

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

2 21 23 36 45
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: \$26 Million

FANTASY 5

2 10 24 26 29

DAILY 3

Daytime: 4 1 8
Evening: 4 7 6

DAILY DERBY

1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 06 Whirl Win

RACE TIME: 1:44.56

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

In September, according to a report in Tehran's daily Mardomsalari newspaper, a local court ordered a husband to stop beating his wife. However, the Iranian woman, identified only as Maryam J., said she would have accepted an order that just limited the beatings to once a week. "Beating is part of his nature," she said, "and he cannot stop it." The disconsolate husband said, "If I do not beat her, she will not be scared enough to obey me."

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1966, the former British colony of Barbados became independent.

In 1981, the United States and the Soviet Union opened negotiations in Geneva aimed at reducing nuclear weapons in Europe.

In 1993, President Clinton signed into law the Brady bill, which requires a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases and background checks of prospective buyers.

Five years ago: The opening of a 135-nation trade gathering in Seattle was disrupted by at least 40,000 demonstrators, some of whom clashed with police.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies."

OSCAR WILDE (1854-1900)

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Katz's first order of business: Deal with the homeless

Councilman identifies top priorities in next term

(Editor's note: This is the third article in a series that appears each Tuesday, outlining priorities for those who were elected Nov. 2 to serve on the City Council.)

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Homelessness is the No. 1 problem facing Santa Monica, and ending it will require more shelters and better help from neighboring cities, City Councilman Herb Katz said Monday.

Residents on Nov. 2 elected Katz to serve four more years on the council. He said reducing homelessness would be his top priority in office, followed by mapping out the long-term guidelines that govern local developments and improving the way City Hall interacts with residents.

Also elected to the four-year terms on the seven-member Santa Monica City Council were incumbents Richard Bloom and Ken Genser, and challenger Bobby Shriver. They will be sworn in Dec. 7, joining council incumbents Bob Holbrook, Kevin McKeown and Pam O'Connor, whose terms expire in 2006.

Reducing the number of home-

less people on the streets will require more shelters, both in Santa Monica and elsewhere, Katz said.

"The first step would be to get with the other cities," said Katz, 73, an architect who lives with his wife, Brenda, in Sunset Park. "It's in progress. Make sure that they take their share of the homelessness problem and provide shelter. At the same time, I believe we need to provide some shelters where we can ...

"And we have to move in a direction, in my opinion, to make homeless people in our community somewhat responsible for living here. And to qualify it, I think it's imperative that ... our citizens feel safe on the streets and safe in their own homes," Katz added.

While campaigning, Katz suggested a city parking lot be set aside for transients. He said Monday he had backed away from that idea because community members didn't support it. Katz has previously recommended homeless residents be required to pick up trash or clean graffiti to stay in Santa Monica.

Most important to any plan is that surrounding communities also help out, Katz said. He applauded work being done by Bloom with a group called Bring LA Home, which aims to end homelessness

See KATZ, page 6



HERB KATZ

Surf's up



John Wood/Daily Press

Natalie Flores, 19, left, and April Jubela, 20, watch early Monday as surfer Nick Nevarez, 31, comes ashore near lifeguard No. 27 in Ocean Park. Nevarez braved cold water and little swell to surf as part of a promotional event for 'Winterlit,' a downtown holiday campaign that kicks off Friday.

Local man freed from ecstasy ring charges

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

Charges have been dropped against a Santa Monica man accused of delivering 160,000 ecstasy pills to an undercover officer in an area parking lot in September.

The U.S. Attorney's Office recently dismissed charges against Bohumel Chudoba, a Czech

Republic immigrant who lives on California Avenue. He was arrested Sept. 13 for allegedly delivering the drugs in a car, which was left in a parking space in downtown Santa Monica. Inside the trunk were two large trash bags full of ecstasy, authorities allege.

Chudoba was one of 13 people arrested in September who were allegedly involved in an

See ECSTASY, page 6

Patti Davis writes a father-daughter love story

BY JOHN ROGERS

Associated Press Writer

SANTA MONICA — If she'd been just another wild child of a baby boom generation that produced so many, Patti Davis muses, none of it would have mattered so much.

Sure, she did her share of recreational drugs, but in the 1960s and 1970s, what young person didn't? There was more, of course: posing

naked in Playboy magazine, a string of bad love affairs, speeches at anti-war rallies.

There was a difference, though. While Davis the protester denounced war at those rallies in the 1980s, other demonstrators denounced her father, President Reagan.

"I regret all of it," says Davis, who has just published "The Long Goodbye," a poignant, heartfelt

memoir about watching the father she adored fight a 10-year battle with Alzheimer's.

Well, she regrets almost all of it. The Playboy shoot was pretty cool, she says with a twinkle in her eye.

"If you stripped it right down, I didn't do things that much differently than many, many other people did," Davis reflects over a tall glass of iced tea at a Santa Monica

hotel. "I mean I was never arrested or something."

And then, with a giggle: "I wasn't THAT BAD!"

She was both Patti Davis, angry young liberal, and Patricia Ann Davis Reagan, Daddy's little girl.

She is older now and less angry, but still just as liberal and still Daddy's little girl — so much so that everything she said or did to

See DAVIS, page 7

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Be free as a bird, Libra

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Postpone signing any agreements, for now. Don't be surprised if someone you're counting on flakes out or misunderstands plans. Verify everything before acting on it. Don't stand on ceremony about a call or a problem with a friend. Tonight: Slam the door and don't answer calls at home.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your nerves might be a bit touchy, especially concerning the topics of money and love. How you handle this tension could make all the difference. Talk openly about your feelings, and others will respond. If you have an important message, be serious rather than light during the discussion. Tonight: Think seriously about a problem.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Expenses could be more than you had anticipated. On the other hand, you have tremendous earning capacity. You also have the ability to structure a successful budget. Think in terms of the cup being half-full rather than half-empty. Tonight: Plan your holiday budget.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your instincts carry you over a problem. Your feelings about a child, new acquaintances or a love relationship are strong. You could feel overly responsible or too serious. Know that you can lighten up and be silly. Tonight: Head home.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★ Your irritation emerges when dealing with those close to you. You might be better off going out for a jog or a walk. You might be too serious for your own good. Express your happiness with those close to you. Tonight: Hang out with favorite people.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ A friend might be very serious or touchy. Your humor and efforts might fall on deaf ears. Realize that your Ruler goes retrograde today, and you could be out of sorts if you don't get the reactions you want. Tonight: Go shopping.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Your serious side emerges when dealing with a boss or associates. Your good humor and willingness to get embroiled in a mess are two of your better characteristics. You don't mind a touch of chaos here and there. Tonight: Be as free as a bird.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You have what it takes to get information and translate the facts in a way that others can absorb. You have an unusual ability to do research and get past rigidity, even your own. Tonight: Catch up on e-mail or write Christmas cards.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your heartfelt efforts help a partner or loved one who is overly serious open up. Still, don't delude yourself about another's harsh words, or your own. You are sitting on a lot of anger. Partners and bosses could become flaky! Tonight: Quality time.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Information heading your way could be wrong, whether it is from an expert, associates or a meeting. Right now, you need to verify information and do your own homework. Others seem very serious. Tonight: Count on yourself right now, but make an effort toward others.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Someone might have made a promise that he or she cannot keep. Loosen up and be your positive, independent, creative self. You'll find solutions to complications. A child or loved one acts up in the next few weeks. Tonight: Get some R and R.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might not believe what others are saying. In the next few weeks, develop a grain of skepticism. In the next few weeks, an old friend could return out of the blue. Relax with others, and be less judgmental. Tonight: Finish up a project.



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Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday

Phone: (310) 458-PRESS (7737) • Fax: (310) 576-9913

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Clippers hand out turkeys

By Daily Press staff

NBA Hall of Famer Elgin Baylor and the entire LA Clippers executive staff served Thanksgiving turkey dinner with all the trimmings to homeless men, women and children last week.

On hand to help was 8-year-old Hunter Howard and his father, Christian Howard, at St. Joseph Center's Bread & Roses Café in Venice on Nov. 23.

"He's been doing it since he was 4 and he loves it," Christian Howard said. "It gives him a good perspective on life at an early age."

Later the same day Hunter Howard and his father joined head coach Mike Dunleavy and Clippers players Lionel Chalmers, Marko Jaric, Mikki Moore, Mamadou N'diaye, and Chris Wilcox at the center's administration building to give away more than 300 turkeys, bags of food, and stacks of clothing to families in need.

The NBA basketball team has been showing up at St. Joseph Center to distribute meals and bags of groceries for the past 14 years.

"The Clippers organization is tremendous," said Maria Alderete, the center's coordinator of volunteers. "To take the time out of their busy schedules to come here and get involved is an inspiration to all of us."

St. Joseph Center assists more than 7,000 working poor and homeless men, women and children each year to achieve self-sufficiency through emergency services, childcare, case management, job training and senior services. For more information, call (310) 396-6468, ext. 325 or visit www.stjosephctr.org.

Santa Claus arrives via fire truck

By Daily Press staff

Santa Claus is coming to town early this year, and Santa Monica's firefighters and police officers are leading the way.

Santa and his public safety helpers will be distributing good cheer and thousands of candy canes as part of the 13th annual "Candy Cane Drive."

Santa's scheduled stops are as follows:

Saturday, Dec. 4, 2004:

10:30-10:50 a.m. Douglas Park: California Avenue and 25th Street.

11-11:20 a.m. Christine Reed Park: California Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard.

11:30-11:50 a.m. Third Street Promenade and Wilshire Boulevard.

1:30-1:50 p.m. Memorial Park: 14th Street parking lot.

2- 2:20 p.m. Marine Park: Marine Street and 17th Street.

2:30-2:50 p.m. Clover Park: Ocean Park Boulevard and 25th Street parking lot.

Santa Monica children are encouraged to look and listen for the lights and sirens of the public safety vehicles, while parents are encouraged to bring their cameras.

For more information, call (310) 458-8474.

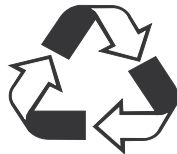


Mark Nixon is this week's mystery photo winner. Nixon accurately described that this photo was taken behind Hi Dee Ho Comics on Santa Monica Boulevard. Nixon has won a gift certificate to Nawab, an Indian restaurant on Wilshire Boulevard. Check out the Monday edition for the next mystery photo.

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Santa Monica Daily Press



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SURF REPORT

On Tuesday look for leftover NW wind and ground swell. Just about all spots are below waist high. Best South Bay breaks see a few bigger sets on the best tides. Variable offshore flow is on tap for the morning, turning light onshore for the afternoon.

Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

**Today the
water is:**

58°



LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	2:10	2.3	3:51	-0.5	8:29	6.2	10:27	3.6
SUNDAY	2:36	2.5	4:28	-0.4	8:57	6.0	11:15	3.4
MONDAY	3:01	2.7	5:09	-0.2	9:27	5.8	N/A	N/A
TUESDAY	3:27	3.0	5:54	0.1	12:12	3.3	9:59	5.5
WEDNESDAY	3:57	3.2	6:44	0.3	1:25	3.3	10:36	5.2
THURSDAY	N/A	N/A	7:38	0.5	11:20	4.7	N/A	N/A
FRIDAY	6:57	3.5	8:31	0.7	3:49	3.7	12:22	4.3

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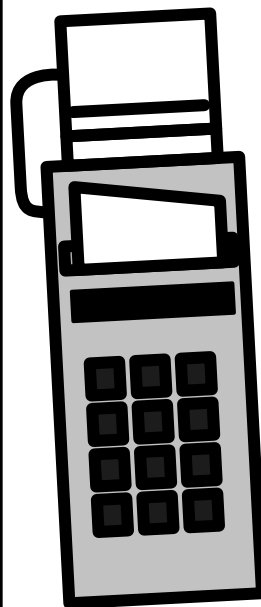
Macerich Co., which owns the Santa Monica Place mall, recently unveiled its plans to raze the current mall and replace it with three 21-story luxury apartment towers. There also will be an extension of the Third Street Promenade to Colorado Avenue and two other high rises with retail and office space, affordable housing and park space.

Some love the plan, which will generate millions of dollars for the city by creating a

new downtown. Others say it will ruin the Santa Monica skyline.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, **"Do you support the idea? Why or why not?"**

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



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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Schools superintendent underpaid

Editor:

In the Daily Press' lead article for Nov. 22, "Administrators take top school salaries," (page 1), it was noted that Schools Superintendent John Deasy earns \$172,351. The tone seemed to imply that this was an excessive amount.

As a member of the community group which interviewed applicants for the superintendent of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District four years ago, I participated in the national recruitment for our superintendent. I called a highly-regarded superintendent of a 60-school, 55,000-student district in Texas, Jack Jordan. I asked him several questions to learn how a skilled administrator structures a successful learning environment for all students.

To my question, "How are teachers supported in their classes and how are they held accountable for student learning outcomes?"

Superintendent Jack Jordan responded: "We recruit principals who can lead, work with parents and solve problems. When principals do this, teachers feel supported. People must work in tandem for the district to succeed. Good promotional opportunities for staff are important. The goal is for everyone hired to really care about the school district and its success. We individualize academic classes and pull four or five students into summer academies with the best teachers. Teachers learn how to work with different learning styles, for example with students who have trouble understanding information presented verbally, or students who have problems with visualization."

The intelligent and insightful management which Supt. Jordan describes requires highly educated and experienced administrators. They must be adequately compensated to be retained.

According to Supt. Jordan, our superintendent's salary ranked much too low nationally. A school superintendent should be paid at least \$250,000. The Dallas school district was recruiting a superintendent four years ago and offering a \$285,000 salary. The Santa Monica-Malibu district was fortunate that Supt. Deasy was intrigued enough with the unique set of opportunities and challenges here to take the job. He is underpaid given the intellectual and educational background the job demands.

I ask again, "Why is it OK for athletes and stock brokers to earn six-figure salaries, but not the most influential people overseeing our children's education?"

Celia Carroll
Santa Monica

Rent control culprit of parking woes

Editor:

All this bitching and moaning about the lack of parking is laughable. Let's blame it on the businesses. Let's blame it on the SUV-driving yuppie scum.

How about, let's blame it on the one thing that has not changed in almost 30 years, rent control.

You see, people, every apartment or condo that exists in Santa Monica is/was required to have at least one parking space per unit. What happened as a result of rent control, was that landlords had to find creative ways to make a legitimate profit. They decided that since the parking spaces and more specifically, the garages that were attached to these apartments which were not trapped under rent control, they could be rented to the highest bidders.

Those apartment dwellers who kept their garages have collected a bunch of "stuff" that they keep in those "parking spaces." Or, have actually rented them to suckers willing to pay them for the space, adding financial insult to injury to the landlords.

One woman I know uses her garage as a storage facility for her "weekend garage sale" business. Another person I know "rents" her garage to a realtor that stores her signs and file cabinets in it. It's more cost effective then renting office space.

Then, of course, there is the fact that some people have decided to raise families in these one- or two-bedroom apartments. Now as their kids are getting to driving age and with both parents working, you can imagine up to four cars per apartment.

So, for all of you rent controlled apartment dwellers who want something or someone to blame for your parking woes, you don't have to look any further than the Santa Monicans For Renters Rights and yourselves. You reap what you sow.

Enjoy!

Tony Street
Bend, Ore.

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

New blood on City Council needs to bleed leadership



WHAT'S THE POINT?

BY DAVID PISSARRA

A week from today, the "new" City Council will convene and a new mayor will be appointed. One hopes that a new mayor will be put in place to deal with the crises of the city in a strong and effective manner. This is not to say that Richard Bloom has not done a fine job as mayor. He has been as effective as the council will let him be. But we need strong leadership and accountability.

While I hold out hope that with the election of Bobby Shriver there is a breath of fresh air coming to the council, but frankly, I am fairly certain that the feet of lead council will continue to do nothing about the real issues, and only continue to grab headlines with hot button, meaningless issues.

The sad result of the last election shows precisely how apathetic and uninformed the electorate is. New council member Shriver was elected with more than 20,000 votes, but everyone who I asked, who voted for him, could not tell me a single thing the man stood for, besides the hedge issue.

I have no opinion on whether or not Mr. Shriver will be a good council member. Time will tell. What bothers me is that with the groundswell of support for change on the council, only one new face is sent forth.

The far left in this city cried out for change, seeking to place a new council that would feed the hungry, house the homeless and stop nuclear proliferation on a global level.

The far right wants to see a council that will end the "welcome mat" politics towards the homeless, allow unfettered growth and development, and stop worrying about the proliferation of nuclear arms, and concentrate on important issues like cutting city overhead.

The moderates, as I like to think of myself, would like to see a City Council that will address the issues that homeowners like me need to have resolved. There needs to be accountability.

There is a need for accountability in the schools, in the budget and on the council. We have a school district that has untold students who do not belong in the district. The sneaky parents qualify their children with the grandparents' or their cousins' addresses. In a district that is chronically challenged for funding, this overpopulation in the student body allows for thousands of dollars each year to go for students who belong in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

An audit of the student body is not likely to show a tremendous amount of students who belong in another district. But the fact is that there are students whose parents are taking advantage of the benefits of our district while not financially contributing. The obvious counter argument is that the resident whose address is being used is paying taxes and he is contributing for the student.

The school district budget, like all budgets, requires income from sources that are not also costing it money. Additionally, some of the residents are renters, and they do not contribute to the

city based on property tax assessments. Clearly the landlords have to pay, but they can only infrequently pass a small percentage of the assessments through to their tenants in increased rents — those rents which have been held down for years due to rent control.

When it comes to the City Council, its members need to take a deep, hard look at the way in which they do business. They should take the morally correct stand, and as a group, get behind a charter amendment that requires each district to be represented. It would be a great show of character for this council to bite the political bullet and allow the people a direct way to their council.

As it stands now, this council is completely unaccountable to any one district and the electorate in general. In reality, they are only beholden to the few voters who took the time to get to know the candidates, and extract promises in exchange for the mother's milk of politics — money. It is appalling that as a homeowner I have so little representation on the council. Council members are supposed to represent all of the community, yet like all politicians, they seem to represent only those who give them money or political cover.

Accountability is desperately needed from this council. As is leadership. We are in an economic cycle that does not bode well for our future. The community budget is stretched to an extreme degree, and there have been no farsighted proposals put forth by anyone on this council. The public assets of this little burg are being used beyond their ability to compensate and the city leadership appoints another commission, or commissions another study, all the while doing nothing about the central problems.

For example, here is a proposal that will not be popular but would be fair. An annual two-tiered tax on tenants based on whether or not their tenancy is controlled by the rent control or rent stabilization. The tenants who are under the old rent control would pay \$12 per year for each year or portion thereof that they have been in their apartments. The tenants who are newer, and presumably paying a higher market rate would pay \$6 per year for each year, or portion thereof that they have been in their apartments.

The reason for the two tiers is that the older tenants are paying radically lower monthly rent, and have been benefiting based on the actions of the city. Therefore, they should contribute more to the city coffers, based on their lower cost of living. The newer tenants are paying a higher market rate, and therefore are contributing more to the local economy and should be taxed at a lower rate because they already contribute more.

This proposal will never see the light of day, mostly because there is no accountability on the council. That is fine with me because it was just an example of an idea for a revenue increase that the city desperately needs.

Hopefully the new mayor and the council with their one new member can come up with ideas that will actually see the light of day and help the city.

(David Pissarra is a business development lawyer in the Santa Monica firm of Pissarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpissarra@pissarra.com).

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OPINION



The grass is always greener on the frozen side

ANY DAY IN LA

BY HEIDI MANTEUFFEL



Just as every good movie must end and great tan must fade, this time of temperate LA weather for me had to go. That's why I put away my tank tops and thong sandals, and flooded my suitcase with boring wool sweaters. It was time to go home to the windy city to enjoy a Thanksgiving vacation with my mom, dad and med school sister.

You may think I'm over extrapolating weather predictions with the equivalent of thermal long underwear, but where were you when the onslaught of three to six inches of snow rained down Wednesday? Most likely getting chilled drinks at the Coffee Bean instead of taking family pictures in the snow (thanks, mom).

But as much as I froze my butt off the first two to three days of being home in Chicago, I do enjoy a little winter wonderland.

I love being home, shopping for presents the day after Thanksgiving, meandering through the grocery store to see who I'll run into, and visiting some of the old stomping grounds. The only problem

with the stomping grounds in Northwest Illinois is that all the stores in our town (all meaning Starbucks, Blockbuster and Dunkin Donuts) close before 10 p.m., and you're left with few options when revisiting with a friend.

That's why my best friend Liz and I tried to think of something original to do besides the movie or coffee route. I knew I wanted to play wack-a-mole and ski-ball so I came up with the idea to visit the old kiddy favorite, Enchanted Castle. Liz readily agreed.

Enchanted Castle, on par with a Chuck-E-Cheese's, was every kid's dream for a birthday party and a parent's nightmare. I went there for my second- and fourth-grade birthdays, and remembered the magical miles of never-ending gaming action. The tickets flowed out machines like foaming hot chocolate and you came home with the coolest plastic bugs and bracelets.

Our eyes glimmered with excitement as we remembered just how enchanting this castle was. We got \$5 in tokens, knowing we would come back in just minutes for \$5 more.

However, once we scouted out the whole perimeter to decide where to best spend our tokens, the castle was seemingly smaller and the games hacked out tickets sparingly of worn-looking games. I have to admit we were a little let down by

the shrinking of our memory. For instead of the glistening machines we envisioned, were basically five ski-ball machines, some pistol shoot 'ems and little kiddo versions of gambling.

Sure I played ski-ball, wack-a-mole, punch-a-duck and my old favorite, bozo buckets, but after that we were wondering what to do with the rest of our tokens. We managed to get a game of air hockey in, but that still left \$2 apiece, with about a baby pool amount of excitement between the both of us.

Maybe that's the problem. When you're a kid, your own baby pool with slide is on the same level of meeting Santa Claus for the first time. You believe in the magic of the plastic frog slide and skirt down in your favorite polka-dot

swimwear. But as an adult you can't really ride down the slide, let alone do more than squat in a baby pool. I think maybe getting your butt stuck on the three-foot slide is where the magic ends.

So what do you do? Get a bigger slide, or make yourself smaller to see the world as magical as you once did? In my humble opinion, I say maybe a little bit of both, and don't be afraid to laugh if the kid next to you beats the daylight out of your wack-a-mole score. He's just into it that much more.

(Heidi really likes wack-a-mole, ski-ball and some other old-school arcade games. E-mail her at anydayinla@gmail.com).

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Long meetings hurt public, councilman says

KATZ, from page 1

in 10 years. But Katz said still more needs to be done to encourage neighboring cities to pull their own weight.

"They can't just keep dumping on us, and that's what they do," Katz added.

As to building new shelters, Katz said he had an eye out for open land in Santa Monica and in the meantime was following discussions to convert vacant buildings on the Veteran's Administration land in West L.A. The only problem with that proposal, Katz said, was getting homeless people to travel there.

Katz named as his second priority overseeing an overhaul of the city's master plan and development documents, which were drafted more than 20 years ago. Public input will be essential in that process, said Katz, who also offered opinions on height limits and building setbacks, among other issues.

"This is huge. This is going to affect our lives for the next 50 years," said Katz, who runs a mid-sized architecture firm in

West L.A. "A planning document is a living document and will be changed, and will vary over the years. But the basic principle of it and the basic goal of it will be affecting our city for 50 years or more."

Katz said the current regulations are too confusing and difficult to navigate through. He said the new document must be easy to understand, but also lay out specifics.

"Our zoning documents are so complex," Katz said. "Being an architect and working with that thing, it's a nightmare ... The document must be clear, concise and as clean and simple as possible. I also thoroughly believe that we (need to) look to the needs of our city. We need parks and we need open space."

As to height limits, Katz said he would consider letting developers build higher than currently is allowed, but only on large lots and only with significant setbacks. Large commercial projects should include park space, added Katz, who said updating City Hall's planning documents

will take several years, at least.

"It's going to be a major project and once we get the concept were going to have to massage it," Katz said.

Katz's third priority for his next term is improving customer service in City Hall. He said doing that would require a two-pronged approach. First, Katz said a top-down philosophy must be put into effect emphasizing the importance of problem solving with residents and merchants.

"They need to work with the public — not say, 'This is the rule, now go do it.' They need to say, 'This is the rule, how we can we solve your problem,'" said Katz, adding training sessions may be necessary. "I think it has to be a major philosophy coming from council to start with, saying, 'You will do this' ...

"You call in planning and zoning, they're always in a meeting," Katz continued. "They spend a lot of time in meetings."

The second imperative to improving the way City Hall treats residents is shortening the length of council meetings, Katz said. Doing so would allow staffers to go home

at a decent hour, meaning they would be at their desks in the morning. Katz, who has unsuccessfully sued City Hall to have meetings end at 11 p.m., said he planned to file a new class action lawsuit, with residents, against City Hall soon.

"Meetings should end at 11 o'clock," he said. "After that time I do not think clearly, and neither do most of the council members, unless they're sleeping in late in the morning. And the public doesn't sleep in late in the morning. They gotta go to work."

How many times a council member can comment on an item of business ought to be limited, said Katz, who said council agendas need to be lighter and weekly meetings likely will be needed. Shorter meetings also will make it easier for residents to comment on issues that affect them, he added.

"That's not staff's fault, that's our fault as council," Katz said. "Some council members have a preamble every time they open their mouth."

Indictments against alleged smugglers are expected

ECSTACY, from page 1

international drug ring that brought millions of doses of the club drug from Europe into the United States. Dubbed "Operation Money Man," authorities have seized more than 300,000 ecstasy pills, valued on the street at \$7 million.

The cases against several people who were considered low level players in the operation have been dismissed due to evidentiary issues, said U.S. Attorney spokesman Thom Mrozek. One of them was Chudoba.

"He was a very minor character in the case and, upon further review, we thought there would be some problems in proving the case to a jury," Mrozek said.

Mrozek said it's unclear what charges were dropped against which individuals as the case is still winding its way through the court system. However, several of the high level smugglers who were arrested have waived their rights to a preliminary hearing. It's unknown when the indictments against them will be handed down, Mrozek said.

Chudoba was unavailable for comment.

The individuals arrested are accused of being part of an international coalition that trafficked in ecstasy, and laundered the profits through real estate and bank

fraud transactions. The investigation began in March of 2002 when agents learned that a group comprised primarily of Israeli nationals were trafficking the drugs into the Los Angeles area. Investigators believe the ring shipped more than 7 million ecstasy tablets from the Czech Republic to the United States, Poland, Australia and Russia.

The investigation quickly turned to Eliyahu Marciano, the head of the organization. Marciano, 29, allegedly contracted with a broker to purchase the drugs from the Netherlands, which were then shipped to him from other places in Europe, according to an affidavit filed with the U.S. Attorney's Office. The proceeds were used to buy more drug shipments, and then were smuggled out of the United States or laundered through various businesses, according to the affidavit. Marciano and several of his associates were arrested on June 24.

Through wiretaps and sting operations, undercover agents were able to track several individuals throughout the Los Angeles area and Europe who were allegedly connected to Marciano. It appears that Chudoba was allegedly associated with three men — two in Prague and one in Brentwood.

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Santa Monica Daily Press



Davis' new book documents life with Alzheimer's

DAVIS, from page 1

hurt her father still pains her greatly.

Davis talks about her book and her relationship with Reagan at a beach-front hotel that evokes many happy memories of days shared with her father in the early years of his illness. It was a time when he still got around, before a broken hip in 2001 left him bedridden.

"He came here a lot," she says softly, looking out the huge lobby windows that frame the sand of Santa Monica Beach. "We'd walk along the bike path and stuff."

Years before, when they lived in nearby Pacific Palisades, Reagan would take her to the beach and teach her to bodysurf. On weekends, they visited the family ranch, where he taught Davis to ride horses.

Davis was living and working as a writer in New York when her father announced in 1994 that he had Alzheimer's. The following year she began keeping a journal that became "The Long Goodbye." It was named, not for the Raymond Chandler novel, but for how her mother, Nancy Reagan, came to describe the disease's effects on family members who must watch helplessly as a loved one's memory of people, places and things slowly fades away.

Publisher Alfred A. Knopf gave the book, which focuses on how Reagan's struggle with Alzheimer's made the family closer, a respectable first printing of 60,000 copies.

Davis' editor, Victoria Wilson, said what drew her to the book was her feeling that anyone who had ever watched helplessly as a loved one fought a serious illness could relate to the story it tells.

"The fact that it is about Ronald Reagan is secondary," Wilson said. "Most important is it's a daughter writing about her father."

Scott Wannberg of Dutton's in Brentwood, one of Los Angeles' largest independent book sellers, said his store

had ordered 100 copies, an unusually large number for any title. As of last week, the book, released Nov. 16, ranked 303 on Amazon.com's sales list.

It is Davis' fifth book and a slim volume, but one rich in family anecdotes. One story tells of how Reagan, a deeply religious man, painted such a flattering portrait of Jesus Christ that as a child Davis decided she would marry Jesus one day. When she told her father, he let her down gently.

"He just pointed out that when Jesus returns to Earth, he's going to have kind of a full schedule and he might not get around to marrying, or even taking me out to dinner," Davis says with a laugh. "That was so sweet of him."

It was that sweetness, Davis says, that helped endear her father to so many people, even those who didn't agree with his conservative Republican politics. Still, family members were stunned at the enormous public grief triggered by his death last June.

"We expected ... an outpouring of emotion in this country," she says. "But we did not expect entire freeways to be turned into parking lots. We did not expect overpasses to be filled with people. There's no way all those people were Republicans."

Reagan had both conservative and liberal admirers, and his daughter falls firmly into the latter category.

At 52, she says she has mellowed and isn't nearly as outspoken as she once was. She cringes when reminded she once told former House Speaker Newt Gingrich that she "loathed" his politics as she was thanking him for displaying kindness at a party celebrating her father's 85th birthday.

"I wouldn't do that now," she says.

But she has little respect for the policies of the Bush administration.

"I'm very concerned about the next four years," she says, ticking off President Bush's opposition to expanding stem cell research, his foreign policy and his environmental policy.

"Bush is going to go into Alaska and he's going to ruin the last natural untouched place on this Earth, and there's no going back. Once you do that there is no going back."

Not long before she began "The Long Goodbye," Davis ended a long separation with her parents. A slender, strikingly pretty woman with long brown hair and piercing brown eyes, Davis acknowledges that she was for many years emotionally fragile. She doesn't blame her parents, but notes the times in which she grew up.

"I think I'm like many people of my generation," she says. "We held on to our

adolescence for a very, very long time. ... We were going to keep examining our inner child and what went wrong in our childhood for a long time."

But that's in the past. These days, she speaks warmly of her family, delighting in telling stories about her mother's new dog and her brother Ron Reagan's refusal to get a cell phone.

"It drives me crazy," she says, becoming animated. "He says, 'I don't want to be one of those people walking along the street talking to myself.' I said, 'Well then, don't. Put it in your pocket. Or turn it off. But can you just get one?'"

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STATE

Reclusive millionaire quietly tops governor's donors

BY DON THOMPSON

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — He's used his millions to benefit exotic show horses, a home for retired chimpanzees — and California's actor-governor.

William Armsted Robinson has quietly become one of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's top donors, periodically trading off the pinnacle with San Diego Chargers owner Alex Spanos and Spanish language television entrepreneur Jerry Perenchio.

Stockton real estate developer Spanos and Univision owner Perenchio are high-profile businessmen with long-term interests in California. But Robinson is an elusive, reclusive man whose first major foray into influencing politics is the \$650,000 he has given Schwarzenegger.

Schwarzenegger fund-raiser Marty Wilson describes Robinson as a "very private, very quiet" man who attended a

Schwarzenegger event during last year's recall campaign and has been giving regularly ever since — most recently at a Los Angeles event last month.

"To my knowledge he's never asked for anything," Wilson said.

After a decade mostly sequestered in a remote region of Idaho, Robinson has recently been spending his time in California, where he is building an arena near Temecula to exhibit exotic show horses, said attorney and spokesman Roy Moulton. Robinson has homes in Rancho Mirage, Bel Air and La Jolla, along with two in Idaho and one in San Miguel, Mexico.

"He's not trying to influence tax policy that would affect his businesses. There's no agenda other than his core beliefs," Moulton said.

Robinson's Schwarzenegger donations eclipsed his previous combined political contributions since 1990 of \$45,600 to two Idaho congressmen and several Republican national committees.

Robinson, 65, was prompted to support Schwarzenegger by "his disgust with Gray Davis," the Democratic former governor whose recall put the action star in the governor's office, Moulton said. Like Schwarzenegger, Robinson "thinks it's important to attract business back, to make California more attractive to business."

And like Schwarzenegger, Robinson breaks the mold.

While the governor is the consummate showman and backslapper, Robinson "is a bit of a recluse," Moulton said. "He doesn't get much pleasure out of hanging around the high rollers and movers and shakers." While Robinson occasionally attends fund-raisers and other events, "he's usually the first one gone. He buys the food, but he rarely hangs around to eat it."

The lifelong childless bachelor gave \$1 million last year to Chimp Haven, a 200-acre home for primates who have survived laboratory experiments. He showed up in May 2003 for the groundbreaking in his hometown of Shreveport, La., long enough to accept a picture painted by a chimp from the Tulsa Zoo. And he attended a celebratory luncheon there earlier this month — but then skipped the dedication of the facility he helped build.

He's contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to found and finance the animal shelter in Teton County, Idaho.

But he's dedicated most of his attention since 1998 to becoming one of the nation's largest breeders of Lusitanos, horses that evolved from Portuguese horseback bullfighting.

When Robinson Lusitanos Inc. went looking for a photograph of Robinson for its Web site, the best it could find was a distant shot of him in sunglasses and ball cap, sitting in the VIP tent at the U.S. Dressage Olympic selection trials.

Inquiries about Robinson to Republican Party leaders, horse breeders and charity beneficiaries brought a response only from Moulton, who said Robinson was tipped to The Associated Press' calls by a friend at Chimp Haven. Robinson declined an interview, Moulton said: "That's the recluse side of him coming out. He prefers not to talk to the outside world."

Robinson spends most of his time reading voraciously, mostly about history and politics, when he's not busy with his horses, Moulton said.

He made his millions as a founder of Document Handling Limited, one of the nation's first courier services in 1970, and spent years chasing around the globe to help expand what became DHL Airways and DHL International.

United Parcel Service and Federal

Express had trouble finding Robinson a year ago when they wanted him to testify in a U.S. Department of Transportation proceeding as they unsuccessfully tried to block Robinson's sale of the company to Astar Air Cargo Inc., whose investors include Richard Blum, husband of Democratic U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California.

"He's been somewhat mysterious," said UPS spokesman David Bolger. "He's really a colorful character."

Robinson finally showed up for his sworn testimony in Los Angeles on Aug. 25, 2003, dressed in blue jeans and a denim shirt, sporting a beard and felt hat — and accompanied by three attorneys.

Those in attendance were required to sign confidentiality statements, "So if any of it winds up in the paper," Robinson said at the outset, "Somebody around this table is in trouble," finished Phillip Douglas, one of Robinson's attorneys. A transcript of his deposition was obtained by The Associated Press.

In it, Robinson professes a near total ignorance of his own financial dealings, saying he delegated everything to brothers Roy and Todd Moulton, whom he met through the contractor who built his house when he moved to Felt, Idaho, in 1991.

Roy Moulton was not only Robinson's attorney, but he became chairman of DHL Airways Inc., while Todd served as Robinson's financial adviser and the second of three members Robinson appointed to the four-member DHL board.

The casual approach is typical of Robinson, who delegates duties and then moves on, said Roy Moulton. He said Robinson once was riding in a Mexico City taxicab while setting up the DHL office there. He hired the cabbie on the spot as a DHL courier, then a few days later handed the young man \$10,000 in cash and left the country.

"That guy ended up running South America" for DHL, Moulton said.

Robinson has fought a long-running series of tax battles with the Internal Revenue Service.

The IRS sought \$18 million in back taxes and penalties in 1992, while Robinson said he was due a nearly \$6 million refund in part because he deducted \$165,000 for his horse show, tennis and farming activities.

A 2001 book by Washington, D.C.-based Center for Public Integrity entitled "The Cheating of America" alleged DHL was among companies that sheltered its income in international tax havens. A judge ordered DHL to pay \$550 million in back taxes and penalties in 1998, but the company appealed and won a partial victory over the value and transfer of the courier company's DHL trademark.

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STATE



Clash over medical marijuana reaches Supreme Court

BY GINA HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court questioned whether state medical marijuana laws might be abused by people who aren't really sick as it debated on Monday whether the federal government can prosecute patients who smoke pot on doctors' orders.

Watching the argument was Angel Raich, an Oakland, Calif., mother of two who said she tried dozens of prescription medicines to ease the pain of a brain tumor and other illnesses before she turned to marijuana. She and another ill woman, Diane Monson, filed a lawsuit to protect their access to the drug after federal agents confiscated marijuana plants from Monson's yard.

Their attorney, Randy Barnett of Boston, told the justices that his clients are law-abiding citizens who need marijuana to survive. Marijuana may have some negative side effects, he said, but seriously sick people are willing to take the chance because the drug helps them more than traditional medicines.

The justices refused three years ago to protect distributors of medical marijuana

from federal charges. They are confronting a more personal issue this time — the power of federal agents to go after sick people who use homegrown cannabis with their doctors' permission and their states' approval.

The stakes are high because 11 states have passed medical marijuana laws since 1996. A defeat for the two California women might undermine those laws and discourage other states from approving their own.

A loss for the government, on the other hand, could jeopardize federal oversight of illegal drugs and raise questions in other areas such as product safety and environmental activities. A Bush administration lawyer told the justices they would be encouraging people to use potentially harmful marijuana if they were to side with the women.

"Smoked marijuana really doesn't have any future in medicine," said Paul Clement, acting solicitor general.

Justice David H. Souter said about 10 percent of people in America use illegal drugs, and states with medical marijuana laws might not be able to stop recreational users from taking advantage.

"Everybody will say mine is medical," Justice Stephen Breyer said.

And Justice Antonin Scalia said there are many people with "alleged medical needs."

Despite the tenor of the debate, the case is hard to predict. The justices will rule before next summer.

The marijuana users won in the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled that federal prosecution of medical marijuana users is unconstitutional if the pot is not sold, transported across state lines or used for nonmedical purposes.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said the federal government has a stake in interstate commerce, but with the California medical marijuana patients: "Nobody's buying anything. Nobody's selling anything."

Her colleague, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, observed that homegrown medical marijuana never makes it to the interstate market.

Conservatives like Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Justice Clarence Thomas and Scalia generally have supported states' rights to set their own policies.

Rehnquist, who is undergoing treatment for thyroid cancer, missed Monday's argument and is not expected to return to the court until January, at the earliest.

Raich said she hopes the 80-year-old chief justice's chemotherapy treatments "would soften his heart about the issue."

"I think he would find that cannabis would help him a lot," said Raich, who uses marijuana every few hours for scoliosis, a brain tumor, chronic nausea and other illnesses.

California's law allows people to grow, smoke or obtain marijuana for medical needs with a doctor's recommendation. Besides California, other states with such laws are: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont and Washington.

Medical marijuana was an issue in the November elections. Montana voters easily approved a law that shields patients, their doctors and caregivers from arrest and prosecution for medical marijuana. Oregon rejected a measure that would have expanded its medical marijuana program dramatically.

The case is *Ashcroft v. Raich*, 03-1454.



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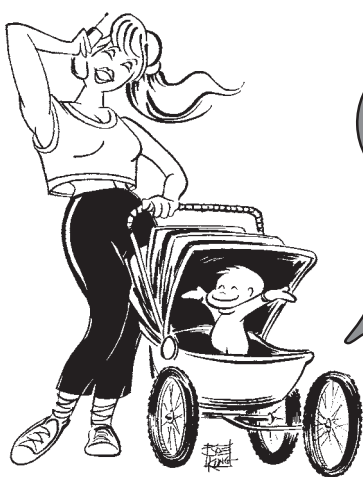
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Do you suffer from ‘super mom syndrome?’

By Daily Press staff

Have you ever arrived at the office with a burp cloth still on your shoulder?

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Are you tired, cranky and feeling stressed?

If you answered yes to two or more of the questions above, you may be suffering from “super mom syndrome,” a not uncommon malady that strikes most mothers at one time or another.

Simply put, today's mothers try to do everything and we want to do it all as effortlessly as we (mistakenly) think our mothers did. Chances are if you are juggling one or more child, a career, the PTA and your marriage, things are not going to go smoothly.

The only Rx to permanently cure super mom syndrome is a full-time staff including a cook, a nanny and a chauffeur. Since live-in help is a pipe dream for most of us, some of the tips below may help at least relieve your tension headache and get you and your family back on track.

TAKE SOME TIME FOR YOURSELF

Convince your husband, blackmail your sister, hire a baby-sitter or bribe a neighbor to watch your children for a few hours each week. Use that time to do something for yourself. It doesn't have to be anything luxurious and you don't have to spend any money. Going for a brisk walk, strolling through a park or visiting a

museum for a few hours can be a great spirit lifter.

PRIORITIZE

You can't do it all — and neither could your mother. Pick and choose the things that you want to accomplish. This can be as simple as deciding you want to do the laundry and get dinner on the table, but recognizing you may not have time to sort the socks before tucking your kids in for the night. On a broader level, take a look at your life plan and decide what really matters to you. Yes, you want to make partner at your law firm, but you don't have to do it before you turn 40.

REWARD YOURSELF

You worked hard all day, got the kids fed, the bills paid and the lawn watered. It's 11 p.m. Instead of forcing yourself to sort those pesky socks, take a 10-minute break. Have a cup of tea. Do some yoga exercises. You'll feel calmer and happier when you take a minute or two to pamper yourself.

RECOGNIZE WHEN YOU NEED EXPERT HELP

You've gotten the older kids fed. You've actually taken a shower today. You're feeling good. In fact, things are going great since you came home with your new baby. But you're still having trouble nursing. This isn't a situation where your sister, mother or neighbors can help. They'll have plenty of advice, but you need to allow yourself to get expert help. After your baby is born the Lactation Station at Saint John's provides a lactation expert to help you get started with nursing. Now that you are home, you can call the Lactation Station's breastfeeding support line if you have questions or are experiencing any nursing problems. The support line number is (310) 829-8944.

BEAT THE HOLIDAY BLUES

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For Santa Monica mothers and mothers to be

SPECIAL EVENTS

TODAY - TUES., NOV. 30 - CPR TRAINING - FREE!

6:00 p.m., Santa Monica Airport, free parking. Call Dr. Harris at 393-7758 for reservations and more info. Ages 16 and up.

NOW THRU DEC. 24 - VISIT SANTA CLAUS at SANTA MONICA PLACE!

NOW THRU DEC. 19 - ChiPs for KIDS will collect toys inside Santa Monica Place.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3 - 3rd ANNUAL WINTERLIT CELEBRATION - 4:00 p.m.

Kick off the holiday season at 4 p.m. at the corner of Broadway and 3rd St. Promenade, hosted by emcees Mark & Kim of KOST radio, with carolers and SM High Orchestra performing a free concert. "Surfing Santa" and his beach-attired elves will join them in a SoCal sleigh. Then at 5:15 p.m. the light switch will be thrown by a popular child star, turning downtown into a winter wonderland. See below for more Winterlit activities.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

WINTERLIT FUN on the Third St. Promenade - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Promenade and Santa Monica Place will be filled with free, kid-friendly activities including a petting zoo, pony rides, bubble mania, holiday crafts, magic shows, kid's theatre, musical groups, dancing area, "cool toys" demo, story time and more. Prizes and giveaways awarded throughout the day on the main stage between Santa Monica Blvd. and Arizona Ave.

RHYTHM CHILD FAMILY JAM - 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Bring the whole family for a percussive jam. All ages. \$15 per child, \$10 sibling, free for parents. Santa Monica Studios, 3025 W. Olympic Blvd., 310-204-5466, www.rhythmchild.net.

Rhythm Child will be at the Sunday Farmer's Market on Dec. 12.

MONDAY, DEC. 6 & 13 - PET NIGHT with SANTA

Santa Monica Place hosts this popular fundraiser for homeless pets and an opportunity for family pets to get their photos taken with Santa.

NOW thru Jan. 2

CAVALIA - A MAGICAL ENCOUNTER BETWEEN MAN and HORSE

Under the big top at the Santa Monica Pier. For the first time on stage, the equestrian arts are presented with unprecedented magic and emotion in this innovative multimedia extravaganza. Blending dramatic visual effects, live music, dance and acrobatics with the bold presence of over thirty magnificent horses, including the incredible Lusitanian stallions. \$79 adults, \$59 ages 12 and under. Call 866-999-8111 or visit www.cavalia.net for showtimes, tickets and more info.

NOW THRU DEC. 19 at the FILLMORE & WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIN - SAT. & SUN., departs 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Ride the train to pick out a Christmas tree and meet Santa onboard. \$20 adults, \$10 ages 4-12, \$6 under 4. Tree price not

included. Reservations recommended.

NORTH POLE EXPRESS - FRI., SAT. & SUN., departs 6:00 p.m. on Fri. & Sat., 5:15 p.m. on Sun. Come dressed in your PJ's and travel to the "North Pole" to pick up Santa. While onboard the elves read "The Polar Express." Sing carols, enjoy chocolate milk and cookies, then visit with Santa back at the station. Reservations required. 250 Central Ave., Fillmore, 805-524-2546.

COMING UP DEC. 9

Registration for the winter session of Parent/Me Gym and Swim and other Toddler Classes begins at the Santa Monica YMCA, 1332 6th St. Winter session begins Jan. 8th. Call 393-2721 for more info.

Special Note - Mommy Care classes at the Dance Factory have moved to 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood. Please see the calendar listings for schedule updates.

TUESDAY

Movies for Moms!

Nov. 30- "I Heart Huckabees" starring Jason Schwartzman, Isabelle Huppert and Dustin Hoffman. Comedy, Rated "R" 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. Visit www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms for details.

Storytelling

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

Toddler Storytime; 10:00 & 10:30 a.m. For 2 year olds with adult.

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

Cuentos Para Pequenos - 10:00 a.m., six-week series in Spanish for 24 - 36 month olds with adult. Current session thru Dec. 7.

Lap Time - 11:00 a.m., six-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant & Family Support Programs. Current session thru Dec. 7.

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

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

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

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

Toddler Storytime, 10:00 and 10:30. Music, rhymes and stories for 24-36 month olds.

Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis

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

Barnes and Noble at the Grove

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

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Toddler & Me (1-3 years) - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.; Infant & Me, Transitional Group (7 - 14 mos.) - 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.; Infant & Me (0-12 mos.) - 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.; classes in partnership with the Infant and Family Support Program. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA

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

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:15 - 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.

Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and work-out at the end)

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Storytelling

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

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

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

Preschool Story Time - 10:30 a.m.; six-week series for 3-5 year olds with adult. Thru Dec. 8

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

Lap Time - 10:00 & 10:30 a.m., for ages 0-2.

Toddler Story Time - 11:15 a.m., for 2 year olds.

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

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

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

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

Classes

Rhythm Child Parent & Me Rhythms, Santa Monica Studios, 3025 Olympic Blvd., 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Children explore rhythms through drum play. Ages 6 mos. - 3.5 years; \$15 per session. Call 204-5466 or visit www.rhythmchild.net for more info.

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Parent Support (3 - 5 years) - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.; Infant Plus (0-12 mos.) - 10:30 a.m. - noon; Parents of Adolescents Support Group - 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal - 12:15 - 1:45pm, \$15 Fitness for Moms - Babies Welcome! Step Aerobics, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies

0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Other

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

THURSDAY

Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

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

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

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

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

Toddler Story Time - 10:30 a.m; for ages 2 -3. Current session thru Dec. 16.

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

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

Toddler Story Time - 10:15 a.m., for 2 year olds.

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

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

Lap Time - 9:20 & 10:20 a.m., 6-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by SMMUSD Infant & Family Support Program. Current session thru Dec. 16.

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Toddler & Me (1-3 years) - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. and 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.; classes in partnership with the Infant and Family Support Program. Parent Support (3 - 5 years) - 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA

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

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:15 - 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Toddler & Me (1-3 years) - 9:20 - 10:20 a.m.; Parent Support (1-3 years) - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Mommy and Me Dance- celebrate the wonderful world of imagination Fridays at the Electric Lodge. 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. ages 14 - 24 months; 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. ages 2 - 4.

6 classes for \$75 or \$14 per class. First class free! 1416 Electric Ave, Venice, 306-1854.

Yoga & Exercise

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

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

Other

Baby Attuned - Fridays, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., A new program promoting sensitive parenting and developmental awareness. Learn about and keep a record of your baby's unique development, ages 3 to 60 months. Parent-completed developmental screening, with review and feedback from a licensed clinical developmental psychologist and experienced pediatric nurse practitioner, Eileen Escarce, PhD, MSN. (PSY 18819). Introductory fee: \$15 per screening with feedback. 1137 2nd Ave, Suite 213. By appointment only 310-367-1155.

SATURDAY

Storytelling

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

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

Children's Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-B00K.

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

Yoga & Exercise

Santa Monica Yoga - Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays - 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. 1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santamonicaayoga.com

Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and work-out at the end)

Other

Snowwhite and Mary-Mary Quite Contrary at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Alternating Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. thru Dec. 19th , \$12 adults, \$10 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations ,

www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

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

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

Precious Prints - Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime

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

preciousprintsstudios.com for more info.

Breastfeeding

Working Mother's Support Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd. - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., \$12 fee, led by Ilka Sternberger, certified lactation educator. Call 826-5774 for more info.

SUNDAY

Snowwhite and Mary-Mary Quite Contrary at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Alternating Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. thru Dec. 19th , \$12 adults, \$10 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations ,

www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

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

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

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

MONDAY

Storytelling

Main Library - Lap Time at Joslyn Park, Craft Room, 9:30 a.m. A series for babies up to two years old.

"Family Connections" - 10:00 a.m. Joslyn Park, Craft Room.

Dec. 6 program - Art for Infants and Toddlers: Things you can do at home to foster art appreciation and develop fine motor and social skills through art.

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

"Spanish for Little Ones", 11:15 a.m. Current session thru Dec. 16.

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

MOMS Club of Santa Monica - New Mother Group - for new moms with babies ages 0-6 months. Meet for conversation, support and playtime. All new Moms welcome!

Call Clare at 395-7422 for time, location and more info.

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Toddler & Me (1-3 years) - 9:20 - 10:20 a.m.; Parent Support (1-3 years) - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents - Toddler & Me (1-3 years) - 9:20 - 10:20 a.m.; Parent Support (1-3 years) - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. 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

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STATE BRIEFS

Real estate prices the root of high cost of living

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Skyrocketing real estate prices are driving up the cost of freeway expansions, school construction and other public projects.

The Los Angeles Unified School District and California Department of Transportation, among other agencies, reported paying double and triple their estimates for land when projects were proposed years ago.

“Our problem is, we can only move when we have funds in place. Until that time, we can’t say, let’s buy now when prices are low. It’s luck of the draw,” said Velma Marshall, director of real estate for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The MTA recently acquired land for the Orange Line and is buying parcels to extend the Gold Line into East Los Angeles.

In the midst of a \$14 billion school construction program, the school district has seen real estate costs soar from \$1.9 million an acre four years ago to as much as \$5 million now.

“We have to consider: Can we build everything that we’d like to build? What are our alternatives? Can we build a smaller site and still provide a quality program that we need to for the kids?” said Ron Bagel, the district’s director of real estate.

Jack Kyser, chief economist for the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp., said there’s no relief expected for government buyers.

“As you have more people, more demands, real estate just becomes more valuable,” Kyser said. “We’re sort of spoiled because from Day One, there was a lot of land. I don’t think anybody thought we’d fill it up. But guess what gang? We have.

“If you’re a government agency trying to find land, it gets even more difficult.

Caltrans is in the process of reviewing about 50 properties it needs to widen an interchange on the Golden State Freeway near the Los Angeles/Orange County line. The estimated acquisition and relocation costs has soared from \$62 million in July 1998 to \$114 million last February to \$181 million today.

USC leads state with foreigners

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — For a third consecutive year, the University of Southern California leads the nation in enrolling foreign students.

Due to strong recruiting and an international base of fiercely loyal alumni, more than 6,600 foreign students were enrolled at USC in the last academic year, significantly more than Columbia, Purdue and New York universities.

Students representing more than 100 countries now comprise more than 27 percent of USC’s graduate student population and about 8 percent of undergraduates. The numbers have grown steadily since 1997 as USC has opened recruiting offices throughout Asia.

USC’s success in recruiting foreign students has been aided by the climate and diverse cultural environment. USC also has large science, engineering and business programs that appeal to overseas graduate students.

“We’re preparing students for life in an increasingly interdependent world, where many of them are going to be doing business overseas or dealing with issues — terrorism, pollution, AIDS — that don’t face just a single country,” said J. Michael Thompson, vice provost for enrollment management.

Taiwan was the top country of origin for foreign students at USC in the early 1980s, but has since slipped to fourth. After India, the largest number come from China, South Korea, Taiwan and Canada.

Schools threatened to be shut down

By The Associated Press

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO — The budget crunch could doom three elementary schools.

The Capistrano Unified School District, facing a multimillion-dollar budget shortfall and the possibility the state won’t provide additional funding, disclosed last week that the Carl Hankey, Del Obispo and Foxborough elementary schools could be closed.

Superintendent James A. Fleming said it would save the district about \$1.3 million. District trustees will consider the closures in coming weeks.

“One of the most difficult decisions a school community has to endure is the closure of one of its neighborhood schools,” Fleming said. “This decision was not easy and was not made lightly ... but we are literally already cut to the marrow.”

Although Capistrano expects to end the current school year in the black, Fleming said shrinking revenue and increased operational costs would cut district reserves over the next two years about \$12 million short of state-mandated minimums.

State law requires school districts to submit balanced, three-year budget projections to county officials that must show sufficient emergency reserves.

Peterson awaits his fate

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The jury that convicted Scott Peterson of murder reconvenes this week to decide whether he should be executed or spend the rest of his life in prison, a decision that may not be final for years given his numerous options for appeal.

Appeals are expected to focus in part on the performance of Peterson’s high-profile Los Angeles attorney, Mark Geragos, legal experts said.

“An appellate attorney would argue that Geragos was incompetent,” said Pete Kossoris, a retired Ventura County death penalty prosecutor. “One of the things he can be criticized for was his promise of certain evidence in his opening statement, and he never offered it.”

Geragos, as with others involved in the case, remains under a court-imposed gag order.

A celebrity lawyer who has represented such well-known clients as Winona Ryder and Michael Jackson, Geragos will not represent Peterson once he is sentenced. State-appointed and publicly funded lawyers will take over instead, a standard practice in California murder appeals.

The effectiveness of the defense is a bread-and-butter issue for appeal that is made routinely in capital cases, experts said.

In his opening statements to jurors in June, Geragos floated a series of explanations for the murders of Peterson’s wife, Laci, and the fetus she carried. Among them was that transients who lived in the couple’s neighborhood abducted Peterson’s pregnant wife, then framed him after learning about his alibi, which was widely circulated in the media.

NATIONAL



Reno airport officials have gripes with the FAA

By The Associated Press

RENO, Nev. — Reno airport officials say they are furious about Saturday's breakdown of the instrument landing system and are taking their gripes to Washington.

It was the second time this month the ILS has failed, both times during a storm.

An estimated 2,000 holiday travelers set to fly out of Reno on Saturday morning were stranded when equipment used to guide pilots landing in poor weather broke down as a storm dumped up to 6 inches of snow. That delayed or canceled 41 departures and 28 arrivals.

"Why wasn't this piece of equipment fixed?" airport spokesman Brian Kulpin asked. "That is a question we'll be seeking an answer to all the way through to

Washington."

Kulpin said Krys Bart, executive director of the Washoe County Airport Authority, is going to the nation's capital next week and plans to talk to the Federal Aviation Administration and elected officials about the problem.

The FAA owns, maintains and operates the ILS equipment.

Kulpin said he knows of no other airports that have experienced such shutdowns because of an ILS failure, including airports in areas where inclement weather is common.

An official at Salt Lake City International Airport told the Reno Gazette-Journal he could not recall ever having an ILS breakdown that grounded flights.

A spokesman for the Denver International Airport said

only the FAA would know about problems with the ILS, but added that a blizzard was the cause of the last airport shutdown in Denver almost two years ago.

Allen Kenitzer, an FAA spokesman, said he could not immediately access information on past ILS failures.

"You don't hear the reports (of that happening)," Kenitzer said. "We do have ILS problems. Equipment does sometimes fail."

The FAA is investigating why the ILS broke down in Reno. Kenitzer said early indications are that a heavy buildup of snow on an antenna may have been a factor.

"We'll do an investigation and find out what all the factors were that came into play to cause it and ideally we'll put something in place to make sure those things that failed don't fail again," Kenitzer said.

Scientists unearth several ancient campsites in new national monuments

By The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — American Indian campsites have been found in and between the 1 million-acre Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and the 300,000-acre Vermillion Cliffs National Monument, said Peter Bungart, a Flagstaff, Ariz.-based archaeologist hired by The Wilderness Society.

"We found a range of sites varying from Pueblo habitation to hunting and gathering campsites," Bungart told the Las Vegas Review-Journal for a Monday report.

President Clinton created the two national monuments four years ago north and west of the Grand Canyon. Until surveys led by Bungart this month, about 3 percent of the area had been surveyed. Bungart worried that unprotected sites could be pillaged or lost.

Human campsites were found dating from 10,000 years ago to the last half of the 1800s, Bungart said, with

some Paiute camps containing metal and glass artifacts apparently obtained from the U.S. Army or Anglo-American settlers.

"The neatest thing for me is when you stand there and realize that 800 years ago people cooked their food or made their tools there, but you can look around, and for 360 degrees is the natural landscape they lived in," said Jill Ozarski of the Wilderness Society.

Bungart and Ozarski said roads and all-terrain vehicle trails put the sites at risk.

The public lands in the northwest corner of Arizona near Nevada and Utah are some of the most remote remaining areas in the 48 contiguous states.

Bungart and his team of volunteers plan to submit a draft report to The Wilderness Society early next year, and the group then plans to make management suggestions to the Bureau of Land Management.



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NATIONAL

Shocking concerns over Taser stun guns grow

BY ANABELLE GARAY

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — From Korean Air to U.S. police and corrections officers and even beat cops in Britain, the orders are pouring in for stun guns made by Taser International Inc.

The Scottsdale company even recently launched a regional ad campaign urging private citizens to arm themselves with the weapons, which temporarily paralyze people with a 50,000-volt jolt.

Yet while Taser's stock has soared with the booming business, concerns are growing about whether the shock-inducing guns are truly as nonlethal as advertised.

In a report being released Tuesday, Amnesty International says stun guns are routinely being abused. It says at least 74 people have died in the United States and Canada in the past four years after being shocked with Taser stun guns.

A Defense Department-sponsored report also calls for more testing, and some health professionals are expressing concern that the potential for cardiac arrest could be too high.

"We are using currently available technology to potentially document minute-by-minute torture," said Amnesty spokesman Ed Jackson. Among cases that alarmed Amnesty are those in which officers turned stun guns on the mentally disturbed, children and the elderly.

Amnesty worried that "the deployment of Tasers, rather than minimizing the use of force, may dangerously extend the boundaries of what are considered 'acceptable' levels of force."

Similar to a device first developed the 1970s, the Taser became available to consumers in the early 1990s and is now used by more than 6,000 law enforcement agencies worldwide as well as the U.S. military, which has used them in Iraq and Afghanistan and ordered nearly \$2 million worth of stun guns and accessories this summer.

Taser officials bill the guns, which shoot two barbed darts up to 21 feet whose current can penetrate up to 2 inches of clothing, as among the safest ways of subduing violent individuals in high-risk situations.

"We get e-mail from police every week ... thanking us for developing a weapon so they didn't have to shoot somebody," said company chairman Phil Smith. "We're saving lives every day and cops love them."

Phoenix police officers credit Tasers with helping police shootings drop by more than half and fatal shootings by 31 percent last year.

"We've seen them reduce injury to suspects ... who in the past we would have had to strike multiple times with fists or

batons," said Sgt. Randy Force, a department spokesman.

While not opposed to stun guns in principle, Amnesty International wants law enforcement to stop using Tasers until scientific evidence can show they don't kill.

In a majority of Taser-related fatalities, coroners have attributed the cause of death to heart problems, drug overdose or asphyxiation. But some medical experts believe Taser shocks may exacerbate a risk of heart failure in cases where people are agitated, under the influence of drugs or have underlying health problems.

"If I hit the heart or create electricity in the wrong time of the (beat) cycle, it could send the whole heart into an electrical tailspin," said Dr. Kathy Glatter, an electrophysiologist and assistant professor of medicine at the University of California-Davis.

Amnesty International claims stun guns are being fired too often where the use of force is unacceptable. In many of the deaths it cites, the person was shocked multiple times or subjected to other forms of force, like pepper spray, batons or hog-tying.

In one such case, 47-year-old James Borden died in a Georgia jail after being stunned at least half a dozen times with a Taser. An autopsy report listed his cause of death as consistent with cardiac dysrhythmia, secondary to abnormal thickening of the heart, drug intoxication and electrical shock.

Most of the deaths documented by Amnesty occurred this year, just as sales picked up amid positive reviews.

A Department of Defense-ordered study cited by Taser company officials in defending their technology does, however, also recommend more research on how Tasers affect sensitive or intoxicated people.

The study, done by an Air Force laboratory for the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate, found that when used as intended, Tasers are safe. But it also said that, although uncommon, some severe unintended effects might occur after a shock. The military has not released the entire study, only an abstract.

A military spokesman said the study's author, James Jauchem, couldn't be reached for comment. But the center that employs Jauchem did say that it does not endorse or approve use of the systems it studies.

Taser International, meanwhile, says it has documented 600 cases of lives saved with Taser devices and that it has not settled or lost any lawsuits involving deaths or injuries related to the guns.

"Fact is ... this thing has been around for 30 years, never ever has a Taser been listed as the primary cause of death," said Smith, the company chairman.

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NATIONAL



Democrats, GOP urge Bush to do more to get intelligence bill passed

BY JENNIFER C. KERR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Democrats and Republicans are urging President Bush to press holdout GOP lawmakers to get compromise legislation overhauling U.S. intelligence agencies passed this year.

"I would challenge the president now," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. "He says he has political capital. He owns the Congress — the House, the Senate, all of that. There is no reason this bill can't be voted on."

Asked whether Bush was doing enough to twist arms of resisting Republicans, Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said: "I think he's going to have to sooner or later, and he's going to have speak with one voice. I think the administration has to speak with one voice on this."

Boxer and Roberts commented Sunday on CNN's "Late Edition."

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Monday that Bush was expected to send a letter to congressional leaders later this week urging lawmakers to pass the legislation as soon as possible.

"Look, we're going to continue to talk with the speaker and with the majority leader and with leaders of the conference committee and get this thing moving forward," McClellan said.

Even as they appealed for passage, two powerful opponents of the deal — Republican Reps. Duncan Hunter of California and James Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin — showed no signs of wavering on a measure intended to put in place recommendations from the commission that investigated the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Hunter, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, has expressed concerns that the intelligence realignment could interfere with the military chain of command.

Specifically, Hunter said the link between troops and combat support agencies that run intelligence-gathering satellites of battlefield movements would be broken. That would mean "life and death to our people in the field," he said on "Fox News Sunday."

Sensenbrenner, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, wants the bill to deal with illegal immigration. "We have to do something about plugging up our

immigration laws," he said on ABC's "This Week."

The chairman of the Sept. 11 commission, former New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, said separate legislation, debated at a later time, could address those concerns.

Kean, a Republican, also urged Bush to exert more pressure on those in his own party who remain opposed to the bill.

With the overhaul stalled after lengthy negotiations, the crucial question "is whether it will pass now or after a second attack," Kean said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

While Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney already have lobbied for the bill, Kean said, "The president has got to go to work."

The House and Senate each passed its own version of an intelligence reorganization in October, leading to the negotiations that produced a tentative deal earlier this month. But House Speaker Dennis Hastert, heeding the concerns of Hunter and Sensenbrenner, did not allow a vote before Congress left for Thanksgiving.

Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, the lead negotiator for Senate Republicans, said the compromise bill has wide support in both chambers. She expressed confidence it would pass if Hastert were to schedule a vote on it when lawmakers return to the Capitol on Dec. 6.

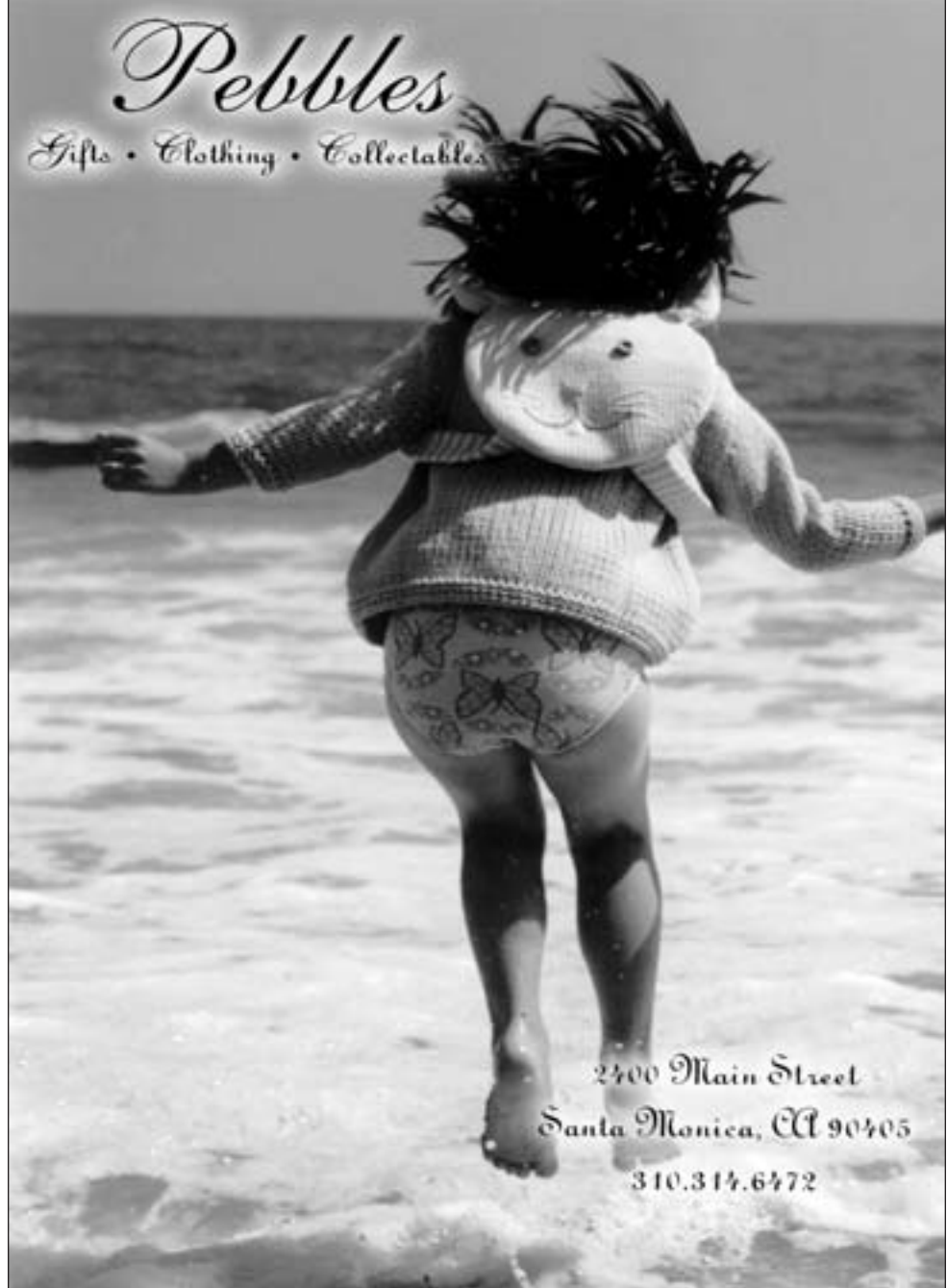
Collins, appearing on Fox with Hunter, said the bill would not endanger U.S. troops in Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere. "The fact is there is nothing in this bill that in any way hinders military operations or readiness," she said.

The legislation would create a national intelligence director and a national counterterrorism center, as the Sept. 11 commission recommended.

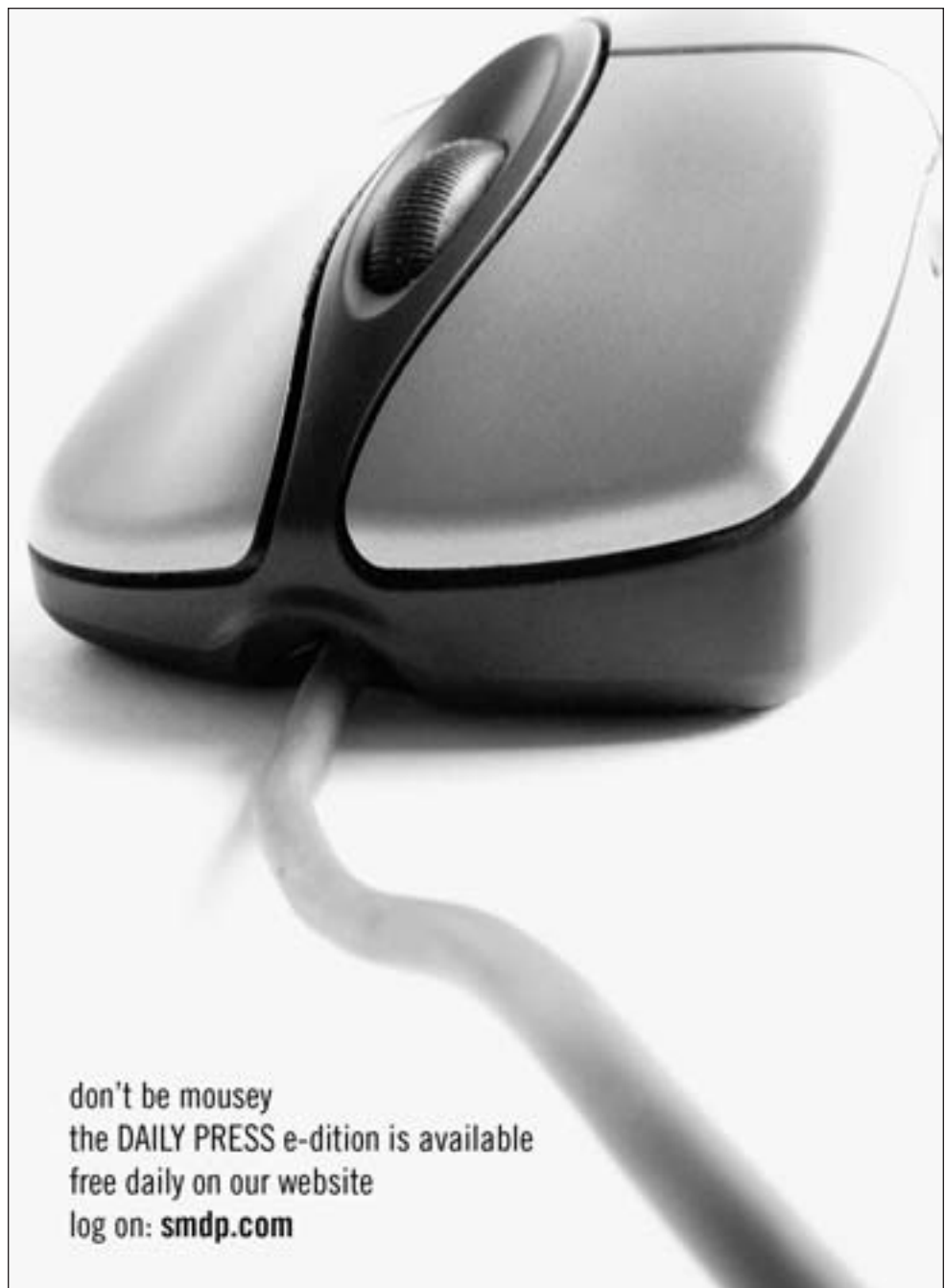
If lawmakers fail to pass an overhaul this year, they will have to start from scratch next year. With a new Congress taking office in January, bills that failed to pass in the current session expire and new legislation would have to be introduced.

Former Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., the Sept. 11 commission's vice chairman, said the time is now to act.

If the bill does not pass this year, then "you go back to the status quo, the structure of the intelligence community unchanged since before 9/11, and it is not likely to be changed for six months or more," Hamilton said.



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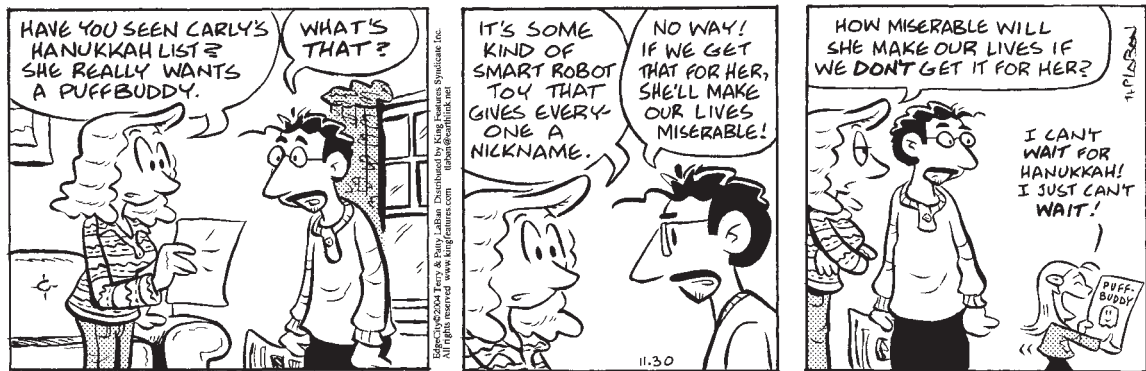


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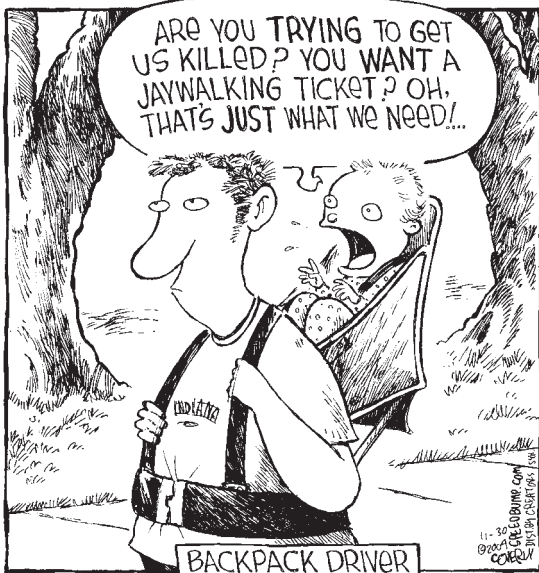
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ACROSS

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- 5 Touch base
- 10 Worshipped ones
- 12 Singly
- 13 Gallant fellow's remark
- 15 Title start, often
- 16 Negating word
- 17 Film noir classic
- 18 In a way
- 20 Fish feature
- 21 Horse sound
- 22 Cincinnati team
- 23 Role for Stallone
- 25 Leopard feature
- 28 Some tests
- 31 Aspiration
- 32 Starting time at many a co.
- 34 Suitable
- 35 Catch sight of
- 36 Iris setting
- 37 Work-place motto
- 40 Treasure

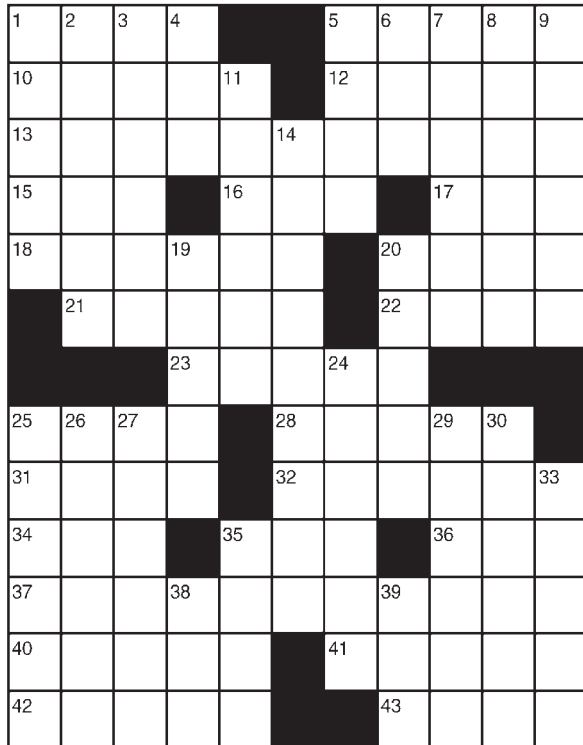
- 41 Play part
- 42 Set — for (try to catch)
- 43 Aphrodite's son

DOWN

- 1 Inclines
- 2 Some potatoes
- 3 Newfangled
- 4 Actor Wallach
- 5 Wilson's predecessor
- 6 Clay, later
- 7 Howe of hockey
- 8 Still on the market

- 9 Potpourri bits
- 11 Lady of Spain
- 14 Some campaign spending
- 19 Rich cake
- 20 Pun response
- 24 Under-wear choice
- 25 California mountain
- 26 Warhol creation
- 27 Choose
- 29 Lascivious one
- 30 Denies
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

46664: Cracking the code to the AIDS epidemic

By The Associated Press

LONDON — Former South African President Nelson Mandela says the United Nations' global fund to fight AIDS needs \$10 billion a year to be effective.

Launching "46664," a book documenting a star-studded fund-raising concert held in Cape Town last year, Mandela said governments and drug companies must do more to stop the spread of HIV, and to ensure that every person infected with the virus received treatment.

"Only with the money and support will we be able to secure a future for everyone, everywhere free from AIDS," Mandela said at last week's event.

Mandela, 86, rested on a cane as he posed with several of his charity's musical ambassadors — Brian May and Roger Taylor of Queen, Peter Gabriel, Annie Lennox and Yusuf Islam, the former Cat Stevens. All performed at the 46664 concert held at Cape Town's Green Point Stadium last November.

The U.N.'s Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, set up three years ago, faces a major funding gap. Donations have fallen far short of U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's original call.

Since stepping down as South Africa's president in 1999, Mandela has campaigned to raise awareness about AIDS, especially in Africa where about 25 million of the world's 40 million HIV-infected people live.

He also leads an AIDS foundation named 46664, his prison number under apartheid.

LEXINGTON, Va. — Scenes for the Martian-invasion film "War of the Worlds," directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Tom Cruise, will be filmed in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, according to an area tourism official.

Jean Clark, tourism director for the Rockbridge County area, said she does not know exactly when or where the movie will be shot in the valley. But, "I know they're shooting something," she said.

Clark expects filming in the area will wrap up before the year's end.

Movie publicist Deborah Wuliger said filming is now taking place in New Jersey, and industry publication Variety reported that Spielberg is also shooting scenes in upstate New York.

Wuliger said she did not know whether any commitments have been made for Virginia. But Clark said many production support people have been in the area preparing for filming.

When scouts came to the area in September, they looked at parts of Augusta County, Staunton and Waynesboro, said Sergei Troubetzkoy, Staunton's tourism director.

Paramount Pictures and DreamWorks are financing the movie, a modern version of the H.G. Wells novel. It is scheduled for release next summer.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary, the first man to climb Mount Everest and the first to drive a vehicle to the South Pole, described a U.S. highway to the pole as "terrible."

Work on the 1,020-mile "ice highway" from the Antarctic coast south of New Zealand to the South Pole is currently in its third season.

The project will enable hundreds of tons of supplies and equipment to be hauled across the world's most inhospitable wilderness to Amundsen-Scott Base, a U.S. research station. It's planned for completion by the end of the 2006 polar summer.

Currently, cargo planes fly in scientists and supplies during the four-month summer.

Hillary, who's revisiting Antarctica this week, was blunt about the project: "I think it's terrible," according to local media reports.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Phil Goff said the road is environmentally acceptable, but he understood Hillary's objections to the project.

"He spent weeks battling against the elements to get to the pole and it was an enormous achievement," Goff said.

"Now you've got the concept of a marked route that takes away the challenge and the adventure of getting there and that is anathema to Ed," he said.

Hillary led a small team 1,250 miles from New Zealand's Scott Base on the Antarctic coast to the South Pole by tractor as part of the first trans-Antarctic crossing in 1957.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — The University of Arkansas Press has published the first scholarly assessment of Bill Clinton's presidency, titled "The Clinton Riddle."

The compilation of essays by 11 of the nation's top political scientists and historians concludes that Clinton was "a pragmatic and defensive player" who was at his best when under attack.

At the same time, it says 100 years from now, people still will be trying to figure out the lessons of the Clinton era.

The book promises to be more even-handed than the presidential library and museum in Little Rock, which presents some of the controversies of Clinton's presidency squarely from his perspective. The library opened with a gala celebration and has already been criticized for downplaying impeachment, the Whitewater investigation and Clinton's sex scandals.

Jeannie Wayne said she and other editors of "The Clinton Riddle" worked hard to present an unbiased work.

"There have been good books written on Clinton, but nothing evaluating his presidency after the fact and coming at it from different scholarly disciplines," Wayne said.

But is it too early to make any assessment at all?

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and journalist David Halberstam agreed that Clinton was pragmatic and at his best with his back against the wall, but he also was surprised to hear a historical review of Clinton coming out so soon.

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