

Mark our calendar
More than 1,000 things to do
SBSUN.COM

ALCS Complete coverage on SBSUN.COM
Indians take lead in series

Not sidelined
Former coach shares her story of cancer survival

SPORTS | C1

Today's forecast:



COOL WITH SUNSHINE | 70/50
More weather on Page B8

THE SUN

San Bernardino County's Newspaper

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 16, 2007

WWW.SBSUN.COM

50c

the SCOOP

DINO DISCOVERY



(FOO-ta-long-koh-SOHR-us)

Read more about this prehistoric herbivore on Page A3

'FISCAL SHOWDOWN'

Bush talks tough

President Bush related this message to Congress on Monday: "You're fixin' to see what they call a fiscal showdown in Washington." The president warned of more vetoes and pledged to push back on Democratic spending bills.



Read more on Page A3

ONLINE

City at your fingertips

How about contacting whatever city department you wish, 24/7, with requests, complaints, tips or to check the status of requested services?

That's where San Bernardino is headed, with the City Council on Monday reviewing the idea of installing Citizen Relationship Management technology to replace traditional telephone service channels for city departments.

Read more at sbsun.com

Read public-safety news on Page A4

DELAY

New Mynisha trial moved to 2008

A retrial for four men charged with fatally shooting 11-year-old Mynisha Crenshaw in 2005 has been set for Jan. 7.

A defense lawyer was relieved from the case Monday, and a second one is being challenged. A new defendant, Royal Small, could be added to the mix if he is held over for trial at a preliminary hearing Wednesday.

Read more on Page B4

blog:
Redmond Carolpio's got game(s)
SBSUN.COM

FRIGHT O' THE DAY
Tricksters and treaters alike, show off your Halloween pictures.
We'll feature them in the Buzz on B1, and on sbsun.com.
Submit the best of your Halloween pictures directly to sbsun.anycapture.com. Then look for them on the Web site and in the Buzz.

Governor signs last in batch of bills

Vehicle registration fees to go up

Staff Reports

SACRAMENTO — Californians will pay more for vehicle smog checks and registration, be protected from a toxic chemical used in baby toys, and have a label on bottled water telling them the source of their drinking water — just some of the bills signed into law this weekend.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger late Sunday finished with the last of more than 950 bills sent to his desk by state lawmakers in the past few days.

Some bills he signed:

■ **Smog fee** — Vehicle registration fees will jump from \$31 to \$34. Most boat registration fees will double to \$20. Smog fees will go up by \$8 to \$20.

■ **Plastic** — Despite industry objections, the governor signed a bill imposing severe limits on a chemical widely used in plastic products such as baby bottles, soft baby books, teething rings, plastic bath ducks and other toys. Phthalates have been banned by the European Union after studies found it interferes with hormones and might lead to early puberty, reproduction defects and other health problems.

■ **Ammo** — The governor signed two ammunition-related bills opposed by the National Rifle Association. One requires semiautomatic handguns made and sold in California to include crime-fighting technology that will microstamp each bullet fired from the gun. Also, hunters will be barred from using lead-based ammunition in areas inhabited by endangered California condors.

■ **Water** — SB 22 will require bottled water manufacturers to list the source of their water on the label by 2009.

■ **Housing** — SB 586, Sen. Bob Dutton, R-Rancho Cucamonga, sets aside \$35 million statewide for housing trusts aimed at affordable housing.

■ **Crime prevention** — AB 1381 establishes the Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy to administer various federal grants relating to juvenile justice and street-gang crime prevention.

Among the bills vetoed by the governor:

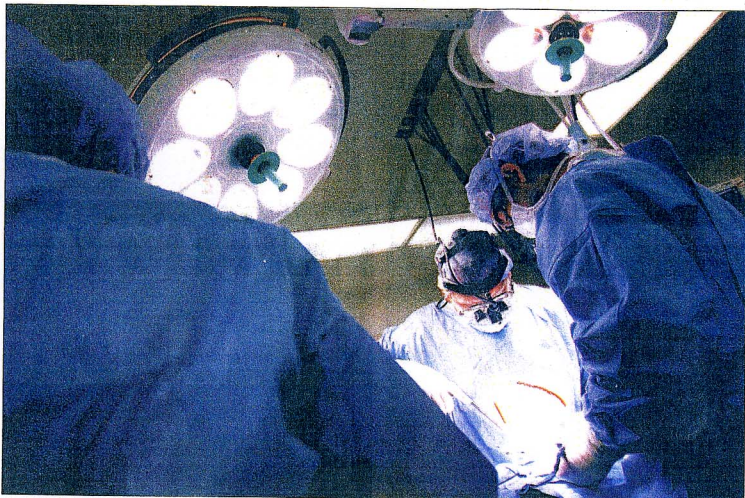
■ **SB 1** would have allowed illegal immigrants who are California high school graduates to be eligible for in-state tuition at public colleges and universities.

■ **SB 63** would have required that dairy and meat products from cloned animals intended for human consumption be clearly labeled.

The Oakland Tribune and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

ST. BERNARDINE MEDICAL CENTER

It's hip at the top



Gretz Snow/Staff Photographer

A spinal cord operation is performed at St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino on Wednesday. The center has been named the top orthopedic hospital in California and in the top 5 percent for orthopedic services nationwide.

Facility named one of nation's best in orthopedics

By Selicia Kennedy-Ross
Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Hip, hip, hip-replacement hooray. Those in need of a new hip or two are in the right place: St. Bernardine Medical Center has been named the top orthopedic hospital in California.

The 10th annual HealthGrades Hospital Quality in America Study put St. Bernardine in the top 5 percent for orthopedic services and joint replacement among medical centers nationwide.

The medical center received a five-star rating from HealthGrades in joint, knee and hip replacement, spine surgery and hip fracture repair.

"In the health-care industry, HealthGrades is the equivalent of J.D. Power & Associates to the automotive industry," said Steven Barron, president of St. Bernardine Medical Center. "This is an outside agency's independent appraisal of what we've always known was a great program."

Among the strides in care the hospital has made is its purchase of an \$80,000 Hanna table, which is used for minimally invasive hip replacements.

Dr. Richard Biama, an orthopedic surgeon at St. Bernardine, called the table and the new procedure "the biggest innovation in orthopedics in about 50 years."

Ordinary surgical tables require surgeons to go through muscle or take it off the bone to

reach the hip joint. With the minimally invasive hip procedure using the Hanna table, there is no need for muscle to be cut or removed.

"The patient gets up and walks the same day," Biama said.

Receiving the top ranking from HealthGrades is a good way to celebrate the medical center's 76-year anniversary, which also occurred last week, Barron said.

"San Bernardino is a community where we've had a long mission of commitment to excellent health care and access," he said. "At a time when some hospitals are struggling, we are fortunate."

selicia.kennedy@sbsun.com
(909) 396-3585

Rialto council may OK project

New concept for Renaissance project on table

By Jason Pesick
Staff Writer

RIALTO — A major shift in the city's most ambitious development project could get the OK from the City Council tonight.

The council will consider a new concept for Renaissance Rialto and tell the developers, a team of the Lewis Group and Ross Perot Jr.'s Hillwood, to move forward with more specific plans.

Visit our Web site to read past stories about part of which the Renaissance Rialto development project will be located on the site of the city's airport, will be a 1,500-acre development along the 210 Freeway.

"If they approve the conceptual plan, then things will move full speed ahead," said Greg Lantz, Rialto economic development manager.

After a few months of delays and bickering caused by the developers' concerns about the slowing housing market, the new plan calls for 2,100 homes, down from 3,900. One school would be eliminated, there would be less office and park space and industrial space would double to almost 15 million square feet. The new plan would also bring the city about \$4 million a year more in revenue than the old concept, assuming the utility users tax remains in place.

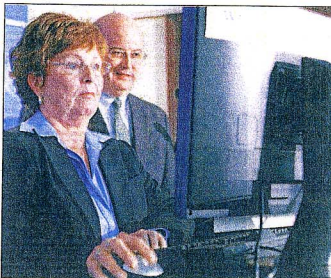
If the process moves along smoothly and the city can close part of its airport, the retail center with Target as its anchor would open in time for the holiday season in 2009, Lantz said.

Even if it votes in favor of the concept tonight, the council still must approve final land-use plans

See RIALTO | Page A4

'First' baby boomer applies for Social Security

Kathleen Casey-Kirschling, known as the nation's "first" baby boomer, files for her Social Security retirement benefits online as Michael Astrue, commissioner of the Social Security Administration, stands nearby on Monday in Washington, D.C.



Mark Wilson/Getty Images

By Stephen Ohlemacher
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The baby boomers' stampede for Social Security benefits has begun.

The nation's "first" baby boomer, a retired teacher from New Jersey, applied for Social Security benefits Monday, signaling the start of an expected avalanche of applications from the post World War II generation.

Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue called it "America's silver tsunami."

Kathleen Casey-Kirschling applied for benefits over the Internet at an event hosted by Astrue. Casey-Kirschling was born one second after midnight on Jan. 1, 1946, gaining her recognition as the first baby boomer — a generation of nearly 80 million born from 1946 to 1964, Astrue said. "She's leading the way for her generation," Astrue told reporters.

SBSUN.COM

Visit our Web Site to watch video coverage of the nation's 'first' baby-boomer applying for Social Security.

Casey-Kirschling will be eligible for benefits after she turns 62 next year. She said she taught seventh graders for 14 years at a school near Camden, N.J., before retiring and volunteering for the Red Cross in the Gulf Coast areas hit by Hurricane Katrina.

She and her husband have since moved to the eastern shore of Maryland near the Chesapeake Bay.

"I think I'm just lucky to be at the top of the boom," she said.

An estimated 10,000 people a day will become eligible for Social Security benefits over the next two decades, Astrue said. The Social Security Trust fund, if left alone, is projected to go broke in 2041.