

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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CANADA'S MAILBOX MADNESS

Canada Post, the nation's mail service, delivered a December shocker last week, announcing a phase out of urban, door-to-door mail delivery within five years, a first for a G7 country. The news caught near instant disapproval from Tu Thanh Ha, of the Globe and Mail, who identified increased litter as one of the problems with the plan. The city of Vaughan, north of Toronto, asked Canada Post to act on mailbox litter as early as 2004, when hundreds of new community mailboxes spawned litter and cleanup costs for Vaughan. We say, make paper bins for recycling mandatory at every mailbox location, installed and maintained at the crown corporation's expense!

Who litters?

Ignorant, lazy
immature, cowards.

Who doesn't?

Intelligent, strong,
courageous, leaders.

Put it in a trash can!

Above sign worked to stop chronic littering. Strategic placement, vigilance, swift remediation and a long-term plan won out for Brad Paul. www.guruhabits.com/littering

HAVE A VERY HAPPY, UNLITTERED HOLIDAY!



Above, hand-painted clothespins by Sheila White

"Killer Litter" Battle

Singaporean authorities have arrested a 15-year-old boy for 'killer litter' - in this case, a brick tossed from a high-rise balcony injured a man below. Residents report the dropping of everything from beer bottles to butts, bicycles and even barbecues. Environment, police and housing officials moved swiftly to scrutinize CCTV footage, investigate and lay charges.

ICE STORM DISRUPTS LITTERLAND

Toronto's ice storm on December 21 wreaked havoc as trees downed power lines across the metropolis, plunging 250,000 into chilly darkness over Christmas, including your *Litterland* publisher who was without electricity for eight days. Consequently our newsletter and website wound up in the deep freeze and will resume a regular schedule in the New Year. Unbelievable to see littered juice bottles and papers on the icy urban landscape as if there wasn't enough post-storm debris!

DID YOU KNOW?

New York City Council voted Dec. 18 to ban polystyrene foam food containers, a long-time campaign of outgoing mayor Michael Bloomberg, who will sign off on the law by year's end. Foam is seen as an impediment to efficient recycling and is a prominent litter nuisance.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 15 - 22)

Some of what made our News Reel this week litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html

Drunkards a downer? Close bars at six: Mayor (12/18)

The mayor's idea for curbing town drunkards didn't sit well with Bulawayo Progressive Residents' Associations at their two-day summit. To murmurs of disapproval Martin Moyo proposed closing downtown bars at 6pm to control noise and littering.

Tasmanians are ready to recycle (12/16)

A new report by Lonergan Research concludes that 87 percent of Tasmanians agree to a 10-cent deposit scheme for beverage containers in Australia. The report for Local Government Association of Tasmania was on its December agenda.

Junior litter picker could win NBC's kindest kid title (12/17)

Mateo Maldonado, 7, and his Litter Critters team landed a berth in SproutChannel's national Kindest Kid contest, vying for the title of Chief Kindness Officer and a cash award to charity.

Town dialing down phone book litter (12/19)

Orphaned phone books have Jackson, WY officials seeking legal advice on how to control them when they become litter.

Chiswick holds litter day of action (12/20)

Closed circuit cameras will be on litter watch New Year's Eve at hot spots around Chiswick, UK, continuing a "zero tolerance" blitz that began last month. Nine charges have been laid. The Hounslow town spends £3million on litter clean up annually.