



Walkin' the dog for a good cause

See Page 8



Meet the Vindakits

See Page 9



A taste of Thailand in our own backyard

See Page 7



Juggling one's life away

See Page 6

INSIDE:

Restaurant Guide
Calendar Section
Business & Service Directory

THE ORANGE COAST VOICE

No. 13

Serving Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa

Oct. 2007

'Chilling Effect'

Costa Mesa day laborers claim police harassment

By JOHN EARL
OC Voice Editor

Costa Mesa day laborers looking for work on street corners at two separate locations in the city, Placentia Avenue and 17th Street, and Placentia Avenue and Victoria Street, say that city police are routinely harassing them and making it difficult for them to find employment.

Almost without exception, workers at both corners who were interviewed by the *OC Voice* on three separate occasions during September claimed that police routinely—from once in a while to several times a week—approached them while they were standing on sidewalks or in parking lots and told them, sometimes without giving a reason, that they had to leave the area, sometimes threatening them with tickets or even arrest if they returned.

Costa Mesa Chief of Police Christopher Shawkey says that his officers are only enforcing a city ordinance that prohibits anyone from soliciting employment, commercial, or charitable transactions on public streets in a manner that distracts motorists and creates a potential safety hazard, and that prohibits the same types of solicitation in private parking lots where the owners have posted signs banning those activities.

It is not a violation of the Municipal Code to look for work on public sidewalks, but the city's ordinance places tight restrictions on the process.



PHOTO BY JOHN EARL

SURVEILLANCE: CM police officer John Doezie watches a small group of day laborers at the corner of Placentia Avenue and 17th Street.

The Orange County chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), however, says that the city's ordinance violates the free speech rights of day laborers and their potential employers, as well as people advertising for real estate sales, solicitors for charitable organizations and even high school students seeking to raise money for school projects by signaling to potential car wash costumers from sidewalks and street corners.

ACLU attorney Hector Villagra told the *OC Voice* that he has received complaints from day laborers and that "[W]e are investigating the possibility of a lawsuit against Costa Mesa."

Unconstitutional?

Other cities, including Redondo Beach and Glendale have had similar types of ordinances thrown out in court in recent years. The ACLU filed a lawsuit against the city of Lake Forest in March over a 1993 ordinance

that prohibited anyone from looking for work on public sidewalks. In that case, city officials claimed that they had stopped enforcing the law after the Glendale case in 2005 and that they had meant to repeal it anyway, which they quickly did, finally, in response to the ACLU lawsuit.

The Costa Mesa ordinance was first passed in 1988, the same year that the city opened a labor center for day laborers at the corner of 17th Street and Placentia Avenue. The ordinance was revised in 2005, about the same time the city council voted to close down the center and after the Glendale and Redondo Beach ordinances went to the courts.

The Costa Mesa ordinance makes it unlawful "for any person to stand on a street [including sidewalk] and actively solicit employment, business, or contributions from any person in a motor vehicle traveling along a street." It also prohibits "any person in a motor vehicle traveling along a street to solicit employment of any person standing on a street, to solicit from or make contributions to any such person, or to solicit and engage in a business transaction with such person" (emphasis added).

The term "actively solicit" is defined by the ordinance as solicitation "accompanied by action intended to attract the attention of a person in a vehicle traveling in the street such as waving arms, making hand signals, shouting to someone in a traveling vehicle, jumping up and down, waving signs pointed so as to be readable by

See **CITY ORDINANCE**, Page 10

'I'll Give You Two Minutes'

State Senator Tom Harman explains his health care plan

By ADAM SABY
OC Voice Staff Writer

Financial planning and how to cope with personal debt was the hot and timely topic of a seminar put on by State Senator Tom Harman's office on Sept. 20.

Following his usual practice of pre-emptive spin making, the senator was quoted about the seminar in a press release distributed prior to the seminar that referred to the event as if it had already occurred.

"Money matters such as debt, budgets, insurance, and taxes can seem dreary and overwhelming," the press release quoted Harman as saying.

"I was pleased to bring financial experts and leaders together to help inform my constituents about steps they can take to get out of debt and set priorities to guide their financial decisions," he declared proudly.

But the Republican senator, who

represents all of Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa, may have spoken too soon, because for all the practical advice presented in gobs of free literature distributed at the event, and by its panel of two industry representatives (an insurance salesman and a MasterCard rep), two consumer advocates and a financial planner, missing from the discussion agenda was the number one cause of 80 percent of the personal bankruptcies in Orange County—inability to pay for health care.

That frightening statistic came from panel member Michael E. Waiters, the insurance salesman from Santa Ana, who brought it up as a warning to stock up on lots of insurance, includ-

ing for long-term care and disability because (if the insurance industry has its way) "the government is not going to take care of you."



Tom Harman

In fact, he warned, bills are being pushed in Washington right now that would take long term care out of Medicare and Social Security. So make sure you have your insurance policies all in order, because only corporations will take care of you, he seemed to say.

Bankruptcy and death

But insurance companies aren't doing such a great job of caring for their constituents either, according to a 2005 Harvard University study, which says 2 million Americans

went bankrupt due to health care costs—and most of them had health insurance.

But there's an even higher price to pay than bankruptcy for lack of affordable health insurance. The National Science Academy's Institute of Medicine estimates that 18,000 adults die needlessly each year in America because of lack of health care coverage, and 20 percent of the state's residents lack health insurance, according to the United Health Foundation (citing the U.S. Census Bureau).

The World Health Organization's (W.H.O.) "System Performance Report for the year 2000 ranked the U.S. at 37 in health care among the world's nations. France's health care system was ranked first, Canada 30th.

According to the C.I.A., the life expectancy of Americans from birth is 78 years compared to 80.9 for France and 80.3 for Canada, while the infant mortality rate for the U.S.A. is

See **CORPORATE HARMONY**, Page 4

NEED A PASSPORT?



The Huntington Beach City Clerk's Office offers Passport Acceptance Services

conveniently located on the 2nd floor of City Hall, 2000 Main Street (corner of Main/Yorktown)

Services Include:

- First-time passports
- Passport renewals
- Passport photo services
- Passport expediting

Benefits Include:

- No long lines
- Multiple experienced agents
- Standard fees apply, but money stays within the City, going into general fund projects that benefit the entire community!

Passport Acceptance Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays

For recorded information call:

(714) 374-1600

or access the City's website at:

www.surfcity-hb.org

(On the City's home page, click the "Passport Information" link under "What's New")

LETTERS

The *Orange Coast Voice* encourages letters to the editor and will attempt to print all those received. However, due to space constraints, letters are subject to editing. All letters must include the author's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters can be electronically sent to letters@ocvoice.com, or mailed directly to: *Orange Coast Voice*, 419 Main Street, #209, Huntington Beach, California, 92648.

Global warming stats were wrong

I respond to Donald Behrend's letter on global warming printed in the September 2007 issue of the *OC Voice*. As I see it, Mr. Behrend has made some serious mistakes in his calculations of the amount of heat imparted to the atmosphere by modern jet transport aircraft.

The first mistake is to assume all the heat from the burned fuel goes to the atmosphere; in fact nearly half of it is delivered in mechanical work (i.e. driving the engine compressor, and the thrust to push the aircraft along). This accomplishes value added work, not heat for this portion of fuel burned.

The second is to base the calculations on large transport aircraft; nearly 80% of the approximately 13,000 aircraft world fleet are of the B-737/MD-80/Airbus A-321 type aircraft. These aircraft operate at a maximum typical maximum gross weight of 75 tons and with a fuel load of only about 6,000 to 7,000 gallons or about 20 tons of fuel.

The net heat to the atmosphere from these aircraft is computed by the mass flow rate through the engine times the temperature rise from the inlet to the exit of the nozzle in the rear, before mixing with the bypass air. This would also be multiplied by the heat capacity of the air (.24 Btu/lb deg.) This would be about 49 pound of air per second times a rise of about 560 degrees Fahrenheit or less times .24 btu/lb degree per engine, or about 6,600 Btu/second per engine or 13,000 btu/ second per airplane. This is about 9,000 horsepower per airplane of heat rejection.

I have converted this to horsepower to give a better perspective for the average reader. The modern turbofan jet engine operates at about the same efficiency as a Diesel truck engine: .55 lbs fuel per horsepower hour. The truck hauls a net cargo of about 20 tons or so. By comparison, the aircraft mentioned hauls about 30 tons, but at 14 times the speed. So each airplane takes the place of about 21 highway trucks. However, the rejected heat from the airplane is a little greater still than the 21 trucks, but not much.

Since the freight has to be hauled one way or another, I would rather not add 218,000 trucks to our freeway systems going through our towns, rejecting about the same amount of heat at ground level that the fleet of aircraft rejects at 35,000 feet altitude. Further, since there is a huge amount of excess air going through the aircraft turbine engine, carbon monoxide emission is virtually nil, while the diesel truck emits a somewhat modest, but measurable amount of this pollutant, right where we must breathe it.

*Ken Williams
Huntington Beach, CA*

Solar energy stats were wrong

In your article "Solar Energy Made Simple" (*OC Voice*, Sept. 2007), you state that "The U.S. Dept. of Energy calculated that a PV system covering a 100-square-mile swatch of sunny Nevada would suffice to power the entire U.S." This is a serious underestimate.

From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_Energy_Generating_Systems we find that the largest solar plant in the world, the Solar Energy Generating System has a capacity of 354 MW.

Assuming a 30% capacity factor to allow for nighttime and cloudy days, we get a production of 9xE8 kilowatt-hours/year from 1,600 acres. Annual electricity consumption in the U.S. is

about 4xE12 kilowatt-hours/year (http://www.cia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epa/epa_sum.html), so this would require about 11,000 square miles or the rooftops of 3.3 billion homes or businesses.

*Paul Studier
Lake Forest, CA*

Sarah Mosko responds:

The reader did indeed catch an honest mathematical error on my part. Nevertheless, the spirit of the article still stands. A recent *Los Angeles Times* editorial reiterates that a 100-mile-square area of Nevada, if equipped with solar devices, could supply the U.S. with all the power it needs. It should be comforting to know that the total solar bathing the earth's surface is 120,000 terawatts, whereas the power draw of all humanity is only 15 terawatts. Nothing comes close to solar in contribution potential to a sustainable energy future.

Case in point: Santa Monica completed a study of citywide rooftop resources in 2003 and calculated that, when combined with intelligent energy efficiency measures, the city could not only meet its peak power (kW) demand through solar energy, but could become a 'net-zero' energy city with overall production of kWh by solar and distributed generation exceeding combined daytime and nighttime energy demand. On a personal level, my home 3 kW rooftop PV array (just 10 ft x 21 ft) produced more energy last year than needed to run my 3,400 sq ft home!

Armando is here illegally!

I was disappointed to learn the *OC Voice* writes opinion pieces designed to tug at one's emotions in an attempt to overshadow the real issue: Armando is here illegally! "Cold as ICE: Costa Mesa immigration crackdown breaks up families," Sept. 2007

The author writes, "If Armando had been apprehended in the same scenario in neighboring Huntington Beach and Santa Ana... he might of avoided the ICE interview and deportation altogether." I applaud Alan Mansoor and the Costa Mesa Police for their diligence in enforcing the Federal immigration law. Why isn't Huntington Beach and our neighboring communities interested in upholding Federal law?

The goal of the *OC Voice* is to give its readers information that can be used to improve the quality of life in their communities and beyond. I'm not sure how highlighting the "injustice" of deportation improves the quality of life in our communities; there are numerous examples of how illegal immigration impairs our communities, but that is a topic for another letter.

*Alisa Irwin
Costa Mesa, CA*

Change course, George!

General Petraeus promised to tell us the truth: did the surge meet their deadline? The answer is NO but the White House is saying they met three, some progress on some, none on others. In other words they need more time. In the meantime our kids are dying or being maimed for life. There is no military solution for Iraq. The US has to change course. Stop being the occupier and pitch in with other countries to let Iraq be it's own country.

The British who had 70,000 there have just pulled their 5,000 back out of danger from Basrah palace to the Basrah airport.

What about our 180,000 right in the middle of the civil war? Change the course George!

*Eileen Murphy
Huntington Beach, CA*

Open letter to Debbie Cook

I read John Earl's coverage of the H.B. Impeach effort (See "HB City Council Ignores 'War Criminals,' Sept. 2007) and your comments about how "partisan, emotional rather than rational" these efforts are. As an attorney, I am surprised that you stated that you "don't know much" about the issue. When you compare the Nixon impeachment case where he was threatened with impeachment for lying and misleading the American people about the Watergate break-in (not even while under oath) and the current situation of the Bush Administration lying about the threat of Iraq during a State of

See **LETTERS**, Page 7

CORRECTIONS BOX

In the article "Cold as ICE," as published in our Sept. 2007 issue, we printed the claim by Armando's fiancé, Zoraida, that he was not given correct overtime pay at his work place, a Costa Mesa Mexican restaurant. In fact, pay records indicate that Armando always received correct overtime pay. The assertion was based on an accidental and mutual misunderstanding between the reporter and Zoraida. The *OC Voice* apologizes for the factual error and any misunderstanding it may have created. Also, the article mentioned that Armando sometimes worked two shifts per day, one for each of two restaurants in the same chain and under the same ownership for a total of 11 hours without overtime pay. We should have also pointed out, however, that under the law the two restaurants are considered separate entities and so Armando would not have been legally entitled to overtime pay.

Wetlands Approved

17 acres will be reserved in perpetuity

By **DAVID L. M. PRESTON**
OC Voice Staff Writer

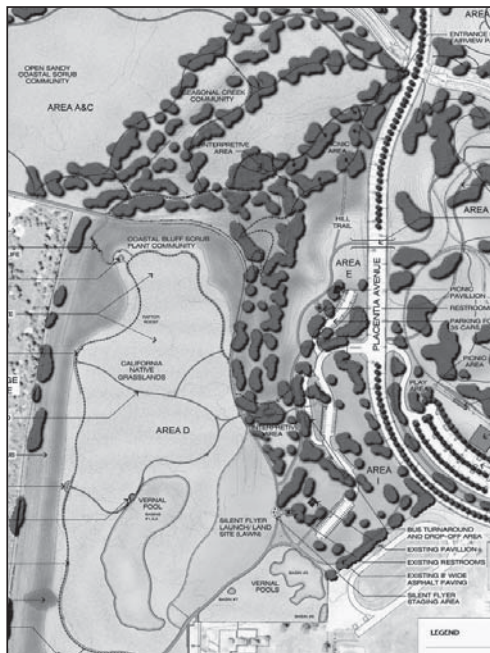
The Costa Mesa City Council voted unanimously in approval to move forward, with help from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACE), to finalize the development plans for a 17-acre Wetlands Habitat / Riparian Habitat area rehabilitation and construction in the Fairview Park area of Costa Mesa.

Costa Mesa's Director of Public Services, Bill Morris, gave a 10 minute presentation to the council providing it with details concerning the work and plans for this new conservation easement to be created in Costa Mesa. The general consensus is that Morris's work on this project, including his collaborative discussions with the ACE and the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD), among numerous other regulatory agencies, has been exceptional.

The wetlands and riparian habitat will continue to be accessible to outdoors enthusiasts, hikers and birders. And the 17-acres, similar to the 11-acres of coastal scrub that was set aside in the past, will be set in reserve for this purpose by Costa Mesa in perpetuity when the final agreement is approved. This is a good environmental win for Orange County ecology, not to mention the residents of Costa Mesa.

The construction of the park habitats will be done in phases, and all the designs and plans are already out there, which Morris said is advantageous for winning the support of the ACE and other regulatory agencies in moving forward with this project.

The ACE will be constructing all the streambeds and the water collection basin of the land in the first phase. The city council, in previous discussions and research, has already



CITY OF COSTA MESA

MASTER PLAN: Fairview Park in Costa Mesa will be home to 17 acre wetlands habit to be built in phases.

budgeted some \$900,000 for the first phase of the project.

"We would have a very good sys-

tem in place," Morris stated, "[And]... it would be very easy... to get other grants to finish off the area."

The trails will be accessible to the public, according to Morris, and will even be American with Disabilities Act compliant.

Part of the master plan for the land includes constructing a parking area with 30 available spots. Fences will also be installed during construction for habitat establishment protection and removed later.

Councilmember Linda Dixon asked about the timeline of completion and if the land will be federally recognized as a wildlife sanctuary, but Morris did not yet know the answer. That will be a future issue, but could potentially be a tourist draw.

Morris hopes that by the end of 2008 that "we would see the plants and water in place," and added that ACE would maintain "all they installed" for a minimum of 1 year and up to 5 years, depending on the retention of the plants and irrigation.

Mayor Pro-Tem Eric Bever hoped that other, additional, benefits and commitments could be obtained from the ACE, restrooms and maybe a nature center for example, as the land, right now by current prices, is potentially "worth" between \$17 and \$51 million dollars, he said. And by putting it as a wetlands reserve in perpetuity that financial worth is locked up from use by the city.

Morris answered that benefits still need to be negotiated, but did explain that the ACE's liability issues cover more than the \$1 million first-time investment. "[O]ur indication from them [ACE] is that they want to build the 17 acres and they will make it work regardless the cost," Morris said.

Green Without Envy

CM City Council goes environ-mental, 5-0

By **LISA WELLS**
OC Voice Staff Writer

It's official. Costa Mesa residents, from environmentalists to Minute-man members can proudly announce that their city has gone green. On Sept. 5, 2007, two programs went into effect. The residential and business Build Green Incentive Program and the Sustainable Municipal Green Policy were unanimously adopted by the Costa Mesa City Council during their Sept. 4 meeting.

The residential and business incentive program is a nine month pilot program that offers waived permit fees and expedited building plan checks to those who want their home or building to have a lighter carbon footprint.

To lessen the financial footprint, Costa Mesa waives various fees for green installations such as solar panels, skylights, Energy Star windows or doors, tankless water heaters or green certification. A green certified building is 50 percent less damaging to the environment than a standard building.

Taking the lead in California, Costa Mesa's newly adopted municipal program holds city government facilities to the highest certification level in the state. It stands alone, as a city, by lifting the allowable thresholds—like

building size or value—according to Khan Nguyen, Costa Mesa Building Official and co-leader of the Costa Mesa Green Team task force. This task force was set up by Costa Mesa Councilmember Katrina Foley earlier this year to research and develop the green programs.

Overall, the municipal green policy focuses on the implementation of various sustainability programs and practices in city operations by increasing efficiency, conserving resources, promoting healthier work environments and being more environmentally responsible.

Future municipal facilities in the city will be constructed in accordance with the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system's gold requirement.

The LEED Gold requirement is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction,

and operation of high performance green buildings which promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

While a LEED Gold certified building will cost the city approximately eight percent more to build, its costs are recovered in eight to 10 years through energy and water conservation, which then continue to save the city money during the building's lifetime.

Councilmember Foley says that developers, corporations and local government have recognized

that the long-term saving and other benefits of sustainable features in buildings far outweigh initial installation costs.

Foley is glad to see that a program that saves the average person these costs is now in effect, adding, "I've had a lot of positive response—resi-

dents and business owners are all talking about how to go green and save money. I'm proud that we are setting an example at City Hall. It's great to work on a project that will have impact beyond the city limits."

During the Sept. 4 city council meeting, the discussion was relatively brief and focused mainly on clearing up Mayor Pro Tem Eric Bever's confusion about how much the programs would cost the city.

"[I]t looks like we're also subsidizing some very costly certification and I'm just wondering what the value of these certifications is beyond bragging rights down at Starbucks."

After going back and forth with Building Official Khan Nguyen, Foley finally cleared up the issue by saying, "Member Bever, it sounds to me that you're thinking we're going to give the person \$30,000 to pay for the certification. The waiver is \$30,000 of construction and plan check fee; we're not giving them \$30,000 to pay to the U.S. Green Building Council."

But it was Mayor Pro Tem Bever who summed things up: "All the neighboring cities are now green with envy."

For more information look for the Build Green Costa Mesa link at: <http://ci.costa-mesa.ca.us/>



Katrina Foley

419 Main St., #209
Huntington Beach, CA
92648

(714) **656-3607**
info@ocvoice.com

Publisher

Duane J. Roberts

Editor

John Earl

Calendar Editor

Dalia Van Den Boogaard

Staff Writers

Sara Ellis, Lisa Wells
Erikka Innes, Adam Saby
David L. M. Preston

Columnists

Anne Hogan-Shereshevsky
Joe Shaw, Scott Sink

Photographer

Rudy Ramos

Sales Consultants

John Perkins
Debi Laird

Interns

Janet Avelar
Gema Salas

The Orange Coast Voice is an independently owned monthly newspaper serving Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa and currently delivering 15,000 copies to single family residences, local businesses, churches, schools, libraries, community centers, mobile home parks, and other locations.

The goal of the Orange Coast Voice is to give its readers information that can be used to improve the quality of life in their communities and beyond. The Orange Coast Voice is your local newspaper.

Advertising:

advertise@ocvoice.com

Press Releases:

news@ocvoice.com

News Tips:

news@ocvoice.com

Letters to the Editor:

letters@ocvoice.com

All rights reserved. Any use of the contents of this publication without the written permission of the publisher is strictly prohibited. The works of authorship contained in this publication including but not limited to all design, text, and images, are owned, except as otherwise stated, by the Orange Coast Voice. Opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the owners of the Orange Coast Voice. The newspaper does not endorse or guarantee any products or services advertised. The publisher cannot accept responsibility or liability for the products or services offered through advertisements.

Corporate Harman-y

Financial planning seminar ignores healthcare bankruptcies

Continued from Page 1

6.37 deaths per thousand compared to 3.41 for France and 4.63 for Canada.

Americans spend \$6,102 per capita on health care, compared to \$3,159 for the French and \$3,165 for Canadians, according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, a government information exchange organization that consists of 30 "free-market" member countries.

Health insurance premiums continue to spiral upward, at twice the rate of inflation in 2005, according to the non-profit and non-partisan National Coalition on Health Care, for a yearly premium of \$4,220 for single person coverage and \$11,500 for a family of four.

The underlying cause of America's high health care premiums, according to the W.H.O., is "mainly due to the extensive [corporate] bureaucracy required to assess risk, rate premiums, design benefit packages and review, pay or review claims."

Financial Solutions

Roughly 20-30 percent of all health insurance premiums in California are spent on shareholder dividends, executive reimbursement and advertising for health insurance companies (i.e., money that is "lost" on increasing profits for insurance companies), according to OneCareNow (OCN), a grassroots statewide health reform group that supports a "single-payer" solution to California's health care crisis.

That's also the solution that Huntington Beach resident, musician and activist Vern Nelson would like Senator Harman and other state representatives to support. Specifically, Nelson supports State Senator Sheila Kuehl's (D-Santa Monica) Senate Bill (SB) 840. It passed the legislature but awaits Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's likely veto. It would create the first ever all-inclusive single-payer health care system in California.

Nelson is currently the director of the Orange County chapter of OCN which he helped grow to 700 members in the past several years. He and other members participate in health care seminars and speak before city councils about health care and the benefits of Kuehl's bill.

Under Kuehl's proposed system, one party, the government, would pay for all medical expenses to provide for complete coverage for all California residents, regardless of medical pre-condition, employment or immigration status.

There would be an annual premium, but no out-of-pocket costs for health care patients; no co-pays, no deductibles, no pre-conditions and—no medical bankruptcies.

Since the state would be the only buyer of medical services and drugs in a single-payer system, medical insurance companies and their

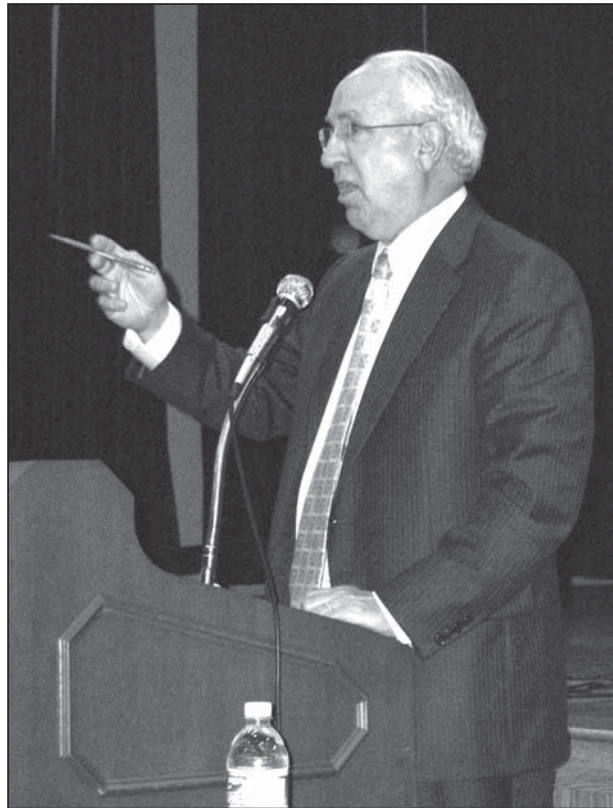


PHOTO BY JOHN EARL

SEMINAR: Sen. Tom Harman (R-Huntington Beach) didn't want to talk about healthcare at his financial planning seminar, Sept. 20th.

behemoth corporate bureaucracy would be virtually eliminated.

By eliminating the health insurance companies, SB 840 proponents say, the competition would be between the direct healthcare providers, based on the quality of care they offer rather than the race to the bottom line that

exists now.

No longer burdened by cumbersome HMO's that restrict health care choices, Californians would be given the freedom to choose their own health care providers with all services and medications paid for.

Although the annual premiums—to be paid

from employee and employer payroll taxes—have yet to be precisely determined, costs would be lowered by dividing the premium payments among a single and much larger pool of insured members—about 37 million Californians—instead of multiple smaller buying pools. The state's immense buying power when making bulk purchases of drugs and medical equipment would also help keep costs to a minimum.

Like the French and Canadian citizens who have their own form of single-payer health care, Californians would save a lot of money—\$8 billion according to a 2005 study by the Lewin Group, an independent research firm with 18 years of experience in healthcare cost analysis.

All that might seem like valuable information to any of Harman's constituents who are interested in financial planning and preventing personal bankruptcy, but the senator will probably not be sharing that information with them anytime soon.

Sen. Harman's plan

Ignoring the personal financial bankruptcies caused by the current for-profit health care system, Harman has ranted in canned press releases against the separate health reform plans proposed by Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez and Kuehl, while reaping praise on the "free market and competition [that] created the best healthcare in the world."

Harman criticized Núñez and Kuehl's health care proposals as "socialized medicine to all, regardless of citizenship" that would "strip away personal choice" and called single-payer health care "a failure in Canada, in France and several other countries," without citing specific evidence to back up his claims.

(Nelson and other SB 840 advocates are also opposed to the Núñez multi-payer plan because it "continues to waste billions of dollars on the private insurance companies, [and] leaves millions of Californians uninsured," while placing to high a financial burden on small businesses).

In Harman's view, only "a reduction in regulations and an increase in competition will help bring costs down."

Harman has introduced a bill (SB 199) that would offer corporate and personal income tax breaks of 15 percent to employers of up to 250 workers who put money into a health savings account that would be used to purchase government approved health insurance with lower premiums and sky-high high deductibles. The health savings account would be a form of government subsidy for the private health insurance industry.

Harman's bill, SB 199, has no chance of passing in the Democratic Party controlled legislature.

Harman refuses to answer Nelson's repeated calls in the local press and through direct communication, including a letter signed by 162 of Harman's constituents, according to Nelson, to sponsor or participate in a public town meeting "featuring an honest debate on this issue with all sides presented."

'Til give you 2 minutes'

Harman apparently wasn't very interested in speaking to the *OC Voice* about health care either. After our repeated efforts to contact Harman for a phone interview through his office staff were rebuffed, *OC Voice* reporter Adam Saby finally caught up with Harman at the end of the Sept. 20 financial services seminar. "Til give you two minutes," Harman said.

Harman reiterated what he had already written in press releases about single-payer health care and his plan to subsidize California's health insurance industry.

But when asked how he could remain neutral in the healthcare debate when he received tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from health care industry giants like Blue Cross of California, AETNA, Allergan Inc., Glaxosmithkline and Pfizer to name a few (Nelson says \$250,000, but the total depends on how you define a member of the health care industry), Harman answered, "I don't have any comment on that, sir," and quickly walked out of the room.

OC Voice Editor John Earl also contributed to this story.

Phil & Brenda's HOT BUYS for October

<p>NEWPORT COAST AT A BARGAIN PRICE</p> <p>5 bedroom, 4.5 bath in guard gated development. Gourmet kitchen, wine cellar and many more extras. Call on this one it won't last at this price.</p>	<p>STEAL THIS BEACH CLOSE CONDO</p> <p>Lovely Corona del Mar home for the person on go. Must love the beach and be willing to enjoy the ocean breeze in the \$700s.</p>	<p>HARBOR GIANT PRICED BELOW MARKET</p> <p>Stunning waterfront home with large dock. 6 bedrooms for under \$3 million. No, you're not seeing things, this is really the price.</p>	<p>SELLER'S GIVING THIS ONE AWAY</p> <p>5 bedroom mansion with views in the Bluffs. 10,000 plus size lot under \$2 Million.</p>
<p>FIX AND SAVE THOUSANDS!</p> <p>Newport view home needs your TLC. Central location, ocean breezes & under \$2 million. Won't last at this price.</p>	<p>UNBELIEVABLE PRICE ON THIS HARBOR VIEW HOME</p> <p>This 5 bedroom estate has been abandoned by its owner. Live on the hill for \$2 million plus some change.</p>	<p>BEACH CLOSE BARGAIN</p> <p>Jog or ride to the beach from your front porch. 3 bedroom home with plenty of amenities. Under \$650,000.</p>	<p>SUPER EAST SIDE HOME - STEAL IT FOR UNDER \$700K!</p> <p>On the border of Newport Beach and Costa Mesa-BANK OWNED. Spacious family home gives you Bang for your Buck! Large lot near shopping and the beach. Don't miss it!</p>

Brenda McGee
Realtor® Notary Public
(714) 878-8416
www.Brendafirst.com

Phillip Jasso
Realtor®
(714) 785-0420
www.philsproperty.com

OCVOICE.COM

CHILD SAFETY

Toxic Toys

Parents read this

By SARAH S. MOSKO
Special to the OC Voice

It's easy to blame China for the recent brouhaha over popular imported toys containing lead, a toxic heavy metal known to cause a myriad of developmental abnormalities including inattention/hyperactivity, learning deficiencies and delayed growth.

After all, the month of August 2007 alone saw a spate of five separate recalls by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) for Chinese-made toys and another by Toys-R-Us for imported vinyl baby bibs, all illegally containing lead in paints or inks (lead brightens the colors). Well-known toy importers Mattel, Fisher-Price and Schylling all made the recall lists.

Yet, a number of respected scientists are voicing strident concerns about toys and other products for children that contain other perfectly legal chemicals that might also be unsafe for young children. The discovery of lead in toys could be just the tip of an iceberg. What follows is an overview of what, beyond lead, has some scientists worried.

Phthalates (pronounced tha-lates)

Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC or vinyl) is one of the most common plastics used in children's products. Since PVC is rock hard in its native state, plasticizers called phthalates are added to create softness and flexibility. Phthalates are not chemically bonded to the plastic polymer, just mixed in, so they're free to migrate out during routine use.

Soft teething toys, bath books and rubber duckies, for example, traditionally contain phthalates, and the concern is that significant amounts can be ingested. Even toys not intended for oral use can be a source of ingestion since infants and toddlers put things in their mouths as a way to explore their world. Soft toys can be 10 to 40 percent, by weight, phthalate plasticizer.

Experiments in lab animals as early as 1999 by a team of US EPA researchers had shown that the male offspring of females exposed to common phthalates during pregnancy exhibit incomplete masculinization of their reproductive tracts—males were born with shrunken and malformed testes, sperm abnormalities and feminized nipples. Since phthalates are thought to act by blocking synthesis of the male sex hormone testosterone at a critical point in fetal development, they fall within a class of toxins called endocrine disruptors. Phthalates are also considered "hand-me-down" poisons because the exposed mothers are spared gross abnormalities.

In humans, sperm abnormalities have been found to be more frequent in men attending infertility clinics who have greater phthalate levels in their urine. Studies now also link phthalates to possible abnormal genitalia in American boys, premature breast development in Puerto Rican girls, and childhood asthma. Furthermore, the US EPA lists one common phthalate (DEHP) as a "probable human carcinogen" based on research documenting liver tumors in exposed animals.

Although much remains to be learned about which phthalates are of greatest potential harm to humans and at what level of exposure, the European Union moved in 1999 to reduce unnecessary risk to children by banning six phthalates from toys and other articles designed for infants and toddlers. Japan also instituted a more limited phthalate ban 5 yrs ago.

No phthalate has yet been banned by the U.S. government. In California, however, four phthalates are currently listed as reproductive toxins under the state's Proposition 65 that requires products containing listed chemicals to sport a warning label.

The toy industry voluntarily reached an agreement with the CPSC in 1999 to eliminate PVC from objects designed specifically for mouthing. However, a 2003 investigation by Greenpeace revealed that PVC toys were still being sold by several manufacturers. And, a 2005 study commissioned by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group revealed that phthalates are still common in children's teething and bath toys, even those labeled "phthalate-free."

Effective Dec 2006, the city of San Francisco instituted the first, in the nation, prohibition of the manufacture and sale of baby products containing any of six phthalates. As of this writing, a similar ban has passed the California state legislature (AB 1108) and is awaiting Governor Schwarzenegger's signature. The states of New York, Oregon and Maryland are also considering phthalate bans.

Bisphenol-A

Polycarbonate plastic baby bottles replaced glass ones decades ago. The building block of polycarbonate is the chemical bisphenol-A (BPA), an endocrine disruptor that mimics the action of the female sex hormone estrogen.

In fact, BPA was first investigated in the 1930s as a synthetic estrogen but eventually put to other uses when it was discovered that it could be polymerized to create polycarbonate, a clear and shatter-resistant plastic (e.g. 5-gallon water jugs). The epoxy resin that lines most food and beverage cans, including those holding infant formula, is also made from BPA. The chemical bonds that link the BPA subunits together break down in certain conditions and allow BPA to leach out. Allowing BPA in childcare products

could thus expose children to the chemical.

Concern that early exposure to BPA might be dangerous was highlighted by an accidental discovery in 2003 by researchers at Washington State University: In female mice, incidental low-level exposure to BPA, via drinking from polycarbonate water bottles or being housed in polycarbonate cages, produced offspring with the wrong number of chromosomes. This condition is called aneuploidy and is a

common cause of birth defects and miscarriage in humans. Subsequent research has shown that pre-natal exposure impacts the "grandchildren" too since the developing eggs of an exposed female fetus also show aneuploidy. Recent preliminary findings in women have in fact linked BPA exposure to miscarriage.

Well over 100 peer-reviewed studies have documented ill effects in laboratory animals stemming from low level BPA exposure, especially in pre-natal or in early post-natal life. In many cases, harmful effects were measured at dose levels below which the government lists as safe for humans. Included on the list are reduced sperm production, precancerous changes in the prostate and mammary glands, uterine damage, elimination of some normal sex differences in the brain, and insulin resistance (a precursor to diabetes).

Five popular brands of clear plastic baby bottles were found to leach BPA into their contents at levels found to be harmful in laboratory studies, according to a 2007 investigation by Environment California. Migration of BPA into the contents of resin-lined food and beverage cans, including infant formula, has been documented also.

The chemical industry continues to assure the public that BPA at current exposure levels does not represent a health hazard to fetuses and children, and the government has yet to take any action to the contrary.

Frederick vom Saal, a reproductive toxicologist at the University of Missouri-Columbia, has been particularly vocal in his criticism of both the industry, for its bias, and the federal



- Weight Control
- Smoking Control
- Pain Control
- Fear of Heights
- Fear of Flying
- Fear of Water
- Phobia
- Memory
- Concentration

Change your mind, change your body. When you control your mind you control your life and destiny

Mind Therapy, Inc.

Hypnotherapy for Today

Ernest L. Havner III, CHt, MHT

Phone: (888) 548-4372

7400 Center Ave., Ste. 115

Huntington Beach, CA 92647

www.mindtherapyinc.com

Evening and Weekend Appointments

Have a 401(k) with a previous employer?
Don't make a mistake that could cost you thousands!

Call for a free brochure and consultation



CHARLA KABANA, CFP®

Certified Financial Planner™

- Rollover and Retirement Specialist
- Wealth Management
- Estate Planning



KABANA FINANCIAL

(714) 969-7100

Over 20 years experience helping you achieve your financial goals

EXPERIENCE ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ COMMUNITY

O'CONNELL'S AUTOMOTIVE

17502 Gothard

S.E. Corner Of Slater & Gothard

Huntington Beach

(714) 847-4448

Mon-Fri - 8 am-6 pm Sat. - 8 am-5pm

Shuttle Service Available



Brakes Are Our Specialty



30 / 60 / 90 MILE
SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE

\$139⁹⁵

4 Cyl.

6 Cyl & 8 Cyl Slightly Higher

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

INCLUDES:
* Engine Tune-Up * Cooling System
* New Spark Plugs * New Air Filter
* Tire Rotation * Transmission Service
* Oil Change w/Filter * Clean & Adjust Rear Brakes
* New PCV Valve * Check Belts & Hoses

BRAKE SPECIAL

\$69⁹⁵

Organic

From \$89⁹⁵

Semi-Metallic

Per Axle, Most Cars

* Premium brakes, pads, or shoes

* Rear Disc Extra

* New rotors or drums

* Fixed Brake Extra

* Inspect master cylinder/hoses

* Test Drive Vehicle

* Semi-Metallic Pads Extra

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

A/C SERVICE

\$29⁹⁵

Plus Freon

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP

\$44⁹⁵

Replace Fluid

Filter Extra

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

MAINTENANCE TUNE-UP

\$89⁹⁵

4 Cyl.

6 Cyl. & 8 Cyl.

Slightly Higher

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

TIMING BELTS

Starting at \$89⁹⁵

4 Cyl.

Plus Parts

6 Cyl. & 8 Cyl.

Slightly Higher

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

CV BOOTS

\$69⁹⁵

2nd Boot Same Axle

\$49⁹⁵

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

OIL, LUBE & FILTER

\$15⁹⁵

Includes Hazardous Waste Fee

10W30 Multi-Viscosity

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE

From \$39⁹⁵

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

RADIATOR SERVICE

From \$44⁹⁵

Most Vehicles. Exp. 11-15-07

Strong, Funny, Sexy & Thrilling

Juggler Bob & Project Dynamite ignite

By DALIA VAN DEN BOOKGAARD
OC Voice Staff Writer

The first recorded evidence of juggling is found in tomb paintings of ancient Egypt. You'd think, after 4,000 years, people would get tired of watching jugglers do their thing. Not so, as evidenced by the crowds that gather to ooh and ah at two different juggling acts currently appearing at the weekly Tuesday evening street fair in Huntington Beach. Taking the concept of "Walk Like An Egyptian" to the next level, these performers can apparently juggle like one, too.

Bob Whitcomb, known to worldwide audiences as Juggler Bob, bills himself as "The World's Strongest Juggler" and has the goods to prove it. Heavy goods, like bowling balls. In fact, he set a world record in 2002 by juggling three 16-pound bowling balls until he completed 62 successful catches.

Lest you think that's not good enough, he can also balance a hefty cooler atop a closed umbrella that seems to protrude from his forehead and then toss an apple, a sandwich, and a water bottle into the cooler for a "Well-Balanced Picnic."

Still not impressed? His favorite trick is to balance an entire stove from a pole on his forehead and then toss sausage and eggs into a flaming frying pan for a "Well-Balanced Breakfast."

Is it a wonder that this guy has appeared on TV, in movies, and at the White House? Additionally, Juggler Bob has performed in three European tours and has won top honors at the International Jugglers Association competition. His performances are filled with enough humor to earn him the new title of "World's Funniest Juggler," as well.

Jokes also abound in the act of Project Dynamite, comprised of Duncan Cover and



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB WHITCOMB

CLASS ACT: Bob Whitcomb tries his hand at juggling bowling balls.

Alex Plosion. This duo of young, hip, self-described "sexy men" incorporates quite a bit of acrobatics into its show.

Both men agree that their favorite trick is the daring grand finale, in which four audience members tightly hold ropes that bind a stack of chairs atop one another, while Cover climbs to stand on top of the highest chair and then juggle-tosses machetes back and forth with Plosion, who is stationed on terra firma to oversee the audience participants and take the edge off everyone's nerves with constant quips. The repartee between the two performers is a

show in itself, and this outrageous act will leave you breathless with both awe and laughter.

All three jugglers knew from a fairly early age that they wanted to be performers. Plosion attended a high school for the performing arts in Massachusetts, earned his Bachelor's in Visual Media at Emerson College, and has been performing as well as teaching circus skills ever since. While appearing at a comedy juggling show at Pennsylvania's Hershey Park, he met Cover, and the two instantly clicked.

Originally from New York, Cover began juggling at age seven and later studied circus

sideshow arts and classic vaudeville routines. The two combined their talents and perform as Project Dynamite across the United States as well as in Canada, England, and New Zealand.

As a young Midwestern boy, Juggler Bob (as he prefers to be called) starting performing magic tricks for friends and neighbors, getting hooked on performing in front of an audience. While continuing to hone those skills, he took a course in juggling and never looked back. His prowess in juggling everything from coconuts to lit torches has sustained his career for over 30 years.

Performing everywhere from comedy clubs to cruise ships to international festivals, Juggler Bob has shared the stage with such stars as the Mamas and the Papas and John Cougar Mellencamp. He has particularly enjoyed his three tours through Europe, where the juggling boom has surpassed the scene here in the U.S. Still, he counts his two White House performances at the Annual Easter Egg Roll as among his most memorable gigs. Juggler Bob claims he's the only person to ever toss eggs at the White House and be invited back.

Cover's research into the history of vaudeville broadened his understanding of the rise and fall and rise of the art of juggling.

It was the Golden Age of Vaudeville that gave jugglers a chance to perform in theaters instead of just on the streets or in circuses. A variety of new and complex tricks were possible on stage, and rubber balls allowed bounce juggling to become a popular act. In the same way that "Video Killed the Radio Star," television arrived and killed the vaudeville stars.

In the late-60s era of flourishing arts, juggling made a comeback, and some college students figured out that they could make more bread juggling in the streets than flipping burgers

See **JUGGLING**, Page 9

Gallagher's Bar & Grill

Daily Schedule

Mon. 9 p.m. "Board Night" with bands, raffles to benefit cancer hosted by Kev, Bud, and Red.

Tue. Locals nite with acoustic music from Josh Mohr.

Wed. Coin toss night! If you win, your meal is free! (drinks not included.) Live local bands.

Thu. Comedy Nite hosted by Doug James. All star acts seen on Letterman, Leno and Last Comic Standing.

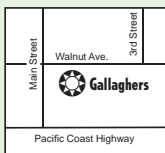
Fri. Live music starts at 9 p.m. Great bands!

Sat. Open at 9 a.m. for breakfast. Enjoy sports TV. Live music starts at 9 p.m.

Sun. Open at 9 a.m. Great food, Football Specials, Entertainment (call for showtime).

We have Internet Jukebox and Wi-Fi

Come enjoy the fun at Gallagher's



300 Pacific Coast Hwy. #113

Downtown Huntington Beach

(Located on Walnut between Main & 3rd)

(714) 536-2422

Experience the World!

WITH CELEBRITY CRUISES & AAA TRAVEL

Celebrity takes you there in style with their exceptional personal service, award winning cuisine, world famous amenities & accommodations. Celebrity Cruises along with AAA Travel will ensure an unforgettable vacation experience. Join us to learn and explore the special packages, upgrades & complimentary services Celebrity and AAA Travel have for you. We will help create the vacation of your dreams!

Huntington Beach AAA Travel Invites You!

Thursday, October 4, 2007 ~ 6:00PM

Marriott Newport Beach Bayview
500 Bayview Circle
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Space is limited ~ Please RSVP
(714) 596-5770

Exclusive AAA Member Benefits!

- Up to \$300.00 Onboard Credit and Complimentary 2-Category Upgrade on selected CruiseTours
- Up to \$200.00 Onboard Credit and Complimentary 2-Category Upgrade on selected Cruises

Join us to start your vacation adventure!



The Automobile Club of Southern California acts only as an agent for Celebrity Cruises and Cruise Tours. Programs, rates, savings, availability and itineraries are subject to change without notice and vary depending on your cruise selected, space availability and/or departure date. Please refer to Celebrity Cruises brochures for terms and conditions. Members must present a valid AAA card and make reservations through the Automobile Club of Southern California to obtain savings. Showtime benefit is for new and individual bookings only. To be eligible for the 2-category upgrade and onboard credit, booking must be made between September 15 - November 15, 2007. The 2-category upgrade and onboard credit are on selected sailings, subject to availability and on cruises 7 days or longer. Certain restrictions may apply. Automobile Club of Southern California 2007 CTR#1016202-80.

RESTAURANT GUIDE

RESTAURANT REVIEW



Thai Wave

A nice taste of Thailand

By **DAVID L. M. PRESTON**
OC Voice Staff Writer

Thai food, in the last decade or so, now has a pervasiveness and popularity throughout the U.S. that would have surprised urban "big city folks" back in the day. Even in small hometown spots, from Maine to Texas, you now have mom and pop Thai restaurants (heck, there are some seven or so in Huntington Beach alone) when once one had to gallivant off to the largest urban center or over to Southeast Asia to get a good taste.

And tasting good is, of course, a large part eating. Having had the chance to spend time in Thailand I can say that, as with most imports, American Thai is unique in its own manner of interpretation. From the north of Chiang Mai, to the bustle of Bangkok, there is a great variety of food styles (just think of the cuisine style in the use, comparing Minnesota lutefisk to New Orleans' gumbo, and you get the idea). And I have to admit even with my enjoyment of hot-spice southern Thailand is particularly piquant, at least from my experience in Songkhla, but the satay was wonderful.

So there is a relish of expectation when one enters a Thai restaurant, and with Thai Wave in Huntington Beach, the anticipation is satisfied. A mainstay of tourist and local business, located as it is on Main Street, a bit farther east from the main downtown so the parking is a bit more reasonable. However far that goes.

To get a good sampling of their efforts I ordered the Thai Wave Combination platter (\$9.95), which gives a sampling of different appetizers that are offered. Egg rolls, BBQ ribs (your choice of beef or pork), fried wontons and "naked" shrimp with vegetables. Every offering was wonderful, and the butterfied and butter soaked shrimp were particularly satisfying. The Thai dipping sauce, a sweet-sour vinegar mix, was excellent with the crispy egg rolls.

Being a bit of a Tom Yum soup snob, there is a particular restaurant I have in mind out-of-state, by which I compare all other Tom Yums. I ordered a small bowl with shrimp. (Small, \$4.95; large, \$8.95; with \$1 extra for added shrimp.) It was a fine soup with lemongrass, a decent spiciness, mushrooms and Thai basil. Better than most, but not quite up to my "ideal." Granted, my tastes may differ than some, and it isn't really fair to compare to a non-competitor, but there it is. I would definitely order this soup again from Thai Wave, don't get me wrong. Better than most, but

not overthrowing my own ideal.

For the main entrée I had a Panang curry with chicken. A lighter curry (don't compare it to the Indian or Pakistani use of the term) with a coconut-based broth-sauce with and rich sienna-orange flavor that melds well with rice (\$8.95). I followed with the sticky rice stuffed with banana and black beans dessert (\$3.50), which was sweetly fantastic; syrupy when cut into with a fork and chewy enjoyable only as sweet rice can be.

Other offerings at Thai Wave include an oddly sounding, to English-speaking ears, dish called larb. Much tastier than it's name, larb is made of ground chicken with onions and chilis, mixed with lime juice and Thai basil (\$6.95).

The wonderful Pad Thai, with the widespread-in-Thai-cooking peanut sauce, noodles \$7.95; and various fried rice options (\$7.95 and higher) are also available. For those who like meat, definitely try the satay skewers (\$6.95) with chicken, beef or pork marinated in Thai spices and served with peanut sauce.

There are also offered Thai-Californian-Asian fare such as tempura shrimp or calamari (more Japanese style than anything) for \$7.95, and chow mein noodles, also for \$7.95.

The seating is made up of lots of booths and four-seating tables, and the wait-staff was very attentive. Some three or four different waitresses and bus-people interacted with me over the time I was there. The attention was great, but there was still an error with my dessert, which they quickly rectified. The tip was deserved.

Thai Wave also has a lunch special, that runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., offering a variety of curry and noodle dishes with chicken, beef, pork or vegetables, for \$6.25, that are served with salad, egg rolls and the usual steamed rice.

A nice taste of Thailand, with other gastronomics mixed in, as is common in California, and a good option for those not interested in a plane ticket to Southeast Asia. Gin khao liang? Hue mai? Then head on down to Main Street.

Thai Wave Restaurant

522 Main St., Huntington Beach

(714) 960-0219

(714) 960-0349

(714) 536-2422

Good Mood Cafe

Health food with outstanding taste; even to a non-vegetarian's palate. Wide

range of teas, coffee and all natural food. Nothing microwaved and no meat to be seen. Fine dishes include the Green Power Soup (\$4.50), conventionally served cold; the amazing "Ursula's Nutburger" (\$6.90) that had a thick, rich patty made out of almond cheese, nuts and vegetables, created by the restaurant's chef-creator Ursula herself. (DP)
5930 Warner Ave., Huntington Beach
(714) 377-2028

Hashigo Korean Kitchen

A classier nouveau fusion approach to Korean cuisine, featuring the standard Kimchi pickled cabbage, Bi Bim Bap, tofu stews and amazingly tender barbequed meat of choice. Remember the fried banana desert with red-bean ice cream! (DP)
3033 Bristol St., Suite M, Costa Mesa
(714) 557-4911

Kura Sushi

Sushi as fresh as can be. Prices vary by plate color, with five different colors, priced from \$1.25-\$3.25. There are entrees such as chicken teriyaki also offered. The candy tuna roll, salmon skin hand roll and crunchy rolls are good. Definitely sit close to where the belt is loaded. (ML)
212 E. 17th St., Costa Mesa
(949) 631-3200

La Fiesta Grill

Rich, hearty, and delicious home style Mexican food for almost 20 years. Favorites include the Chimichangas Delux, Chile Relleno and vegetarian burritos; the whole menu is great and reasonably priced. Eat in or take out. (JE)
418 17th St., Huntington Beach
(714) 969-7689

Mentatsu

This little hole in the wall Japanese ramen house is one of the best kept secrets of the noodle world. With only a handful of tables and bar stools, service is quick. Shoyu Ramen (Soy Sauce flavor) or the Chashumen (Ramen with Pork) are great. At around \$6 a bowl. Is also open late, usually around 1 a.m. (ML)
688 Baker Street #7, Costa Mesa
(714) 979-2755

Pupuseria y Restaurant

San Silver
Sustenance with a true Salvadoran touch. Authentic Central American food that brings in the expats from way down south. Soft cream-sauce baked chicken, a tamarind drink to write home about, and fried yuca root and bananas in addition to the ubiquitous pupusas. (DP)
1940 Harbor Blvd., Costa Mesa
(949) 650-2952

Sugar Shack

This HB hotspot has been around for more than 30 years. Specializing in breakfast and home cooked classics like meatloaf and turkey dinners. The hash browns are excellent; and the Wednesday Turkey Dinner special is worth the trip. The friendly service and great food is complimented by reasonable prices. (ML)
213 Main St., Huntington Beach
(714) 536-0355

Anjin

Anjin's Japanese BBQ may be pricey, but well worth the investment. A grill-it-yourself place that offers prime cuts of beef. Order the marbled rib eye, short rib or tenderloin. The service is very attentive Teriyaki and sesame ginger sauces are available. Expect to pay around \$20 per person. (ML)
3033 Bristol St., Costa Mesa
(714) 979-6700

Beachberries

The real thing: Frozen yogurt that tastes like yogurt. The best toppings are available: fresh berries, mango, pineapple, coconut. Take home containers for \$4.95. Beachberries is a local take-off on the wildly successful Pinkberries Frozen Yogurt in West Hollywood. Beachberries is located on PCH in the Pierside Pavilion. (JS)
300 Pacific Coast Highway #107-B, Huntington Beach
(714) 960-7988

Bodhi Tree Vegetarian Cafe

All food at this Vietnamese/Chinese style vegetarian café is made without any animal products. Enjoy a huge assortment of creative seafood, meat and poultry dishes, sandwiches, soups and delicious appetizers made from soy bean, bean curd and assorted vegetables, and don't forget the best fresh fruit smoothies ever. (JE)
501 Main St., Huntington Beach
(714) 969-9500

Coach's Mediterranean Grill

This Mediterranean restaurant is a jewel in downtown HB. Probably one of the top five Mediterranean restaurants in Orange County, this restaurant is a must-try for Mediterranean first-timers. You'll find big portions, great taste and friendly service. Try a Gyro Bowl, The Dinner for Two, or a Kebab platter. The ambience is laid-back and cozy. (ML)
200 Main St., #105, Huntington Beach
(714) 969-2233

De Simone Bakery and Delicatessen

Great sandwiches. Definitely try the Cuban, Meatball, Pastrami and Italian. The bread and other ingredients are all fresh. The macaroni salad is incredible and the service is great. Most sandwiches come in 4-, 8- and 16-inch sizes. The 8-inch versions are \$5. Bit bang for your buck. (ML)
6850 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach
(714) 847-0922

El Chinaco

Great Mexican and Salvadoran food and libations, and the famous Minuteman tacos, served at moderate prices. (JE)
2063 Harbor Blvd., Costa Mesa
(949) 722-8632

Frank's Philadelphia Sandwiches

Frank's hoagies here are piled high with steak, cheese, mushrooms, peppers, onions, pizza sauce, you name it. An 8-inch goes for \$6, a 10-inch goes for \$7.50 and the foot-long is \$9. Try the Works, a regular cheese steak with peppers and mushrooms. Awesome. (ML)
2244 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa
(949) 722-8725

Gallagher's Pub

Irish fare with a Californian flair. Grab a pint of Guinness and order up the excellent fish n' chips, a thicker piece of Icelandic cod is a rare find. A hip spot on

the coast to raise a bit of Irish and snack on an oldie country victrol or two. (DP)
300 Pacific Coast Highway #113, Downtown Huntington Beach. Located on Walnut between Main & 3rd

(714) 536-2422

Good Mood Cafe

Health food with outstanding taste; even to a non-vegetarian's palate. Wide

Letters

Continued from Page 2

the Union message, there is no comparison. Since 1973, has America drifted so far from the intent of the U.S. Constitution?

The Bush Administration has broken numerous international laws and treaties related to torture overseas. It has conducted illegal wiretaps of American citizens, used hundreds of signing statements to side step legislation, compromised and politicized our judicial system and held "enemy combatants" for years without charges. If this abuse of power does not fall under the Founding Father's intent for impeachment than nothing does. If we stand by and do not hold our leaders accountable, these tools of abuse remain in place January, 2009 regardless of who takes office.

The impeachment effort is local in the sense that our tax dollars are being used to support an illegal war with debt that continues to mount daily and siphons needed funding for our public

schools and crumbling infrastructure. Local residents are dying overseas. The original budget for the Iraq occupation was set at \$50-100 million; we are now approaching \$500 billion. Not only are local residents paying for this occupation but our children and grandchildren are.

Eighty-seven cities have passed the impeachment resolution in U.S. to date including the City of San Fernando. As an attorney who values the law of the land and justice, please place the city impeachment resolution on the agenda.

*Lynda A. Hernandez
Huntington Beach, CA*

LIKE THE OC VOICE?
SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

SEE FORM ON PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS

MitAsie HEALTHY VIETNAMESE FOOD
www.mitasie.com
HOURS: Mon - Sat 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (714) 847-5262
Sun - Closed
FREE FOOD: Buy 2, Get 1 FREE
7636 Edinger Ave, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

SHAPIN & BUCHANAN
Social Security Attorneys
Free consultation! No fee unless you win!
2000 E. 4th Street, St. #120
Santa Ana, Ca. 92705 (714) 567-0188

OCTOBER CALENDAR

ART

Entropy. The abstract paintings of Robert Reece are on display through Oct. 7 at the ARtery, a grouping of steel shipping containers transformed into an exhibition space for emerging artists. The LAB, 2930 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 966-6660 or visit www.sobcane.net.

Family Arts Day. On Oct. 21, family members both big and small can unleash their inner Picasso by participating in a variety of art activities, from drawing and painting to papermaking and ceramics. From noon - 4 p.m. at the Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 374-1650.

Remembering James Fee: Peleliu. Photographs of the late James Fee, whose father Russell fought in the battle of Peleliu in the Philippines during World War II. Through Oct. 19. Also: On Location exhibit features contemporary rural and urban paintings of Darlene Campbell, David Hines, Gregory Martin, Barrie Mottshaw, Kathryn Phillips, and Suong Yangchareon. Fine Arts Gallery, Golden West College, 15744 Golden West St., Huntington Beach. Open Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; also Tues. and Wed., 5-8 p.m. Cost: free. For more information, call (714) 895-8358 or (714) 892-7711, ext. 51032, or visit www.gwcfineartsgallery.com.

Shelf Life. The opening reception is Fri., Oct. 19, 7-9 p.m., for this solo exhibition of Mark Dutcher's works, which include large-scale paintings, sculptures, and a site-specific installation. The exhibit runs from Oct. 20-Dec. 16. Also: The Plein Air Painters exhibition closes on Oct. 7. The Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach. Open Wed.-Sat., noon-6 p.m., and Sun., noon-4 p.m. For more information, call (714) 374-1650.

Windows Gallery. A broad spectrum of artistic vision is represented in the works of both amateur and professional artists at this gallery on the Huntington Beach Central Library's first floor. Open during library hours, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Cost: free. For more information, call (714) 842-4481 or visit www.hbpl.org.

CLUBS

Butterfly Lounge. Spread your wings and float to the music (DJs spin Top 40, 80s, rock and hip hop) at 9 p.m. every Wed. and Sat. in Oct. at Lion's Den, 719 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (949) 642-2243.

Club Cane Dance Party. DJs spin their stuff and live acts perform at Surf City's longest-running party at 8 p.m. every Fri. in Oct. at Hurricanes Bar and Grill, 200 Main St., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 374-0500 or visit www.hurricanesbargrill.com.

Definitely Maybe. DJs mix indie British pop music at 10 p.m. every Wed. in Oct. at the Memphis Soul Cafe, 2920 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 432-7685.

Downtempo and Chill. DJs play tunes to mellow you out at 9 p.m. every Wed. in Oct. at Kitsch Bar, 891 Baker St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 546-8580 or visit www.kitschbar.com.

Friction. You pick from 2 rooms and dance floors! DJs spin pop, Top 40, 80s and house at 9 p.m. every Thurs. in Oct. at the Shark Club, 841 Baker St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 751-6428 or visit www.sharkclub.com.

Girls Night Out. You have no idea how much we need one. DJs spin music girls love at 9 p.m. every Thurs. in Oct. at Chronic Cantina, 1870 Harbor Blvd., Costa Mesa. Free champagne and appetizers for ladies from 8-10 p.m. For more information, call (949) 646-0227 or visit www.chroniccantina.com.

Honky-Tonk Thursdays. Join Dale Petersen and special guests the Last Thurs. each month (this month on Oct. 25) at Blue Cafe, 17208 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (562) 592-1302 or visit www.thebluecafe.com.

Limelight. Two dance floors are better than one. DJs spin hip hop and progressive trance at 9 p.m. every Fri. in Oct. at the Shark Club, 841 Baker St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 751-6428 or visit www.sharkclub.com.

Monday Nite Madness. After the game and Big Play Giveaway, DJs spin Top 40 and hip-hop at 10 p.m. every Mon. in Oct. at Hurricanes Bar and Grill, 200 Main St., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 374-0500 or visit www.hurricanesbargrill.com.

Rastafari Roots & Reggae/Punk Skat & Two Tone. Sunday nights are no longer just for doing laundry. Live reggae and ska at 8 p.m. every Sun. in Oct. at Blue Cafe, 17208 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (562) 592-1302 or visit www.thebluecafe.com.

Resident Live Music Monday. Support live music every Mon. at Detroit Bar, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. No cover. For more information, call (949) 642-0600 or visit www.detroitbar.com.

Souled Out. DJs mix soul at 10 p.m. every Thurs. in Oct. at the Memphis Soul Cafe, 2920 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 432-7685.

White Trash Wednesdays. Bad-boy country, punk and rock & roll at 9 p.m. every Wed. in Oct. at Johnny's Saloon, 17428 Beach Blvd., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 848-0676.

COMEDY

Comedy Night. Comedy showcase every Thurs. at 9 p.m. at Gallagher's Pub & Grill, 300 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach. Cost: \$3 cover. For more information, call (714) 536-2422 or visit gallagherpub.com.

Hump Day Funnies. Comedy showcase every Wed. at 8:30 p.m. at Marlin Blues Supper Club, 5874 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach. 21 and older. Cost: \$10 minimum order per person. For more information, call (714) 840-2129 or visit www.martinblues.com.

Tons of Laughs. Comedy showcase every Tues. at 8:30 p.m. at Marlin Blues Supper Club, 5874 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach. 21 and older. Cost: \$10 minimum order per person. For more information about comedy nights, OC's Funniest Person Contest, and The Ultimate Laff-Down XII, call (714) 840-2129 or visit www.martinblues.com.

We Know Funny! Comedy showcase every Tues. at 9 p.m. at Detroit Bar, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. Cost: \$5 cover. For more information, call (949) 642-0600 or visit www.detroitbar.com.

DANCE

Fall for Dance Program 2. This eclectic program includes everything from the Martha Graham Dance Company to a 60-person ballroom contest. Oct. 13-14 at the Orange County Performing Artscenter, 600 Town



WALKIN' THE DOG ...

You know your dog will be wagging its tail and begging you to go for a walk Sunday morning anyway—you may as well grab the leash and join other dog owners and their precious pooches on Sunday, Oct. 14, at the Second Annual Walk-A-Pet For Life Dog Walk in Huntington Central Park.

Proceeds from the walk will benefit the Center for Greyhound Rescue and Pet Animal Recovery, the first non-profit alternative medicine pet rehabilitation center in the U.S. Located in Garden Grove, the licensed facility is expanding to a new, environmentally friendly 2-acre facility nearby. The goal of this event is to raise funds for the construction of the new, state-of-the-art complex, due to open in March 2008.

The dog walk is sponsored by Hemopet, which established the first private non-profit pet animal blood bank in 1991. Having since expanded worldwide, Hemopet/Pet Life-Line is now the largest non-profit pet animal blood bank in the U.S., serving over 2,000 pet clinics throughout North America. With veterinary transfusion medicine a rapidly growing specialty, plans are currently underway to develop other regional centers and to lead a national effort to maximize the use and efficiency of existing inventory. Safe, practical and affordable transfusion medicine continues to be Hemopet's focus.

Not only has Hemopet set the standard for animal blood banks, it has for over 20 years operated the world's most novel greyhound rescue/adoption program. Its Center for Greyhound Rescue and Pet Animal Recovery currently houses a colony of 175 rescued greyhounds that are no longer active in the racing industry and found their new homes.

The new facility will feature group apartment-style units for 200 dogs, with outdoor exercise yards and playgrounds, in a setting conducive to fostering a connection between the greyhounds and prospective adopters. Additionally, the center will include a Restore Health Center for short-term alternative, transitional, emergency care of dogs and cats, as well as community rooms for educating both veterinarians and the public about companion animal health, nutritional testing, holistic care, and other pet wellness topics.

Hemopet/Pet Life-Line's technical excellence and humane philosophy shape its goals. Help this charitable organization fulfill them by taking a break from the Sunday fumbles and walking your dog alongside other pet owners who support this admirable cause.

- Dalia Van Den Boogaard

Registrations: Oct. 14, 8:30 a.m. Walk: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet at Huntington Central Park, Central Park West, 6622 Lakeview Drive, Huntington Beach (Huntington Lake at Central Park Drive near Edwards St.). Participants must be 16 or over. Cost: \$25 registration/donation per dog; \$5 discount for rescued greyhounds. Cost includes BBQ lunch and prizes. Additional lunches available for purchase. The first 200 applicants to pre-register will receive a free T-shirt and free dog bandanna. For more information about the dog walk or about providing a loving home for a retired greyhound, call (714) 891-2022, ext. 15, or visit Hemopet at 11330 Markon Drive, Garden Grove, or at www.hemopet.org.

Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For more information, call the office at (714) 556-2787 or visit www.ocpac.org.

FARMER'S MARKET/SWAP MEET

Farmer's Market and Art-A-Faire. You'll find fresh flowers, fruits and vegetables grown right here under the Golden State sun at this weekly open-air market. The accompanying art and craft fair features over 50 vendors selling one-of-a-kind items, from handcrafted jewelry to rugs shaped like surfboards. Every Fri., noon-7 p.m. (except during special events such as the U.S. Open of Surfing and Beach Games), next to the Huntington Beach Pier at Pier Plaza. For more information, call (714) 573-0374 or visit www.ocfarmersmarket.com or www.hbartfaire.com.

Golden West College Swap Meet. New and used items abound.

While the collectibles may be antique, the produce and flowers are always fresh. Every Sat. and Sun., 8 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Golden West College parking lot, 15744 Golden West St., Huntington Beach. Cost: free admission. For more information, call (714) 898-7927 or visit www.goldenwestswapmeet.com.

Orange County Marketplace. Full of unique items and great bargains, this swap meet is held every Sat. and Sun., 7 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa. Cost: \$2 admission; kids under 12 free. For more information, call (949) 723-6616 or visit www.ocmarketplace.com.

Phil's Flea Market. Monthly outdoor antiques market held the third Sat. of each month (this month on Oct. 20), 7 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Gothard St. parking lot at Ocean View High School, 17071 Gothard St. (at Warner Ave.), Huntington Beach. Cost: Free

admission. For more information, call (714) 893-1518.

Surf City Nights Downtown Street Fair. Main Street is blocked off from cars for this weekly event that features a farmer's market, food booths, sidewalk sales, kids' activities, and live entertainment. The nearby Main Promenade parking garage offers 2 hours of free parking for this event. Every Tues. from 5-9 p.m. on Main St. between Pacific Coast Hwy. and Orange Ave., Huntington Beach.

MISCELLANEOUS

Art of the Brew. On Oct. 25, taste and compare the best beers of the 4 top-rated Huntington Beach brewers. Snarf down some tasty munchies on the side. Pre-paid reservations are recommended, as this event sells out. From 7-9 p.m. at the Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach. Cost: \$15 general admission. For more information, call (714) 374-1650.

Boutique of Lights. Support the Philharmonic Society, Orange County's oldest non-profit music organization, by making a selection from a vast array of jewelry, fashion accessories, gift items, and chocolates. All proceeds benefit youth music education programs in Orange County. Oct. 18-20 at the Harbour View Clubhouse, 16650 Saylorbrook Ln., Huntington Beach. Times vary. For more information, call (714) 421-2637 or (714) 840-7542 or visit www.cruiseoflights.org/home.html.

Car Fest 07. On Oct. 6, check out one dream car after another at this hot rod and classic car showcase that also features live music, great food, and a bounce house for kids. From 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Seabreez Church, 18162 Gothard St. (at Prodan), Huntington Beach. Cost: free general admission. For more information, call (714) 969-7622 or visit www.seabreezecarshow.com.

Community Trivia Challenge For Literacy. On Oct. 25, test your talent for trivia by supporting this annual event promoting literacy, funded by the City of Huntington Beach and the California State Library. The fun includes a silent auction and an opportunity drawing. Held at 7 p.m. in the theater at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 375-5102 or visit www.hbpl.org.

Elks Bingo Wednesday Matinee. It's your turn to yell "Bingo!" over at the Elks Lodge, where the doors open every Wed. at 10 a.m. and early birds begin playing at 11 a.m. at B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 1959, 7711 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Cost: \$15 minimum buy-in. Free coffee, tea and popcorn are served, and food and soft drinks are available for purchase. For more information, call (714) 848-9440 or visit www.hbelks.com/index.html.

Full Moon Gondola Cruises. Oct. 26, what better way to celebrate the full moon than with a gondola cruise along the scenic harbor. Bring along your beverage of choice, and if the gondolier takes a shining to you, you might just be treated to a serenade under the stars. Sunset Gondola, 16370 Pacific Coast Hwy. (near Anderson St.; departs from Peter's Landing Marina), Huntington Beach. Cost varies, depending on length of cruise and number of people. For more information, call (562) 592-3295 or visit

Halloween on Main. On Oct. 31, little hobgoblins will enjoy a bounce house, Ferris wheel, petting zoo, costume contest, game booths, and candy from local merchants. From 5-8:30 p.m. on

Main St. between Pacific Coast Hwy. and Orange Ave. For more information, call (714) 536-5577 or 714-969-0795.

Harvest Festival. Rows and rows of handcrafted treasures, live music, food and a good time for the whole family. Admission and parking free. Saturday, October 6, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 1720 Adams Ave., Costa Mesa. For more info, contact Piecemakers at (714) 641-3112.

Kidsaire: America's Family Expo. Something for everyone, from entertainment, educational resources, interactive exhibits, and products and services designed to enrich family life. Barney and Shrek will be there—you can't not go! Oct. 6 and 7 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa. Cost: \$8 admission; \$5 for kids 2-12. For further information, call (866) 283-8600 or visit www.thekidsaire.com/costamesa.htm

Oktoberfest at Old World Village. The next best thing to hosting a stein at the Hofbrauhaus is sampling German beer and bratwurst at this popular annual event. The oomp-pa-pa of authentic German bands may inspire you to bust out your best polka moves. Oct. 3: German Day; free food for first 500 guests. Oct. 7: Oktoberfest Parade, 2 p.m.; Oktoberfest and Dachsund Races; bring the family. Hours and admission costs vary. Through Oct. 28 at the Old World German Restaurant at 750 Center Ave. #49, Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 647-7107 or visit www.oldworld.wv.okinfo.html.

Saturday Sunrise Car Cruisers. Join "The Donut Derelicts" and check out hot rods, woodies, imports, and various restored vehicles. Every Sat. from 6:30 a.m. at Adams and Magnolia Aves., Huntington Beach. Parking available in the Ace, Adams Avenue Donut Shop, and Drug Emporium parking lots. Cost: Free. For more information, visit www.donutderelicts.com.

Wild West Casino Night and Silent Auction. On Oct. 26, the Harbor Mesa Lions invite you to grab your pardner and rustle on down for gamblin', hoedown dancin', vittles, and one free glass of hooch at "The Silver Dollar Saloon." From 7 p.m. at Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Ave., Costa Mesa. Cost: \$35; advance tickets only. Proceeds benefit local charities and Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation. For more information, call (714) 962-0265 or (714) 546-1429.

Wine and Cheese Mondays. Enjoy 4-6 cheeses paired with 4-6 wines every Mon., 4-7 p.m., at Old Vine Cafe, the CAABP, 2937 Bristol St., Suite A-102, Costa Mesa. Cost: \$20. For more information, call (714) 545-1411 or visit www.oldvinecafe.com.

MUSEUMS

Diego Sepulveda Adobe Estancia. A tiny portion remains of the original adobe that missionaries built circa 1820 as a way-station for herd-tending vaqueros. Later the home of Don Diego Sepulveda, this California historical landmark is maintained by the Costa Mesa Historical Society. Open on the first and third Sat. of each month, noon-4 p.m., or by appointment, at 1900 Adams Ave., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (949) 631-5918 or visit www.costamesahistory.org.

Newland House Museum. Maintained by the Huntington Beach Historical Society, this is the oldest surviving residence in the city of Huntington Beach. Open Sat. and Sun. (except on holidays and rainy days), noon-4 p.m., at

Advertise in the
Orange Coast Voice!

(714) 656-3607

BEER NUTZ
Sports Grill

23 TVs * 2 Giant Projector Screens * NFL Sunday Ticket
Daily Drink Specials * 10 Pool Tables * Foosball * Ping Pong
Bring in this ad for 1/2 price Pool and a Free Soda

19092 Beach Boulevard, Huntington Beach (714) 962-6518

10th Annual
'Caring for Creation' Conference

Saturday, Oct. 27 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Sisters of St. Joseph, 480 S. Batavia, Orange

Sponsored by the Orange County Interfaith Coalition
for the Environment (OCICE)

To register, visit www.ocice.org

CALENDAR

19820 Beach Blvd., Huntington Beach. Cost: \$2 for adults, \$1 for kids. For more information, call (714) 962-5777 or visit www.hbnews.us/nw/house.html.

International Surfing Museum. Immerse yourself in the music, movies, boards, and memorabilia of an endless summer. Open Thurs.-Mon., 12-5 p.m., at 411 Olive Ave., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 960-3483 or visit www.surfingmuseum.org.

MUSIC

Four-Hand Flair. Highly respected virtuosos, this husband and wife piano duo makes beautiful music together. Oct. 18-20 at the Orange County Performing Artscenter, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For more information, call the Pacific Symphony box office at (714) 755-5799 or visit www.pacificsymphony.org.

La Bohème. There's a reason people still line up after 100 years to experience this Puccini masterpiece: the music, the drama, the comedy, the romance. It's opera at its finest. Oct. 24 and Oct. 28 (and into Nov.) at the Orange County Performing Artscenter, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For more information, call the Opera Pacific box office at (714) 546-6000 or visit www.operapacific.org.

Open Jam Nights. Every Thurs. at 8:30 p.m. at Perqs Nite Club, 117 Main St., Huntington Beach. 21 and older. For more information, call (714) 960-9996 or visit www.perqs.com.

Surfin' Sundays. Surf-savvy bands like Mister Neutron, the Verbotens, and Jason Lee and the R.I.P. Tides perform Oct. 7 and Oct. 14 in the parking lot at the International Surfing Museum, 411 Olive Ave., Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 960-3483 or visit www.surfingmuseum.org.

Victoria Clark. The Tony Award-winning Broadway star sings both poignant and humorous songs of love, including the tour de force "Fable" from *The Light in the Piazza*. Oct. 11-14 at the Orange County Performing Arts Center, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For more information about this and other performers this month, call the box office at (714) 556-2787 or visit www.ocpac.org.

NATURE

Shipley Nature Center. Situated within Huntington Central Park, this 18-acre natural area is a sanctuary for local wildlife and a haven for nature-friendly humans. Oct. 13: the Annual Fall Native Plant Sale, where you can pick up some indigenous plants for your garden. Oct. 27: "A Journey Back in Time" will teach you about the heritage of the Native Americans who once inhabited this area. Open Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at 17829 Golden West St., Huntington Beach. For more information, call 714-842-4772 or visit www.shipleynature.org.

Bolsa Chica Conservancy. This non-profit organization, which preserves, restores, and enhances the Bolsa Chica Wetlands of Huntington Beach, conducts walking tours from approximately 18000 Pacific Coast Hwy. the third Sun. of each month (this month on Oct. 21), 10 a.m.-noon. The Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, which extends along the east side of Pacific Coast Hwy. from Warner to Seapoint Aves., is open to the public from sunrise to sunset daily. No bikes or pets are permitted on the trails. Cost: free. The Interpretive Center at 3842 Warner Avenue, Huntington Beach, is open Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-noon; and Sun., 12:30-3:30 p.m. For more information, call (714) 846-1114 or visit www.bolsachica.org.

POLITICS

Declaration of Peace Demonstration. On Oct. 18, protesters will join together to hold signs demanding that the U.S. bring its troops home from Iraq. Held at 5:30 p.m. at the southeast corner of Beach and Edinger Blvds., Huntington Beach.

Standing Up for Justice and Peace. Nonviolent protesters gather weekly to ask the com-

munity to give peace a chance. Held every Fri. in Oct. at 5 p.m. outside South Coast Plaza at the intersection of Bristol St. and Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa.

Weekly Peace Vigil: No War in Iraq, Surf City-Style. This weekly Sunday evening vigil welcomes protesters to carry a candle and a sign that states, "Visualize World Peace. It's up to you." Held every Sun. in Oct. at 7 p.m. at the Huntington Beach Pier, Main St. and Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach.

6th Annual Columbus Day Protest at San Juan Capistrano Mission. On Oct. 12, join members of Orange County's American Indian community in censuring both Christopher Columbus and Junipero Serra at the site where the Spanish empire killed or Christianized by force. The ancestors of Orange County's Ajachamen. Participants will demand that the Catholic Church denounce Father Serra and that Columbus Day be abolished. From 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 26801 Ortega Hwy., San Juan Capistrano. For more information, call (714) 660-6074.

POETRY

Freeway Poetry Series. Don't just write it - read it. Poetry reading held on the third Thurs. of each month (this month on Oct. 18), 6-8 p.m. Also: 15 Minutes of Fame, where poets, dancers, musicians and artists have a quarter of an hour on stage to unleash their creative genius. Starts at 7 p.m. The first Wed. of each month (this month on Oct. 3). The Living Room, the LAB, 2930 Bristol St., Costa Mesa. For more information, call (714) 966-6660 or visit www.sobeca.net.

SPORTS

The Great American Free Throw Frezzy. On Oct. 13, skilled free throw shooters vie for scholarship awards at this Pepsi- and Whata Lotta Pizza-sponsored event. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Liberty Christian School Gym, 7661 Warner Ave., Huntington Beach. Cost: Free on-line registration for kids 8-13. For more information, call (714) 847-2929 or visit www.4alotta.com.

Grand Opening of Giant Paintball Park. On October 18, paintball enthusiasts can show their true colors and compete against other teams at this park in the Grandstand Arena at the Orange County Fair & Exposition Center, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa. Competitions held through Dec. 30 on Thurs. and Fri., 4-10 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; and Sun., 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Cost: \$25; group rates are available. All necessary gear and equipment is available for rental at the park. For more information, call (877) 442-6897 or visit www.giantpaintball.com.

SURFING

2007 SIMA Surfing America USA Championships. This is the event that crowns the USA National Champions. Held Oct. 22-28 at the Huntington Beach Pier, Main St. and Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach. Hours vary. Participation is by invitation only. For more information, call 949-276-4660 or visit www.surfingamerica.org/events.asp.

Surfing Competition: The Notion Anti-Apparel 2007 Pro-Am Surf Series Championships. Shoot the curls and compete for prize packages for winners 1st through 4th in the Pro and Open Divisions. Entry fee: Groms (17 and under) \$50; Pros \$75. Oct. 20 at 9th St. and Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach. For more information, visit www.notionclothing.com.

THEATER

The Cemetery Club. Three widows with vastly different outlooks on life and love meet an eligible widower in a smart comedy that asks, "Will it be Widow #1, Widow #2, or Widow #3?" Oct. 4-7 and Oct. 11-14 at the Huntington Beach Playhouse, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. For information, call the box office at (714) 375-0696 or visit www.hbph.com.

The Children's Hour. Lillian Hellman's classic play about gossip and scandal that jeopardizes the careers of two teachers at a girls'

school. Oct. 26-28 (and into Nov.) at Golden West College Theater, 15744 Golden West St., Huntington Beach. Cost: \$12 general admission; \$10 for students and seniors. For more information, call (714) 895-8150 or visit www.gwctheater.com.

Doubt, A Parable. When Sister Aloysius queries beloved Father Flynn about an incident between himself and a student, his answers leave her with only more questions. John Patrick Shanley's play won 4 Tony Awards, a Drama Desk Award and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Oct. 19-Nov. 18 at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For information, call the box office at (714) 708-5555 or visit www.scr.org.

Man of La Mancha. Follow the adventures of knight errant Don Quixote in this Tony-award winning play presented by the Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts. Due to its venue, the Historic Huntington Beach Theater, being dosed for refurbishment, the Academy will hold performances at Rose Center Theater, 14140 All American Way (near Beach Blvd.), Westminster. Oct. 12-14 and Oct. 19-21. Cost: \$18 general admission; \$13 students and seniors. For more information, call (714) 793-1150 or visit www.hbapa.org/index.html.

Shipwrecked! An Entertainment. The Amazing Adventures of Louis de Rougemont (As Told by Himself). Inspired by a true story, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Donald Margulies spins a magical tale set in the South Seas about an unlikely hero faced with typhoons and crazed octopi. Families with kids 10 and older will enjoy it. Through Oct. 14 at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa. For information, call the box office at (714) 708-5555 or visit www.scr.org.

VOLUNTEERING

Bolsa Chica Service Day. Help raise public awareness about the importance of the Bolsa Chica Wetlands to our community by rolling up your sleeves and helping the staff remove trash and non-native plant species. Meet on the last Sat. of each month (this month on Oct. 27), 9 a.m.-noon, at 3842 Warner Ave., North Parking Lot, Huntington Beach. For more information, call (714) 846-1114 or visit www.bolsachica.org.

Huntington Beach Public Library. Plentiful opportunities exist for volunteers at the central library and its 4 branches. These include Friends of the Children's Library, Friends of the Library and Gift Shop, the Genealogy Society, the HB Art League, the HB Playhouse, and Literacy Volunteers. For more information, visit the central library at 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, or one of its neighborhood branches. You can also call (714) 842-4481 or visit www.hbpl.org.

Orange County Public Library/Costa Mesa. Volunteers are needed to help with daily branch operations and with Friends of the Library and Bookstore. All 3 Costa Mesa branches seek volunteers. For more information, call (949) 646-8845 or visit www.ocpl.org.

Paddle For a Plastic Free Ocean. On Oct. 28, join the Earth Resource Foundation in cleaning up after litterbugs in an event that includes not only a beach clean-up, but a "paddle out" to raise awareness of plastic in the Pacific. For more information, call (949) 645-5163 or visit www.earthsource.com.

Walk-A-Pet For Life Dog Walk. On Oct. 14, join fellow dog lovers at this second annual event to benefit the Center for Greyhound Rescue and Pet Animal Recovery, the first non-profit alternative medicine rehabilitation center in the U.S. for restoring the health of pets. Registration: 8:30 a.m. Walk: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet at Huntington Central Park, Central Park West, 6622 Lakeview Dr., Huntington Beach. Participants must be 16 or over. Cost: \$25 registration/donation per dog; includes BBQ lunch and prizes. For more info, call (714) 891-2022, ext. 15. See OC Voice Preview on page 8.

WHO'S ON STAGE?

Meet the Vindakits

By ERIKKA INNES
OC Voice Staff Writer

Meet the Vindakits, a punk band out of Huntington Beach with music so loud, raw, and energetic, you'll find yourself speeding if you play their album in your car. They're a band with a sound that combines the genres of heavy metal, rock n' roll and of course, some seriously badass punk.



The group is famed for rowdy live shows that involve a lot of audience interaction. Lead singer Phil Limon is not afraid to climb off the stage and walk through the crowd while singing. "We're very interactive," Limon says. "At House of Blues [a venue], I just jumped into the mosh pit." As a group the band has such a die hard following, that many of their audience members know all the words to the song. "We have a lot of hardcore fans who know the music, you know I'll give them the mic and they'll sing. They'll

get up onstage with us. It gets pretty crazy some times," Limon explains.

Limon credits the band's success to their great chemistry. The group has been together six years, starting off with Phil Limon and bass player Kevin Lorion, and quickly growing to include other members. At first the group met and jammed with a variety of other musicians, but eventually solidified into the line-up of the Vindakits have today, which includes Limon, Lorion, drummer Jacob Anderson, and guitar players Brian Duggan and Daniel Anderson.

Currently the band is working on its first album. The title is still under debate, but the final CD will be available through Unimuse Records, and at select record stores in the Huntington Beach area. If you want to find out more about the Vindakits, including showtimes, or hear samples of their music, check them out at www.myspace.com/vindakits. The band loves receiving e-mail and is quick to respond to their fans.

Juggling

Continued from Page 6

at the diner. In the early 1980s, the juggling craze started sweeping across Europe, as well, where it remains popular among buskers and at festivals and conventions that draw as many as 4,500 jugglers. Juggler Bob suggests that you "try putting a couple of dollars into each one

of their hats."

For more information and to verify performance dates, contact Juggler Bob at (614) 581-3700 or at Bob@JugglerBob.com, and contact Project Dynamite at (413) 237-8346 or at info@projectdynamite.com. Both acts perform at Surf City Nights Downtown Street Fair, held every Tuesday from 5 to 9 p.m. along Main Street between Pacific Coast Hwy. and Orange Ave. in Huntington Beach. This stretch of Main Street is closed to cars during the street fair, but free two-hour parking is available at the nearby Main Promenade parking structure.

EARN QUICK

MONEY

LEARN BARTENDING

* SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

* JOB REFERRALS AVAILABLE

USA Bartenders

2750 Harbor Blvd., A12 @ Adams

(Next to Blockbuster)

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

(714) 661-8888

City Ordinance: Challenge to Free Speech

Continued from Page 1

persons in traveling vehicles, quickly approaching nearer to vehicles which are not lawfully parked, and entering the roadway portion of a street" (emphasis added).

The ordinance does not stop job seekers and others who solicit by "peaceably standing" on a sidewalk and holding—but not waving, "with a sign seeking employment, contributions, or business" or by distributing literature "to pedestrians or occupants of legally parked vehicles" or who communicate their "desire or availability for employment, contributions or business to pedestrians or to persons in lawfully parked vehicles."

Villagra says that Costa Mesa's updated ordinance is a response to the failed Redondo Beach and Glendale ordinances and that, even though it separates "active" from "passive" solicitations, it still discriminates based on the content of speech and places more of a burden on free speech than is necessary to advance the legitimate [safety] interests of the city. "They are trying to respond to the district court decisions striking down the Glendale and Redondo Beach ordinances," Villagra said. "I appreciate the effort. I don't think they have succeeded in addressing the constitutional problem," he added.

Villagra points out that the city could not prohibit political protesters from using the same speech techniques that solicitors can't engage in under the ordinance. "You can stand on the sidewalk and jump up and down and wave your arms and scream as loud as you want with a sign that says the war is wrong or the president is great, but you can't do that if your sign says 'able to work'... They can't discriminate against speech that way."

Costa Mesa City Attorney Kimberly Hall Barlow disagrees. "Frankly, I don't see any reason to take our ordinance off the books. I believe as it's written, it's constitutional," she told the *OC Voice*.

The ordinance is not about preventing people

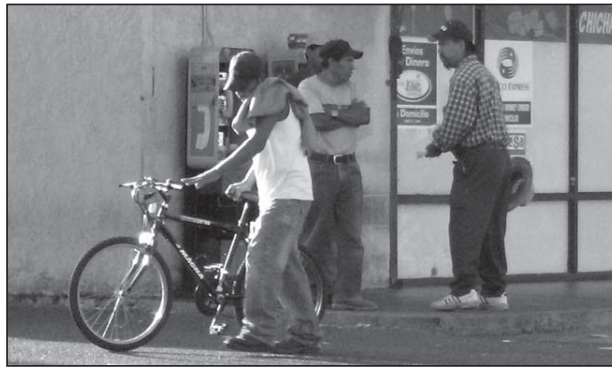


PHOTO BY JOHN EARL

FREE SPEECH: Costa Mesa day laborers seek work.

from seeking work, Barlow said, but about preventing drivers from being distracted.

"It's not a prohibition on carrying signs," Barlow said, "It's just a prohibition on waving them around and trying to distract drivers... If people are protesting on the sidewalk and walking with signs or people are walking on sidewalks with signs saying looking for work, that's not illegal."

But the solicitation ordinance does not deal with the routine traffic safety issues that even Villagra says the city has a legitimate role in regulating, but with a specific message and the manner in which it is presented. In contrast, as a recent history of Costa Mesa based immigrant and anti-immigrant rights protests proves, protesters can wave their signs at motorists all they want without legal consequence.

Chief Shawkey says that the courts sometimes allow limitations on free speech, however, such as the prohibition against yelling fire in a

theater. "And I think that they generally rely on the intent of the protester... The protester is different from somebody that is soliciting employment."

'Chilling Effect'
Under the city's ordinance, however, the "distinction between active and passive solicitation is impossible to determine," counters Villagra. "It's a classic chilling effect... At what point does raising the altitude of the sign or moving your arms or walking from one side to another become active solicitation?"

Making that determination will create a climate of self-censorship surrounding a worker who is afraid of communicating his need for work due to fear of violating the law, Villagra believes, and will harm his chances of finding work.

Villagra says that the right to solicit work or business is just as important as a free speech right under the Constitution as is political

speech. "Here...the First Amendment is really an avenue for the day laborers to support themselves and their families. And it is vitally important that these workers be granted access to an audience."

Employer's free speech rights are equally challenged by the ordinance, he says, "because you have people who are communicating a message and people who want to receive the message...And they definitely have a right to communicate."

'Why are you here?'

Proving the ordinance's chilling effect in order to repeal it would be part of Villagra's task in the event the ACLU does make a court challenge. But out on the city's street corners day laborers are well aware of the effect of the cat and mouse game played between themselves and the police.

"They tell us to go, but because we have to pay the rent we come back," says Juan Fernandez, a legal permanent resident of the United States, who says he has worked on the corner of Placentia Avenue and 17th Street for 12 years. He has regular employers who choose him to do work, so he often gets about 30 hours a week for wages that range between \$10-15 per hour.

Most of the other day laborers run when they see the police, Fernandez says, but he knows his rights and stays to hear what they have to say. "Why are you here," the police sometimes ask him. "You have to go because you have to," he has been told.

Sometimes the police ask him for his I.D. for no apparent reason, he says. On one occasion, he recalled, police told him to leave the area and warned that if he returned he would be sent to jail. But he keeps coming back and hasn't been to jail yet, he says.

Chief Shawkey acknowledges that police officers should not be telling any person, who is not violating any law to leave, but he cautions that police officers have the right, just like anyone else, to approach others for conversation. "There's nothing really illegal about us going up and talking to you... I could certainly do that and you could choose to talk to me or not."

Toxic Toys

Continued from Page 5

government, for its failure to protect the public given the recent deluge of studies demonstrating harmful effects at doses encountered by young children. In 2006, vom Saal logged that 93 percent of the 149 studies that were government-funded found adverse health effects, whereas none of the 13 studies funded by the chemical industry reported any harm.

San Francisco stood alone in passing an ordinance in 2006 banning the manufacture and sale of BPA in baby products. However, it was never enforced and was subsequently repealed in April 2007, pending possible state-level action on the issue.

Flame Retardants

Flame retardants are added to many consumer products to prevent the spread of fire, so their introduction into bedding materials for infants makes perfect sense. However, the class of brominated flame retardants that is widely used, called PBDEs (polybrominated diphenyl

ethers), is associated with notable health effects, especially in young animals. Infant exposure from PBDE-treated bedding fabrics or foam could occur by several routes—direct skin contact or by inhalation or ingestion of chemical-laden dust. Furthermore, PBDEs diffuse into air since they are not chemically bonded to targeted products.

The possible risks of early PBDE exposure have not been worked out fully but include derailment of brain development and disruption of both sex and thyroid hormones. For example, a series of experiments from the laboratory of Per Eriksson at Uppsala University in Sweden demonstrated permanent impairments of learning and memory in animals given a single dose soon after birth.

PBDEs are sold in three commercial mixtures (penta, octa and deca), so-named by the number of bromine atoms most represented in the component compounds. Until recently, octa and especially penta were thought to be more toxic than deca which dominates the global market currently. However, new data from U.C. Berkeley researchers indicates that deca can be broken down by bacteria as well as sunlight into more toxic forms, so it might be equally toxic in the long run.

The European Union passed bans on penta and octa in 2004. California also passed a blanket ban by 2008 on these two forms in all consumer products, not just those intended for children. Several other states have followed suit. Legislation is pending in California and a handful of other states to also limit the use of deca.

The US EPA has not formally banned any

PBDE, but rather reached an agreement with U.S. manufacturers to voluntarily cease production of penta and octa as of 2004. However, a major loophole allowing continued importation of products with these chemicals still stands. A 2006 report from the U.S. Public Interest Group, that found infant bedding materials on the shelves testing positive for multiple PBDEs, is a case in point.

Shopping Blindly

Virtually every investigation in recent years has shown phthalates, BPA and brominated flame retardants to be accumulating in human tissues, including those of infants and young children.

Even though much remains to be learned about the extent to which developing bodies are affected by these compounds, we already know that the young are most vulnerable to the disruptive effects of toxins in general. Certainly China deserves a good dose of the blame for the ongoing flap about toxic lead, yet we have to look homeward to explain how it is that chemicals now known to create havoc in developing animals are still allowed in childcare products.

Some 80,000 chemicals have been introduced into commerce since World War II, most without any human health safety testing, and those used to manufacture items for children are no exception. The national authorities responsible for insuring product safety are the US EPA, the CPSC and the FDA. All three lack application of a "precautionary principle" wherein a chemical or product is allowed to be marketed only after it is proven safe. Already formally adopted by the European Union, this approach errs on the side of safety and places the burden of proof

on the manufacturers and importers that profit from the sale of their products.

The virtual opposite approach prevails here in the U.S. Nearly all the health safety testing performed on phthalates, BPA and PBDEs, for example, was undertaken quite recently and well after these chemicals enjoyed widespread use in childcare products for decades. Equally troublesome is the fact that it's near impossible to find out what chemicals a given item might contain, since labeling is not required.

It's a welcome change that the discovery of lead toys imported from China has nudged America's parents to start thinking more deeply about the real costs of cheap toys. However, by not holding industry responsible for the health safety of their products we, as a society, are effectively placing corporate profits ahead of the health of our children. Put another way, does a "free market" include the freedom to pollute the bodies of children?

It seems a sad day indeed that, without a serious overhaul of how chemicals are regulated in this country, parents may well find themselves looking wistfully back to the good ole days when possible "choking hazard" was the only safety risk they had to consider when shopping for their youngsters.

Sarah S. Mosko is a member of the Earth Resource Foundation, which is based in Costa Mesa. She has a Ph.D. in Psychology/Neuroscience with a background in research. She is now a practicing clinical psychologist. For more information, please visit www.earthresource.org or call (949) 645-5163.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY (714) 656-3607

KALAHEO VACATION RENTALS

ISLAND OF KAUAI

Starting at \$125 per night for two persons, house includes: 4bd, loft, 2 1/2 bath, basic cable TV, ethernet-internet, phone, DVD, CD, radio, fully equipped kitchen. Sleeps up to 10.

\$75 per night studio includes: loft with Cal King bed, Queen Futon bed, full kitchen, full bath, basic cable TV, ethernet-internet, phone, DVD, CD, radio. Sleeps up to 4.

Ask for subscriber discount!

For reservations or info: (949) 248-0927 or rrodarte@cox.net

SHUFF PAINTING

Interior/Exterior * License #449393

Excellent Craftsmanship

Fair cost, fair trade, & good advice

(949) 515-8403

The Tree of Life Wellness Center

714 E. Adams Ave., Suite 205
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

info@energeticolutions.net
www.TheTreeOfLifeCenter.com

(714) 374-1988

COMMUNITY VOICES

Desalination

Better technology is here

By **JOE GEEVER**
Special to OC Voice

Surfrider Foundation and Residents for Responsible Desalination (R4RD) are planning two trips to San Diego to oppose a desalination factory as it's designed—the one proposed by Poseidon Resources for Carlsbad, CA. It may seem odd that R4RD of Huntington Beach would be compelled to oppose permitting a seawater desalting plant in Carlsbad. Carlsbad is not R4RD's town, is it?

R4RD is organizing this public outpouring at the two upcoming hearings on Poseidon's desalination permits in Carlsbad because such permitting will set a precedent (or standard) for state permits on the same or similar design here in Huntington Beach. So, those of us who want to ensure that ocean desalination is designed in a way that avoids the unnecessary killing of precious marine life and adding to the greenhouse gas emissions are going to San Diego.

At the meeting on Oct. 30 the State Land Commission (SLC) will decide whether to grant a multi-decade lease to Poseidon Resources. The SLC is the agency responsible for safeguarding our public-trust resources—both the use of our public lands and the natural life these lands support. We intend to show that permitting a desalination factory to take its "feed water" through open pipes in the ocean or coastal wetlands is a violation of the SLC's duty and unnecessarily destroys fish and other aspects of a healthy and natural marine ecological system.

Like here in Huntington Beach, Poseidon proposes to co-locate its desalting factory in Carlsbad with a local power generating plant. However, unlike the operators of the AES plant in Huntington Beach, NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG), the electric power generator at Carlsbad, has already voluntarily chosen to transition away from this destructive and antiquated "once-through-cooling" and retrofit their plant with "closed-loop" cooling water. This is a very important difference. AES in Huntington Beach has yet to see the writing on the wall and is still clinging to their outdated once-through cooling process like addicts to their syringe.

Responsible desalination proponents are already demonstrating better intake technology using sub-seafloor intakes to provide seawater for a desalination plant. The Municipal Water



District of Orange County (MWDOC) recently completed a pilot project on "horizontal slant wells" that shows ocean water can be adequately delivered from the shallow wells drilled to below the ocean's floor. The pilot greatly exceeded MWDOC's expectations on the amount of water that could be drawn from such wells. More important, the pilot showed that these wells can pre-filter the seawater and avoid complicated and expensive pre-filtration processing, which Poseidon has yet to prove it can do effectively. Long Beach Water Department is also looking at sub-seafloor intakes that are man-made galleries, buried under the surface to mimic the seawater aquifers that MWDOC tapped.

Save these Dates

In Oct., we R4RD, Surfrider and all the participants we can muster—will present our case before the State Lands Commission. Then in mid-November, we also intend to show the California Coastal Commission that Poseidon will violate several portions of the Coastal Act with other aspects of Poseidon's poorly designed and incomplete desalination proposal.

As always, we will emphasize that we are not opposing seawater desalination where it has shown to be necessary and has been designed to avoid unnecessary adverse impacts on our precious coast and ocean. We prefer water agencies to prioritize conservation, recycling and capturing fresh water to recharge groundwater supplies before the flow reaches the ocean. But if they absolutely have to build desalting factories (and we don't believe they do), it has to be done the responsible way.

Joe Geever is the Southern California Manager for the Surfrider Foundation. For more information, go to their website at www.surfrider.org.



The Orange Coast Voice welcomes submissions to Community Voices by residents of Costa Mesa and Huntington Beach. All submissions should be well researched with a maximum of 800 words and accompanied by your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Send to admin@ocvoice.com.

The Best of OC is Closer Than You Think

By **JOE SHAW**
OC Voice Columnist



As I opened my *OC Register* on a bright day in September, I found a shocking example of waste and fraud: The *OC Register's* "14th Annual Best of Orange County", which was subtitled "Unveiling the Treasures of Orange County".

How in the world can such inane content be spread across 220 pages?

How can anyone tell us with a straight face that the best sushi is at Today, the best Italian restaurant is the Olive Garden, the best Chinese food is PF Changs, the best Mexican food is El Torito and the best Deli/Sandwich shop is Subway? These are Orange County's treasures?

Of course the *OC Register* is blaming it all on you: "All category winners were selected entirely by readers of the *Register* and *OC Post* during a four-week period in May, and random cash prizes were awarded to voters who completed ballots," a press release says.

I certainly hope no one was awarded a prize for voting Subway best sandwich shop.

My local sandwich shop, Jan's Health Bar on Main Street, makes amazing sandwiches, with fresh, high quality ingredients and large portions. When you order a fruit salad, they actually cut the fruit to order. It annihilates Subway in every way.

Joking aside, what's going on here?

I think part of the problem is that Orange County is a "place," and not a community. These "Best Of" lists work best on a smaller scale than county-wide overviews.

Culturally we've lost a lot of our sense of community in southern California, where in both Orange County and Los Angeles, massive development has created a massive "place" where smaller communities have been enveloped by the freeway system and suburbia.

In book *The Reluctant Metropolis*, William Fulton writes about Orange County development: "The same suburban planning ideas that the Irvine Company and others had marketed successfully—cul-de-sacs, isolated neighborhoods, quiet local streets—had also robbed Orange County of the transportation flexibility a growing metropolis required."

Those growth policies, and the civil planning structures created, also robbed us of a sense of community. Who has time for community when, as a new study by the Texas Traffic Institute (*L.A. Times*, Sept. 19) says, Orange County motorists spend nearly two working weeks a year in traffic?

The Best of Orange County supplement should focus more on local communities, just as we should too. It is at the community level we can create livable neighborhoods and communities that will be more workable and maintain our quality of life for the next generation.

Let me share something with you my brother wrote about the Tulsa, Okla. neighborhood we grew up in:

"A block and a half from my house, was a small market. As kids, we purchased penny candy there, and if our parents needed something, that's where we went. The same lady owned and ran the place from the time I can remember until the time the place closed.

"Another couple of blocks away was a store we called The Dairy. That's where we got ice

cream and other things. The same person owned and ran the place until it closed.

"Across the street from The Dairy was Lowell Elementary school. We walked, rain or shine. Across from Lowell, was a gas station. Down another couple of blocks south was a barber shop, a cleaner, a second hand store, a bar and a laundromat. There was a hamburger joint a bit further down street.

"Within a block of my house there was Bullette Park, and four blocks east, on the other side of Peoria, was Crutchfield Park. They shot a lot of the movie *The Outsiders* in my old neighborhood. A block from Crutchfield Park further east was our church, Hillcrest Baptist.

"The neighborhood I described no longer exists as I have described it. We had things we needed in our neighborhood. There were no parking lots at these stores or schools or other places. After all, these things existed for the neighborhood, not the entire city.

"In this microcosm of Tulsa, we had pretty much everything we needed within walking distance. We knew the shop owners, and they knew us. Our neighborhood was convenient, and it was also 'home' to our home. It was comfortable and accessible.

"Come to think of it, I wonder how we ever thought we could improve on this model."

With inevitable energy shortages and price jumps, and the need to live simpler and on a smaller scale to mitigate the effects of global warming, it's time we looked at how we can make Huntington Beach neighborhoods more like the neighborhoods of the past.

One neighborhood that pretty much fits the bill already is downtown. Downtown is comparatively compact, has lots of mobile residents, both on bike and foot. It also has many amenities within walking distance, although a grocery and pharmacy are much needed to make it a complete neighborhood in the sense I mean.

We can create more neighborhoods like this in Huntington Beach if we embrace mixed-use development, higher density along transit corridors, innovative transit solutions and rework some of our neighborhoods to make them more pedestrian-friendly and less isolated from other areas of the city.

I'm hoping our future is living with a real sense of community, in more pedestrian-oriented neighborhoods, where we know our neighbors, we can walk to the store and where the best sandwich shop is not Subway.

Joe Shaw authors his own blog, "Greetings from Downtown Huntington Beach" at <http://hbdowntown.typepad.com/> and currently serves on the HB City Planning Commission.

Don't miss another issue of the Orange Coast Voice!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Do your part to support free & independent community journalism in Huntington Beach & Costa Mesa!

SIGN ME UP FOR A SUBSCRIPTION!

One Year at \$25 Two Years at \$45 Three Years at \$60

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Enclosed is a check or money order made payable to the Orange Coast Voice.
Mailing address: 419 Main St., #209, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

12 BUCK

TUESDAY! Unlimited Video Games!

**ADD \$10 AND GET
UNLIMITED**

- MINIATURE GOLF
- GO-KARTS
- BUMPER BOATS
- ROCK WALL
- KIDDIE BIG TOP RIDES

MUST PURCHASE \$12 BUCK TUESDAY PROMOTION TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE \$10 UNLIMITED ADD-ON.

**CHECK OUT THESE
GREAT OFFERS TOO!**

FREE PARTY GOODIES!

Free Party Goodies for the Birthday Child!

Purchase any birthday party package and receive free party items for the birthday child. Advance reservations required. Other restrictions apply. Expires 11/30/07. Barcode: OCV

BUY 2 GET 1 FREE!

Receive a free attraction when you purchase two attractions at regular price. Not valid with any other offer. Other restrictions apply. Expires 11/30/07. Barcode: OCV



16800 MAGNOLIA STREET • FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708 • 714-842-1111 • BOOMERSPARKS.COM

EXCLUDES FOOD, BATTING CAGES AND GAMES THAT REWARD PRIZES OR TICKETS. HEIGHT AND WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS APPLY.