EDITOR'S NOTE: Just a reminder that we're three hours behind home base for the next two weeks, so newsletter will be arriving a bit later than usual.

- We lose Günter Behnisch, whose "radical modern designs...shaped the face of the new German democracy."
- Angotti on closing the "huge gap between the land use professionals...and community activists" as NYC mulls a major City Charter overhaul (issues other cities face as well).
- An in-depth review of 100 years of busts in NYC: the current bust is not the worst ("the sky has not fallen" - whee!)
- Hawthorne cheers L.A.'s Civic Park finally breaking ground: "a late-in-the-game effort" by the design team "has paid real dividends" (even though there are "some deviashell details to sort out")
- Hume cheers a new ice rink proposal for Toronto's Lower Port Lands "makes all the right moves" to become "a symbol of a smart city" + it may be a "glittering, stacked four-pad ice-rink" that could transform the area - but contentious issues of cost and parking remain unresolved.
- University of Pennsylvania's Sustainable Sites Initiative pilot project will transform aging tennis courts into an urban park.
- A new Tree Museum on Lake Zurich opens today, promising to "usher in a new paradigm of architectural humility" (great pix!).
- It's Nussbaum vs. Pilloton re: cultural imperialism vs. humanitarian design; Szenasy is frustrated "no end" (a most interesting debate and responses).
- A film critic gives Chicago's Modernism two thumbs down: it's "a thoughtful, if disagreeable piece, and well worth reading."
- Leadership changes at bunches of U.S. architecture schools.
- Honors well deserved: Engineers Without Borders-USA gets NBM's 2010 Turner Prize; and EBN's Alex Wilson takes 2010 Hanley Award for Vision and Leadership.
UC Berkeley appoints new chair of architecture: Tom J. Buresh...chair of the College of Environmental Design's Department of Architecture... -- Guthrie + Buresh Architects - Berkeleyside (California)


Alex Wilson Selected for the 2010 Hanley Award for Vision and Leadership in Sustainable Housing: Annual $50,000 award...recognizes visionary environmental building editor, educator, and advocate...best known for launching the monthly newsletter Environmental Building News (EBN) in 1992... - EcoHome magazine

Call for entries: Whitehaven Central Harbour International Open Design Competition: £10m mixed-use development on a prominent site; registration deadline: September 13 - RIBA (UK)

Barry Elbasani, FAIA, 1941-2010: The architect known for plans and buildings that revitalized American cities passed away last week at 69. A recent conversation with the gruff optimist and realistic urbanist about his history, inspirations, and aspirations. By Kenneth Caldwell - ArchNewsNow

Mikou Design Studio: Bailly School Complex, Saint-Denis, France