

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## LOTO

### FANTASY 5

11, 15, 35, 22, 17

### DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 3, 7

Evening picks: 1, 0, 0

### DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 2, Lucky Star

2nd Place: 1, Gold Rush

3rd Place: 6, Whirl Win

Race Time: 1:47.52



## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Kevin Presland was awarded about \$150,000 by a judge in Sydney, Australia, in August because the Hunter Area Health Service psychiatric hospital released him too soon in 1995, after which he killed his brother's fiancée. This was not a lawsuit by the victim's family against the hospital; this was a direct payout to Presland, whose injury was that he was made to suffer temporary prison conditions after his arrest (he was acquitted because of his psychosis), whereas if he had never been released, he would have experienced only psychiatric-hospital conditions.



"One is not superior merely because one sees the world as odious."

— Chateaubriand



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## People in the News

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## A creepy crib



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

A Santa Monica family who lives in the Sunset Park neighborhood gets into the Halloween spirit. The front porch displays a spider web and the decor wouldn't be complete without the giant spider sitting on the corner of the roof.

## SM City Council members defend homeless agenda

*Council, public will debate issue at annual meeting tonight in City Hall*

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

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

With its annual review of social services scheduled for tonight, the Santa Monica City Council is expected to hear from people on both sides of the contentious homelessness issue.

Some are pushing for more social services and say City Hall doesn't do enough to help the needy get off of Santa Monica's streets. Others say City Hall's \$1.8 million in services attracts a large homeless population that hurts

See COUNCIL, page 5

## SM firefighters jump in to help combat fires

By staff and wire reports

The Santa Monica Fire Department has thrown its resources into battling the raging wildfires ripping through Southern California.

Nine local firefighters had been working around the clock since early Saturday and were relieved Monday morning. A second crew was dispatched and was waiting to deploy on Monday night, said SMFD Chief Jim Hone.

SMFD had two engines with a four-member crew each in the areas of Val

Verde Park and parts of Piru in Ventura County, as well as in the Simi Valley. Their prime responsibility was to save homes.

"They worked pretty hard, it was hot, windy and a lot of fire," Chief Hone said. "They saved a lot of structures."

SMFD also dispatched a utility truck with one firefighter to provide support and to map out evacuation routes. SMFD is part of a unit that includes two fire engines from Beverly Hills and one from

See FIRES, page 7

## Wildfires spark health concerns

BY ANDREW BRIDGES

AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES — The fires burning across Southern California have left millions with a scratching in their throats and a burning in their eyes — telltale signs of the significant health risks the smoke and soot clouding the entire region can pose, officials said Monday.

The same Santa Ana winds that have whipped up the frenzy of firestorms pushed smoke toward the populous

See HEALTH, page 10

## SM City Hall expected to spend \$715,000 tonight

(Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures which appear on the upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agenda. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the city council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.)

By Daily Press staff

Nearly three quarters of a million dollars is expected to be spent tonight on dump trucks, video cameras and a construction project for City Hall.

The largest price tag in tonight's spending by the Santa Monica City Council is \$328,350 for two new compressed natural gas dump trucks that will haul dirt, hot asphalt and pavement debris.

They will replace two older trucks — a 1983 and a 1990 model — that should've been

replaced in 1998, according to city staff.

The second largest expense is \$242,511 to buy four video cameras and accessories to be used for City Hall's cable TV mobile truck and

its field productions.

Another \$145,000 will be spent to upgrade the compressed natural gas facility at the city

See CONSENT, page 6

## Santa Monica jurors mull over whether lawyer should get \$150K

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica jury will decide how much money, if any, a local property owner owes a lawyer he hired to work on an insurance dispute after the 1993 firestorms in Malibu.

In his closing arguments on Monday, Richard Grimwade told jurors that Orlando Aliberti, 84, owes him \$146,000 for legal work. He said Aliberti agreed to pay him \$125 an hour but let bills go unpaid for years.

"He now owes me close to \$150,000," said

See TRIAL, page 6

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# HOROSCOPE

## Happy Birthday Lillian Pastrana



**JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS**

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★-Dynamic   ★★★★-Positive   ★★★-Average  
★★-So-so   ★-Difficult

Pressure might build, as so many people want and expect so much from you — you're just one person! No question, you will deliver. In fact, please remember what you want in this whirlwind of activity, so that you don't forget you! Network and expand your horizons. Learn a new language; go back to school. Experience life from a revitalized and new perspective. If you are single, a friendship could develop into a lot more. You will meet someone special, and if he or she is new to your circle, this person will become a romance and a friend at the same time. If you are attached, your relationship will grow closer, as the two of you commit to new adventures and different but common hobbies. Be open, Scorp. SAGITTARIUS helps you make money.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
★★★★ Continue detaching, to the point of trying to move your own mental filters that prevent you from seeing the whole picture. Erase bias and judgment, and the solution will appear with ease. You cruise through work. Tonight: Try something different.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
★★★★ Deal with someone in a more gentle and careful manner. This person could prove to be unusually responsive and caring, as a result. You don't want to put a damper on another's enthusiasm. A partner has a very interesting way of looking at an issue. Tonight: Togetherness.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
★★★★ You feel unusually confident this morning, when others seek you out. Your caring seems to exude from you to others. Someone who might have been a problem with you now stands back. How nice. Get to know others again, without judgment. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
★★★★ Pace yourself at work. You could be more overloaded when you realize what is on your plate. Take your time looking over what must be done immediately and what can wait. You restructure your work more effectively. Tonight: Happy at home.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
★★★★ Your playful, teasing ways could irritate someone close to you at the office or at home. You might find yourself in quicksand before you know it. Be diplomatic and discuss your feelings as well as this partner's. Everyone turns out happy. Tonight: Let loose when you're home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
★★★★ Deal with basics, and others will be truly impressed by how you think and express yourself. Realize more of what you want from a personal relationship. Be willing to change gears if need be. Someone close might reverse his or her position one more time. Tonight: Vanish! Put on your headphones.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
★★★★ You might only be speaking your mind, but someone close might be overly reactive. Explain where you are coming from through a different choice of words. Some people just don't get it. You might need to phrase your ideas differently. Tonight: Swap jokes with a pal.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
★★★★ Deal with finances, but be willing to reverse your stand when new information comes forward. Your adaptability can and will make all the difference. Never lose sight of your ultimate goal, and you will prosper. Tonight: Your treat.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)**  
★★★★ Others see you as being so capable that they keep dumping more and more work on you. Ahem — perhaps it is time to discuss a promotion of sorts. Display your flexibility in different situations. You're a role model, in a sense. Tonight: Whatever pleases you.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
★★★★ Take a step back, and do your own fact-finding. You might or might not trust someone else, but you have a way of coming up with the right answers at the right time because of your complete approach. You revise your thinking on a key matter. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
★★★★ Where your friends are is where you want to be. Still, you have a knack, even at work, of turning the most serious meetings and sessions into fun happenings. Talk to a key associate more often. This person is on your side. Tonight: Where your friends are.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
★★★★ You need to tell others where you are coming from and not just proceed on your own. Communication proves to be vital and will actually make the job easier, with others' support. Don't push someone who is in charge. Tonight: Work as late as need be.

## Santa Monica Daily Press

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## LOCAL



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Emeritus college opens downtown

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica College's Emeritus program is settling into its new headquarters in a recently completed four-story office building in downtown Santa Monica.

The move, which occurred earlier this month, makes history in two ways: It secures a permanent home for the program and it marks the first completed project funded by Measure U, the \$160 million bond passed by Santa Monica-Malibu voters in 2002.

Although work still remains to be done in some parts of the building, Emeritus College students and instructors are settling in quickly, and are happy with the new facility because of its ample space, light-drenched design, and custom-tailored classrooms for everything from yoga to art to stroke rehabilitation courses, officials say.

"We are all so fortunate to have Emeritus College," said Emeritus student Sylvia Zalk. "Now with this state-of-the-art facility, we have the icing on the cake."

Highlights of the new building include a ground-level art gallery, expected to be opened in 2004; a 99-seat multi-purpose room still under construction that will be used for theatre readings, recitals, film screenings, lectures and more; an aerobics/physical fitness room comparable to established dance studios; and the D'Arcy Hayman Art Center that takes up an entire floor and includes two large art classrooms, a student lounge and a music and theater library.

The building also includes conference rooms, lecture classrooms and a computer room that will eventually house 24 computers, all connected to the Internet. Located at 1227 Second St. in downtown Santa Monica, next to a large parking structure and right on bus routes, the building also features outdoor patios and balconies.

The new Emeritus College facility was designed by RTK Architects in Santa Monica, run in part by City Councilman Herb Katz. With 24,000 square feet, it is four times larger than the former Emeritus facility, which was also on Second Street but was under a municipal parking structure and was rented from the city of Santa Monica.

Last year, the SMC Board of Trustees voted to purchase the contemporary glass building for \$8.65 million. Still under construction at the time, the structure was custom designed on the interior for Emeritus. With additional interior work, the college has spent a total of \$8.8 million of Measure U funds on the project. On top of that, Emeritus College has spent about \$750,000 in private donations for interior work and furniture.

College officials have said their No. 1 priority for Measure U funds was a permanent home for Emeritus.

Emeritus is a program that provides a wide range of classes — ranging from the arts to current affairs to health — designed for older adults. In its 28-year history, it has grown from less than 200 students to a current enrollment of 2,500, with about 70 instructors.

## Help to eliminate inequality between the sexes

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women is looking for new members.

Since 1981, the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women has worked to eliminate inequality between the sexes in all areas, including employment, health, education, political life and law enforcement. Currently, the board has a vacancy and is seeking persons interested in serving on the commission. Candidates must be residents of Santa Monica and must be committed to improving the status of women through advocacy, education and related efforts. Meetings are held every second Wednesday at 7 p.m., and the public is invited to participate.

With a total of nine members, the board makes regular recommendations to the Santa Monica City Council on programs and policies affecting women and girls.

Application forms and information are available in the lobby or in the City Clerk's office, room 102, at Santa Monica City Hall, at 1685 Main St. You may request an application by mail by calling (310) 458-8211, or you may apply through the city's public electronic network or Web site at [www.santa-monica.org](http://www.santa-monica.org). Applications must be received by 12 p.m. on Dec. 2. Only those candidates appointed will be notified.

# surf report

SW swell stays strong most of today, bringing the best spots some fun surf in the chest-high range. We'll also have a bit more WNW energy today and into early Wednesday with more NW wind swell expected by the second half of the week and into the weekend.

OUTLOOK: SW loses steam and dies through the later part of the week.

Write us at [wood@smdp.com](mailto: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:

**68°**

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   | <b>3:54</b> | <b>2.2</b> | <b>5:42</b> | <b>-0.7</b> | <b>10:15</b> | <b>6.5</b> | <b>N/A</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
| 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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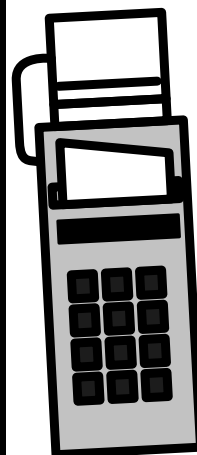
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## LETTERS

## Big Blue Bus steps up during strike

## Editor:

Applause belongs to the Big Blue Bus for the job it is doing during the MTA strike. On weekdays after 3:30 p.m., large crowds gather to wait on Pico Boulevard for the Big Blue Bus No. 7 or Super 7. The bus agency probably had to put more buses on this route which represents one of the few ways persons who live in central LA can reach home — or, at least, get closer to home.

Likewise, the freeway express No. 10 has experienced heavier loads of passengers, some of whom, no doubt, have to call friends or relatives to ferry them back to Hollywood or mid Wilshire.

The transit strike also has packed weekday, early morning Big Blue Buses 1 and 2. By 9 a.m., the Wilshire bus is often stuffed tighter than a can of sardines. If it were not for the yoman work by the city's Big Blue Bus, the transit strike, as bad as it is, would be much worse.

Joanne Gamlin  
Santa Monica

## Drunk tank sobering for residents

## Editor:

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

Regarding the "Sobering Center" proposed for the CLARE facility at Pico Boulevard and Ninth Street.

As a six-year resident of Ninth Street I am firmly against this proposal.

Ninth Street is already inundated with obviously intoxicated persons, staggering through the neighborhood. They are regularly observed "sleeping it off" on the sidewalks, in our yards and at the curbs. They congregate and loiter in the alleys and, many times openly, urinate and defecate in all the aforementioned areas.

Their alcohol containers, metal, plastic and glass are strewn across our properties and public spaces. Their glass containers are regularly found smashed where the children play and our car's tires are exposed to these hazards.

The proposed "Sobering Center" for the CLARE facility, essentially a local non-secure jail, which would house inebriates from all over the city, will only further deteriorate the day-to-day lives of the residents of our neighborhood.

I don't know about the distinguished members of the council, (because it won't affect you, it won't be at the corner of your street) but I for one (and many of my neighbors) will not relish the emergency vehicle traffic (police, ambulance and fire) necessary to service the proposed facility. Or having police with or without canines searching through our neighborhood in the middle of the night for an inebriate who has chosen to walk away

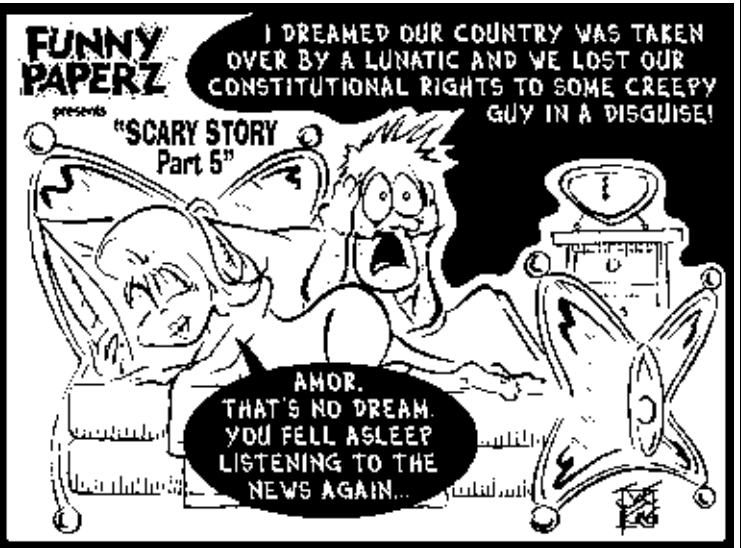
from the unguarded "Sobering Center."

Additionally, there are a multitude of reasons beyond the aforementioned which make the CLARE location a less than poor choice for the proposed "Sobering Center." Not the least of which (if it weren't so very serious it would be laughable) only steps away from this proposed facility are two high-traffic retail alcohol dispensaries — liquor stores.

Perhaps the soon to be vacated old police building in back of City Hall would provide a far superior location for a "Sobering Center."

In conclusion, how a project of this nature could even be considered for placement in a residential neighborhood (much less progress to this stage) without first consulting the residents who will be directly impacted leaves me, more than a bit, perplexed.

Paul Bailey  
Santa Monica



Member: AAEC 1, NCS DEC, SCES --

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## The 'Ugly Americans' are destroying their own destiny

LEGAL  
VIEWS AND  
NEWS

By David Pizarra

Royal Velvet died this year. Most people have no idea what Royal Velvet was. It was a line of sheets and towels that was manufactured in the United States. It employed people in the South and put food on their tables, and a roof over their head. It died because it could not compete on price with the goods that are being manufactured abroad and sold in companies like Bed, Bath & Beyond, Wal-Mart, and Linens 'N Things. It died because the big box retailers have two very demanding mistresses.

On the one hand, a company is beholden to its shareholders first and foremost. The main purpose of a company is not to provide jobs to its employees. The main purpose is to maximize the profit to its shareholders.

The other mistress that a big box retailer has is the customer. In order for a company to return the highest profit to its shareholders, it must have customers. It must steal those customers from its competition, however it can, in whatever legal way possible. What the customer wants is what the company must provide.

Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart, was great at this. He was a phenomenal leader of people. He laid the foundation for a company that today is the largest retailer in the world. Sam once promised his employees that if they gave him a certain profit margin by the end of the year he would do the hula in February on Wall Street. They did and he did. Today, Wal-Mart is a powerhouse of marketing might.

Wal-Mart is either the greatest retailing success story ever, or the most dangerous evil to beset the free market. It is simply a matter of which side of the street you are on. As a business observer, I find it to be an amazing organization that is steamrolling over its competition at a rate that is inspiring. As a lawyer, I see that they push the law to its limits to achieve their goals. As a consumer, I find their sales remarkable. As a thinking human being, I find them very dangerous to the American economy.

It is our desire to be able to go to Wal-Mart and buy a pack of socks, six for \$5, that is the cause of the job loss for the American workforce. Americans want to have our cake and to eat it too.

Remember September 11? Right afterward, when patriotism was running so thick you needed a knife to cut it? How many people were waving their American flags that had been manufactured in China? Lots. We are a country that likes to live large and we don't particularly want to pay for it.

We all want good schools, more police and "for god's sake will someone please do something about the homeless, but don't you dare raise my taxes." We all want more jobs in America, but if the choice is between those Royal Velvet towels at \$2.50 apiece or those others that are 20 cents cheaper, we buy the cheaper ones. We don't consider that those cheaper ones are coming from China, Taiwan, Malaysia, or "one of them countries over there." We don't consider that we express our patriotism when we spend our money in a Wal-Mart, a Bed, Bath & Beyond or a Linens 'N Things.

It's a simple process. The consumer needs things, the retailer finds out what is needed and what people are willing to pay for it, and then he provides it, makes a profit and sending the money to the investors.

The CEOs make the big salaries because they are able to source the product for sale that the American consumers want. The little guy is the one dictating what is sold and for how much. And yes they make huge salaries, but who is paying those salaries? Not the consumers, but their investors — the ones who should receive more in their annual dividends. But whether or not the CEOs make a big salary is not what costs jobs in America.

The sad part of this is that so many of the consumers at Wal-Mart are the same people who are being phased out of their own jobs, and are not even aware that they are causing their own unemployment. I could be wrong, but I don't think that the John Grassos, the Gary Winnicks and the Ken Lays of the world are really buying all that much at Wal-Mart.

There is much wailing these days and gnashing of teeth at the evils of the CEOs and their big paychecks, as well as at the loss of jobs and downsizing in America. People want to blame the CEOs and their endless greed as the source of the troubles in America. But it is the soccer moms who pull up to the Wal-Marts of the world and demand that they be able to buy 50 pounds of dog food for \$25 (and throw in a stack of those cute seashell design towels fresh off the boat from China) who are the cause of the loss of jobs in America. It is the endless pursuit of having more that has put us in the position we are in.

Wal-Mart is one of the largest importers of goods that are manufactured in China coming into the U.S. They are one of the largest outlets for the goods that are manufactured cheaper abroad and distributed to the hoards of Americans who pack their Chevy Suburbans full with Tupperware knockoffs, T-shirts from Jamaica and 15-pound containers of laundry detergent. They are the ones who are doing us in.

So long as we want to buy more and pay less, it will continue this way. And one day we'll wake up and realize that our manufacturing has moved offshore, but at least we can buy a 100-pack of plastic cups for \$2 in fashion forward colors, and that they come with color coordinated bath towels.

CNN interviewed customers out in front of a Wal-Mart last week discussing this issue. Most people said they did not like the way in which the company did business, but they continue to shop there because they like the bargains. This is a company that doesn't pay union wages, doesn't provide health insurance to its employees, is under federal investigation for using illegal immigrants through subcontractors and has begun a program of private labeling its own goods, which directly compete with the name brands that it used to sell, thus putting American manufacturers out of business.

As Americans, we want our gas below \$2 a gallon, our milk at \$3 a gallon, our employers to provide our health insurance, our government to provide our schooling and our property taxes to go down.

Stephen Burd, the CEO of Safeway, is playing hardball with the unions right now. He's worried about the 40 Wal-Marts that are slated to come to the Southern California market. He says it's a real danger for his company. Some people think that he is just union busting. I don't know about that, but I do know that Royal Velvet died this year, and that the majority of the people who voted for our new governor are more likely to shop at Wal-Mart.

We have met the enemy, and he is us.

(David Pizarra is a partner in the Santa Monica law firm of Pizarra & Grist, he welcomes questions, and can be e-mailed at DPISARRA@PISARRA.COM).

## LOCAL

# Council: Other cities should help against homelessness

COUNCIL, from page 1

business and puts an unnecessary burden on emergency workers.

Responding to three questions from the Daily Press, all but one of the council members polled defended City Hall's social services programs. And all of them said other cities in Southern California need to help solve the problem and alleviate Santa Monica's burden.

City Councilman Bob Holbrook, the only one polled who said services should be curtailed, said he doesn't expect City Hall to change how it deals with homelessness anytime soon.

Ultimately, Holbrook said it's up to the

voters to elect council members who don't have strong social service agendas.

But City Councilmen Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown disagree, saying the large homeless population downtown could be curtailed through more effective policing.

"When people say that our programs are attracting more people, I wonder how many of those people have visited the shelters that we fund," Genser said. "I've visited and I've seen people who could be my relatives or theirs. They are people who are decent folks, going to work or going to school ... They're regular folks."

Here, council members explain their positions on homelessness:



## ■ Mayor Richard Bloom

**What is your response to members of the public who complain the homeless situation has not been adequately addressed by the council?**

"Homelessness is an ugly reality. As a city, we strive to draw a balance. We do the best we can. If all cities did that and if the federal government provided a modicum of assistance, I believe we would see significant progress."

**What is City Hall doing right in how it deals with the homeless population?**

"We have a responsible, well-thought-out program that is focused on getting people off streets and into productive lives. That is a difficult, frustrating business. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of service providers who are willing to shoulder the burden."

**What could City Hall be doing better?**

"We could be doing a better job, as a community, at working towards regional and national solutions. Nobody likes homelessness. It is a regional and national problem. Yet there is little done regionally and nationally. We are seen by many others as a model. I hope that we can unite behind an agenda that encourages other communities and the federal government to work harder at becoming a part of the solution."



## ■ Ken Genser

**What is your response to members of the public who complain the homeless situation has not been adequately addressed by the council?**

"I think that we have. The city funds transitional programs, primarily, that move people from the street to permanent housing. That includes things like job training, substance abuse treatment, transitional housing and so on ... I don't believe the people who are in the city programs are the ones who people find bothersome or become problematic — that comes from the people who are not in the city programs or are not suitable to the city programs."

"One of the things that has attracted so many people who seem to cause problems are the unregulated feeding programs in our parks. They send the message that all you have to do is come to Santa Monica and get a free meal and you'll be taken care of. They are very unlike the city programs that require one to have a commitment to improve their lives. We are doing everything we can to reduce the number of open meal programs but we have been severely limited by the courts."

**What is City Hall doing right in how it deals with the homeless population?**

"We adopted a policy that was enacted over a decade ago that is sound. That is to concentrate our resources to help fewer people but help them in a more meaningful way — and not concentrating municipal resources on emergency services which tend to attract more people in need to our small community."

**What could City Hall be doing better?**

"We need to step up enforcement of the laws we have and target the anti-social behavior that many residents find disturbing ... I think that the police department needs to dedicate more resources to enforcement activity against the anti-social behavior of individuals in our public spaces. I don't believe it's

because of a lack of ordinances or policy. I believe we've given the police department the tools it needs but I would prefer to see more concentrated enforcement."



## ■ Bob Holbrook

**What is your response to members of the public who complain the homeless situation has not been adequately addressed by the council?**

"I think they're correct."

**What is City Hall doing right in how it deals with the homeless population?**

"That's tough to answer. I think providing some basic programs is the right thing to do. I think the mistake has been to expand them because it doesn't get any additional people off the streets here, it just attracts people from other areas of Southern California to Santa Monica."

**What could City Hall be doing better?**

"We could enforce the laws strictly. We could check everybody that we don't know who they are on the streets ... a lot of them are parolees that have broken parole. I think there's a lot of things we could do like this. I think the general attitude of the police officers is, 'Santa Monica must want this because they keep offering services that attract this. And so must the public because they keep electing a City Council who keeps providing all these services and makes it worse.'"



## ■ Pam O'Connor

**What is your response to members of the public who complain the homeless situation has not been adequately addressed by the council?**

"It's a regional and national problem so the council can do some piece of helping, but, again, we live in a region, we live in a country where there's not enough affordable housing. And pretty much some of the key is housing — what defines homelessness is whether somebody has a place to sleep or not."

**What is City Hall doing right in how it deals with the homeless population?**

"The continuum of services that Santa Monica provides — through a consortium of nonprofits and other groups — provides a helping hand to people to take them, to lift them, from the streets through a system of temporary housing, more stable housing, reintegrating (them) in the main stream, looking for work and providing support services after the person has gotten a job."

"Focusing on any one piece doesn't help a person and it's up to the individual to decide to help themselves. And some segment of the homeless population, like some segment of the general population, breaks laws, and that is not — and cannot — be tolerated."

**What could City Hall be doing better?**

"What we need to do is, as a region, provide services. Other cities in the county, other counties in the state need to do their fair share and we need to push them to do their fair share. Santa Monica can't solve the problem alone, nor can we turn our back on it."

"As the world goes on, you find ways of tweaking and making things better and we

See COUNCIL, page 6

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## LOCAL

# Man's previous coma a question in his testimony

TRIAL, from page 1

Grimwade, who is representing himself in the trial. "I told him something needs to be done about this. I can't continue to represent you and not get paid."

At issue in the trial is what contract existed between Aliberti and Grimwade while he worked on the case, which was a lawsuit seeking to recover as much as \$3 million or more from Allstate Insurance Co. to rebuild a six-unit apartment building Aliberti owns on Rambla Pacifica.

Though Aliberti first hired Grimwade at \$250 an hour, the two later reworked the contract to \$125 an hour and agreed Grimwade also would receive 20 percent of any money

recovered from Allstate. Aliberti contends the pair later agreed to a strict 40 percent contingency rate and that he owes Grimwade nothing because they lost the case.

In his closing arguments, Paul Cohen, Aliberti's new lawyer, questioned the quality of the work Grimwade performed. He said Grimwade "milked this cash cow for all it's worth" before pulling out of the lawsuit and suing Aliberti for legal fees.

Cohen told jurors something was amiss and pointed to Grimwade's bills for 14- and 16-hour days, often seven days a week.

"This is ridiculous. This just goes on and on and on," he said. "There's not enough hours in the day. Time runs out. It doesn't

make any sense. It's ridiculous. It's pathetic."

Jurors rocked in their chairs and scratched their heads as Cohen's closing argument was interjected by Grimwade's objections and by Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Valerie Baker, who scolded both attorneys — Grimwade for objecting too much and Cohen for hearsay, as well as for taking too much time to wrap up his case.

Aliberti, who lives in a house just uphill from the apartment building in Malibu, first hired Grimwade in 1994 to help him recover money from Allstate. In a separate claim, Allstate paid Aliberti more than \$2 million to rebuild his charred home.

But because he had a "limited liability" clause in the insurance policy covering the apartment building, Aliberti was given only \$450,000 by Allstate to rebuild the apartment building and cover lost rent.

Unsatisfied, Aliberti sued Allstate. The case was first tossed out of court on the grounds that Aliberti waited too long to file it. Grimwade appealed that ruling and won, but when it finally went to court, after prolonged negotiations and other behind-the-scenes legal wrangling, a jury ruled that Allstate didn't owe any additional money.

Aliberti wanted Grimwade to represent him in an appeal. But because he said he was due an outstanding payment of \$146,000, Grimwade refused and dropped the case. Grimwade said he was only paid about \$5,000 for settling the insurance payment relating to the house and a total of about \$4,000 in two other separate payments.

Grimwade said he negotiated a settle-

ment offer from Allstate for \$500,000 before the trial that he strongly suggested Aliberti accept, but that Aliberti pushed for the trial anyway and lost. But Aliberti said Grimwade called the case a "slam dunk" and encouraged him to pursue it.

Lawyers took nearly the entire day to deliver their closing arguments, capping a four-day trial. A verdict is expected today, they said.

In his final statements to jurors, Grimwade tried to poke holes in the testimony of Aliberti, who spent four weeks in a coma after he slipped at his home in February of 2000 and hit his head.

"I want to remind you of Mr. Aliberti's unfortunate accident," he said. "He's told us he doesn't think clearly now."

But Cohen said Aliberti, a WWII veteran who fought under Lt. Jimmy Doolittle in the Army Air Corps, is to be trusted and only suffers from some minor memory loss, which is normal for his age.

On the contrary, Cohen said it's Grimwade that should be doubted. Cohen pointed to one of Grimwade's bills for time spent preparing for court in the early morning hours before a 2000 appearance. Grimwade said during the trial he was at the McDonald's on Colorado Avenue while he worked. The only problem, Cohen said, is the case was being heard in the valley.

"He just flat-out lied," Cohen said. "He's a liar."

Grimwade disagreed, saying he mistook the McDonald's for some other fast-food restaurant and asking, "Is that enough to call a man a liar?"

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## Council addresses homelessness

COUNCIL, from page 5

should be ever vigilant about that. But again, it's not about sustaining programs, it's about solving problems and the core of the problem has to do with providing affordable housing region wide and state wide."



### ■ Kevin McKeown

**What is your response to members of the public who complain the homeless situation has not been adequately addressed by the council?**

"The council, or the city, cannot alone solve a regional and national problem. We need to turn to the county, the state and the federal government and insist on their help. A society that has allowed its social safety net to fray and fail should not be surprised when as a result more people hit bottom."

**What is City Hall doing right in how it deals with the homeless population?**

"We in Santa Monica have historically struggled to balance appropriate compassion for homeless people with their impact on our city, and we've developed an effective continuum of care that can get people off the street permanently. Sharing food with the poor

shouldn't be a crime, but we'd all benefit from moving the charitable providers indoors and coordinating them with our successful social service programs."

### What could City Hall be doing better?

"We have good laws on the books to control the specific anti-social behaviors by which a few among the homeless make life more difficult for all the rest of us. Let's enforce those laws fully and fairly, and get the predators and lawbreakers off the streets. Then let's work together to help those who want and deserve our compassion and real assistance."



### ■ Mike Feinstein

Since first being investigated for his handling of \$10,000 in Green Party funds earlier this year, City Councilman Mike Feinstein has refused to comment to the Daily Press. The investigation is ongoing.



### ■ Herb Katz

City Councilman Herb Katz, who is on vacation in Philadelphia until Friday, will miss tonight's meeting. He couldn't be reached for comment.

## CNG facility to get overhaul

CONSENT, from page 1

yards. In August of 2002, the City Council authorized buying the equipment to upgrade the facility, which includes new compressors, storage tanks and fuel dispensers. The facility upgrade is needed to ensure reliable and cost effective plant operation, according to city staff.

City Hall received two bids in July from construction companies — the first, from Weaver Electric Inc., which estimated it would cost \$132,000, plus \$13,000

in contingency funds and the second, from Gas Equipment Systems, Inc., for \$437,000 — a difference of \$305,000.

Because of the large discrepancy, city staff thought Weaver Electric's estimate was a mistake. But after further inquiry, they found it wasn't. Judging from the fact that the company was a major subcontractor in the original installation at the facility and its experience with 17 other CNG plant upgrades, city staff has chosen to award the bid to Weaver Electric, Inc.

## STATE



# Bush declares California a natural disaster area

FIRES, from page 1

Culver City.

As the fires continue to rage in the Simi Valley, just northeast of the Santa Monica Mountains, Malibu is on high alert due to the extreme weather conditions. As of Monday afternoon, the Simi Valley fire was located north of the 118 Freeway and winds had subsided.

All public schools in Santa Monica and Malibu will be open today, according to a press released issued by the local school district. All roads in Malibu are open, including Pacific Coast Highway, Kanan Road and Malibu Canyon Road.

Hone said the SMFD has received numerous calls from residents concerned about the health risks associated with breathing soot and ash. He suggests that people seeking information should log onto the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Web site — [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov). (See related story, page 10).

Ash fell on the beach like snow and drivers turned on their headlights in the smoky daytime streets Monday as wildfires that have reduced entire neighborhoods to moonscapes skipped through the hills of Southern California and threatened 30,000 more homes.

California's deadliest outbreak of fires in more than a decade has destroyed at least 1,134 homes, killed at least 15 people and consumed more than 483,000 acres stretching from the Mexican border to the suburbs northeast of Los Angeles.

"This will be the most expensive fire in California history, both in loss of property and the cost of fighting it," said Dallas Jones, director of the state Office of Emergency Services.

The death toll jumped from 13 to 15 Monday after the bodies of two people were found on a road near San Diego.

Several people suffered burns and smoke inhalation, including eight hospitalized at the University of California, San Diego, Medical Center. Two had burns over more than 55 percent of their bodies, spokeswoman Eileen Callahan said.

Managers of California's power grid estimated that 70,000 to 85,000 Southern California customers were without electricity because fires had damaged transmission lines.

A 90,000-acre wildfire that straddles the Los Angeles-Ventura county line began moving slowly toward million-dollar mansions in a gated community in Los Angeles. California Department of Forestry Battalion Chief Thomas Foley said that in a "worst-case scenario," the blaze could spread all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., said his home near San Diego was among the hundreds damaged or destroyed. Further east, a small border crossing 70 miles from San Diego was closed as fire cut off roads leading to the U.S.-Mexico border, said Vince Bond of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

The dry, hot Santa Ana winds that have fanned the flames began to ease in some areas Monday, raising hopes that overwhelmed firefighters could make progress with the help of reinforcements on their way from other Western states. But the danger was still high.

President Bush designated the fire-stricken region a major disaster area, opening the door to grants, loans and

other aid to residents and businesses in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties.

"This is a devastating fire and it's a dangerous fire. And we're prepared to help in any way we can," Bush said at the White House.

Gov. Gray Davis moved to activate the National Guard and summon help from neighboring states. He predicted the cost of the fires would be in the billions.

He toured the fire area in San Bernardino and saw "just homes reduced to rubble, charred belongings still sending off smoke."

He was followed later by Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger, who had a fire briefing in Ventura County and praised work by firefighters.

He thanked Bush for swiftly declaring an emergency and said he would go to Washington on Tuesday to meet with federal officials "to make sure that the federal money will come through."

See FIRES, page 10

## Worst wildfires in recent California history

By The Associated Press

Here are some of the worst individual wildfires in California this century, based on number of deaths, buildings destroyed or acreage burned, in chronological order:

■ **October 1999:** Jones Fire, near Redding in Shasta County. One volunteer firefighter killed, 176 homes and hundreds of other buildings destroyed, 26,200 acres of land burned. Cause believed to be accidental.

■ **November 1993:** Topanga Fire, Malibu and nearby areas in Los Angeles County. Three deaths; 323 homes; 18,000 acres. Arson caused. The fire was among more than 20 that for about two weeks raced through Southern California, killing four people. More than 1,000 homes and 193,814 acres of land burned.

■ **August 1992:** Fountain Fire, Shasta County. 636 buildings; 63,960 acres. Arson caused.

■ **October 1991:** Tunnel Fire in the Oakland hills of Alameda County, 25 dead; 3,276 homes and apartments destroyed and 193 homes damaged; 1,520 acres. A fire that was believed contained rekindled when a flying ember ignited a tree.

■ **June 1990:** Painted Cave Fire, Santa Barbara County. One death; 641 homes, apartment complexes and other structures; 4,900 acres. Arson.

■ **November 1980:** Panorama Fire, San Bernardino foothills. Four dead; 325 homes; 23,600 acres of forest and brush land. Arson.

■ **September 1970:** Laguna Fire, San Diego County mountains. Six deaths; 382 structures; 175,425 acres. Power lines.

■ **November 1966:** Loop Fire, near Angeles National Forest in Los Angeles County. 12 firefighters killed; 2, 028 acres. Power line.

■ **July 1953:** Rattlesnake Fire, Glenn County. 15 firefighters killed in Mendocino National Forest; 1,300 acres. Arson.

■ **November 1961:** Bel Air-Brentwood Fire, Los Angeles County. 484 homes, 21 other buildings; 6,090 acres. Cause undetermined but believed accidental.

■ **October 1933:** Griffith Park Fire, Los Angeles County. 29 welfare workers clearing brush were killed; about 47 acres. Cause undetermined.

■ **September 1923:** Berkeley Fire, Alameda County. 584 buildings; 130 acres. Caused by power lines.

Sources: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, local fire agencies, newspaper articles, official and scholarly reports.

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# Santa Monica

A weekly look at events and programs

## Your baby's umbilical cord blood can help later

### Guest Commentary

By Jon S. Matsunaga, M.D.

Many expectant parents ask me whether they should bank their baby's umbilical cord blood, which is the blood that remains in the umbilical cord and placenta following birth. Once the baby is born, the blood is no longer needed and is routinely discarded with the placenta and umbilical cord.

Before parents make a decision regarding banking or not banking cord blood, it may be helpful to understand why this blood can be important.

Blood in the umbilical cord is rich in stem cells — the building blocks of the blood and immune system that are primarily found in bone marrow. These "mother" cells reproduce into red blood cells, which carry oxygen throughout the body and white blood cells, which fight infection, and platelets, which aid in clotting.

Stem cells are an important part of treatment for people with certain diseases of the blood and

the immune system, such as leukemia.

Often, treatment for these diseases requires the use of bone marrow cells, which are painful to harvest and require an identical biological match to work. Cord blood stem cells not only offer the same benefits of bone marrow cells but can be used without a perfect biological match.

In addition, new research has led doctors to believe that stem cells may have a role in treatment in a much wider range of cancers, genetic disorders and other diseases such as heart disease and diabetes.

Harvesting cord blood is a simple, painless process that does not affect your baby or the birth process in any way. It does, however, take planning, as you need a collection kit prior to giving birth. After the baby is born and usually before the placenta is delivered, your doctor or health care practitioner uses a syringe to remove the blood that remains in the cut cord. Within 36 hours, it needs to reach a cord blood bank where it is then stored in liquid nitrogen. The cost for cord blood banking is approximately \$1,500 initially, then an annual storage fee of about \$100 each year.

Most people who choose to preserve their newborn's cord blood want to ensure that a "related source" of stem cells is preserved and readily available for their family should a need

arise for transplant therapy.

Other parents choose to bank their baby's cord blood because of the possible treatments that may involve stem cells in the future.

Today, there is very little chance that your child will need to use his cord blood — statistics show that chance is less than one tenth of 1 percent. As for saving the blood for the possibility of it being needed for new treatments for diseases, the research is in too early of a stage now to know whether this will actually prove to be true.

Generally, I don't recommend cord blood banking. All current cord blood treatments can be done with cord blood from blood banks, which are available to anyone. The use of one's own cord blood or that of a close relative has not proven to be better or worse than cord blood available from these blood banks. But for parents who want a little extra insurance and don't mind the cost, cord blood banking is an option to explore.

(Jon S. Matsunaga, M.D. is an Ob/Gyn in Santa Monica and chair of Saint John's Health Center's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. For more information on Saint John's, contact the health center at (310) 829-5511 or visit the hospital's Web site at [www.stjohns.org](http://www.stjohns.org).)



## HALLOWEEN FUN for FAMILIES!

### Friday, October 31

**PALLoween Carnival — presented by the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL)**

5 – 9 p.m.; Barker Hangar at the SM Airport, 3021 Airport Avenue

FREE admission, game tickets are a quarter each. Costume contest begins at 6 p.m. This fun event features games, music, dancing, food, various contests and great decorations.

Call 310-458-8988 for more info.

### Downtown Santa Monica

Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica Place Mall and Pacific Park on the Pier will offer youngsters, goblins and super heroes a safe and traffic-free trick-or-treating environment from 1 – 7 p.m. on Halloween.

Festivities include a petting zoo and pony rides on the Promenade at Broadway (1 – 4 p.m.), store-to-store Trick or Treating in Santa Monica Place (4 – 7 p.m.) and coupons for free rides at Pacific Park on the Pier all weekend. Some shops will even supply goody bags to help stash away all the treats that will be available. Employees and owners will be in costume making the events even more fun for all. Call 310-393-8355 or 394-1049 for more info.

### Events throughout the week Tuesday, October 28

**Halloween Tales** – 3:30 p.m. - Montana Avenue Library, 1704 Montana Avenue  
Spooky stories and crafts for ages 4 and up.

### Thursday, October 30

**Halloween Puppet Show** – 3:30 p.m. - Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

Join Woody and his friends for spooky Halloween fun! Ages 4 and up.

### Saturday and Sunday, November 1 & 2

Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 394-9779, [www.santamonicalayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicalayhouse.com)

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## CALENDAR:

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**Santa Monica Swim Center** – on the campus of SMC at 2225 16th St., 458-8700. [www.swim.santa-monica.org](http://www.swim.santa-monica.org)  
Fall Hours! Oct 6 – Dec. 31  
Recreational swim times in the splash pool are: Mon-Fri – 3 – 6:30 p.m., Sat – 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sun – 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The splash pool is great fun for Moms and Dads with infants and small children. One parent could even get a little “lap-swim work-out” in while the other plays with the kids. The splash pool is heated to approximately 85 degrees and lifeguards are always on duty. Visit their website for more info on lap swimming, recreational diving and the fitness pool.

### TUESDAY

#### Movies for Moms

##### FEATURES “MATCHSTICK MEN”

11:00 a.m., Loews Broadway, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. This week's film is from “Blackhawk Down” director Ridley Scott and stars Nicholas Cage, Sam Rockwell and Alison Lohman. Scott switches gears with this character-driven comedy-drama about a con man named Roy (Cage) who meets the teenage daughter (Lohman) he never knew he had. Soon, father and daughter, and dad's business associate Frank (Rockwell), are pulling scams together. But their latest target presents an estimable challenge, and Roy, who presides over a well-organized life, has doubts about maintaining his criminal livelihood and providing legitimate parental guidance. (We incorrectly listed this week's movie as “Radio” on last week's calendar. Sorry for the inconvenience.) **Coming Attractions – November 4th: “Mambo Italiano”** – starring Luke Kirby, Ginette Reno and Johnny Griffin

#### Storytelling

**Main Library** – Toddler Story Time at 10:00 and 10:30 a.m., at Reed Park, 7th and Wilshire – 2 year olds with parents, 310-458-8600.

**Fairview Branch** – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443. Lap Time – 11:00 a.m., New series begins Nov. 4, a six-week series for babies 0-24 months.

Cuentos Para Pequenos – 10:00 a.m., New series begins Nov. 4, a six-week series in Spanish for children 24-36 months with adult.

**Montana Avenue Branch** – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081. Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m., all ages.

**Ocean Park Branch** – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804. Toddler Story Time – New series begins Nov. 11 – Dec. 16. Registration required. Music, rhymes and stories for 24 – 36 months with adult.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

**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** – 11870 Santa Monica Blvd, at the Dance Factory, West LA, 310-394-6711. Pregnancy Exercise – 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.; Post Partum Exercise – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

**Santa Monica YMCA** – 1332 6th St., 310-393-2721

Pre-natal Water Work – 10 – 11 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Free for members. Non-members pay \$15.00 regular YMCA day fee or buy a ten-class card for \$70 (\$7 per class)

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 0-4months, 1:00 – 2:30pm

### WEDNESDAY

#### Storytelling

**Ocean Park Branch** – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804. Twilight Story Time – 7:00 to 7:30pm – for parents with 3-5 year olds.

**Montana Avenue Branch** – 1704 Montana Avenue – 310-829-7081. Lap Time – 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. – New series begins Nov. 12-Dec. 17 for 0-24 months old, no registration required.

**Toddler Story Time** – New series begins Nov. 12-Dec. 17 for two year olds with adult, no registration required.

**Fairview Branch** – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443. Preschool Story Time – 10:30 a.m., New series begins Nov. 5-Dec. 18, a six-week series for 3-5 year olds.

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

**Border's, Westwood** – 11am – 310-475-3444.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

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

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 0-4months, 1:00 – 2:30pm

### Other

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

### THURSDAY

#### Storytelling

**Main Library** – Toddler Story Time – 10:00 a.m. – Reed Park, for 2 year olds. Preschool Story Time – 10:30am – Reed Park. Stories for ages 3-5. 310-458-8922 for info.

**Montana Avenue Branch** – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081. Toddler Story Time – 10:15 a.m. – Begins September 25 for six weeks, for 2 year olds with adult, no registration required. Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m., for 3-5 year olds.

**Fairview Branch** – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443. Toddler Story Time – 10:30 a.m., New series begins Nov. 6 – Dec. 18. A six-week series for children 24-36 months. La Hora del Cuento – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

**Ocean Park Branch** – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804. Lap Time – 9:20 and 10:20 a.m. – Oct. 23 – Dec. 4 (no class Nov. 27) – for babies 0-24 months old.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

**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** – 11870 Santa Monica Blvd, at the Dance Factory, West LA, 310-394-6711. Pregnancy Exercise – 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.; Post Partum Exercise – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

**Santa Monica YMCA** – 1332 6th St., 310-393-2721

Pre-natal Water Work – 10 – 11 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Free for members. Non-members pay \$15.00 regular YMCA day fee or buy a ten-class card for \$70 (\$7 per class)

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00-2:30pm

### Other

**Nature Walk (Children's Nature Institute)** – Sullivan Canyon (West LA) – 10:00am – October 30  
Reservations required – 310-998-1151 or [www.childrensnatureinstitute.org](http://www.childrensnatureinstitute.org)

### FRIDAY

#### Yoga & Exercise

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

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

### Other

**Magicopolis** – 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 Call 310-451-2241 for info.

**Cinderella** – thru Dec. 19, 6:00 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 394-9779, [www.santamonicalayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicalayhouse.com). The single most requested of all of the Santa Monica Playhouse Family Theatre musicals, Cinderella is a delightfully romantic, original classic. \$12.00 for adults, \$10.00 for ages 12 and under.

### 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** – West Pico Blvd, 310-559-800K – 10:30 a.m. ages 3-8. October 25 – Kathleen tells Sweet and Scary Halloween Tales – come in costume if you like.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

**Mommy Care** – 11870 Santa Monica Blvd, at the Dance Factory, West LA, 310-394-6711. Pregnancy Exercise – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.; Post Partum Exercise – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

### Other

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

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

**A Hansel & Gretel Halloween** – Saturday & Sunday thru Nov 2, 12:30 and 3:00p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 394-9779, [www.santamonicalayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicalayhouse.com). See Special Events listing for more details.

### SUNDAY

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

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

**A Hansel & Gretel Halloween** – Saturday & Sunday thru Nov 2, 12:30 and 3:00p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 394-9779, [www.santamonicalayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicalayhouse.com). See Special

Events listing for more details.

### MONDAY

#### Storytelling

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

**Main Library** – Lap Time at Joslyn Park – 9:30 a.m., September 8 – December 15 (no program Oct. 6), a series for children 0-24 months old with adult.

**Ocean Park Branch** – 2601 Main Street, 310-392-3804. Spanish for Little Ones – 11:15 a.m., September 22 – December 15 (no class Nov. 3). Rhymes, songs and very simple stories in Spanish for ages 2-5 with adult.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station** – 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 8-12 months, 10:30 a.m. -noon; Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### Yoga & Exercise

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

**Yoga Garden**, - Restorative yoga for pre/postnatal – 6:30 p.m., 310-450-0133. [www.yogagardenstudios.com](http://www.yogagardenstudios.com)

**Yoga Baby (Venice)** – 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga – 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me(ages 0-5) – 10-11am, \$9

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## STATE

# Death toll climbs as wildfires spread across state

FIRES, from page 7

Across Southern California, the sun glowed red and smoke stung the eyes and lungs. Airport baggage handlers wore masks against the smoke and the ash dropping across the landscape.

"My eyes are burning right now something terrible," said 74-year-old Maury Glantz in San Diego, holding a towel over his mouth and nose. "I have to get out."

Even the primates at the San Diego Zoo went indoors to escape the misery. "Their lungs are built like ours so they can be affected by the smoke," said zoo spokeswoman Yadira Galindo.

Many of those who died in the wildfires ignored evacuation orders and were caught by flames because they waited until the last minute to flee, Sheriff Bill Kolender said.

"When you are asked to leave, do it immediately," he said. "Do not wait."

San Diego Fire Chief Jeff Bowman said he was worried that three fires that

**"Those who start these fires are no better than domestic terrorists and should be dealt with as such."**

— STEVE COOLEY  
Los Angeles County District Attorney

incinerated 585 homes in San Diego County would merge into a super fire, pushing already strained resources to the breaking point.

A state of emergency was declared in the four stricken counties, where the fires had laid waste to entire blocks of

Eleven people were killed by the so-called Cedar Fire, California's largest blaze at 150,000 acres. The fire was ignited Saturday near the mountain town of Julian when a lost hunter set off a signal fire, authorities said. The hunter may face charges.

In San Bernardino County, a blaze called the Old Fire has destroyed more

than 450 homes. On Monday, the flames jumped a road and moved into the heavily forested small town of Crestline.

A major fire burning closer to Los Angeles is believed to have been started by arsonists.

"Those who start these fires are no better than domestic terrorists and should be dealt with as such," said Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley.

The arsonists "have no idea how many lives they've ruined," said Trisha Mitchell, standing amid the debris that was once her childhood home in San Bernardino.

Days after running for her life from a

fire that ripped through her San Bernardino neighborhood, Pati Wecker returned home in the Del Rosa area to find the only thing left standing of her house was an archway.

Across the street, a park with green grass and trees was untouched.

Digging through the ruins of her home, Wecker found an untouched porcelain angel and two beer steins. A burned photo album crumbled when she picked it up.

Her husband was killed in Vietnam and she raised her six children in the home that is known in the neighborhood as "Mamma's House."

"They all said we will build another house," said Wecker, 69.

When the fire closed in, the only things she was able to get out of the house were her purse and a few clothes. "Everything in there, even my five cats," she said, pointing to the ruins. She was unable to get part of her dentures: "I don't even have my teeth."

## Officials advise people to stay indoors while fires continue

HEALTH, from page 1

coast, casting a gritty pall over the Los Angeles and San Diego metropolitan regions.

"You can see the ash and stuff on the ground and just think all that is in the air, getting in your eyes and nose and mouth," said Vicki Dawes, 59, as she looked toward an ash-filled area of her San Bernardino neighborhood where fires destroyed 200 homes.

Health officials have issued repeated smoke advisories for much of Southern California in recent days, warning that the gritty soot that chokes the sky has reached unhealthy levels in the areas closest to the fires.

Literally anyone who can see, taste or smell smoke should curtail outdoor activity, officials warned.

"We recommend a common sense approach: Avoid it if you can," said Jean Ospital, health effects officer for the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the air pollution agency that oversees the greater Los Angeles area.

The Santa Anas began to diminish Monday, but spotty gusts were expected through Tuesday. Winds are expected to begin blowing onshore, which may re-circulate the vast amount of smoke already in the Los Angeles basin, AQMD spokesman Sam Atwood said.

People suffering from heart disease, lung disease or asthma should avoid the outdoors entirely, as should children and the elderly, said Dr. Jonathan Fielding, public health officer for Los Angeles County.

Schools were being asked to limit outdoor sports, Fielding said.

**"You can see the ash and stuff on the ground and just think all that is in the air, getting in your eyes and nose and mouth."**

— VICKI DAWES  
San Bernardino resident

"It's good advice for everybody today not to do too much outdoor vigorous activity," Fielding said.

Smoke contains literally hundreds of chemicals, including formaldehyde, and gases like carbon monoxide. It's also packed with vast quantities of microscopic particles that are easily inhaled into the lungs, where they can become permanently lodged. Prolonged exposure to particulate pollution has been linked to retarded lung growth.

Levels of the particles, one-seventh the diameter of human hair or smaller, have spiked in areas closest to the fires.

In the San Bernardino area, where fire has burned more than 75,000 acres of brush, sending towering plumes of

smoke into the air, particulate levels were forecast to hit 300 micrograms per cubic meter of air on Monday.

Farther south, in Escondido, particulate levels were at 90 micrograms. Levels between 40 and 65 are considered unhealthy for the area, San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox said.

"So you can see the magnitude of what we are talking about," Cox said.

At San Diego's airport, Lindbergh Field, workers wore masks to protect from the rain of ash.

"I don't like it. You can't breathe," said Livia Guerrero, a security guard, whose home east of San Diego was caked with ash from nearby fires.

"I'll probably try to spend most of the day inside. I really wanted to stay home," Guerrero said. "I'm kind of worried about my house."

St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino reported no immediate increase in patients complaining of smoke-related problems, spokeswoman Kimberly Vandenbosch said.

"We just haven't seen the big increase yet," Vandenbosch said.

Health officials were uncertain about the long-term effects of the smoke. It was also unclear whether it would contribute to a short-term uptick in deaths, Fielding said.

"We'll look to see if there's any spike associated with this period. My hope and expectation is there won't be — unless this goes significantly longer," Fielding said.

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## NATIONAL □ INTERNATIONAL

# Suicide bombers attack Red Cross headquarters in Iraq

BY CHARLES J. HANLEY

AP Special Correspondent

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Suicide bombers struck the Red Cross headquarters and three police stations across Baghdad on Monday, killing about 40 people and injuring more than 200 in a coordinated terror spree that stunned the Iraqi capitol on the first day of the Islamic holy month of fasting, Ramadan.

The string of car bombings was the bloodiest attack yet in the city of 5 million by insurgents targeting the American-led occupation and those perceived as working with it.

President Bush said U.S. progress in Iraq is making insurgents more "desperate" and fueling attacks.

Sitting next to civilian U.S. Iraqi administrator L. Paul Bremer in the Oval Office, Bush said he remains "even more determined to work with the Iraqi people" to restore peace and civility to the war-torn nation.

Defense officials said they believe loyalists of fallen Iraqi President Saddam Hussein were responsible for the wave of bombings. At the Pentagon, officials described the two days of violence as a significant spike in attacks that showed some level of coordination.

One American soldier was killed in one of the police station attacks and six U.S. troops were wounded, the military said. Iraqi police Brig. Gen. Ahmed Ibrahim, the deputy interior minister, put the Iraqi death toll at 34.

The bombings came hours after clashes around Baghdad killed three U.S. soldiers overnight, and a day after insurgents hit a hotel full of U.S. occupation officials with a barrage of rockets, killing a U.S. colonel and wounding 18 other people. U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz

was in the hotel, but was unhurt.

"We feel helpless when we see this," a distraught Iraqi doctor said at the devastated Red Cross offices. The Red Cross said 12 Iraqis were killed at its office, including two employees.

Baghdad's al Baya'a police station in the al-Doura neighborhood saw the most deaths, reportedly 15 including the American. Since Bush declared an end to major combat in Iraq on May 1, 113 U.S. soldiers have been killed by hostile fire.

Gen. Ibrahim blamed foreign fighters for the assault, saying a fifth, aborted car bombing was attempted by a man captured with a Syrian passport. "Some countries, unfortunately, are trying to send people to conduct attacks," the deputy interior minister said, without naming those nations.

That fifth bomber was kept by officers from detonating his Land Cruiser at a station in the "New Baghdad" district. "He was shouting, 'Death to the Iraqi police! You're collaborators!'" said police Sgt. Ahmed Abdel Sattar.

In Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, witnesses said American troops opened fire, killing at least four Iraqi civilians, after a roadside bomb exploded as a U.S. military convoy passed. The U.S. command did not immediately confirm the incident.

At the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in central Baghdad, witnesses said a suicide bomber drove an explosives-packed vehicle, apparently an ambulance, right up to security barriers outside the building at about 8:30 a.m. The vehicle detonated, blowing down the Red Cross's front wall, devastating the interior and blowing shrapnel and debris over a wide area.

Then, in quick succession, explosions went off at the al-Baya'a, al-Shaab and al-Khadra police stations. Ambulances, sirens

wailing, crisscrossed the city all morning.

"From what our indications are, none of those bombers got close to the target," U.S. Brig. Gen. Mark Hertling said. But the explosions outside police stations left streetscapes of broken, bloody bodies and twisted, burning automobiles.

Hertling said he believed the attacks may have been timed with the start of Ramadan to heighten tensions during the fasting month, when Muslims abstain from food and drink during daylight hours.

Near the three-story ICRC building, cigarette vendor Ghani Khadim, 50, said he saw an Iraqi ambulance approach the small compound some 100 yards away. The explosion blew out windows and injured his wife and daughter in his house behind his stand, he said.

The vehicle had stopped some 60 feet in front of the Red Cross headquarters, "at a line of barrels we have had in front to protect the building," one Red Cross employee, who would not give his name.

The blast knocked down a 40-foot section of the ICRC front wall, demolished a dozen cars and apparently broke a water main, flooding the streets.

The inside of the building was heavily damaged, littered with shattered glass, doors blown off their hinges, toppled bookcases and collapsed ceilings. A gaping crack had opened in a back wall, some 100 yards from the blast site, where a crater some five yards across quickly filled with water.

The Red Cross staff member said someone began firing off an automatic weapon immediately after the explosion. He said he believed it was a gunman somehow associated with the bomber "who wanted to scare people more."

ICRC staffers said about 25 people were present at the offices at 8:30 a.m.

"Of course we don't understand why

somebody would attack the Red Cross," Red Cross spokeswoman Nada Doumani said. "The Red Cross has operated in this country since 1980, and we have not been involved in politics."

In Geneva, Red Cross spokesman Florian Westphal said the ICRC had disclosed in August that it had received warnings of a threat and had been reducing its staff since a Sri Lankan staffer was killed July 22 south of Baghdad.

"It's a big shock," Westphal said. "It is obviously impossible to move onto a normal day's business, so we really have to step back and take stock."

Two buildings away, the explosion devastated the interior of the Al-Nawal private polyclinic operated by Dr. Jamal F. Massa, 53, who had been planning to open it as a full-fledged hospital next month.

"We feel helpless when we see this," he said. He said he couldn't understand why the Red Cross was targeted. "This only hurts guards and other Iraqis."

The Red Cross and other international aid organizations had reduced their Baghdad staffs after the car bombing of U.N. headquarters Aug. 19, in which 23 people died.

Mouwafak al-Rabii, a Shiite Muslim member of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council, said the United States must speed up the training of Iraqi police and soldiers and employ ruthless measures to crush the insurgency.

"There is no doubt about it that we need to change the rules of engagement with these people," al-Rabii told CNN. "The rules of engagement now are too lenient."

The rocket attack Sunday struck the Al-Rasheed Hotel, where Wolfowitz was staying at the end of a three-day Iraq visit. The deputy defense secretary said afterward that attack "will not deter us from completing our mission" in Iraq.



## WORLD BRIEFLY

### Governor wants Canadian drugs legal

By The Associated Press

**CHICAGO** — For weeks, Gov. Rod Blagojevich has been saying that Illinois, its employees and retired employees could save a lot of money buying medicine from Canada.

Now, a report commissioned by the governor and scheduled to be released Monday found that importing drugs from Canada for state workers and retirees would save Illinois nearly 17 percent of its annual expense for prescription drugs, the governor's office said.

Blagojevich plans to ask the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to waive a restriction on importing drugs, said his spokeswoman, Abby Ottenhoff. Federal law bars bringing foreign prescription drugs into the country.

The report is the latest step by Blagojevich to pressure federal authorities into allowing Illinois to bring in significantly discounted drugs from Canada to save the state millions of dollars each year. He has lobbied Congress and launched a Web site featuring a petition in support of the idea.

### Princess' butler bashed for book

By The Associated Press

**LONDON** — Paul Burrell, the former butler condemned by princes and much of the press for his tell-all book about Princess Diana, says the royal family could have stopped the project simply by giving him more attention.

"Just one telephone call would have stopped it, one. Is that too much to ask — really?" Burrell said in an

interview to be broadcast Monday by British Broadcasting Corp. TV.

Charges and countercharges over the weekend gave a final burst of publicity for the book, "A Royal Duty," which goes on sale in Britain on Monday.

Princess Diana's friends have called Burrell a vulture for exploiting his connection to Diana. Her sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, issued a statement Friday accusing him of a "cold and overt betrayal."

### Dems attack Bush's war tactics

By The Associated Press

**DETROIT** — Democratic presidential hopefuls, led by star-spangled veterans John Kerry and Wesley Clark, are trying to turn President Bush's prosecution of the war on terrorism into a liability.

But even as the nine candidates debated Sunday over who would make a better commander in chief, party regulars warned that the emphasis on foreign policy and military service will backfire unless the contenders articulate their own vision.

"There's a huge credibility gap our party has on national security — not because we don't have enough military medals, but because we have no plan of action," said Democratic strategist Donna Brazile.

Bush may be increasingly vulnerable as American soldiers continue to die in Iraq — 345 at last count — and Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein remain at large. But public opinion has long shown that voters prefer Republicans to Democrats on defense issues — something the current crop of contenders is hoping to change.

### Economy bouncing back?

By The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — A long time coming, the U.S. economy finally appears to be perking up. Growth over the summer sizzled. Even the downtrodden labor market is showing signs of life.

Just don't tell Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues, who meet Tuesday to decide whether to change interest rates.

The central bank is widely expected to turn a blind eye to all the good news. Policy-makers do not want to spook jittery bond investors into thinking the faster growth will lead the Fed to start raising interest rates.

Economists predict no change in the benchmark federal funds rate, now at 1 percent, a 45-year low. They also expect Fed officials to continue to indicate it will be some time before they begin to consider raising rates.

### Sniper trial brings pain to the surface

By The Associated Press

**VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.** — Photographs of loved ones at happy times, then after they were killed by a sniper's bullet. Testimony from victims, one who was questioned by the very man accused.

The first week of sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad's trial brought back to life the terror the Washington area experienced during last October's shooting spree. More emotionally-charged moments were expected as the trial resumes Monday, and prosecutors continue detailing their version of the three weeks of violence that killed 10 people.

Muhammad is being tried only in the death of Dean Meyers, gunned down at a gasoline station in Manassas. But because one of the capital murder charges against him alleges multiple murders over three years, prosecutors must prove Muhammad committed at least one other murder.

# COMICS

## The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



## Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



## edge by KEVIN & PATRICK LEBLANC



## Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



## Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



## CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Be unruly  
6 Sticky stuff  
11 Gallows sight  
12 Patron saint of young girls  
13 Four-walled sporting site  
15 Lobe setting  
16 Golf need  
17 Lingerie item  
18 Sheens  
20 Naughty  
21 Wall Street worker, for short  
22 1920s art style  
23 Shirt parts  
26 Carnival attractions  
27 Foot or fathom  
28 Actor Killmer  
29 Pitch's kin  
30 Solitary sort  
34 Have debts  
35 Fury  
36 See 2-Down  
37 Custody decider  
40 Fortright  
41 Psychiatrist Alfred
- DOWN**
- 1 Photog-rapher Adams  
2 With 36-Across, chicken dish  
3 Sees the sights  
4 D.C. setting  
5 Harasses  
6 Walks nervously  
7 In the past  
8 Treated with contempt  
9 Patio's kin  
10 Los — Unidos  
14 Oregano, for one  
19 President who became Chief Justice  
22 Pickle choice  
23 Some shorts  
24 Oblivious  
25 Fellow with an ax  
26 Indy auto  
28 Quite  
30 Austrian poet  
31 Palate parl  
32 Fathered  
33 Diary bit  
38 Those with power  
39 Dedicated verse

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| CAVER   | CHAD  |
| AROMA   | LANES |
| LETUP   | ALIVE |
| ENE     | HER   |
| BARBARA | HALE  |
| LEA     | BLUR  |
| STOOL   | POSES |
| POLO    | DAM   |
| RAYMOND | BURR  |
| ADM     | WAD   |
| TIPIN   | LABEL |
| SEINE   | ERASE |
| SAND    | DINES |

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|    |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 23 | 24 | 25 |    |   |    | 26 |    |    |    |
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| 40 |    |    |    |   |    | 41 |    |    |    |
| 42 |    |    |    |   |    | 43 |    |    |    |

10-28

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(this truck was originally run at the price of \$14,988, which was incorrect. Santa Monica Ford apologizes for any inconvenience or confusion this may have caused.)

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**PALMS AREA** \$1050.00 2 bdrms, 1 1/2 baths, appliances, no pets, parking, 2009 Preuss Road, #5 Los Angeles, CA 90034. Manager in #1.

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Beautiful 1 bdrm, 1 ba. Prestigious location, secluded building. Features large closets, stove, dishwasher, gated parking. Owner will consider pets. Walk to shops, restaurants & transportation. (310)717-7963

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- Subjects must not have taken glucosamine or chondroitin sulfate for 3-6 months.
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310-899-9580**

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SANTA MONICA 1244 11th Street unit A/D \$1450/mo. \$200 off move-in. Stove, carpet, blinds, balcony, laundry, no pets. (310)393-6322.

SANTA MONICA 1301 Franklin Street #11, Condo, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, telephone entry, hardwood floors, stove, refrigerator, microwave, 1 car garage, laundry, hook-ups, pets ok. \$1695/mo. (310)578-7512.

SANTA MONICA: \$1300, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath upper. \$900 1 bdrm. lower, carpet, blinds, refrigerator, stove, laundry, parking, no pets. 9th Street, North of Wilshire. (310)456-5659.

SANTA MONICA: \$1195, 2 bdrms, courtyard building, refrigerator, stove, patio, hardwood floors, laundry. (310)395-7368  
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SANTA MONICA: \$821, studio, plus dinette area & full kitchen, storage area, month to month. (310)395-7368  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA: \$895, 1+1, upper unit, great location, pet ok, r/s, laundry, enclosed patio, parking included. (310)395-7368  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA: \$1676, large 3 bdrm, 2 bath, great neighborhood, quiet, carpet, large closets, parking. (310)395-7368  
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## For Rent

**VENICE BEACH  
\$1150 & UP**

**GRAND OPENING**  
Historic craftsman style bldg. Newly remodeled, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Tiled to the sand! Wood floors, tiled kitchen

**Open House  
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WLA CONDO 2+2 1/2, 2 car garage, secured, back patio, garden area, laundry room, many amenities, 1747 Barry Ave. \$1975/mo. (213)276-1813, (323)464-7441.

## Houses For Rent

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SANTA MONICA: \$1200, cottage, 1+1, cat ok, r/s, carpet, laundry, courtyard, parking. (310)395-7368  
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SANTA MONICA: \$1600, house, 2 bdrms, pet ok, r/s, carpets, month to month agreement.

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## Roommates

SANTA MONICA: \$505, prvt. bdrm., r/s, dishwasher, hardwood floors, contemporary unit, SMC close.

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SANTA MONICA: \$590, prvt. bdrm., shared house, room, huge patio, carpets, convenient location.

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## Roommates

SANTA MONICA: \$600, prvt. bdrm. & bath, house to share, internet/cable, utilities are included.

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HERE'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A FULLY FURNISHED, 4BR HOME IN WHAT IS CONSIDERED MONTANA'S HOTTEST LOCATION. SITUATED ON 2.5+ ACRES WITH STUNNING LAKE VIEWS, THE 2700' HOME FEATURES A SPACIOUS MASTER SUITE, LIVING, DINING, EATING KITCHEN, VAULTED CEILINGS, SKYLIGHTS, 2-CAR GARAGE AND MORE. ENJOY YEAR ROUND FISH, BOAT OR SKI ON BLUE RIBBON GEORGETOWN LAKE PLUS HUNDREDS OF NEARBY STREAMS AND RIVERS. HIKE TO A MOUNTAIN LAKE OR THROUGH A PRISTINE WILDERNESS. VIEW THE ABUNDANT WILDLIFE FROM YOUR OWN HOME. TEE UP AT JACK NICHOLAS DESIGNED OLD WORKS GOLF COURSE. DISCOVERY SKI MOUNTAIN IS JUST UP THE HILL AND SNOWMOBILERS WILL ENJOY 120 MILES OF GROOMED TRAILS. ALL THIS AND A GREAT INVESTMENT. BONUS- FULL PRICE OFFERS WILL RECEIVE 115 HP LUND FISHING BOAT AND 2 ARCTIC CAT SNOWMOBILES. PRICE \$369,000. CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION (310)451-2345

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## Massage

**BLISSFUL RELAXATION!** Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue. Energy balancing. Strictly non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$50.00/1hr. Lynda, L.M.T. (310)749-0621

**EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE,** strong and tender relaxing bodywork by mature European. Professional Lady Sonja (310)397-0433.

**FULL BODY MASSAGE** by sensual young lady. Long black hair, brown eyes, beautiful exotic face & smile. Good spirited, serious inquiries outcall only. Madelynn (310)625-8185.

**FULL BODY massage** by sensual, green-eyed young lady, 5'2, natural & fit. Fun and Positive. Serious inquiries only (in/out) Zoey (310)339-6709.

**FULL BODY MASSAGE:** Licensed and certified; will travel. Your home or office. \$45/hr. Estella (310)396-2720

**FULL BODY** Swedish to light fingertip massage by classy European therapist. Serious callers only. (310)826-7271.

**OCEAN THERAPY:** nice relaxing massage Spanish & Asian Staff (310)899-3709.

**REVITALIZE & Rejuvenate.** Body, Mind & Spirit with a therapeutic Swedish/Deep-tissue massage. Laura (310)394-2923 (310)569-0883.

**STRONG & SOOTHING** Deep-Tissue Therapy. Intro: \$35/70min. Non-sexual. Will also trade. Paul: (310)741-1901.

**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE,** Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

**VENUS REALXATION SPA** on call Swedish and Shiatsu for Women Only. By appointment only. Call David Massage Therapist (323)660-3732.

## Announcements

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP** meeting. Last Wednesday of the month; at Sunrise Assisted Living, Pacific Palisades call (310)573-9545/Linda.

## Business Opps

**ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE!** 60 vending machines with excellent locations. All for 10,995 800-234-6982

## Health/Beauty

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The Power to Amaze Yourself.™

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Offer valid 7/15/03 thru 10/31/03  
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Located at the **Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel**  
**310-842-5657**  
www.globalfitnessolutionsonline.com

**TAI CHI/I-CHIUNG** classes in Santa Monica call for info. (626)437-1899.

## Personals

**FINANCIAL SECURE** 70 seeking 50 plus, petite, secure lady for companion, travel, hiking, homelife. (310)452-3131.

**HISPANIC MALE** 60's would love to meet young 50-60 year old lady for company. (310)829-0554.

## SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2003

## EVENTS

**City Council Meeting.**

The public is welcome to attend, learn about local issues, and voice opinions at a free City Council meeting tonight at 5:45 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 1685 Main St.

**Travel safety tips seminar**

LT. Stephen Huss, Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept. (Ret.), will present an interactive program focusing on security in travel in today's world. Learn what is safe to do, what not to do in your travels and how to get through security checks with ease. There will also be time for questions. The seminar begins at 6:30 p.m., is free and open to the public. For more information, call (310) 394-9417.  
Magellan's, 1006 Wilshire Blvd.

**Treating mental illness**

Dr. Alex Kopelowicz will give a free lecture on psychosocial rehabilitation, a modern approach to treating mental illness. The lecture will be presented by Step Up on Second from 7 - 9 p.m. For more information or reservations, call (310) 394-6889, ext. 22.  
First Presbyterian Church, 1220 Second St.

**Halloween stories**

Spooky stories and crafts for children ages 4 and up from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. at the Santa Monica Library's Montana Branch at 1704 Montana Ave. For more information, call (310) 829-7081.

**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

**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.

**Comedic Lectures by John Lehr**

John Lehr explains what he has learned in life during this partly improvisational, partly storytelling lecture. The act is a non-stop tour of recollection from one hilarious experience to the next. 8 p.m.  
The Powerhouse Theatre, 3116 2nd Street  
1-800-41-FUNNY

**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 St.

## 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 Eric Hutchinson at 8:30 p.m., Fanny Franklin at 9:45 p.m. and Be Natural at 11 p.m. \$5. 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 Circle of Songs at 7 p.m., followed by LA Live at 9 p.m. 1432 4th St., (310) 395-1676

## 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, 10:20 p.m.  
Lost in Translation R - 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, 9:30, 10:15 p.m.  
Intolerable Cruelty PG-13 - 2:10, 4:30, 7:30, 9:55 p.m.  
Scary Movie 3 PG-13 - 1:30, 3:30, 4:40, 5:40, 7:55, 9:45, 10:15 p.m.  
Circle of Rock PG-13 - 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 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 Boy! 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](mailto:calendar@smdp.com) or fax it to (310) 576 9913

# CLASSIFIEDS



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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

# Too much Red Bull causes Spears to take it all off

By The Associated Press

■ **NEW YORK** — Britney Spears hasn't exactly been shy lately. She's appeared topless on the cover of Rolling Stone and British Elle magazines and bottomless on the cover of Esquire.

But after taking it all off for the suggestive pictures, the 21-year-old pop star says she plans to put it all back on — at least for now.

"I did feel kind of weird after those photos," Spears tells Newsweek magazine for its Nov. 3 issue, referring to the Esquire cover on which she wears nothing but a white sweater and high heels.

"I was in a moment. I had, like, eight Red Bulls and said, 'OK, let's do it.' I learned my lesson and you won't see me like that for a while. I'm kinda over it myself. Not that it's dirty or tacky, but it is really revealing and I wouldn't want my kid, at 21, to be dressing like that."

Spears also says she swore off dating for a while after her very public breakup with Justin Timberlake. She says she's still not involved with anyone, despite reports that she hooked up with a married backup dancer.

"There was a time when I was like, 'OK, I'm over men. They're mean,'" she says. "For like six months, not a single thing happened. Not like they weren't drawn to me, but there wasn't a single real attraction. I'm like, 'What's happening? I know I'm not a lesbian.'"

■ **NEW YORK** — Pamela Anderson wants to meet with the chief executive officer of Kentucky Fried Chicken's parent company to discuss what she calls "reasonable, positive changes for KFC's chickens."

The former star of "Baywatch" and "V.I.P." faxed a letter Monday to David Novak of Yum! Brands Inc., asking to talk about animal-welfare guidelines that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is recommending.

Anderson, a spokeswoman for the animal-rights group, called for a boycott of the fast-food chain a few weeks ago. NAACP President Kweisi Mfume and Paul

McCartney also have joined the PETA-led criticism of the company.

"I must admit from the outset that I can't understand why a company that claims to care about animal welfare would continue to allow chickens to be bred and drugged to be so top-heavy that they can barely walk, to be gathered in a manner that breaks their wings and beaks, and to be scalded to death or drowned in feather-removal tanks," she wrote in the letter, which PETA released.

KFC spokeswoman Bonnie Warschauer said Monday that executives with Yum! Brands hadn't seen the letter, and she declined comment on Anderson's request.

■ **RICHMOND, Va.** — Legendary crooner and sausage king Jimmy Dean had a yard sale to unload stuff he no longer needs — but he slept through it.

His wife, Donna Meade Dean, played host for the event Saturday at a historic Richmond-area home the couple owns while her husband slept in.

Prices ranged from \$100 for a framed photo of Dean with Elvis Presley to \$1 for a "Jimmy Dean for Coroner" cap.

The Deans recently sold their condominium in Dallas and their 141-foot motor yacht, "Big Bad John." When they got sick of storing and lugging their extra stuff around, they decided to have the yard sale.

Big spender Betty Weimer loaded her pickup truck with boxes of "JD" tumblers and stemware, two of the Deans' old barstools and some of their clothing — \$222 worth of stuff.

Her favorite finds were an antler chandelier and one of Jimmy's old cowboy hats and belts.

The profits from the yard sale will go to The Dean Foundation, a scholarship fund for students and teachers at an area high school, according to Donna Meade Dean.

■ **FLORENCE, S.C.** — Lake Wobegon is coming to Florence for one night next year.

The popular Public Radio program, "A Prairie Home Companion," which features stories from the fictional

hometown of Lake Wobegon, was scheduled for Feb. 11.

The radio program began as a three-hour morning radio show in 1969 on Minnesota Public Radio. Five years later, show creator Garrison Keillor began broadcasting live with musical guests and commercials for imaginary products.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the Florence County Library. Seating will be limited, and tickets will go on sale in November, said Kendall Wall, general manager of the local civic center.

"The Pee Dee area is in for a treat," said Barry Wingard, a member of the Friends of the Florence County Library, which invited the show to Florence. "It will be great having a nationally known radio personality like Keillor to bring his Lake Wobegon humor to Florence."

About 3.9 million listeners in the United States hear "A Prairie Home Companion" each week on more than 500 public radio stations.

■ **CARLSBAD, N.M.** — Country music star Buck Owens has paid \$20,000 for a piece of art created by a local artist to benefit charity.

Gerri Mattson's "Five-Card Stud" was among the painted ponies sold as part of a statewide public art project sponsored by Horsepower New Mexico. The proceeds from pony sales have gone to designated charities.

"I was really excited that Buck Owens had purchased it," Mattson said.

She said she thought her life-sized pony had sold a year ago, but the money just recently changed hands.

Owens has Mattson's pony on display at a theme park he owns in Bakersfield, Calif. The pony was sponsored by Dorothy Queen of Queen Oil and Gas and the Carlsbad Foundation.

Another pony Mattson painted also attracted star power. The pony called "Wildfire" appeared on stage with singer Michael Martin Murphey during a summer concert. Murphey, who performs a song by the same name, signed the horse.



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