

# THE TIMES OF SMIGHTOWER

October 2009

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## Government Running Out of Room



**LEADERSHIP IS EVALUATING AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO REMEDY THE SITUATION**

Expansion in government bureaucracy has created a pressing space issue that will be difficult to resolve. New and expanded agencies to serve an ever-growing region require ever

more facilities. The capital of Wirt cannot continue to serve the nation as capital and capital of Schulmanicus. There is not adequate expansion space near Wirt or on Schulmanicus to handle the level of expansion envisioned by the City Planning Office.

Further complicating the search for expanded government facilities is the effort by the Bureau of Feline Affairs to expand national facilities from Temple Terrace. These two searches indicate a large amount of space will be needed and that amount of space is not available on the island of Schulmanicus. Planners favor sites in east-

ern Tenne and on the flanks of Wirdleonia as potential large scale development sites.

There have been some concerns raised across Schulmanicus about what impact the new capital would have on the island. Fears that its importance will diminish are unfounded, say sources in Wirtyplace. Rather, Wirt would remain the capital of the kingdom and arch-duchy and Temple Terrace will still remain the religious center for the nation. And other entities will retain a strong presence on the island. How strong remains to be seen.

### CAPITAL THOUGHTS:

- ◆ A site is needed larger than Schulmanicus can provide
- ◆ Most open territory is in Tenne and eastern and western Wirdleonia
- ◆ Kingdom of Schulmanicus government offices, currently sharing space with national government offices, will expand to fill vacated facilities once a new national government site is selected.
- ◆ Bureau of Feline Affairs also looking for newer and bigger facilities



## Eastern Fleet Sails On

Word has come back from the Admiral Islands that most of the still-seaworthy vessels in the exploration fleet have continued their sail to the east. Four ships in poor condition were scrapped and used to build temporary facilities for an outpost in the islands. Four additional ships have remained to explore the islands and supply the outpost. One ship has been pressed into courier service and plying the route between the Devonshire coast and the Admiral Is-

lands. It is expected that the islands should receive a dispatch from the fleet within the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, on the Admiral Islands, efforts are underway to establish a permanent outpost which will serve as an administrative center and a refueling stop for ocean vessels. This effort is being headed by the Schulmanicus Council, who has been granted administrative authority over the island by Admiral Hestorb. Preliminary plans call

for the preservation of several of the smaller islands as natural park space with minimal development and for permanent settlements primarily on the island of New Hestorb.

Ships have been relaying additional personnel and materials to the islands to prepare for a large scale development project being finalized by the City Planning Office. No further information about the fleet's position and activity is available at press time.

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## Colonial Governor Named for Admiral Islands



ADMIRAL ISLANDS COLONIAL GOVERNOR FELIX

Admiral Hestorb is pleased to

## East Devonshire Economic Boost

One of the intended impacts of the ocean exploration now underway was to boost the lagging economy of East Devonshire. Economic data gathered by the district government shows that the quarter ending September 30th reflect a 12% increase in overall economic activity from the same quarter last year. Segments of the economy exhibiting the highest growth are in the

announce the appointment of Morris Felix as the first Colonial Governor of the Admiral Islands. In selecting Felix, Hestorb went for an established leader with a distinctive leadership character—an essential element in developing a far off colony from the ground up.

Felix, who had first distinguished himself in the world of entertainment, entered politics last year with is successful bid to win a seat on the Bureau of Feline Affairs High Council. Felix is a native of George's Crossroads, Devonshire and attended school at Devonia College in George-

hampton, earning a BFA in Performance Arts. He joined an acting guild and soon was on stage as "Felix the Cat". His comedy act was enormously popular. It was only an unfortunate accident which broke his tail in five places which sidelined him. While recuperating, he studied up on current events and began his political career.

Admiral Hestorb has been impressed with the drive and determination of the new councilor and is eager to see that energy channeled into developing the island colony into a valuable addition to Schulmania.

commercial services and construction sectors. This is consistent with the pattern shown for previous large shipbuilding endeavors. It is East Devonshire Governor Bird's hope that the economic boost will continue as the Devonshire coast grows to be a major trading center. It is also her hope that the success of this exploration fleet will finally convince Princess Shelby and

the Supreme Wirdle to grant eastern Devonshire towns the right to coin money instead of issuing promissory notes. There are emerging concerns that promissory notes may be discounted in transactions with true schulmoneta coins. This has not happened yet, but the increasing volume of notes does make this a distinct possibility.

## Admiral Hestorb's Vet Visit Successful

The Bureau of Feline Affairs issued a statement today updating the public about the condition of Admiral Hestorb. Hestorb, who has been diagnosed with hyperthyroidism, has been under veterinary care and receiving daily doses of thyroid medication to keep the condition in check. Recent changes in her behavior had made her staff worry about a relapse. After a

trip to the vet's office for blood work, results indicate that the admiral is in good health and the thyroid is being treated well. She does have some fairly severe allergies which have continued to her recent behavior. She received an allergy shot and have been in good spirits and health since her return. She anticipates a clean bill of healthy will have her back out to sea soon.



THE ADMIRAL IS DOING WELL AFTER THE LAST VISIT TO THE VET'S OFFICE

## Sacred Precinct Visitation Grows After Extensive Renovations

Satisfaction with the renovations and improvements to the Sacred Precinct are reflected in ever-increasing numbers of pilgrims coming to Temple Terrace. The renovation and expansion projects were undertaken by Archbishop Howell and Admiral Hestorb in an effort to spruce up the ancient landscape and repair some of the oldest and most-used buildings in the nation. After spending nearly 75,000 schulmonetas, Temple Terrace authorities unveiled the renovations to an excited crowd last month in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new gateway to



the Sacred Precinct. Word of the far-ranging project's magnitude has spread quickly around Schulmania and pilgrims are coming

from coast to coast to see the new temple configurations. Initial fears that this would cannibalize religious activity at Babalonia have proven unfounded. Rather, increased religious interest has sparked increased visitation there as well. Bishop Hamby has in fact requested a third religious center be constructed in the southeast to accommodate the number of pilgrims expected to visit both sites. His proposal has been submitted to the Supreme Wirdle for consideration. There is no timetable as of yet for any new construction.

## Smightower Harbor Work Begins

Your eyes are not deceiving you! The historic harbor of Smightower is getting some extensive renovations. The increased traffic in ships from around the Tenne Sea has rendered the ancient port obsolete. To reduce delays and increase capacity, a plan to double the size of the harbor has been de-

veloped. The first stage of this is grading the steep land near the shore and relocating some businesses which will be displaced because of the construction. The fire hall will be upgraded in the process and will sit between the old and new parts of the port area. Mayor Nikolai Rozhenko of Smightower expressed inter-

est in using the expanded waterfront as the site for a naval academy to teach the next generation of sailors. Such an institution would also cement Smightower's central role in ongoing voyages of exploration and discovery. His proposal is under review by Admiral Hestorb and the City Planning Office.

## Cultural Arts Highlights Wirty Wednesdays in Wirt

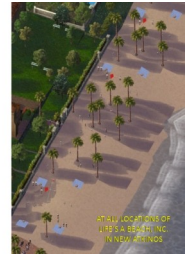
October is known as the most beautiful month of the year in Wirt. And, it is not just the seasonal leaf change. It is also the exquisite cultural arts exhibits and performances all month long at Wirtyplace. Each year, the Supreme Wirdle commissions great works of art to display and an extensive list of top-notch performers to entertain guests and citizens in Wirt. The capital comes alive with a festival atmosphere which helps bring the month to an exciting finish

on Halloween. Schultöberfest is one of the premier cultural destinations in Schulmania. Headlining this year are ballerina CatArina Miao and abstract artist Pablo PurrCasso. A culinary highlight is the annual Fancy Feast on The Lawn, which this year will be held on Old Wirt Farm Road by the heritage center. Admission is free to all events, compliments of the Supreme Wirdle. Concessions will be available at all events for nominal fees.



BALLET SUPERSTARS CATARINA MIAO AND MEOW PURRISHNIKOV PERFORM AT WIRT'S CULTURAL ARTS FESTIVAL THIS MONTH

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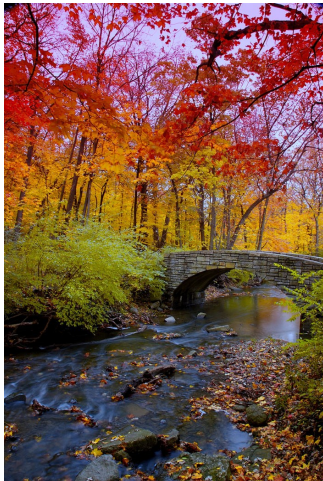
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*Weather News*



Fall has arrived and temperatures are starting to dip nationwide. Rainfall over the summer has been generally good, making for bountiful harvests and lush greenery. Here are the updated forecasts for the nation.

SCHULMANICUS: This week, expect intermittent showers and cool temperatures.

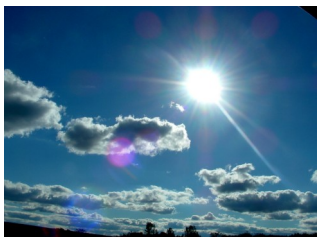
ATKINOS/GRAN MARU: Rain likely and cool temperatures.

TENNE: Overcast skies and cool temperatures. Should be breezy along the coast.

WIRDLEONIA: Cloudy and temperate.

DEVONSHIRE: Cloudy with intermittent rain. Gusty winds expected along the coast.

EAST DEVONSHIRE: Cool and cloudy in the mountains, somewhat warmer along the coast under partly cloudy skies. Stiff breezes expected along the coast all week long.



NEW ATKINOS: Cloudy and temperate with light breezes blowing in from the west.

EAST ATKINOS: Partly cloudy with a small chance of rain later in the week. Gusty winds expected along the coast.

The Agriculture Commission has issued updated harvesting projections which reflect the additional rainfall received in the last few weeks. The harvest data is below.

SCHULMANICUS: Above average conditions

TENNE: Average conditions

WIRDLEONIA: Well above average conditions. Crops may be at record levels due to cooler summer and more rain than usual.

DEVONSHIRE: Average conditions expected from coast to coast.

NEW ATKINOS: Average conditions

EAST ATKINOS: Above average conditions expected.

A new service for our readers: by request of Atkinos District Governor Cawale, we will now provide Weekly Hair Weather Reports. These reports will prove to be of great assistance in determining if wind or rain will mess up your hair. And now, Governor Cawale, this one's for you:

Good Hair Week: Northern Schulmanicus, Atkinos, Gran Maru, Wirdleonia

Average Hair Week: Southern Schulmanicus, New Atkinos

Bad Hair Week: Devonshire, Tenne

Dreaded Wind Tunnel Effect Week: East Devonshire, East Atkinos

*Weather forecasts provided by Meteorologist Maya Twentytwo and hair forecast provided by Freddy Nostradamus, hair consultant of and to the stars.*