2002, down from 67 per 1,000 in

1990. During the same period, it also found the birth rate for women 15 to 19 rose from 40 per 1,000 to 56 per 1,000.

That's far different from National Center for Health Statistics data, which in 2001 showed the birth rate for 15- to 19-year-olds at 45 per 1,000, declining steadily since 1990 from 60 per 1,000.

Government researchers, academics and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, an advocacy group, said they considered NCHS birth data more accurate because it is based on official vital records from hospitals.

The census report was based on a survey of 50,000 homes.

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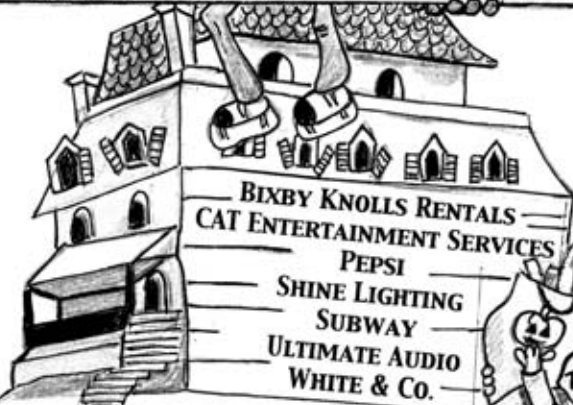


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INTERNATIONAL



Religion gives unwanted spotlight to terrorism for Bush

BY SONYA ROSS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The subject of religion has taken a prominent spot right where President Bush didn't want it — front-and-center in the war against terrorism.

The president's journey through Asia, a trip designed to allay fears that America targets the Muslim world, was instead roiled repeatedly by questions over whether the United States is a Christian nation that is anti-Muslim, and whether the Muslim world is anti-Jewish.

Bush got caught in the middle when he took Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to task for criticizing Jews, but then didn't seem inclined to discipline a high-ranking American military officer, Lt. Gen. William Boykin, for comparing the anti-terror effort to the struggle between Christians and Satan.

For many in the Muslim world, religious motives were plain to see.

"While they condemn Dr. Mahathir when he speaks about the Jews and other injustices inflicted on the poor and the Muslims, there are no such condemnation or reaction when the Muslims are called terrorists," a columnist in the New Straits Times newspaper, which has close ties to Mahathir's party, wrote last week.

In the Mideast, where newspapers and television closely covered Boykin's words, a columnist in the pro-government Egyptian daily Al-Ahram noted that "nobody moved to question Boykin about his attack on Islam" the way Bush confronted Mahathir. "Doesn't that mean that what happened to Mohamad (Mahathir) is in itself extremist and racist?"

Bush did repudiate Boykin and the Pentagon is investigating his statements. But another Egyptian daily, Al-Akhbar, said any apologies were "not enough to answer the questions about the background ideology of the senior commanders and politicians" who lead the U.S. terrorism fight.

Damage to Bush's overall public diplomacy effort in the Arab and Muslim worlds may not be irreparable, but it won't be easy to repair, said Rice University political scientist Richard Stoll.

"It would be a great mistake for the White House to say, 'What press release or photo op or single speech can we do to say this is not an anti-Muslim thing?'" Stoll said. "Repeatedly through time, the speeches you make and actions you take must demonstrate this is false."

Similarly, any progress on a peace settlement between Israelis and Palestinians, facilitated by the United States, would

also help, Stoll said.

Bush's own words and deeds are partly to blame for the lingering suspicions that America is anti-Muslim, said Dipak Gupta, a political science professor at San Diego State University. Many have not forgotten that in the days after the Sept. 11 attacks, Bush characterized his anti-terror effort as a "crusade" — offensive to many Muslims as a reminder of the brutal Crusades waged by medieval Christians. The president apologized for that in a meeting with religious leaders in Indonesia, one participant said.

Also, Bush's habit of using biblical allegories in his speeches plays into the hands of those who want to cast the anti-terror campaign in religious terms, Gupta said.

"The antipathy in the Islamic world toward the U.S. in general, and the current administration in particular, is too deep rooted to be dispelled any time soon," Gupta said.

Bush did try to dispel that antipathy. In Indonesia, he announced a \$157 million grant for education programs designed to stem the influence of hardline Islamic schools there. He also had an intense discussion about U.S. foreign policy with three moderate Muslim religious leaders, a Hindu cleric and a Roman Catholic priest.

The president said he spent most of that session listening, occasionally interjecting his thoughts. The religious leaders directly addressed their concerns about Boykin, Iraq and U.S. policy toward Israel, Bush said. He in turn tried to refute the notion "that Americans believe that Muslims are terrorists."

"That's probably one of the best things that came out of the meeting, for me, was to have heard that concern ... and remind them about the nature of our society, that Islam's a peaceful religion," Bush said.

Overall, Bush deserved credit both for telling Mahathir face-to-face that his words were offensive, and for trying to explain his policies to moderate Muslims, said Peter Schramm, political science and history professor at Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio.

"He's doing some very high, serious, long-range diplomacy by speaking on these matters," Schramm said.

Nevertheless, not much is going right for Bush on the issue, Schramm said, in part because of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"The prime disagreement ... is with regard to our policy in Israel and Palestine," Schramm said. "That's a real hard nut to crack."



WORLD BRIEFLY

Map details security barrier in Israel

By The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel has published for the first time a detailed map of its planned security barrier, showing a snaking path that would isolate tens of thousands of Palestinians but keep about 80 percent of Jewish settlers on the Israeli side of the fence.

The fence cuts deep into the West Bank and will likely enflame already fierce international opposition. The United States has said it opposes extending the barrier deep into the region. The United Nations on Wednesday overwhelmingly approved a resolution demanding Israel tear it down.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Friday the military also was planning a final section of the barrier in the eastern area of the West Bank and would soon present it to the Cabinet.

That section, which would cut Palestinians off from the Jordan Valley, would likely pass a few miles from the Jordan River, he said in a TV interview.

"The route is being planned now. The moment it will be completed, it will be presented to the government," Sharon said.

Dude, college students ponder life

By The Associated Press

CAMDEN, N.J. — Mike Marriner and Nathan Gebhard did not invent the college graduate's I have-no-idea-what-to-do-with-my-life roadtrip.

But 2 1/2 years after they first started theirs, the two may have perfected it and their philosophy is spelled out in the Roadtrip Nation Manifesto.

The two surfers — childhood friends and college roommates — were finishing their studies at Pepperdine University more than three years ago, but had doubts about their chosen career paths.

Marriner, 26, was a biology and kinesiology major studying for the medical school admissions test.

Gebhard, 27, was a business major trying to come to grips with the idea that his snowboard and skateboard-designing days were behind him. "Society tells people: Get a 401(k), get stability, make fifty grand out of college," she said.

The two friends decided they didn't want that. Instead, they hit the road with a couple of friends in an RV to, as the cliché goes, find themselves.

Maggots help solve crime

By The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The bugs don't lie.

Maggots and other insects found at a crime scene can provide investigators with important clues, according to a new exhibit making its world premiere at the Science Museum of Minnesota on Saturday, the first stop on a tour booked through 2007.

"CSI: Crime Scene Insects," explores the rapidly growing field of forensic entomology, and how insects can crack cases and bring killers to justice.

Not only was the exhibit inspired by the hit "CSI" TV shows, its curator is a consultant for both of them. He also does work for the FBI and law enforcement agencies around the world.

"It's really kind of exciting," said the curator Lee Goff, chairman of the forensic sciences program at Champlain University of Honolulu. "It's a chance to bring something to people that 20 years ago I don't think anyone would have been interested in."

Goff's business card reads: "Know maggots, will travel." It depicts a little worm staring through a detective's magnifying glass.

Confusion, inaccessibility caused deaths

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Locked stairwell doors and confusion over the location of trapped victims contributed to the deaths of six people in a fire in a downtown high rise

last week, Chicago emergency officials said.

The city released its first detailed report Friday on the Oct. 17 fire at a Cook County administration building. Their timeline showed fire officials knew within minutes that people were trapped in smoke-filled stairwells, but did not find victims until as much as 90 minutes later.

"Ninety minutes sounds like forever. It's not forever when you're working on a scene like this," said Fire Commissioner James Joyce.

City officials said firefighters did the best they could in the face of confusing emergency calls and a roaring fire so hot it melted plumbing fixtures above them. "I wish I could stand here and tell you that every aspect of this event went as well as we liked. That is simply not the case," said Cortez Trotter, the city's emergency management director.

Don't want water damage? Move

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — To Rep. Earl Blumenauer, it's a matter of fairness and rational policy. People who live in flood plains should either move, flood-proof their homes or see their insurance rates skyrocket if they repeatedly file for federal flood assistance, he says.

But lawmakers in Louisiana and other Gulf states, where much of the land is below sea level, see the Oregon Democrat's bill in less charitable terms. "It is an assault on the culture of South Louisiana," said Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La.

Blumenauer, who has been pushing his legislation for more than four years, says the measure would overhaul a federal program he says mindlessly encourages people to stay in homes "where Mother Nature repeatedly shows they are not wanted."

While nearly 4.5 million homes and buildings nationwide are covered by federal flood insurance, just 48,000 high-risk structures account for more than 20 percent of all payouts over the past decade, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Preventing even a fraction of those losses — by forcing people to move to higher ground or make repairs that reduce the risk of flood damage — could save homeowners well over \$100 million a year in insurance premiums, Blumenauer said.

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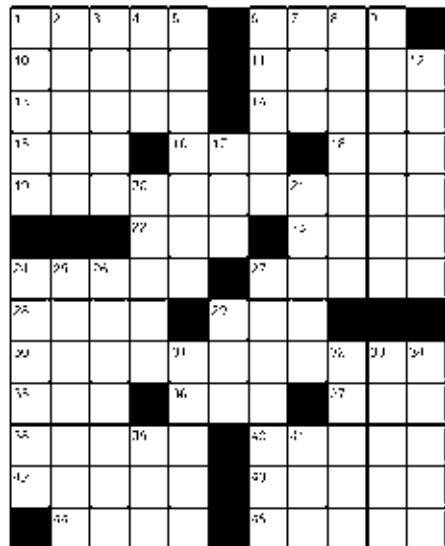
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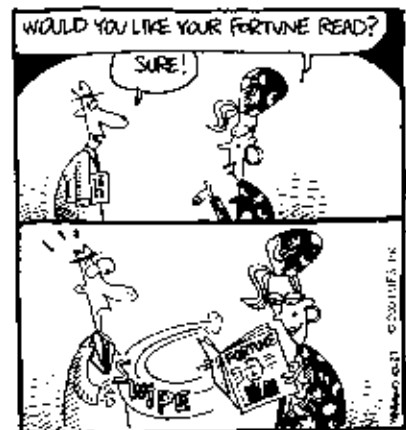
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SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2003

EVENTS

Reading of Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Roz Bosley gives a premier reading of Mrs. Roosevelt. There will also be a 30 minute, one woman treatment/one-act by Glenn Hopkins followed by a lunch and discussion. Admission is free and the event begins at 12 p.m. at the Oasis Center, Robinson-May's third floor, located at the Westside Pavilion at Pico and Overland in West Los Angeles. For more information, call (310) 478-7379.

Health Coverage for all Californians

State Sen. Sheila Kuehl will discuss her plan for distributing universal health care to all Californians, her Senate Bill 921. The discussion is free and open to the public and will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Four Points Sheraton Hotel at 530 W. Pico Blvd. Pre-registration is required and can be made at (310) 829-8453.

Family holiday bazaar

This weekend, peruse a vast selection of gifts, jewelry, boutique items, plants, baked goods, attic treasures, stationary, clothing, children items and household goods. This bazaar will support Habitat for Humanity and is sponsored by Mission and Youth Groups. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25 and is open to the public. Also, there will be a Scottish Meat Pie Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. which costs \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Free parking will be available

in the underground parking structure located on the north side of Arizona, between Ocean and Second with a validation stamp obtained at the church's Desk.
First Presbyterian Church, 1220 Second St.

CULTURE

A Hansel and Gretel Halloween

The Santa Monica Playhouse presents a light, sing-along musical that takes the audiences through the mysterious Black Forest. Suitable for all ages, this play is written and directed by Chris DeCarlo and Evelyn Rudie. Birthday parties are available. Tickets for kids 12 & under cost \$9; adults \$10; they are available at (310) 394-9779 ext. 2. Showings Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse Main Stage, 1211 Fourth Street

The Other Shoe: Original Short American Plays

On Saturday and Sunday, the Edgemar Center for the arts will present this compilation of musical and comedic plays. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. and costs \$20. Reservations can be made at (310) 392-7327. Edgemar Center for the Arts, 2437 Main Street

Piano recital - Russian composers

Liuba Sorochkina will perform piano works from Russian composers, including Rachmaninov and Scriabin. The recital begins at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday in the Concert Hall at Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd. Admission

is free, but seating is limited. For more information, call (310) 434-3000.

ENTERTAINMENT

Temple Bar

Here visitors can enjoy concoctions like White Chocolate Martinis, a Gintirini or a Razzmatazz. Those who are really hungry can enjoy a Chicken Tamale Plate with Fried Plantains. Temple Bar even offers vegetarian options like veggie eggrolls and burgers. But no good bar would be complete without live music. Tonight, the Temple Bar presents the Cinema Lounge at 7:30 p.m. and the following: Jessy Moss at 9:45 p.m., and The 88 at 11 p.m. \$7. 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310) 393-6611

Harvelle's

Established in 1931, Harvelle's is the oldest blues club on the west side. This is the kind of blues joint you'd expect to find in a dark Chicago alley; yet even if it's your first visit, it feels familiar. Tonight Harvelle's features their All-Star Pro Jam. 1432 4th St., (310) 395-1676

14 Below

An intimate and well-equipped club that is leading the Westside music scene with live performances seven nights a week. Tonight 14 Below features their Meet Me at the Pub at 9 p.m., followed by The Spotted Tribe at 10:30 p.m. 1348 14th St., (310) 451-5040

MOVIE °GUIDE

LAEMMLE'S MONICA 4-PLEX

1332 2nd Street
Bubba Ho-Tep R - 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 8, 10:15 p.m.
The Singing Detective R - 12, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15 p.m.
Wonderland R - 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45 p.m.
Station Agent R - 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 p.m.

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd
Elephant R - 4:45, 7, 9:30 p.m.
Pieces of April PG-13 - 5, 7:30, 9:45 p.m.

LOEWS CINEPLEX BROADWAY CINEMAS

1441 Third Street Promenade
Kill Bill Vol. 1 R - 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 3:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30 p.m.
Lost in Translation R - 11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:30, 7, 9:30 p.m.
Mystic River R - 12, 12:45 p.m., 3:50, 6:30, 7:15, 10:30 p.m.

AMC SANTA MONICA 7

1310 Third Street Promenade
In the Cut - 1:20, 2, 4, 7, 7:30, 10:15 p.m.
Intolerable Cruelty PG-13 - 2:10, 4:30, 7:35, 10:05 p.m.
Scary Movie 3 PG-13 - 1:30, 3:40, 4:40, 6:40, 7:55, 9:45, 10:15 p.m.
School of Rock PG-13 - 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50 p.m.
The Texas Chainsaw Massacre R - 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 p.m.
Under the Tuscan Sun PG-13 - 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55 p.m.

MANN CRITERION 6 THEATERS

1313 Third Street Promenade
Beyond Borders R - 12:50, 4:10, 7:40, 10:40 p.m.
Good Bye! PG - 12, 2:15, 4:30, 7:20 p.m.
Radio PG-13 - 11:40 a.m., 12:10, 2:10, 2:40, 4:40, 5:10, 9:40, 10:20 p.m.
Runaway Jury PG-13 - 1, 1:30, 4, 4:20, 7, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30 p.m.
Veronica Guerin R - 11:10 a.m., 10 p.m.

If you know of an upcoming event which may be included in the calendar please send the information to calendar@smdp.com or fax it to (310) 576 9913



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Crowe plays the role of a lifetime, first time father

By The Associated Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Oscar-winner Russell Crowe can't wait to take on his next role — as a father.

"Like, whoa, this is gonna be fun," Crowe told Entertainment Tonight's Mary Hart on Saturday.

Crowe, 39, and his wife, Danielle Spencer, are expecting their first child in January.

Crowe, who won an Academy Award for "Gladiator," said he doesn't expect fatherhood will crimp his career, at least not in the beginning.

"He's gonna travel with me," said Crowe, who also was nominated for an Oscar in "A Beautiful Mind."

"I mean that's the plan at this point in time. I think prior to him going to school I think the best thing to do is to make sure that he is wherever I am," Crowe said.

"Once he goes to school things are really going to have to change at supposedly that point. 'Cause I don't think I'd like to do anything, you know, more than pick him up from the school gate every day."

This fall, Crowe appears as a Napoleonic-era naval captain in the film "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World."

■ **WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.** — "What's Eating Gilbert Grape" author Peter Hedges says he struggled as an acting student at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

But instructors of the novelist and playwright recognized his potential.

"They saw that I was a writer before I did," said Hedges, who visited the Winston-Salem college recently. He graduated in 1984.

Hedges, 41, is making his directing debut with "Pieces of April," a Sundance Film Festival favorite that stars Katie Holmes and Patricia Clarkson.

The comic drama opened nationally Oct. 17. Hedges showed the film Friday at the North Carolina School of the Arts, and spoke with drama and film-making students.

Earlier this year, Hedges received an Oscar nomination for his movie "About A Boy."

■ **TUCSON, Ariz.** — A lawyer for Diana Ross is asking that a new judge hear his request to toss out the breath test results expected to be used in the pop diva's drunken driving trial.

Ross was stopped on Dec. 30 and faces three DUI-related charges in Tucson City Court. She has pleaded innocent.

Lawyer Stephen Paul Barnard filed a petition requesting that another judge consider the motion to dismiss the breath tests.

Tucson City Magistrate T. Jay Cranshaw had previously dismissed Barnard's contentions that Ross had felt intimidated and coerced to take several breath tests, and allowed the results to be used at trial.

The trial, originally set for Sept. 9 and then Dec. 9, is now scheduled for January.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Grammy-winning entertainer Ray Charles has gone back to his gospel music roots. "It was very nostalgic, bringing me back to my childhood at church on Sundays," Charles said this week ahead of the release of a 90-minute concert DVD "Ray Charles Celebrates A Gospel Christmas."

In 1953, Charles recorded his first big hit "I Got A Woman," a blend of gospel and blues, but he never thought about being a serious gospel singer.

"My mother said you can't serve two masters, and I sing rhythm and blues," he said.

The 13-time Grammy Award winner recorded the gospel DVD during a concert last November in Green Bay, Wis. He was joined on stage by 70 singers from the Newark, N.J., Voices of Jubilation Choir.

It was the first time Charles, 73, has performed traditional gospel music in public since he was a boy singing in church in rural Georgia and Florida.

The DVD selections include "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire)," "Little Drummer Boy," "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," "Silent Night," "The First Noel" and "Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer."

A portion of the proceeds from DVD sales will go to the nonprofit Save Africa's Children.

■ **MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich.** — Kid Rock may project a bad-boy image, but his current hassles with the authorities involve the mundane issues of parking and zoning.

The parking problem emerged in this Detroit suburb, where the rapper-rocker is to perform at a theater for a VH1 cable network special. The Nov. 3-4 concerts are for a December holiday TV special.

The theater's operator Joe Nieporte told the Detroit Free Press that VH1 wanted eight metered parking spaces for its production trucks, but the city — fearing the effect on neighboring businesses — denied the request.

The theater since has found other parking spaces, he said.

And in Oakland County's Independence Township, 25 miles northwest of Mount Clemens, the zoning board has ordered Kid Rock to remove a shed and recent additions to the barn where he operates a recording studio.

"He has to remove the construction that was not granted approval," Beverly McElmeel, the township's building director, told The Daily Oakland Press.

Kid Rock has 90 days to comply before the case is referred to township attorneys. Frank Copeland, a lawyer for Kid Rock, whose real name is Robert J. Ritchie, did not return a call seeking comment.

Kid Rock's new album, "Rock," is due in stores Nov. 11. His third album, "Cocky," has sold 4 million copies and was the seventh-best-selling album of 2003, according to Nielsen Soundscan.

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