

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

1 15 30 39 47
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: \$10 Million

FANTASY 5

7 13 24 28 30

DAILY 3

Daytime: 8 8 0
Evening: 4 2 7

DAILY DERBY

1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit

RACE TIME: 1:47.10

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

(1) The September nomination of Michael Kostiw as executive director of the CIA was withdrawn almost immediately when The Washington Post revealed that he, while in a previous stint with the agency, had been caught shoplifting a \$2.13 package of bacon from a Langley, Va., grocery store. (2) While demonstrations about Iraq usually either support the troops or criticize U.S. involvement, a group of porn-video actresses staged an idiosyncratic protest in August in Los Angeles, denouncing the U.S. military for offering breast implants to female soldiers (as a way to help keep combat surgeons sharp for battle-related plastic surgery). (One sign read, "Honk if you love natural breasts.")

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
In 1796, electors chose John Adams to be the second president of the United States.
In 1836, Martin Van Buren was elected the eighth president of the United States.
In 1946, fire broke out at the Winecoff Hotel in Atlanta; the blaze killed 119 people, including hotel founder W. Frank Winecoff.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No nation ever had an army large enough to guarantee it against attack in time of peace or insure it victory in time of war."

PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE

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Shriver calls for new shelters and sobering center

New City Councilman pledges to work tirelessly on homelessness issue

(Editor's note: This is the final article in a weekly series examining the priorities of four residents elected on Nov. 2 to serve on the Santa Monica City Council.)

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Public drunks should be taken to an old jail in the basement of Santa Monica City Hall and new homeless shelters should be built in West Los Angeles, City Councilman-elect Bobby Shriver said Monday.

Shriver, who campaigned heavily on a platform of reducing homelessness, said he would make the hot-button regional issue his highest priority in office, adding he expected tangible results within one year.

"One of the things I really don't want to do is lose my focus on this," said Shriver, 50, a Kennedy family scion who on Nov. 2 was elected to one of four open council seats. "A lot of matters come up, and I don't want to lose my focus."

I'm going to work on one thing and I'm going to do my damndest."

Shriver is one of four Santa Monicans who tonight will begin four-year council terms. Also elected Nov. 2 were incumbents Richard Bloom, Ken Genser and Herb Katz. Those four join City Councilmen Bob Holbrook and Kevin McKeown, and City Councilman Pam O'Connor, whose terms expire in 2006.

The first step in tackling homelessness is to set up a sobering center run by social service professionals where police can take public drunks, said Shriver, who suggested the old jail in City Hall's basement be used.



BOBBY SHRIVER

"That center would be operated not by the police but by someone that has experience dealing with alcohol and addiction," he said. "It might give these people access to treatment ... For residents, it gives the police a place to take these folks instead of just leaving them in the street, which is the current system."

Shriver said his goal was to have the facility open within a year. In the meantime, he said he aims to push forward with plans to

See SHRIVER, page 6

Second trial begins in Santa Monica arson case

Ex-Raider has been in custody for 1 1/2 years on arson charges for a 2003 fire on Lincoln Boulevard

By Daily Press staff

LAX COURTHOUSE — Former LA/Oakland Raider Anthony Wayne Smith is on trial once again for allegedly burning down a Santa Monica antiques and furniture store.

Six months after a judge declared a mistrial in the case

against Smith, prosecutors are trying for the second time to convince a jury the ex-Raider set fire to Simply Sofas on Lincoln Boulevard in a rage-filled act of spite, after arguing with the store's owner, Marilyn Nelson.

Investigators tied Smith to the fire after finding partially burnt mail and other pieces of paper with

Smith's name and address printed on them inside fire bombs used to start the blaze. The bombs were made from five-gallon water jugs, filled with gas and paper scraps.

Both Smith, a 37-year-old father of three, and his wife took the stand during the first trial. Smith testified he didn't know how the papers with his name wound up inside the bombs.

Smith's attorney in the first trial suggested a possible scenario

the judge later dismissed as unlikely. That scenario had day laborers hired by Smith mistakenly throwing away the documents behind Simply Sofas, where the actual arsonist found and used them. One thing is clear — Smith and Nelson had a fallout days before over the value of items Smith left at the store to be sold on consignment.

A standout defensive end for

See SMITH, page 7



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Police officers on Monday investigate the scene of an accident on Montana Avenue where two children were injured. The marker on the right indicates where a 7-year-old landed after being hit. A shoe was found underneath the car.

Children hit by car in crosswalk

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

MONTANA AVE. — Two children were in stable condition at local hospital on Monday after they were struck by a car while crossing the street at the intersection of 12th Street and Montana Avenue.

The children, a 7-year-old girl, and 10-year-old boy, were walking in a crosswalk at about 3:25 p.m. when the driver of a Ford Thunderbird struck them, police said. They were crossing the street with their mother.

"Their injuries are not life-threatening," said Santa Monica

Police Lt. Frank Fabrega. "And the driver is being cooperative."

Witnesses said the 7-year-old was hit first.

"The little kid got hit really, really hard," said Justin Bauer, an employee who watched the accident from inside the Weathervane for Men clothing store located at the southwest corner of the intersection. "He was thrown up in the air and landed straight down on his head."

The 7-year-old appeared to be struck by the middle front of the car while the 10-year-old was clipped on the left, front side. A shoe was found underneath the

See ACCIDENT, page 6

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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)

★★★★★ Others have great ideas. Still, you might choose to go along with their ideas hesitantly. Your brightness and ability to work on a higher plane or detach from an immediate hot situation save the day. Accept an invitation. Tonight: Follow the gang.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Dig into work and accomplish as much as you can. A partner or associate presents a different approach. If you let go of your tenaciousness, this person's suggestions will help you streamline your errands and work. Schedule an overdue doctor's appointment. Tonight: Easy does it.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You find solutions when associates say "impossible." Your ability to create imaginative ideas and think outside the box marks your life right now. Use this gift to the max. Romance will flourish if you decide to add this quality to a relationship. Tonight: Spontaneity works.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Your mind might be on home and key projects there. If you can exit work early, do so. You have an unusually efficient manner, should you choose to use it. Investigate different options suggested by others. Tonight: Hop on home.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ The Lion expresses opinions and feelings with pizzazz and style. So much so that you can count on others to stop and listen. A brainstorming session develops into a lot more. Someone close expresses his or her intensity, especially when it comes to you. Tonight: Join a pal at a favorite haunt.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Spending comes naturally this time of year. The good news is that you have been unusually resourceful with your money, gift ideas and your list. You will naturally delight many with your thoughtful gifts and gestures. Stick to your budget. Tonight: Finish off as much shopping as possible.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Be yourself, and others cannot help but respond. Be your very happy self, but don't stand on ceremony. Don't hesitate to reach out to someone you care about. Holding back only causes more problems. Be the loving Libra. Tonight: Your wish is another's command.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Your opinion might not be asked for, but between us, you are right-on, especially with money. If you want to make an investment or buy a lottery ticket, do so. You will also buy the perfect gift for that special person. Tonight: Opt for quiet and relaxing.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Friends invigorate you and encourage you to look in a new direction. Changing and transforming come to you naturally. Work with new ideas and adjust. Brainstorm with others. A meeting is important. Tonight: Where your friends are.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Take charge, but don't allow rules to dominate. Brainstorm and express a willingness to explore new ideas. Share what you consider to be some fanciful and perhaps crazy thoughts. The process helps others open up as well. Tonight: Out late.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your ability to detach and take an overview allows for unusual solutions and perspectives. Share what you observe with others. Open up to brainstorming. Others appreciate your openness and ability to integrate different ideas. Tonight: Do needed research.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ A partner gives you important feedback. You might feel tense about what a boss or authority figure says. Let someone help you understand the real meaning behind what this person says. Refuse to be negative. Tonight: Quality time

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LOCAL



A first for Saint Johns



Photo courtesy

Charlie Russell, 6 lbs., 14 oz., was the first baby born in Saint John's new North Pavilion. Amy, the baby's mother, was in labor in the original hospital, but was moved to the new inpatient pavilion on Dec. 4 where Charlie was born at 10:30 a.m. Charlie and his parents, Amy and David Russell of West Los Angeles, went home on Monday morning amid loud congratulations from nurses, doctors and staff.

The 200,000-square-foot North Pavilion, which opened over the weekend, has an entire floor dedicated to women's health, which includes labor and delivery rooms, The Maria Shriver Nursery and neonatal intensive care. The building also serves critical care, oncology and general surgery inpatients.

A view into Jewish culture offered

By Daily Press staff

It's time to talk about Jews and their literature.

The Santa Monica Public Library will host a free five-part reading and discussion series called "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature — Identity and Imagination." The series explores Jewish literature and culture through scholar-led discussions of contemporary and classic books on a common theme. The library's series will focus on the theme of fathers and daughters in a changing world. Santa Monica Public Library is one of 34 libraries nationwide to host the series, developed by Nextbook and the American Library Association.

The first program explores "Tevye the Dairyman" by Sholem Aleichem and takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. All discussions are held at the Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave. Registration for the series is required, and resource guides are provided upon sign-up. Call (310) 434-2644 to register.

Additional books will be discussed every two weeks. On Feb. 9, Anzia's Yezierska's "Bread Givers" will be discussed. On Feb. 23, Anne Roiphe's "1185 Park Avenue" will be the topic of the discussion, then "American Pastoral" by Philip Roth on March 9. The final session will be March 23 on "Bee Season" by Myla Goldberg.

Barbara Bilson will lead the discussion at each session. Bilson was a professor of English at Santa Monica College for more than 20 years. She currently teaches Jewish literature classes and workshops at Leo Baeck Temple in Los Angeles and facilitates several book discussion groups throughout Los Angeles.

The program has been made possible through a grant from Nextbook and the American Library Association. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.



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SURF REPORT

On Tuesday look for dropping WNW wind/ground swell and holding Southern Hemi swell. Northern LA breaks fall into the knee- to waist-high range, with some bigger sets at top breaks to chest high. South Bay spots see more size with waist- to occasional chest-high surf at many breaks and shoulder-high sets at top spots. Look for light SW wind in the morning to pick up a bit through 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:

59°

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	9:12	3.2	9:20	0.9	4:18	4.0	1:52	3.9
SUNDAY	10:34	2.6	10:04	1.0	4:41	4.3	3:29	3.7
MONDAY	11:27	1.9	10:44	1.2	5:03	4.7	4:51	3.6
TUESDAY	12:11	1.1	11:23	1.4	5:28	5.2	5:58	3.7
WEDNESDAY	N/A	N/A	12:53	0.2	5:56	5.8	6:57	3.8
THURSDAY	12:01	1.6	1:35	-0.5	6:28	6.3	7:51	3.9
FRIDAY	12:40	1.8	2:18	-1.1	7:04	6.7	8:44	3.9

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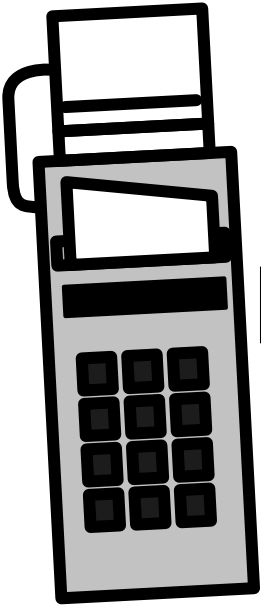
On Tuesday, the new slate of Santa Monica City Councilmembers will be sworn into office, as Bobby Shriver, Ken Genser, Herb Katz and Richard Bloom take the oath and usher in a new chapter for Santa Monica policy making. Within the next month or so, the council will take up the charge of anointing one of their own as the city's next mayor, to succeed Bloom for a two-year term.

Largely just a figurehead position, the

office of mayor puts a face on the city's elected representation.

This week, Q-Line wants to know: "Who should be appointed as the next mayor of Santa Monica, and why?"

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

Warmth of Santa Monica chills him to the bone

Editor:

“Thanks a lot, Santa Monica — A Christmas Fantasy”

Thanks to the city of Santa Monica, who, during our recent cold snap opened the doors of several city properties to the city’s homeless, allowing them refuge from the bitter cold and wind.

Thanks also to Santa Monica’s many churches and civic organizations for opening their doors to the huddled masses as well, and to the many individuals who served hot soup and coffee to those left shivering outside.

It was only through the concerted efforts of our Santa Monica citizens that we were fortunate enough not to lose one or more of our homeless to hypothermia or frostbite.

Thanks again, Santa Monica, for your efforts in assisting those most in need during this time of need.

(Remember, this is only a fairy tale.)

Kenneth McCrae
Santa Monica

It’s high time we started thinking about the whole city

Editor:

The arguments against Macerich Company’s proposed project for Santa Monica Place are rather straightforward: The project would exceed the currently zoned height limits by a factor of five, would block views of the ocean and mountains, would exacerbate traffic problems in an already jammed downtown area, and would encourage developers to pursue similarly non-conforming projects since it would be plain that zoning restrictions could be ignored if one knew how to play the game. These arguments should be enough to send the proposal to the trash can, but (perhaps due to the sheer audacity of the developers and their proposal) the project is actually being considered. The arguments in favor of this development are that it would serve as a kind of “bridge” between the Third Street Promenade, the Civic Center and Main Street; that it would provide “much needed” open space; that it would offer at least “some” low-income housing, and that it would generate significant tax revenues.

I’m trying to stay positive, so I’ll focus on the proposed benefits.

A bridge between the Third Street Promenade, the Civic Center and Main Street? No thank you (so much for staying positive). I’d just as soon we left the Third Street Promenade right where it is — I don’t want to extend that circus in any direction, least of all toward Main Street. Further, they can call three 24-story buildings a bridge if they want to, but I call them something that blocks my view (and yours). In recent years, we’ve lost westward views due to the construction of the new Public Safety Facility and the new RAND Corporation building. If we simply must connect the Third Street Promenade, the Civic Center and Main Street, does it necessarily follow that it can only happen via a project that blocks out the sun?

Open space: I like it, you like it, we all like it. But Santa Monica Place is a stone’s throw from all the open space in the world — we call it “the beach” and “the Pacific Ocean.” It’s open space all the way to Japan, for crying out loud. To me, it looks as if this project would block the view of all of us who won’t live or work in those towers (a decrease in vertically-oriented open space), yet the developers tout the “creation” of open space as a benefit in an area that hardly needs it. They giveth, but first they taketh. I’m not falling for it.

On the subject of affordable housing, there seems to be no satisfying our government’s hunger for more of it. At what point do we say, “This project is about five times too tall, it will block views forever, and it’s likely to louse up traffic for a long, long time? Maybe the trade-off of more affordable housing just isn’t enough for us to back away from our zoning.” At what point do we say, “The addition of affordable housing units does not a worthy project make?”

Revenue: I’m for it, but money is money, and it spends the same whether you generate it on Third Street or somewhere else. Which brings me to the thrilling conclusion: If we must allow Macerich’s non-conforming project, let them build it somewhere else. Don’t let them build it on the Santa Monica Place property. Instead, let them build it on Cloverfield, at the site of the OPCC’s planned homeless shelter, which happens to sit on city-owned land. Put the OPCC’s shelter on the Santa Monica Place property (keeping it within current height limits), and put Macerich’s towers on the Cloverfield property.

Switching the projects creates benefits galore. The OPCC’s shelter would be larger and within walking distance to many of the people it serves, making its services more available and accessible. The Pico Neighborhood would receive a powerful economic shot-in-the-arm from the new development, housing would be created where it’s needed and sustainable, and open space would be created in an area (Pico) that lacks it. Jobs, housing, open space — all good things, and all a whole lot better when the project is properly placed. Granted, Macerich’s project would have to be scaled down to fit on the smaller parcel, but their proposed project is too big to begin with and it could stand some scaling down in any event.

Even from Cloverfield, the view from the towers would be terrific.

Christian Boyce
Santa Monica

Happy holidays, now get a lawyer and counselor



WHAT’S THE POINT?

BY DAVID PISSARRA

Chanukah begins tonight, and Christmas and Kwanzaa are right around the corner. This holiday season is upon us, and with it comes the inevitable increase in fights among family members. When your spouse comes home drunk and belligerent, there are several things you can do.

The first thing to know is that the police have a legal obligation to prevent violence. In a domestic dispute if there are sufficient grounds to believe that violence is about to occur, the police can and will issue a restraining order. And frequently when the police are called for domestic violence scene they are forced to arrest one party, whether it be the husband or wife.

If you are faced with a domestic violence situation and depending on whether you’re the man or the woman, you should be prepared to leave the home immediately, taking with you any minor children.

There are 23 shelters in Los Angeles County that are available from Artesia to Whittier. The local hotline in Santa Monica is Sojourn Services for Battered Women and Their Children at (310) 264-6644. They are a clearinghouse for information and services on domestic violence prevention, and they respond to calls from women and men.

When you have a dangerous spouse, the best thing you can do is to take care of yourself, and that means that you need to be prepared. In today’s society, even though many women are successful in the business world, they frequently do not pay close attention to the family finances. When the time comes in a relationship for the parties to separate, the woman frequently does not get as much as she should, mainly because she does not know where all the assets are located. On the flip side, the man frequently suffers a huge drop in his standard of living because he usually will be forced to get an apartment.

The hardest part for most families in crisis is the economic devastation they go through because they lack the financial resources and now they must support two households.

If you are faced with a pending divorce or family crisis, these are the questions you should ask yourself:

1. Where are all the bank accounts? His, mine, ours, his company account — if he owns a business.
2. Where are all the stock accounts?
3. Where are all the statements for the bank, credit cards, charge accounts, company accounts, if he owns his own company, pension and 401(k)s.
4. Where are all the check registers?
5. What property do we own?

Make sure you have a separate set of

copies of the bank statements, credit card bills, stock portfolios, taxes for the last five years, and household bills to give your attorney. It is much easier to make copies, before one of you has moved out.

The credit card statements can give you a great view of where the money is going, and how much of it there is. Phone bills also are important to find out if there is a second business, or home.

If your spouse owns his or her own business, you need to know how much money it really makes. Business owners have excellent ways of hiding their income and you need to know how it’s going to be hidden. If you are close to getting a divorce, you need to do some research on how well the company is doing. Call the bookkeeper and discreetly ask how business is going.

You want to find out who the top five clients and vendors are. Vendors are people the company buys products from. This is important because an attorney and a forensic accountant can work backwards to find out how much money the company should be making, based on what it is buying.

The emotional damage a divorce causes can be extreme. You should have a good support network in place to deal with the inevitable feelings of loss, grief, anger, hurt and sadness.

Understand that your lifestyle is going to go down. It costs more to run two households than one. You will change friends and acquaintances, you might live somewhere different, eat in new restaurants and shop in new stores. This could be a good thing if you take this opportunity to grow and change for the better. Talk to your friends and find a good counselor who can help with your pain.

Divorce is costly. The basic divorce is going to cost between \$4,000 and \$12,000 if both parties have a lawyer. If there are child or spousal support issues, or if there is property being fought over, the cost of divorce can increase to no end.

Anyone should have a savings account before starting a divorce. Even if the money in it is community property, everyone should have quick and easy access to cash. In case they need to rent an apartment quickly, buy a new car, or meet other expenses.

Be prepared for your attorney to ask for a sizable amount of money for a retainer. Some attorneys require a \$10,000 retainer, others as low as \$2,500. It simply depends on your case, the amount of property to fight over and your spouses’ ability to fight.

This is a starting point and there is much more to know, but preparation can ease your way through this painful process and help you to recover better in the long run.

(David Pissarra is a partner in the Santa Monica law firm of Pissarra & Grist. He can be reached at (310) 664-9969 or by e-mail at dpissarra@pissarra.com).

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

OPINION



Calling the kettle plastic

ANY DAY IN LA

BY HEIDI MANTEUFFEL



As much as I poke and prod at LA culture, I have a slight confession to make. I haven't been completely honest with you about something I had done to myself. You see if I actually came clean about this certain thing, I wouldn't have as much leverage to spout that LA does this and that. And how could I mock, "oh, my gosh how can LA do that?" Where would be the fun be then?

And so, in an act of duplicity I've been keeping this particular fact under wraps. I'm sorry, I do apologize, and so without further ado, let's get to the unveiling. I too, like many women in LA, have experienced plastic surgery.

There, I said it. But before you get all crazy and try to guess where and why, let me just say quickly say, no, it wasn't a tummy tuck, a boob job (obviously not) or even the acclaimed nose transfiguration. My plastic surgery consisted of three stitches to cover the site where a hooligan mole was inhabiting my face.

The sun is quite penetrating on fair-skinned northern Europeans, especially in California. Let me put it this way: You know you're pale when your dermatologist calls the shots on your car choices. I didn't get the Sebring convertible he advised against, and I hardly went to the beach at all last summer, let alone kept the sunroof open on my German Jetta. But this fraulein seemed to get scorched by the sun nevertheless. For there I was in my yearly skin check-up, and there was he with a shot of Novocain into my face.

I've had it done before too — plastic surgery. In third grade I was throwing ping-pong balls into those baby fish bowls at the school fun fair, and my mom and a doctor were poking at the black mole on my face. A few days later the fish was no more, and after one hour of surgery neither was the mole they thought could be melanoma.

Last time I got a 10-speed bike and a four-square ball out of the deal. This time when I tried the same puppy-dog routine, I just got some steri-strip and a square that looks like saran wrap covering my face.

But that's OK. It's fitting to have a little plastic cover up plastic surgery. It also was fun to scope out the room. I noticed as I was waiting for the doctor to finish up a "procedure," a square metal machine with miles of clear tubing jutting out from it. Could it be the sacred liposuction sucker? Who knew all you needed was some hose and a vacuum. Heck, give me a Hoover. I could do that. The room was much nicer than most doctor rooms I have been in, but then again, plastic surgery probably pays pretty decently.

Well, my mole in third grade turned out to be non-cancerous thankfully, but I still haven't heard back about this new one. I do have a fun flashcard now, one that like Sesame Street teaches me the ABC's of skin cancer (B is for borders, that's good enough me ...)

I wonder why that hasn't made it to their show yet ...

It's fascinating to look at a mole after they've taken it out even though it makes others queasy. The mole went fairly deep, and I couldn't help notice the large perimeter they took around the mole. Hmm, I hope they call me if it's bad.

I know I'm naïve, but I thought I'd ask my mom the simple question — is there plastic involved in plastic surgery?

She assured me there wasn't, but the stitches are so precise that it leaves a minimal amount of scarring. I guess they call it plastic surgery because the surgeons if asked can reconstruct your face like, what's the word, plastic.

So there you have it, my admission. Although I don't know if it says anything about assimilating to LA culture as much as I'm a paley but a goody. I guess I'll leave that up to you to decide, and in the meantime I'll stuff my mom, dad and sister's stockings with a little aloe and SPF 30.

(Heidi likes the sun, but not when she has to wear saran wrap on her face. To contact Heidi, e-mail her at anydayin-la@gmail.com).

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Shriver, three incumbents to be sworn in tonight

SHRIVER, from page 1

turn vacant buildings on the Veterans Administration land in West LA into shelters.

To make those plans reality, Shriver said he would immediately put an item on the City Council agenda asking that a task force or study group be formed to explore the shelter proposal. Three vacant buildings at the site could be used, said Shriver, who added a social service provider still needs to be chosen and funding needs to be secured.

So committed is Shriver to reducing homelessness that he named it as both his first and second priority. And, particularly with the sobering center, Shriver said he doesn't want to waste any time.

"I don't want to have long study groups about it — I want action taken," he added. "I think that's why people voted for me and I'm going to make sure I do whatever

I can to make sure council takes those steps in the short term ... I want to act. I think people want specific action and a year from now we have to be able to look back and say, 'We did this specific thing. We built the sobering center.'"

Though tackling homelessness will consume much of his next term, Shriver said he also looked forward to overseeing an update to City Hall's development standards, a process currently underway that will take several years. Public input will be key, as will promoting open space and parks, Shriver added.

"It's a time to be very, very careful," Shriver said. "It's going to influence this town for a long time to come."

Another priority for Shriver, he said, will be shortening council meetings, which often run past midnight. Shriver said some of his suggestions for shortening meetings have been unpopular with council incumbents.

"I'm going to work on one thing and I'm going to do my damndest."

BOBBY SHRIVER
City Councilman-elect

"I want to put a buzzer on the council," he said. "I think meetings should end at 11 p.m."

Nephew to John F. Kennedy and U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy, and brother-in-law to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Shriver has a political pedigree that attracted substantial interest from the national media. Still, Shriver maintained he had no aspirations for higher office.

"I spent my life trying to live in Santa Monica, why would I leave and move to Sacramento?" he said.

A 17-year resident of Santa Monica

with a background in law and journalism, Shriver also has raised millions of dollars for AIDS victims in Africa and for the Special Olympics, an organization founded by his mother, Eunice Kennedy Shriver. He said that work has given him the skills needed to affect change.

"It's really, in a funny way, it's the same kind of work I have been doing, except my client, so to speak, is much closer to me now than the Africans or the Special Olympians were," Shriver said. "My clients I see in the coffee shop every morning, and I'm very conscious of that."

Investigation ongoing in car versus pedestrian accident

ACCIDENT, from page 1

car, which skidded through the crosswalk before coming to a stop several feet west of the intersection.

"The driver was freaking out," Bauer said, adding the mother was just as upset.

"He was really distraught."

Bauer said he watched the mother cross the street with her children in tow and the driver of the car appeared to not be paying attention, perhaps looking for a parking space.

"The driver seemed distracted because he had a constant speed through the inter-

section," he said.

The 7-year-old appeared unconscious until an ambulance arrived.

"He was out for a while and then (she) was crying," Bauer said. "I hope (she) survives."

The SMPD, which has numerous pedes-

trian safety programs, urges people to look both ways before crossing a street. Bauer said he sees many people have close calls.

"When you cross the crosswalk you have a false sense of security," he said. "When you are in a crosswalk, you are basically jaywalking with a target around you."

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LOCAL □ STATE

2003 fire caused more than \$2M in damage

SMITH, from page 1

the Raiders through nine seasons in the 1990s, Smith, has been held in lieu of \$1 million bail since the summer of 2003. A jury in June split 7-5 in favor of Smith, with many of them saying the evidence didn't add up to a conviction.

Lawyers delivered opening statements in the second trial on Friday, and prosecutors on Monday called several witnesses to testify. The case is expected to last nine days. It

is being heard at the Airport Courthouse near LAX by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Keith Schwartz.

The February 2003 fire consumed \$1.2 million in merchandise and caused \$900,000 in structure damage. Nelson, who quickly was ruled out as a suspect, said she netted some \$2.8 million and profited more than \$520,000 the year before the blaze.

— John Wood

STATE BRIEFS

Emergency workers look for cash

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Sheriff's deputies and county firefighters, irked that they've been working two years without a contract with the county, want a share of the \$2 billion surplus they claim has been quietly stashed by the Board of Supervisors.

The money should help pay for salary raises and enhanced pensions, according to deputies and firefighters already on edge after the Nov. 2 ballot defeat of a sales tax hike to hire more law enforcement officers.

The 7,000-member Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs said the county's failure to reach an agreement has undermined public safety, noting at least 1,300 deputies have left for better-paying jobs in the past two years.

"We consider it a public safety issue because we can't protect the public if we are understaffed," union president Roy Burns said. "The supervisors are doing a disservice to the public and placing our citizens in danger by not addressing the loss of our deputies at an unprecedented rate."

"We're working understaffed out there, and it subjects every citizen in the county to an increased danger from criminals."

The union said supervisors have stashed plenty of money: \$872 million left over from the past fiscal year's county general fund; \$569 million from the health department budget; \$400 million in a tobacco settlement reserve account; and \$650 million in savings over two years on the county's pension contributions.

The county claims those funds cannot be used to pay salary and benefits and will be needed instead to save the collapsing health system, which faces a \$1.2 billion deficit by 2008.

"The money we have available to us now will, hopefully, give us time to figure out how to salvage the Health Department," Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen said.

Janssen is expected to recommend Tuesday that money from an unexpected \$309 million surplus and additional tax revenues be used to boost Sheriff Lee Baca's budget, allowing him to reopen some jails and stop early release of inmates.

The union originally sought 18 percent in raises during three years but has scaled back its demands. The county has stuck with its offer of 5 percent, the same it recently gave 50,000 members of Service Employees International Union, Local 660.

Same-sex marriages back on the table

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Five weeks after voters in 11 states banned same-sex marriages and the issue was cited as a factor in John Kerry's defeat, a California lawmaker planned to reintroduce Monday a bill to make them legal.

Assemblyman Mark Leno's "Marriage License Nondiscrimination Act" would amend a section of California's family code that defines marriage as "a personal relationship arising out of a civil contract between a man and woman" to read "between two persons."

Despite the setbacks from the Nov. 2 election, Leno, D-San Francisco, said he was not worried his measure faces even greater hurdles in the upcoming legislative session than it encountered during the last.

"We proceed from a position of strength," he said over the weekend. "We are confident we will have the votes to get it off the (Assembly) floor."

Chief among the reasons for his confidence is the support Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez has pledged to the bill. In May, after the legislation had cleared one of the two committees it needed to reach the floor, Leno agreed to withdraw it temporarily with the understanding that Nunez would sign on as co-author in December.

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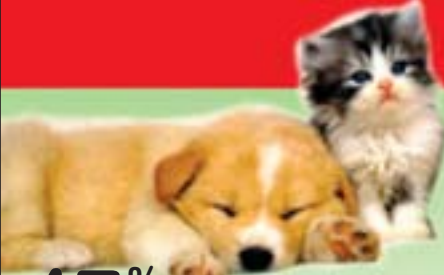


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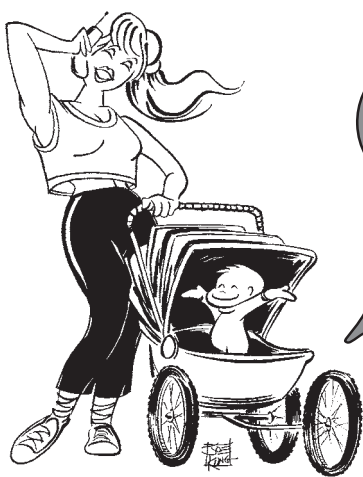


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Are you asking permission to be a parent?



How Much Is Enough?

By Connie Dawson

Years ago, while teaching a college class in parenting, I talked about the importance of using responsible language. Jean Illsley Clarke, author of "Self Esteem: A Family Affair," identified how the use of language can make clear — or unclear — who is responsible for what. Using responsible language can prevent many control battles that end badly. Using irresponsible language can invite a mess and doesn't address the original request or problem.

A COLLEGE CLASS EXPERIMENT

To hear and feel the difference between responsible and irresponsible language, I asked pairs of students to take turns role playing the parent and the child. I asked the parent to say in a kind but firm way, "I need you to pick up your toys now," to their partners. Then, "Please pick up your toys now." I heard their responses to both.

I moved on to another class topic but had to stop because of four intensely engaged women in the back of the room. "What's going on?" I asked. Turns out, they were fussing about having been misled into using the "I need you to" strategy and had it backfire way too often. They were anxious to try something that worked better.

Responsible language avoids conflict

Here's a clue when we're using irresponsible language. When we hear a request or a directive and could respond with "so?" and a curled upper lip, the language is not clear about who is responsible for what. Try these:

1. "I need you to pick up your toys."
- "Please put your toys in the toy box now."
2. "Please put your shoes on, OK?"
- "Please put your shoes on now. We're leaving."

A tip: When issuing a directive, assume it will be carried out and leave the room, or be about your business. If the child fails to comply, she doesn't get to continue to receive your multitudinous services. She doesn't help, you don't help. When she asks or demands something from you, great consideration should be given to her previous non-cooperation. Life is, after all, a two-way street. Reciprocity rules.

There are many, many times in the everyday course of parenting that life goes a lot smoother when the parent is in

See **OVERINDULGENCE**, page 10

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DEAR DORIE

Don't sweat the sitting stuff with a 1-year-old

Dear Dorie,

My 1-year-old attends the Santa Monica Public Library with me for the infant story time. All the other infants are sitting on their mom's laps listening attentively and my baby is walking, squeaking, touching and sometimes screaming. I get stares from the other moms and dads as well as from the librarian. What is wrong with my child?

— Frazzled mom

Dear Mom,

Nothing is wrong with your child. Each child is uniquely different in personality and temperament, and each has his/her own learning style. As a promoter of the Santa Monica Public Library Laptimes (30 minutes of stories, songs and fingerplays for 0- to 24-month-olds), I look at this situation all the time, and from personal experience I can tell you that every parent perspires when they get "the glance." Some of theses glances are supportive — like "been there done that" and, sadly, some of these are critical as in "my child never did that you must be doing something wrong." One of the most difficult parts of parenting is having the confidence to ignore those glances that make you sweat.

Now what does a 1-year old love to do? Walk. They just learned how and they are anxious to try it out. What does the library want them to do? Sit. If they've had enough physical activity that morning they might, and I repeat, might be able to sit quietly threw a laptime. If not, no way. Maybe some of these other children aren't walking yet or have been out at the park all morning. Ultimately, it shouldn't matter to you what they do. You need to find out what will work for you and your child.

Respecting who your child is, now let's look at what you can do if it happens again.

1) Ignore any uncomfortable stares and know that your child's behavior is appropriate and your loving support and care is more important.

2) Stand up in the back or walk the perimeter of the library space — out of sight is usually out of mind, other participants who can't see you won't be so critical.

3) When possible, go to the library early or some other time when you can allow your child to explore the space with your supervision. This may remove some of the curiosity/stimulus and set up a calmer laptime.

4) Keep trying. If it continues to happen more than a few times, say half way through the session, try a different hour or location. The Santa Monica Public Library offers laptimes at four different locations on four different days. Please call your local library branch for schedule information. Good luck.

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

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SPECIAL EVENTS

WINTERLIT – DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA LIGHTS UP the HOLIDAYS
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.

SATURDAY, DEC. 11 – WINTERLIT FASHION & STYLE

2 p.m. – Fashion show on Third St. Promenade at Santa Monica Blvd.

3:30 p.m. – Styling stations inside Santa Monica Place – get a mini-makeover!

MONDAY, DEC.13 – PET NIGHT with SANTA – 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, 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.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DEC. 11 & 12 – THE NUTCRACKER

Presented by Westside Ballet at the Wadsworth Theatre, Wilshire Blvd. and 405 Fwy. Call 828-6211 or visit www.westsideballet.com for info.

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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 THURSDAY, DEC. 16 – COUPLES PREGNANCY WORKSHOP

7:30 – 10:30 p.m., \$75. With Khefri Riley. An educational and inspiring workshop for pregnancy and labor featuring a concise overview of labor and delivery tools and techniques. Register via Ocean Oasis at 451-9900, 1333 Ocean Ave.

TUESDAY

Movies for Moms!

Dec. 7 – "Shall We Dance" starring Richard Gere, Jennifer Lopez and Susan Sarandon. Romance-Comedy, Rated "PG-13."

*Nestle Good Start Supreme presents a Mommy & Me Musical Morning from 10 – 11 a.m. prior to the movie.

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/realmoms 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 workout at the end)

Itsy Bitsy Yoga – Tots (crawling to 24 months) – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Register now for new session beginning Jan. 4.) Baby (6 weeks to pre-crawling) – 11:30 – 12:30 a.m.

With Khefri Riley at Ocean Oasis, 1333 Ocean Ave. Register at www.khefri.net or call 323-549-5383.

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., 310-559-800K.

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.santamonica-yoga.com

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

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

Magicopolis – 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.

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

Magicopolis – 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. 13 – Potluck Holiday Celebration

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.

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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Parents need to direct, not ask their children

OVERINDULGENCE, from page 8

charge in a good way, even though the child isn't happy. Go for long-term happiness, not short-term placating. After all, as parents, we desire to prepare our children to be successful human beings in the long haul.

OK?
How many of us have heard a parent issue an instruction to a child and then ask the child if he or she agrees?

"Wait until I help you cross the street, OK?"

"Please pick up your toys now, OK?"

"Do your homework before you play, OK?"

When they ask "OK" most parents prob-

ably mean, "Did you hear and understand me?" They don't mean to ask for the child's agreement with a directive, particularly when the directive involves safety issues.

Is "OK" overindulgence?

According to our overindulgence studies, one way to overindulge children is to allow them to take the lead or dominate the family. Using "OK" can be an inadvertent way of doing this.

A child might think, "If I'm being asked to agree, they must not know what is necessary and good for me." Or, "If I'm being asked to agree, I guess it's OK if I disagree."

Think how this works in the adult world.

An employer gives an employee instructions and expects the instructions will be carried out. Life as a worker doesn't go well if the employee is entitled to comply at her whim. Not having learned this as a child will likely cause her pain as an adult.

The Dalai Lama has wisely said, "Learn the rules so you know how to break them properly."

GOOD LEADERS

How do leaders make good decisions? They have a clear mission. They know themselves well. They either have or get the knowledge they need. They have or learn the skills to do what they want to do.

And they have or develop a supportive environment and supportive relationships that enable their success.

My directive to you is, "Be effective, responsible and psychological leaders for your children." No "OK" about that.

(Connie Dawson, Jean Illsley Clarke and David Bredehoft are co-authors of "How Much Is Enough? Everything You Need to Know to Steer Clear of Overindulgence and Raise Likeable, Responsible and Respectful Children, Toddlers to Teens." She may be reached at cdawson@whidbey.com. To read more about overindulgence, go to www.overindulgence.info.)

From Hollywood to gay marriage, state at core of values debate

BY BETH FOUHY

AP Political Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Among the panoply of sinners blamed for costing Democrats the presidential election, one can't help note how many originated in the big blue state of California.

From Hollywood and San Francisco's gay wedding spree to MoveOn.org's online rabble-rousers and the state's supposedly elitist coastal sensibilities, California epitomizes to many people the libertine social mores this year's "values" voters rejected. Never mind that viewers in the so-called red states are some of the nation's top consumers of steamy new TV shows like "Desperate Housewives," or that van-

quished Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry did not support gay marriage.

California solidified its status as the foundation of the Democrat's electoral map when it delivered its 55 electoral votes to Kerry by a 10-point margin. But given the time-honored principle that winners write history, many California Democratic activists have been left to debate whether their state is a national trendsetter or an anachronistic relic of days gone by.

After Republican Gov. Pete Wilson drove the state's Hispanic voters into the Democratic column in the mid 1990s with his support for Proposition 187, which would have denied social services to illegal immigrants, "California to some

extent has gotten a free ride," said Democratic former Rep. Leon Panetta, who also served as President Clinton's White House chief of staff. "There was such a backlash against Pete Wilson and his politics, Democrats were really able to capitalize on it."

Since the Nov. 2 election, Panetta has spoken out forcefully on what the Democratic Party must do to change its image. Eradicating cultural elitism — what he calls the "Michael Moore syndrome" — tops his list.

"Hollywood has its place in politics," Panetta said, "but a lot of people felt that Michael Moore and 'Fahrenheit 9/11' didn't speak for them. There was a sense that he was making fun of their values and exploiting them."

Indeed, post-election analyses pointed to a spate of pop culture excesses as symptomatic of Hollywood's lack of connection with middle America. Among them: Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction at the Super Bowl, Ben Affleck's preening at the Democratic convention and Whoopi Goldberg's crude comparison of President Bush to a private body part at a Democratic Party fund-raiser Kerry attended.

Then again, another famous product of Hollywood, California's popular Republican governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, is being hailed as one of the GOP's brightest national stars despite his own racy past and widely publicized allegations that he groped or harassed women throughout his years as a body builder and movie star.

Ben Austin, a former deputy to GOP Los Angeles Mayor Dick Riordan who now advises director Rob Reiner and other Democrats in Hollywood, said that while activists in Hollywood "need to be wary" of how they present themselves, it's a mistake for critics to fall for a one-dimensional portrayal of Hollywood's values — or, by extension, California's.

"I don't think people went to the polls

in this election thinking about Hollywood," Austin said. "It's a caricature and a distraction from the real issues."

Gay marriage was another issue that exploded with a vengeance on the political scene this year, replacing abortion as the campaign's most widely debated social issue. In the end, conservatives won out, with 11 states, including the presidential battleground states of Ohio and Michigan, passing ballot measures defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

While Massachusetts in May became the first state to allow same sex couples legally to wed, many analysts said the images of gay and lesbian couples exchanging vows at San Francisco City Hall last February may have produced an even bigger backlash.

Writing about the impact of the values issue shortly after the election, Time magazine's influential political columnist, Joe Klein, praised Democrats' willingness to pay "a heavy and honorable price" for their support of civil rights and now gay rights, but chastised Kerry for not criticizing San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom for breaking state law to allow same sex couples to marry there.

"To religious conservatives, (Kerry) seemed a secular extremist," Klein said.

With Assemblyman Mark Leno, D-San Francisco, set to introduce legislation on Monday that would legalize same-sex marriage in the state. His bill is said to have the backing of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, even though Nunez has been silent on the issue since the election.

Even Schwarzenegger, the Republican party's next great hope, supports civil unions for gay couples and said he wouldn't object if voters legalized gay marriage in the state.

Whether California is seen as charting new ground or bucking ongoing national trends, many activists here said the challenge in the end is to redefine values in a way that unites all Americans.



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STATE

Investment adviser warns about the perils of offshore accounts

BY DAVID KRAVETS

AP Legal Affairs Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Jerome Schneider once was the enemy of the Internal Revenue Service, by his own account, having helped about 100 wealthy Americans hide millions of dollars in illegal overseas tax havens.

Now awaiting sentencing for money laundering, he's become one of the agency's most valuable assets.

The 53-year-old financial adviser could face five years in federal prison when he's sentenced Monday in U.S. District Court after pleading guilty to conspiring to defraud the IRS.

In an attempt to lighten his punishment, Schneider has been helping federal agents catch others involved in questionable offshore tax shelters. He also has granted media interviews to warn the public against such risky, and potentially illegal, arrangements.

"I would say to your readers, if they are contemplating an offshore agreement, I would advise not to do so," he told The Associated Press in a telephone interview last week from Reno, Nev., where he was assisting IRS agents.

"I'm trying to cooperate to get as much consideration as I can for my sentence," he said in the interview, which was monitored by the IRS.

Agents have arranged for Schneider to conduct interviews with several major news outlets, including The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times and ABC News.

The government said Schneider has fulfilled a plea bargain and will ask a federal judge for leniency — "in view of the important public service message the defendant has sent through his interviews with the news media as regards the use of tax shelters and offshore entities to evade the payment of tax," prosecutor Jay Weill said in court records.

Schneider made millions helping the wealthy set up offshore banks to hide money from the government. He even wrote about how to do it, including books with titles such as "Hiding your Money" and "How to Own Your Own Private International Bank."

When agents raided his Vancouver, British Columbia offices in 2001, they took hundreds of files from his clients, who are named in court documents. They include physicians, dentists, entrepreneurs, computer technicians and retirees from across the country.

"The people that were my clients were not household

names," Schneider said.

Some of those clients contacted by The Associated Press refused to comment. Others did not return phone calls.

One well-known celebrity inquired before deciding against taking Schneider's financial advice.

Actress Sandra Bullock declined Schneider's services after asking her advisers to review his plan, said her spokeswoman, Cheryl Maisel.

"Ms. Bullock never put money into an offshore account," Maisel said. "Her business advisers and attorneys at that time investigated one of Jerome Schneider's opportunities, determined that it was unsound and terminated any contact with him over six years ago."

Schneider, a college dropout from Los Angeles, widely promoted his services. He held seminars around the world and took out advertisements in the Wall Street Journal and in-flight airline magazines.

In personal letters to potential clients, he said his financial strategy "allows you to wield tremendous power, prestige and influence. With it, doors will open. People will bow."

Some of those clients are now under IRS investigation.

"I would expect that they would go after those people. They have those records," Schneider said.

The IRS declined to comment on its investigations. Nancy Jardini, chief of the agency's criminal investigations unit, has said the "IRS has made the investigation of individuals who intentionally hide income from the government, such as through offshore corporations and bank accounts, a national priority."

Schneider moved from Los Angeles to Vancouver in 1994 but retained offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

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INTERNATIONAL

Attackers strike U.S. consulate in Saudi port city

BY FAIZA SALEH AMBAH

Associated Press Writer

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Islamic militants threw explosives at the gate of the heavily guarded U.S. consulate in Jiddah in a bold attack Monday, then forced their way into the building and held civilians at gunpoint, prompting a gunbattle. At least 12 people, including five local staff, were reported killed in the three-hour assault.

Saudi security officials said four of its forces died in the clash and the Interior Ministry said three of the five attackers were killed. The other two were injured and captured in the first militant assault since May. Five members of the consulate's non-American staff died, according to the U.S. Embassy.

One American was slightly injured, apparently while being evacuated, a State Department official said in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity.

President Bush said the attack showed "terrorists" are trying to intimidate Americans and force the United States to withdraw from Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

"They want us to grow timid and weary in the face of their willingness to kill randomly, kill innocent people," Bush said at the White House after a meeting with interim Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawer. "That's why these elections in Iraq are very important."

Bush also thanked Saudi Arabia for quelling the attack and said more would be learned about who was behind it.

A non-American employee of the con-

sulate said staff was moved to a safe area inside.

"We could hear the gunshots outside, but we didn't know what was going on," the employee, who asked that his name not be used, told The Associated Press by telephone. "They were heavy at times and not so heavy at other times."

The Saudi Interior Ministry statement did not mention hostages. But a Saudi official, speaking from Riyadh on the condition of anonymity, said numerous civilians inside the compound were confronted by the attackers and held at gunpoint. The official said a gunbattle quickly ensued when Saudi security officials became concerned the civilians were about to be injured.

In Riyadh, U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Carol Kalin said four of the five employees killed held administrative jobs and one was a private contract guard on the consulate's payroll. Four other embassy workers were hospitalized, Kalin said. She said all American employees were safe and none had been taken hostage.

Kalin said it was unclear if any of the U.S. Marine guards inside the consulate were involved in the gunbattle.

"We have accounted for all Americans on the compound in Jiddah and none of them are being held hostage," Kalin said.

As a precaution, she said, the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh and consulate in Dhahran were closed to the public through Tuesday, with only emergency

services available for American citizens, according to a statement posted by the U.S. Embassy after the attack. It urged Americans living in Saudi Arabia to "exercise utmost security precautions."

Saudi security forces could be seen on the roofs of buildings around the consulate compound. Thick smoke rose from the compound and helicopters hovered overhead.

The attack came a week after the deputy leader of al-Qaida, Ayman al-Zawahri, warned in a videotape that Washington must change its policies or face more attacks by the terror group. Saudi and U.S. officials have blamed al-Qaida, led by Saudi-born Osama bin Laden, for all major militant attacks in the kingdom since May 2003.

The statement by a Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, said a "deviant bunch" threw explosives at the gate of the consulate, then entered. Saudi security forces engaged the attackers, "killing three aggressors, and two were captured after they were hit," the statement said.

"The situation was brought under control," the statement said. It gave no further details.

The Saudi official in Riyadh said the gunmen got to an area inside the initial security gate at the consulate compound, but outside a secondary gate that protects the consulate offices.

Earlier, a different Saudi official had said the attackers took several hostages,

mostly Sudanese and Indian employees of the consulate. That official said Saudi security forces stormed the attackers when threats were made.

Area residents spoke of seeing Saudi forces enter the consulate, located inside a compound surrounded by walls at least 10 feet high and topped with barbed wire, shortly before the fierce gunbattle was heard inside. Soon after, the gunfire stopped.

Witnesses initially said they saw the attackers' car explode outside the consulate, located in the city's heart near the Red Sea coastline.

Saudi security officials later clarified that the assailants shot at security guards at the consulate's gate, then set off an explosion and then got into the compound.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Saudi officials have blamed al-Qaida operatives for the string of attacks that have hit the kingdom in the past two years.

On Islamic militant Web sites, contributors began hailing the attack even before it was over, with one person praising it as "destruction of a bastion of atheism."

"We were afraid about our brothers in the Arab peninsula, but this proves that they are well and sound, thank God," said the person who made the posting, referring to recent Saudi crackdowns on militants.

"The magnitude of this assault on the consulate has taken all Jiddah residents by surprise," said Khaled al-Maena, the editor of Arab News located in Jiddah who saw the smoke rising from the compound.

Insurgents aim to disrupt elections; U.S. troops targeted

BY PAUL GARWOOD

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. troops fought a gunbattle with insurgents along a busy street in Baghdad on Monday, sending passers-by scurrying for cover, witnesses said, while five U.S. troops were reported killed in separate clashes in a volatile western province as insurgents stepped up attacks ahead of next month's elections.

The violence came a day after gunmen ambushed a bus carrying unarmed Iraqis to work at a U.S. ammunition dump near Tikrit, killing 17 and raising the death toll from three days of intensified insurgent attacks to at least 70 Iraqis.

The attacks, focused in Baghdad and several cities to the north, appeared to be aimed at scaring off those who cooperate with the American military.

They also have targeted Kurdish militiamen and Shiite worshippers in a possible bid to foment sectarian and ethnic unrest.

The latest fighting in Baghdad broke out after armed rebels appeared on the busy Haifa Street, saying they were hunting for Iraqis collaborating with U.S.-led forces.

Witnesses said they shot and killed a man they claimed was working for the Americans. Rebels also were seen on a square just three blocks from the heavily fortified Green Zone that houses Iraq's interim government and the U.S. Embassy.

The U.S. military had no immediate comment, but witnesses said U.S. troops

supported by armored vehicles attacked the gunmen.

Earlier Monday, three insurgents were killed and four wounded in clashes with U.S. forces in Haditha, 140 miles northwest of Baghdad in the volatile Anbar province, according to Dr. Bassem Izaldeen of Haditha Hospital.

The 1st Marine Expeditionary Force also said three soldiers attached to the Marines died in two incidents Sunday in the western province, which includes the battleground cities of Fallujah and Ramadi. Earlier, the military said two Marines had been killed in action in Anbar on Friday.

The killings raised the number of U.S. troops killed since Friday to 11 and brought to at least 1,276 the number of U.S. troops to have died since the war began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The attacks came just weeks after the United States launched major offensives aimed at suppressing guerrillas ahead of crucial elections set for Jan. 30.

Sunday's bloodshed began when gunmen opened fire at the bus as it dropped off Iraqis employed by coalition forces at a weapons dump in Tikrit, 80 miles north of Baghdad, said Capt. Bill Coppennoll, spokesman for the Tikrit-based U.S. 1st Infantry Division. Coppennoll said 17 people died and 13 wounded in the attack.

Survivors said about seven guerrillas were involved, emptying their clips into the bus before fleeing. The bodies of the victims were brought to a morgue too

small to hold them all; some were left in the street.

About an hour later, a suicide car bomber drove into an Iraqi National Guard checkpoint in Beiji, 75 miles to the north, detonating his explosives-packed vehicle, Coppennoll said. Gunmen then opened fire on the position. Three guardsmen, including a company commander, were killed and 18 wounded, Coppennoll said.

The extremist Ansar al-Sunnah Army claimed responsibility for the Tikrit attack. The statement, which appeared on the group's Web site, claimed 20 people were slain.

"We tell all those who work with the crusaders: 'This is your fate sooner or later. We're setting up ambushes for you. Repent ... to save your lives,'" said the statement, which couldn't be verified.

Also Sunday, guerrillas ambushed a joint Iraqi-coalition patrol in Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, and attacked Iraqi National Guardsmen patrolling near Samarra, north of Baghdad. Two Iraqis were killed and 10 wounded.

The attacks followed assaults Friday and Saturday that saw insurgents hit a police station, killing 16 men; strike a Shiite mosque with a car bomb that killed 14; and attack a bus carrying Kurdish militiamen with a car bomb, killing at least seven.

The military said Monday that U.S. soldiers have detained 14 Iraqis suspected of making car bombs and leading insurgent cells in northern Iraq.

Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-

Zarqawi's group, al-Qaida in Iraq, claimed responsibility for several attacks Friday and Saturday. On Sunday, another militant group, Jaish Mohammed issued a statement saying its fighters were lying low for "a few days" but planned more attacks against U.S. forces.

The group's statement, which could not be immediately verified, also warned Iraqis against aiding coalition forces and said they would be attacked with similar fury as that directed against the U.S. military.

While Iraq's majority Shiites are eagerly awaiting the election, the Sunnis oppose it, partly because the violence has been heavy in their areas west and north of Baghdad and voter registration there has not begun. About 40 small, mostly Sunni political parties met Sunday to demand the elections be postponed by six months, but stopped short of calling for a boycott.

President Bush, Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi and Iraq's Sunni president, Ghazi al-Yawer, have insisted the vote will be held as scheduled.

In other developments Monday:

— A U.S. soldier was wounded in western Baghdad when his patrol hit a roadside bomb, the military said.

— Insurgents blew up part of a domestic oil pipeline south of Samarra, in northern Iraq, sending flames and black smoke billowing into the sky, Col. Mahmoud Ahmed said. Insurgents bent on derailing Iraqi reconstruction efforts regularly attack its oil infrastructure.

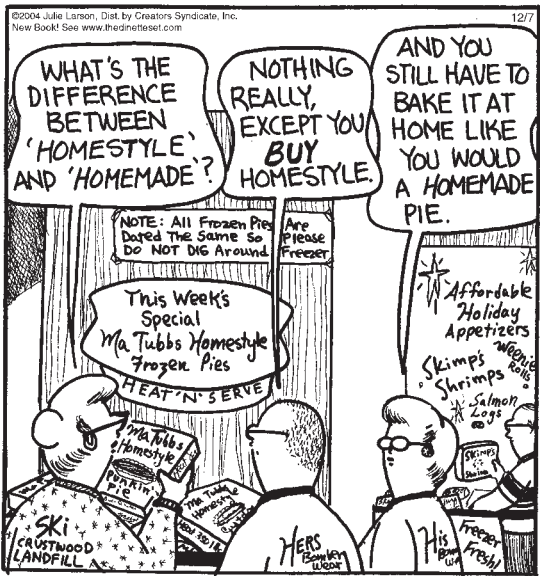


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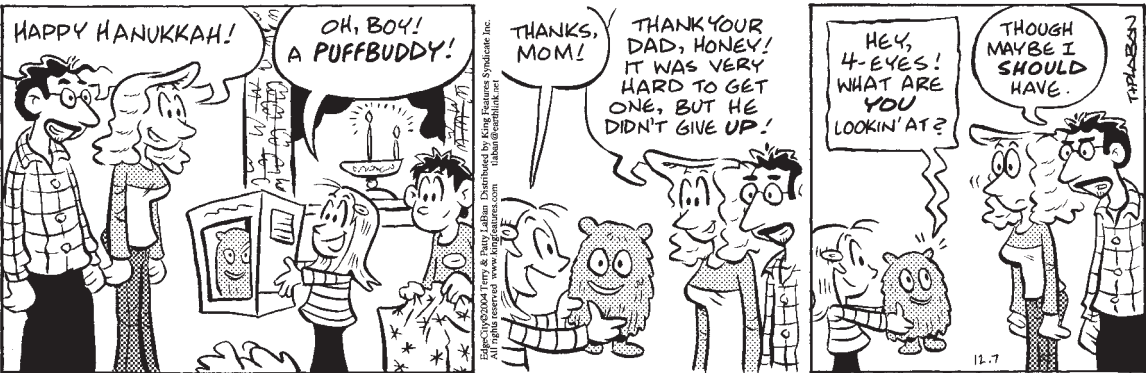
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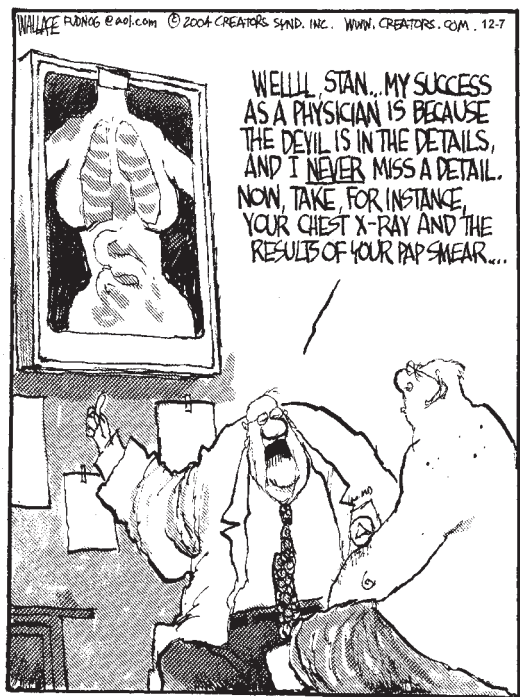
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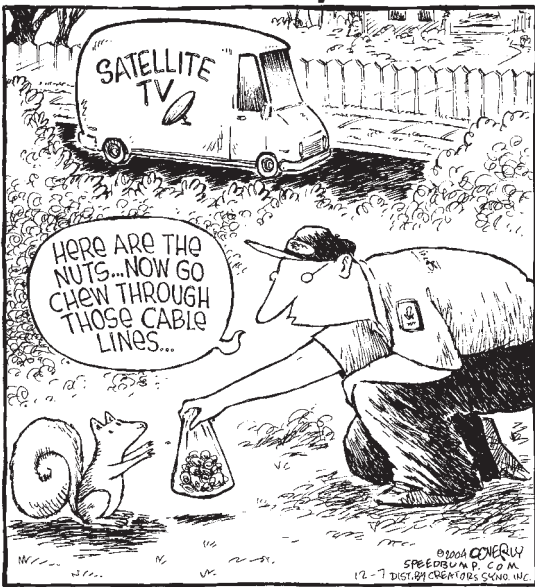
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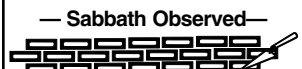
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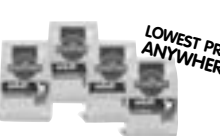
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Duke Law School going to the dogs, thanks to Barker

By The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Game show host Bob Barker, a longtime proponent of animal welfare, has donated \$1 million to Duke Law School to endow a program to teach animal rights law, the school announced Monday.

The Bob Barker Endowment Fund for the Study of Animal Rights Law will support education in animal rights law, including opportunities for students to earn course credit on cases involving compliance with state animal cruelty laws and other forms of animal rights advocacy.

It's similar to funds Barker has established in the past few years at law schools including those at Harvard, Stanford, Columbia and UCLA.

"Animals need all the protection we can give them," Barker said. "We intend to train a growing number of law students in this area of the law in the hope that they will ultimately lead a national effort to make it illegal to brutalize and exploit these helpless creatures."

NEW YORK — Idina Menzel, star of the Broadway musical "Wicked," and her husband, actor Taye Diggs have received hateful threats because of their interracial marriage.

The couple was the focus of at least three letters last week in which bodily harm was threatened, the New York Post reported in Monday editions.

Despite the threats, Menzel still performed on Sunday, arriving at the Gershwin Theater under heavy guard. For the matinee, she was accompanied by five plainclothes guards, who remained stationed outside the stage door.

Diggs, who is black and stars in the UPN drama "Kevin Hill," and Menzel, who is white, were wed in January 2003.

Earlier this year, Menzel won a Tony award for her

portrayal of Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West. Diggs is currently filming a movie in Canada.

NEW YORK — David Banner doesn't want to be just another rapper who strolls into movies, so the Mississippi rhymer has been spending the past few months in Los Angeles, studying acting in preparation for a movie career.

"I'm studying this form of talent," Banner told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "I've had opportunities to be in several major movies, but I don't want to just jump in."

Banner says he's always been interested in an acting career, but growing up, he never knew how to get involved in it.

"Those opportunities are not readily available, coming from urban situations where you don't know much," he said.

Banner, who's known for hits like "Like a Pimp," says he's learned a lot in his studies — and he's able to translate it to everyday life.

"Acting actually teaches you to be more patient with society," Banner said. "As an actor, you're able to break down the psyche of people."

Banner hasn't given up his rap career though. He's working on a new album that he expects to release next year.

PRINCETON, W.Va. — Gilligan turned into Santa's helper when former television star Bob Denver and his wife joined a car dealership's toy campaign.

"I think it's all been fantastic. It has only been 45 minutes and we've already done really well," Denver said during Saturday's event, which transformed Ramey Chrysler's lot into an island of toys.

"We normally do this in a smaller way, but we wanted to go all out this year. When I was growing up, I was

underprivileged myself and didn't get a lot of toys at Christmas, so this is really important to me," said Jim Ramey Sr., owner of Ramey Automotive Group.

Denver, star of the 1960s TV show "Gilligan's Island," and his wife, Dreama, donated a pickup truck full of toys and a \$1,000 check to the Princeton Quota Club. The couple live in the area.

All the toys will go to the Marine Corps League's Toys for Tots campaign. The organization recently received \$1,300 worth of toys from Toys-R-Us in Roanoke, Va., and a bakery donated \$2,000 worth of toys.

"We're off to a really good start. People really don't know how much this means to us," said Jack Grose of the Marine Corps League.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Award-winning rocker Sheryl Crow has been elected to the Missouri Academy of Squires, a ceremonial group dedicated to honoring current and former Missouri residents.

Crow, who was born in Kennett and graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia, hasn't forgotten her hometown roots.

Though the former music teacher has sold millions of albums, Crow also has given benefit concerts, funded local scholarships, donated clothes for charity and pledged funds to help build a new city swimming pool about a block off the town square.

In addition to the Grammy-winning singer, Missouri Gov. Bob Holden announced that nine other people were elected to the academy, including Harris-Stowe State College President Henry Givens Jr., J.E. Dunn Construction CEO Terry Dunn, Kansas city community activist Lali Garcia and former Missouri Congressman Alan Wheat.

The academy was started in 1960 by then-Gov. James Blair Jr. This year's class was the first elected in two years.



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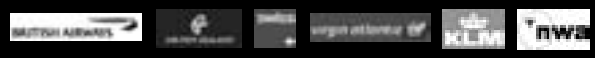
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