

Letters to the Editor

When submitting letters to the editor, include your name, address and phone number. Maximum word count is 250 words. Submit letters via E-MAIL to: calendar@heraldpublications.com by Thursday at noon. Letters may not promote an event or list businesses/individuals/sponsors.

FILMING RATES

Filming at ESHS is always interesting to read about; please keep it up. A couple things struck me about yesterday's article (May 7), like our \$6,000/day rate. If we've 'sold' all allocated days even before our sunny weather has arrived, perhaps our price is too low.

I took a quick look at some other local campuses: USC charges \$8,000. CalTech gets \$9,500. Both have extensive lists of additional charges (security, parking, liaisons, clean-up). This further supports the notion that our rate is too low. Increasing rates are a no-impact method to increase school revenues.

Regardless of the rate and number of days, we all benefit from the filming revenues while the closest residents bear the impact. Addressing their concerns, and creatively

responding to their annoyances, remains important. What's being done for them?

And other few questions - do the production crews patronize El Segundo businesses? Do they hire a local clean-up crew, ensuring that they leave the location better than when they arrived? Does ESHS have video production classes or clubs that could benefit from professional filmmakers on their doorstep with equipment, training, or industry contacts? Is there a particular studio with which we might develop a preferred (or exclusive) contract, and a smoother relationship?

We can choose to regard filming as an unpleasant, but necessary, business transaction ... or as a multi-faceted opportunity for our city. I prefer the latter.

Mark Dean •

Registration

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registration process more difficult to schedule." Yantz reiterated, "As you can see, for peace of mind of everybody involved, early registration is the way to go." Registration hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The office is closed at lunch.

This year ESUSD will continue to use an electronic registration system that with the addition of the high school is now district-wide for all grades and sites (except pre-school). Parents of returning students will receive a letter in late August with a "code" that will instruct them to go online and quickly and efficiently register their students without

filling out a ton of duplicative paperwork. Yet one more cost-saving measure during this time of fiscal numbers crunching.

The same early registration situation applies to the pre-school program as well, since all registration is handled through Kris Martin in the district office. Classes for 3 & 4 year-olds, whether half-day or full day, as well as the availability of the summer school program, along with schedules and fees, can be found on the district web site at www.elsegundousd.net or by stopping by the district office foyer to pick up a brochure. Kris Martin can be reached at 310-615-2650 x 233 or via email at kmartin@esud.k12.ca.us.



Political Penguin

By Duane Plank

So how do ya think President Obama has done in his first four months in office? Nothing much happening, other than two wars, a crippling recession, corporate thieves everywhere still trying to cheat us out of every penny, rampant unemployment, a Social Security and Medicare system that are both tanking, and myriad other "challenges."

Don't cha just love the fact that the AIG folks apparently congratulated each other with \$165 million in bonuses for a job well done? If well done means running a company straight into oblivion. What kind of bonus did you get last year? How'd that measure up with all the loot handed to the failed corporate execs who, to use a cliche, are "laughing all the way to the bank?"

Okay, on to some of the myriad other challenges facing Mr. Obama. Like Guantanamo Bay and this thing called "waterboarding." Okay, I know a little about the water, having been a resident of the good old South Bay for the past 45 years. Can't surf or any of that nonsense, but I have seen the kids boogie board and attempt to jump on these things called skimboards, I believe.

Anyway, I guess this waterboarding thing raised the hackles of some folks out there. It apparently is a form of "interrogation" where the dirtbag being questioned has a little water poured on his face until he decides that it is more prudent to just tell the good old guys from the U.S. the truth, like who was involved in the massacre of September 11.

Okay, I am sure it is more than just a trickle of water poured on the face of an alleged scumbag, but you know what? Sometimes mass murderers, or their associates, don't deserve to be treated fairly. Or humanely. Think of those unsuspecting folks who unassumingly boarded flights on September 11 and ended up, sadly, as historical footnotes. You gonna tell me a terrorist piece of garbage

deserves to be treated humanely?

If it's good enough for the fine folks at the CIA, whose job seems to be to protect you and me from the Al Quedas of the world, it's good enough for me. And by the way, if we, and I say *we* as a government entity, had just let the CIA and their skilled operatives do their job the last 40 years or so, without interference or intervention by the namby pambies, do you think most of the terrorist BS that is running rampant in today's world would occur?

Eliminate the bad guy before he strikes. Worry about his or her rights later. Used to work out pretty well for the good old U.S. of A, I believe.

Do you think the events of 9-11 would have happened if the CIA and their brethren were allowed to do their jobs? Do you think that Osama bin Laden would still be laughing at and tormenting the citizens of the civilized world? I think not. But maybe I have read too many novels where the guys and gals of the CIA, putting their life on the line daily, were the heroes. Now we apparently have to ask Nancy Pelosi and her cronies if it's okay to sneak up on a bad guy.

Ask Fancy Nancy? Looks like she can't figure out which version of her "truth" she is peddling this week. Did you see her embarrassing press conference last week? Me thinks the Speaker of the House may not be double-speaking for the House much longer.

So what's up with the Guantanamo Bay deal? I initially thought it was just another rich guy's golf course, perched somewhere on a bluff overlooking the fine waterways of Castro's Cuba. You know, like Pelican Bay, Stuffed Shirt Bay, and Privileged Cuz I Inherited Money Bay.

But nope, Gitmo is actually a detention camp/military prison in Cuba. I know that the issue of keeping the camp open was brought

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DOES AGE REALLY MATTER?

Not to our Residents.

That's because true age is more a matter of perception than a measure of time. The lifestyle at our community is designed to help residents achieve a sense of balance over six key areas of wellness. It enables them to improve and maintain health, while living purposeful, self-directed lives. We call it Optimum Life®, and it could be your lifestyle today.

Interested?

To learn more about our exceptional community, call or visit today and discover why we believe the best life to live is an Optimum Life®.

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SOUTH BAY

It's The Right Time to Save. Go Metro.
In these uncertain economic times, you can create your own stimulus package simply by going Metro. Experts estimate you can save \$8,416 annually by using public transit in LA instead of paying for gas and parking. LA is among the top 20 cities where you can save the most by taking public transit. Find your best route with the Trip Planner at metro.net.

Metro Adding 41 Buses For Express Lane Project
Forty-one compressed natural gas buses are being purchased by Metro for its Express Lane demonstration project aimed at increasing freeway capacity. Next year the buses will provide additional transit alternatives on the carpool lanes along the I-10 (H Monte Bassey) and I-110 (Harbor Freeway Transitway) corridors.

Cut 40 Minutes Off Your Commute
Take the Metro Green Line to the Harbor Station and then hop aboard Metro Express lines 444, 445, 446, 447 or 458K to downtown via the 110 Freeway carpool lanes. Bypass the Metro Blue Line into downtown and save time—about 20 minutes each way. Check your connection at metro.net.

See The LA Marathon on Metro
Go Metro Rail to see all the action at the 24th Annual LA Marathon on Monday, May 25. The course starts in Universal City and winds through the heart of LA to finish downtown. Be sure to check metro.net for information on extensive bus detours prompted by the race.

TAP Ready For Reduced Fare Customers
Metro riders with Senior, College/Vocational or Student K-12 discount passes need to submit an application for a new reusable TAP card. You can get applications at Metro Customer Centers or online. Check metro.net/readyforfare for details or call 313.680.0054.

Metro

If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1.800.464.3871, or visit metro.net.

WE SURE WILL.