

## City Council

from front page

The Council ultimately decided to stay with the current watering schedule after some expressed concern that residents are now accustomed to the current bi-weekly schedule. "If we go back to the public now and say, 'go back to a three day,' it might be a little more confusing than it would be worth," Councilmember Mitch Ward said.

### Polliwog Dog Run

The Council voted 4-1 to spend 15,700 a fenced dog run on the Western part of Polliwog Park near Begg Pool, which staff will monitor for six months to document any issues or concerns. Councilmembers withheld the estimated \$2,500 for lighting amid concerns the installation would affect future development of the Begg Pool. Recreation Services Manager Idris Al-Oboudi said he would solicit private donations to pay for the lighting. Councilmember Richard Montgomery voted against the measure, expressing concern over the cost of the run and its estimated \$3,500 a year maintenance cost. Montgomery, a dog owner, said he was satisfied with the location and concept but not the timing. "My concern is we didn't foresee the economy...we see today," Montgomery said. "I don't have a problem with approving it; I have a problem with funding it."

Several residents told the Council the new dog run will improve people's park experience. Sue Vogel said the dog parks result in friendships between people and dogs alike, and that it will help less mobile people with dogs. "I take my dog for long, long walks, I'm lucky to be able to do that," Vogel said. "Not everyone can. There are people that really need to take their dogs somewhere, they're a little older, they need to sit on a bench and let their dog play with other dogs and get some exercise."

### Holiday Restaurant Hours

Council members voted unanimously to help keep the party going for revelers bringing in the New Year in the city's restaurants and bars. Business owners wishing to extend their hours until 1 a.m. every January 1 will now be able to request a special temporary use permit for the extension.

In August the Council approved an ordinance allowing businesses to stay open until the hours allowed on weekends if New Years falls midweek. Because many businesses in town are required to close at midnight or earlier on weekends, the new ordinance will be an improvement, giving them the oppor-

tunity to stay open an hour past midnight.

The city will also reduce its usual \$450 permit application fee to \$100 after businesses owners who lobbied for the extension expressed concerns over the cost. Mary Ann Varni, executive director of the Downtown Manhattan Beach Business Association said the extension will help keep residents in the city on New Years Eve. Mayor Portia Cohen agreed. "Rather than drive folks outside our community to celebrate New Years, it's nice to keep them here, walking hopefully," Cohen said.

### CERT Strategic Plan

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) presented its strategic plan to the Council, which its members hope will enable it to grow as an organization. CERT member Carol Curry explained the non-profit organization trains residents to deploy in the event of a disaster to supplement the fire and police departments.

Curry said the City has nine firefighters on duty at any given time and that in the event of a major disaster, emergency responders would be instantaneously overwhelmed. "CERT's primary objective...is to reduce the immediate need for our fire and EMS first responders by training us to take care of ourselves, our friends and our neighbors."

The strategic plan includes: continuing a readiness to activate in the case of disasters or emergencies, training of current and new CERT members, develop an emergency communications plan, enhance community outreach and ensure financial viability. Powell, Montgomery and Cohen are among the organization's 170 members.

### Federal Stimulus Funding

Finance Director Bruce Moe said the city has been awarded about \$15 million in grants over the past five years which have paid for equipment such as bullet-proof vests and fire department breathing apparatuses, and programs including pavement projects and alcohol and traffic safety programs. "What's on everybody's mind right now is stimulus funds and we're going after those as actively as possible," Moe said.

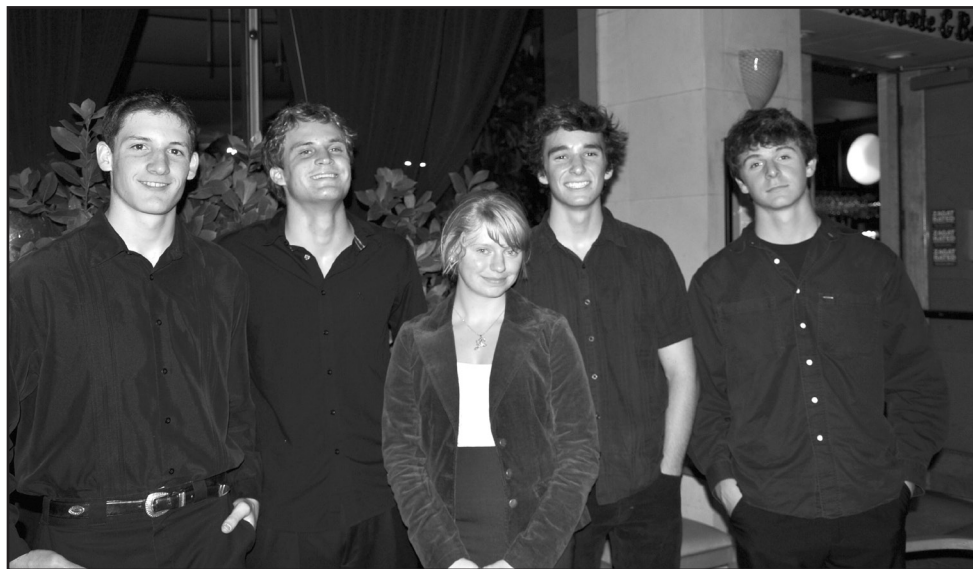
Moe reported that far this year the City has applied for \$2.4 million in federal funds and has received \$1.4 million. He said the city hopes to get more money to pay for police officers, pavement projects and the widening of the Sepulveda Bridge to ease traffic problems. •

## Jazz

from front page



From L to R: Matt Gafney on alto saxophone, Julian Trivers on drums, J Johnson on doublebass, and Devin Norris on keyboard.



From left to right: Matt Gafney, Devin Norris, Kieran Lorenzen, J Johnson, and Julian Trivers.

playing even though we were outside on the patio," Gafney said. "So they decided that they wanted to have us back at the restaurant to play there regularly in the main restaurant area. I thought that was pretty cool they have people there really enjoying our music."

The group has been hired for private parties and hopes to grow its list of clients, which include Lido and Il Fornaio on Rosecrans when the restaurant holds wine tastings every month. "I'd say once a month or once every two months we will do a backyard party, so we're willing to work," Trivers said. "It beats scooping ice cream."

Trivers, a junior at Mira Costa, said the band now has a following on nights they play at Lido. "We have a whole bunch of fans that come back every other Saturday night just to listen to us, so it's great," he said. "We never thought people would dig it so much. It's kind of unexpected, but it's great to have some fans that come out and will actually watch us play."

The band earns money by charging an hourly rate and from tips received from customers, who make song requests ranging from "Fly Me to the Moon" to "Take Five." Lorenzen estimated she sings about half the songs the band performs and especially enjoys ballads. She recalled being skeptical about joining the band last spring. "I didn't know what I was going to get myself into and I'd never sung jazz before...the band heard me sing and they said, 'We'd love to have you.'"

Norris said Lorenzen is a phenomenal singer. "It's really nice because she adds a whole new dimension to the music because before her it was really just saxophone and piano, that's all, and a little bit of bass," Norris said. "When you add the singer, you get a whole new dimension to music."

The band plays many songs from memory but also uses sheet music for less familiar numbers. "We're pretty good sight readers, so we can play pretty much anything. You just pull up a chart and you're able to play it," Gafney said.

Although they see their music as a creative outlet and a way to relax, they are cognizant of their roles as entertainers when performing at restaurants. "I have to play a little bit quieter and I can't really go all out in a restaurant where people are trying to enjoy their dinner," Gafney said.

Trivers explained that some of the songs can get old, but that the group plays them because the audience enjoys them. "If you're making money playing music, you can't really complain," Trivers said. "'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' isn't the greatest...I mean we've played it so many times, we're kind of sick of it, but we still play it."

The band members don't spend much time practicing together because they spend so much time playing music at school. Norris teaches piano on the side and Gafney gives saxophone lessons. Norris, Johnson and Trivers are currently performing in pit orchestra for the school musical, and all of the musicians are in the Mira Costa Jazz Band "The difference with playing in the quartet is we can have more fun," Johnson said. "Because we have a smaller band, we can be more creative and have more input of what we can play."

A recent performance at the Manhattan Beach Country Club gave the young performers an opportunity to increase their exposure to potential clients. "When we play restaurants, we kind of are background music," Norris said. "When we played at the Country Club, we had everyone sitting there watching us... everyone was getting into the solos and we were all getting excited and playing harder and probably the best we've ever played."

Kieran agreed, saying that she felt the audience was really responding to their music. "People were having a good time, so it was a good time for us."

Since the performance, the band has received at least half a dozen requests from people interested in paying it to perform at their holiday parties. "I'm personally looking forward to the holidays because it's a chance to sing my favorite music which is Christmas music," Kieran said. "People at holiday parties are always really festive, and they listen to us and it's just a good time."

Norris admitted that it can sometimes be challenging for the band members to juggle music with everything else going on in their busy lives but that "music is really kind of an outlet for us...we're so comfortable with each other, we've played together so often that we definitely just can just play together and have a good time and basically jam."

For more information about the band, visit [www.manhattanbeachjazzquartet.com](http://www.manhattanbeachjazzquartet.com). •

# Holly Main Liquor & WINE WAREHOUSE

404 Main Street, El Segundo • 310-322-3412

**\*\*Buy Louis XIII 750ML get Remy X.O. 750ML for \$1\*\***

**\*\*Buy Any 750ML get FREE Jack Daniels Glass\*\***

**\*\*Buy \$25 worth of wine & get any Delicato Wine for \$1\*\***

**\*\*Buy \$25 worth of cigars get Romeo y Julieta Bully for \$1\*\***

### 50+ Different Single Malt Whiskeys

- Very rare Macallan 25 yearold (2 Btls Left)
- Glenlivet 12 year
- Glenfiddich 12 year
- Sooo much more!

**\$29.99**

### 1000'S of Wines

From California, Oregon 2 around the world

- Cakebread
- Cain Five
- Grgich
- OpusOne
- Caymus
- Stag Leap
- Phelps Insignia
- Cht Montelena
- Sooo much more!

### MICRO BREWS

- Murphys
- Morretti
- Stone
- Moylands
- Chimay
- Spaten
- Sooo much more!

### HUMIDOR CIGARS

- Romeo y Julieta
- Macanudo
- Punch
- La Gloria
- Cohiba
- Montecristo



**BEST PRICED CIGARS IN SOUTH BAY!**

### EVERYDAY LIQUOR SPECIAL 750ML +tax

- Goose 29.99
- Belvedere 29.99
- Ciroc 24.99
- Bacardi 10.99
- Johnnie Red 18.99
- Bulliet Bourbon 19.99
- Evan Williams Bourbon 9.99
- Absolut & Flavor 19.99
- Bombay 19.99
- Tanqueray 19.99
- Capt Morgan 14.99
- Sooo much more come in & see!!!

**OVER 3000 SQ FT. OF ADULT FUN LIQUOR, WINE, BEER, CIGARS & MORE!**