

PHILADELPHIA

Autopsy: Killer dogs

A Philadelphia woman found dead in her home was fatally mauled by her own dogs, autopsy results confirmed yesterday.

Carmen Ramos, 50, and her husband shared their North Philadelphia house with five pit bulls.

Police conducted a homicide investigation, but the medical examiner's office ruled her death an accident.

Neighbors said that the dogs were recently removed by animal-welfare officers after they escaped and attacked two resi-

dents. But, they said, the dogs were later returned.

Animal-welfare officers again removed the dogs after Ramos' death.

The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is investigating.

PGW: Pay us less

The Philadelphia Gas Works has announced that residential heating customers will pay about 2.2 percent less per month for the next three months.

The change reflects a decrease in the forecasted price of the gas

purchased from suppliers.

Starting yesterday, the new cost for gas for residential heating customers was changed from \$1.56 per 100 cubic feet to \$1.52.

The price for PGW's commercial, industrial and municipal customers also decreased.

The rate will stay in effect through Dec. 1, when PGW will determine, based on market conditions, whether the rate should change.

ELSEWHERE

Conference on refugees

The Delaware Valley branch of

Boat People S.O.S., a nonprofit organization that helps refugees and others in the Vietnamese-American community, will be hosting a "Southeast Asian Family Conference" on Sept. 22.

The conference will provide an in-depth look into the barriers that Southeast Asian families face in remaining a strong family unit.

Topics of discussion will include domestic violence, access to health care, barriers to education and conflict resolution.

For more info and to register, visit www.bpsos.org. There is a \$15 registration fee.

Boat lost after storm

The Coast Guard attempted to

establish communications over VHF-FM radio with a 23-year-old man aboard a 30-foot sailboat off Cape May yesterday.

The parents of Falcon A. Riley told the Coast Guard by email that he was last seen Aug. 25 in Cape May and has not been in contact since Hurricane Irene passed through the area.

The boat, the Reverie, is a Hunter sailboat with a white hull, green stripe around gunnels, green sail covers and green spray hood.

If anyone has any information on Riley, contact Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay in Philadelphia at 215-271-4940.

— Staff and wire reports

PHOTO OF THE DAY



Showing a Center City crowd yesterday what they can expect to see on Sept. 24 at the annual Hero Thrill Show is the Police Motorcycle Drill Team.

ALEJANDRO A. ALVAREZ / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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