



Silver Surfer/ssurfer@smdp.com

**SLOWING DOWN:** Amish have taken over the Third Street Historic District now that modern-day technology is banned.

**SEE AMISH PAGE 7**

# Lights out on Third

## Third Street Historic district becomes home for the Amish

BY THE BLACK CANARY | Daily Planet Staff Writer

**OCEAN PARK** The Third Street Historic District has gone Amish.

Today marks the one-month anniversary since electricity was outlawed in all homes in the historic districts, residents living like the Pennsylvania Dutch since the City Council-enacted ban on modern-day conveniences took effect on March 1.

The council approved earlier this year a provision in the Third Street Historic District guidelines that bans automobiles, electricity, plumbing and any modern-day uses from homes that lie within the boundaries. The change in the guidelines was a response to complaints from long-time residents of the recent trend in modern home development in the district, including proposals to build modernist style houses on Second Street and Third Street.

The district, bounded by Ocean Park Boulevard, Hill Street, Second Street and Third Street, is famous for its col-

# Colgate can't help these teeth recover

## Fluoridated water is a cause for concern for Santa Monica youth whose teeth are dying

BY DARKWING DUCK | Special to the Daily Planet

**CITYWIDE** Across Santa Monica, children's teeth are rotting, their tongues are swelling and their breathe is beginning to smell of an odor most often associated with that of your obese neighbor who decides to play football every Thanksgiving morning.

Opponents of fluoride warned Santa Monica about negative effects of the additive for years, but the City Council didn't listen. And nearly four months after drinking fluoridated tap water, the city's children are beginning to suffer the consequences.

Local dentists are reporting extreme cases of flourishes, with kids coming into examining rooms with teeth that look

like shards of broken glass or as if they had been chewing tobacco for 25 years.

"It makes your stomach turn," Dr. James Goodtooth of City by the Sea Dentistry said about the rotting teeth in the mouths of local youth. "I've never seen anything like it. Something must be done."

After years of debate, fluoridated water began flowing out of Santa Monica taps in November 2007. Opponents of the additive tried to argue against the process, saying too much fluoride could be dangerous, especially for children. They were never convinced that increasing the level of the chemical in water would be beneficial.

However, advocates of fluoride said the change in water would help prevent tooth decay, leading to the 2003 decision to allow fluoridated tap water.

Now, City Hall must deal with the consequences. "A young bum came up to me yesterday and asked me for help," Mayor Pro Tem Richard Blume said. "I looked down at the boy's teeth and was shocked. Then I realized, he was my son. What have we done?"



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**YUCK!** Joey Toomuch Kandi shows off his not so pearly whites. The 12-year-old said his teeth starting rotting shortly after he started drinking fluoridated tap water.

**SEE BAD TEETH PAGE 7**

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# Burglaries up thanks in part to power ban

FROM AMISH PAGE 3

lection of California bungalow, Spanish and American Colonial Revival-style homes. The neighborhood was designated as a historic district, one of two in the city, in 1990.

"The residents who are trying to build these modern style monstrosities do not have an appreciation for history," long-time historic district resident John Smithers said. "I believe that living like our forefathers will help them gain that appreciation."

As a result of the ban, residents were forced to exchange their hybrid vehicles for horse-drawn carriages, hair dryers for Asian-decorative fans, and showers for skinny dips in the Santa Monica Beach. The lights that line the historic district have also been replaced with gas lamps.

In an effort to go green, City Hall has decided to pay homeless people a stipend to do what they do best — dig through trash for recyclable material.

Residents said they haven't had too much difficulty adapting to the Amish lifestyle,

some saying they prefer the simple life. Some do admit experiencing difficulty in cultivating their own livestock, milking the cows and managing a hen house. Some neighbors residing outside of the district have complained about being awakened by the sounds of a rooster early in the morning.

"I don't understand why they chose to live like someone in a third-world country," James Jones, who lives just outside of the district, said. "If they want to live like the Amish, they should move to Amish country."

Along with a lack of power also comes an increase in crime.

The Santa Monica Police Department reported a spike in home burglaries since the power ban went into effect, a result of losing access to home security alarm systems.

"I think almost every house on this block has been hit up at least twice," Lt. Alen Padillo of the SMPD said on Monday. "I don't know why the burglars keep coming back, it's not like they have any electronics lying around the house."

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## CITY OF ANGEL

Silver Surfer/ssurfer@smdp.com

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints recently purchased the Crocker Building and placed the angel Moroni on top. The church has plans to turn the building into a new temple.

# Officials say nothing's wrong

FROM BAD TEETH PAGE 3

Eight-year-old Ginger Vitus said her teeth have been hurting for months now, and everyday she looks in the mirror, she's sees another tooth missing.

"My mommy tells me the tooth fairy loves me so much, she comes every night to take some more teeth," Vitus said. "The only thing is, she is broke, so she doesn't leave me any money."

"I just hope she doesn't take all my teeth," the second grader added. "I would like to continue eating."

M'Tung Eez-Erden, a nine-year-old Santa Monica African foreign exchange student, says he just wants to be able to talk to people again.

"Whenever I open my mouth, people just run away. Far away. At school, they call me fluoride breathe," he said as a tear slowly rolled down his face, reached his top lip, then immediately changed direction and

headed down his cheek.

Water officials refuse to admit anything is wrong with fluoridated water, despite the obvious displays in children's mouths.

"Oh no, everything is fine," said water official Foolofsh Yit. "The teeth rotting, everything, it's all just temporary. Their teeth will grow back. The people of Santa Monica just don't have patience."

In an effort to go green, Yit said, Santa Monica's water supply will now produced green-colored water from taps.

"We're all for improving the environment. What better way to contribute than through fluoridated, green water?" the official said.

Only time will tell if fluoridated water will continue to be a problem for the city's youth or reverse its trend. But as of now, children's mouths look more like a crack head's than a healthy child's.

[news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

## Big Blue Bus Community Forums

**Discussion topics will include:**

- Sunset Ride route changes proposed using 17th St.
- New Rapid 7 service
- More Line 14 trips
- Line 3 summer service
- Update on New Facility & Buses

**When and Where:**

- Wednesday, April 2 Virginia Park (Thelma Terry Center) 6-8 PM 2200 Virginia Ave. at 22nd St.
- Saturday, April 5 Ken Edwards Center (Room 100 A-B) 10 AM-12 PM 1527 4th St. at Broadway
- Monday, April 7 Santa Monica Main Library (Multi-Purpose Room, 2nd Floor) 6-8 PM 601 Santa Monica Blvd. at 7th St.
- Tuesday, April 8 UCLA (Ackerman/Viewpoint Community Room A201) 12-2 PM Westwood Plaza, north of Strathmore
- Tuesday, April 8 Fairview Branch Library 6-8 PM 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. at 21st St.

**Come to a meeting especially if you're a:**

- Sunset Ride or Line 7 Rider
- Resident of 17th St.
- SMC Student or Staff Member
- JAMS Parent or Staff Member

If you cannot attend a meeting, you may submit written comments to the Big Blue Bus Customer Relations Manager, 1660 7th St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

For additional information contact Linda Gamberg, Public Information Coordinator at (310) 458-2201 ext. 6326.

Big Blue Bus strives to ensure that all persons wishing to benefit from its services and participate in its programs are given equal opportunity to do so. To this end, we make every effort to ensure meetings are held in accessible venues and will provide translation services if requested at least 72 hours prior to each meeting.

For more information, see [www.bigbluebus.com](http://www.bigbluebus.com)

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