



New Scenic America banner

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In case you missed it:**Billboard Wars
DVD cover**

Court orders removal of digital billboards in Los Angeles

California's 2nd District Court of Appeal has [ordered the removal](#) of more than 100 digital billboards from city streets in Los Angeles. The digital signs' existence stems from a clandestine deal made between City Hall and outdoor advertising behemoths Clear Channel and CBS Outdoor in 2006.

The Court said the City Council never should have allowed Clear Channel and CBS to convert static



billboards to digital when existing laws prohibited such changes. "We do not see how the language could be plainer," [the ruling states](#).

Whether the billboards go dark any time soon remains to be seen. The billboard companies could still appeal the decision to the California Supreme Court. In the meantime the ruling represents a huge victory for the citizens and neighborhood groups who have contended for years that the bright, blinking billboards have adversely impacted their quality of life.

[Click here](#) for a deeper analysis of the ruling by the L.A.-based Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight.

New stamps honor Lady Bird

The U.S. Postal Service is commemorating the centennial of Lady Bird Johnson's birth with a new series of stamps that also honors her legacy of preserving and beautifying America.

There are six stamps altogether: a new stamp which reproduces the official White House



portrait of the First Lady painted in 1968, and adaptations of five stamps issued in the 1960s that encouraged participation in the President and Mrs. Johnson's campaign, "Plant for a More Beautiful America."

Also included is a quote from Mrs. Johnson reflecting her belief that the environment is our common ground. Lady Bird was the inspiration and driving force behind the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, which sought to clean up the nation's growing network of highways by reducing the number of junkyards and billboards littering the roadsides.

The special stamps are currently on sale in the Texas and Washington, DC areas, or they can be [purchased online from USPS.com](#).

"Chronicle of the Billboard Wars" available on DVD!

The new documentary, "Chronicle of the Billboard Wars," is [available for order on DVD](#).

The film shares information and inspiration from citizens around the country who have risen up to say: "Enough is enough!"

The producers visited over 20 American cities to document the work of these individuals and organizations that often face difficult political and financial odds in their battles against the billboard companies.

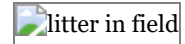
In the best American tradition, citizens have taken their grass-roots fight to city councils, county boards, zoning commissions and state legislatures.

Their message is simple: "People, not corporations, own the public space."

Scenic Tennessee gets \$100,000 grant for anti-litter project

[Scenic Tennessee](#), an affiliate of Scenic America, has been awarded \$100,000 by the Tennessee Department of Transportation to produce a series of quick-paced videos that apply the power of Tennessee music to the problem of Tennessee litter.

Tentatively called "Tennessee Speed Cleanups," the project involves filming litter pickups across the state, digitally accelerating the footage and setting it to music performed by local musicians. Enhanced with captions and images from 20 years of Scenic Tennessee photo contests, the finished videos will inspire residents to be proactive in caring for their state's beauty.



The project also seeks to highlight the value of sustainable tourism. Visitors to the project's website will be able to click on an interactive map that includes links not just to the clean-up videos but also to local parks, local history, local agriculture and even local products.

"We want the cleanups map to double as a travelers' guide to Tennessee," said Marge Davis, president of Scenic Tennessee. "For instance, a click on Memphis might take you to a cleanup on Beale Street, with a blues group singing in the background, and a link to Cotton Row."

More information will be available soon on [the project's website](#).

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