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Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY
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Volume 19 Issue 55
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Lucky Us
We are spoiled for choice this weekend.
Page 4

A literal falling out
A man assaulted his girlfriend while she was driving.
Page 7

EV drivers will soon have to pay to use public chargers



File photo

EV: The Council has modified rules for charging electric vehicles at public charging stations.

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

The city of Santa Monica will start requiring electric vehicle drivers to pay to use public charging stations for the first time to help fund almost 900 new chargers by 2025.

While charging fees have not yet been decided, the city will soon begin fining drivers for staying at charging stations beyond posted time limits, known as an overstay charge, to partially recoup the cost of operating the chargers and discourage drivers from leaving their EVs in charging spaces longer than needed. City Council unanimously approved the overstay charge and supported plans to introduce charging fees at its Tuesday meeting.

Officials said the city regularly receives complaints from EV drivers about vehicles that have been left at charging stations beyond their time limits with no incentive to move because they are not paying for the electricity and are rarely cited by parking enforcement.

"We've always told EV drivers you'll get a charge out of Santa Monica, and so many have taken us up on that offer that we need to create charging turnover to provide fairer access," said Mayor Kevin McKeown.

By late March, drivers will be charged $1 per minute for staying beyond the posted time limit (after a ten-minute grace period). The maximum charge is set at $53, which is equivalent to standard parking overstay citations. Signs and text notifications will inform

SEE **CHARGERS** PAGE 10

Shore hotel COO arrested for identity theft

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

The embattled chief operating officer of the Shore Hotel is facing four felony counts for trying to suppress a sexual misconduct lawsuit, according to court records.

COO Steve Farzam was arrested in November and was arraigned Wednesday on two counts of identity theft, attempting to dissuade a witness and counterfeiting a government seal. In March 2017, Farzam allegedly tried to prevent Lieber Hernandez, a former Shore Hotel employee who alleges Farzam sexually harassed her, from testifying against him and created a website that showed photographs of

SEE **FARZAM** PAGE 11

More than 40 Santa Monica restaurants to participate in dineL.A.



Lindsey Huttrer

FOOD: Tallula's winter 2020 dineL.A. menu features scallops in yellow curry.

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica foodies can find special multi-course menus at dozens of local restaurants from Friday through Jan. 31.

dineL.A.'s biannual restaurant event is returning for two weeks this month and a record 44 Santa Monica restaurants are participating. Participating restaurants will serve

SEE **RESTAURANTS** PAGE 10

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SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #20.05.M - DSA# 03-120191 Webster Elementary School – HVAC Project at Webster Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$2,600,000.00 - $3,000,000.00** for HVAC Upgrades to buildings A, B, C, D, E, F, G & H and electrical service upgrade to support the HVAC upgrades and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be filed in the Districts Purchasing Office located at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 on or before 2/11/20 no later than 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 1/21/20 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 1/28/20 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fip.smmusd.org/contractors.html.

Mandatory Job Walk: 1/21/20 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: Webster Elementary School located in Malibu, CA at 3602 Winter Canyon Road, Malibu, CA 90265 – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front office to be signed in. Attending Contractors will then be escorted onto the campus to the meeting room from that location.**

Bid Opening: 2/11/20 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, January 16

Outside Looking In: An Exhibition of Artists Facing Homelessness

The exhibit will feature the life of Arlene, a single mother of four kids (ages 3-17) and working nurse practitioner who lives in motel rooms across the San Fernando Valley, while trying to maintain some sense of routine and normalcy for her children. The exhibition will also feature self-exploratory works from young artists experiencing homelessness who are based at the Healing Arts Program at Safe Place for Youth in Venice. This evening will focus on a reception for the artists and community, as well as a panel discussion on homelessness and how the public can help. Annenberg Community Beach House, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now

One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 6 p.m. Pico Branch Library.

3D Self Portraits

Use upcycled materials to make a portrait of yourself. Presented by the reDiscover Center. Ocean Park Branch Library, 3:40 - 4:30 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Class, Multi Level HIGH

Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. Main Library, 11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Friday, January 17

Fireside at the Miles - Orchestra Santa Monica Woodwind Quintet

Orchestra Santa Monica Woodwind Quintet performs the music of Saint-Saens and Nielsen. 8 - 10 p.m. Tickets available at https://osmwoodwind-quintet.eventbrite.com

Music and Movement at the Library

A musical story time that will have little ones singing and dancing as they learn important early literacy concepts. For ages 18 months to five years old. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 4 p.m.

Main Library Docent Tours

Docent led tours are offered the third Friday of each month. Docent led tours of the Main Library cover the library's gold LEED rating of sustainability, its art, architecture and even the library's collection! Docents are able to adapt the tour to fit your interest and time. Main Library, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 18

Fireside at the Miles - Colibri Quartet

Colibri Quartet is a Los Angeles based jazz ensemble blending American and Brazilian traditions. The group envisions The American Songbook and Samba classics from a contemporary perspective and highlights many original compositions. The quartet features Natália Spadini (vocals), Ben Thomas (guitar), Kevin McClellan (bass), and Marcelo Bucater (drums). Tickets available at https://colibri-quartet.eventbrite.com. 8 - 10 p.m.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

BBB Holiday Service

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 20, 2020, Big Blue Bus will operate a modified weekday schedule. The Transit Store and Customer Service will be closed.

Palisades High and Paul Revere Middle School Riders:

Route 9: Northbound trip at 7:13 a.m. to Pacific Palisades and southbound trip at 2:33 p.m. to Santa Monica canceled.

Route 14: Southbound trip at 3:22 p.m. to Playa Vista canceled.

SMC Riders:

Route 44: Not in service

UCLA Riders:

Hilgard Terminal will be closed.

Routes 1, 2, and 8: Serve Charles E. Young/P2 Hub. See below for alternate boarding locations.

Route 17: Serves Charles E. Young/P2 Hub as usual.

Rapid 12 and Route 18: Serve Gateway Plaza as usual.

To UCLA

Due to the closure of Hilgard Terminal, Routes 1, 2, 8, and 17 will end service at Charles E. Young/P2 Hub.

The following stops will be missed:

NB Westwood Blvd. at Le Conte Ave.

EB Le Conte Ave. at Tiverton Dr.

NB Hilgard Ave. at Manning Ave. and Westholme Ave.

Hilgard Terminal

Please use the following alternate stops:

NB Westwood Blvd. at Weyburn Ave.

NB Westwood Plaza at Jules Stein Eye Center

Charles E. Young/P2 Hub

To Santa Monica

Due to the closure of Hilgard Terminal, service on Routes 1, 2, 8, and 17 begins at Charles E. Young/P2 Hub. You may also board at the following alternate stop:

SB Hilgard Ave. at Westholme Ave.

SUBMITTED BY BBB

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 51 CALLS ON JAN. 14

EMS 100blk Bicknell Ave 1:05 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 1:30 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1100blk 11th St 2:54 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 5:12 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Lincoln Blvd 5:28 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Stewart St 7:07 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:18 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 8:28 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:20 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Bay St 9:20 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 9:26 a.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:48 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 9:49 a.m.
EMS 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:58 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 12th St 11:10 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Bay St 11:15 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Hill St 11:17 a.m.
EMS 1600blk 26th St 11:21 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:34 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 11:51 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 1100blk 11th St 11:53 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Bay St 11:57 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 12:25 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Delaware Ave 12:29 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 6th St 1:15 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 2:04 p.m.
EMS 200blk Euclid St 2:40 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Pico Blvd 2:41 p.m.
EMS 800blk Montana Ave 2:47 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Main St 3:00 p.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 3:03 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Pico Blvd 3:04 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 3:07 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 3:40 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 4:13 p.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 4:45 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 3300blk Barnard Way 5:03 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Colorado Ave 5:46 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 16th St 5:53 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 5:56 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:32 p.m.
Smoke Investigation 4th St / Montana Ave 6:32 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 6:48 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 21st St 7:04 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 7:57 p.m.
EMS 700blk 12th St 8:00 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 200blk Ocean Ave 8:25 p.m.
Structure Fire 1900blk Pico Blvd 8:31 p.m.
EMS 800blk 11th St 9:01 p.m.
EMS 300blk 25th St 9:18 p.m.
EMS 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:55 p.m.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"C-7"** license, on the following: **Bid #20.07.SMS, Santa Monica High School Interim Repairs/Upgrades – PA's, Bells, and Clocks Project at Santa Monica High School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$1,300,000.00 -$1,600,000.00** and includes the procurement and installation of a paging, clock, and bell system at Santa Monica High School. The high school currently has an existing paging, clock, and bell system throughout the campus. Within the campus there are some buildings with an existing traditional non-IP based system and others with an IP-based system. The purpose of this project is to install a campus-wide IP-based PA, bell, and clock combination device system as well as out-door speakers while re-using existing infrastructure where possible, as detailed in the bidding documents. The final system will be a hybrid system (IP and traditional speakers), communicating over the IP network for centralized control on the campus and at the District office. The system is to be fully functional and includes installing new hardware; cat-6 cabling from the devices to the respective IDFs; a central operating system, and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be filed in the Districts Purchasing Office located at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 on or before 2/11/20 no later than 2:30 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 1/21/20 at 2:00 PM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 1/28/20 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fip.smmusd.org/contractors.html.

Mandatory Job Walk: 1/21/20 at 2:00 PM

Job Walk location: Santa Monica High School located in Santa Monica, CA – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the 4th Street pedestrian gate, adjacent to the DoubleTree Hotel, opposite the Civic Center parking structure. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location.**

Bid Opening: 2/11/20 at 2:30pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

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LEMLE LAW GROUP, PC

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Madeleine Pauker
madeleine@smdp.com
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Too Much This Weekend, Lucky Us

NICOLE RECOMMENDS: THE REVEREND HORTON HEAT, Deke Dickerson, The Buttertones (it's a psychobilly freakout!! The Rev can pick like crazy and so can his band, special guests rock n roll/ country/rockabilly shredder Deke Dickerson, and The Buttertones, think dark, psycho-surf plus screaming sax, serious musicianship and serious pompadours), Tues, 8 p.m., Alex's Bar, Long Beach, $30.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

BENNY GREEN TRIO (I don't need to say much, HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, right? — he is an emotional and technical genius and probably my favorite jazz pianist on the planet, and believe me, I've seen some doozies, mostly at the Jazz Bakery). Sat 8 p.m., Jazz Bakery, Moss Theater, SM, $30-$35.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — KARL DENSON'S TINY UNIVERSE (terrific San Diego band up to bless us with their very large universe, is it rockin' funk or vice versa, who cares, listen to the trumpet man blow crazy and Karl plays flute and sings it sweet...but not at the same time), Thurs, 9 p.m., Lodge Room, Highland Park, $25.

BAD HABITS (what took me so long? I've been advising you every week to go see this based on the outstanding track record of the Ruskin and in particular of Liar, Liar/Sneaky Ole Time writer Steve Mazer, not to mention getting to see a real pro on the boards in 90-something Orson Bean and his Wonder Years/Bold & the Beautiful wife Alley Mills, I tempted you by saying it's full of nuns but turns out those nuns and Bishop Bean are really funny, and pretty potty-mouthed when not in front of a congregation), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SMO, $20-$35.

LAURIE ANDERSON & CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE with Rubin Kidhelii (jazz? avante-garde? even classical? with these three it could go anywhere, but definitely up, the NY Times called their 2017 Town Hall concert one of the best live jazz performances of the year), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $76-$232.

LED ZEPAGAIN (c'mon Charles, a tribute band? well it does depend, on how good the original material is, how big a fan you are, how well the band replicates it without slipping into parody, and maybe how drunk you are, I recommend these guys), Fri 9 p.m., Harvelle's, SM, $20.

SOUNDS OF SIBERIA: YULIYANA KRIVOSHAPKINA with NACHYN CHOREVE (OK, you're going to either love me or hate me for sending you to this but I'm betting on the former of course, who in balmy SoCal wouldn't want to be transported to the frigid, howling tundra of Siberia and these two can do it, wolfpacks and giant-antlered reindeer, fire and ice, with Yuliyana forever changing your notion of what a Jew's harp can do but her form is the much more versatile khomus, national instrument of the Sakha Republic, and Choreve is a soloist in the Tuvan State Philharmonic and founding member of Tuvan psychedelic rock band Hartyga and of course an accomplished throat singer, OK, you're pretty interested now, aren't ya?), Fri 8 p.m., McCabe's, SM, $25.

CHRISTONE "KINGFISH" INGRAM & Friends (21st Birthday Celebration, he's the real deal, with a sound his own that reflects B.B. King, Hendrix, Prince, catch him now so you can brag on it the rest of your life, "Kingfish is the next explosion of the blues" said Buddy Guy, he's actually from Clarksdale, Mississippi of Robert Johnson crossroads fame, first stepped on a stage there at 11, played the White House at 15, now has an album out on Alligator Records) Fri, Sat 9 p.m., Lodge Room, Highland Park, $25.

DAVE ALVIN & FRIENDS: A Tribute to Chris Gaffney (I remember Gaffney, playing in Alvin's bands and Gaffney's The Hacienda Brothers, their perfect What's Wrong with Right? album and their unforgettable live shows, we sadly lost him to cancer almost 12 years ago but he still has a lot of friends and I'll bet they're going to do right by him in this show, led by our CA treasure Dave Alvin), Sat 8 p.m., McCabe's, SM, $32.50.

STANLEY CLARKE BAND with LYRIS QUARTET (he founded Return to Forever, he reinvented the bass for jazz fusion, and he's got my favorite local classical quartet along for the ride? — this sounds heavenly), Sat Broad Stage, SM

LA CAFE PLAYS (fastest theatre in town, 5 writers, 5 directors, 10 actors, 5 brand new plays in 10-½ hours from concept to performance, fun to watch but even better to do it), Sun 7:30 p.m., 9 p.m., Ruskin Group Theater, SMO, $10-$15.

JOHN MAYALL (if I have to tell you who John Mayall is you probably don't have a deep interest in the blues, he's the bedrock of British blues whose bands fostered a blues who's who like Clapton, Mick Taylor, Mick Fleetwood, Peter Green, Jack Bruce, Aynsley Dunbar, Harvey Mandel, Red Holloway, up through Coco Montoya, Walter Trout, in his mid-80s, catch him now), next Thurs, The Canyon Agoura Hills;

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BEETHOVEN with EMANUEL AX 1/24, 25, 26, Disney Hall, DTLA; JOHN MAYALL 1/24, The Canyon Montclair; WAR 1/24, The Canyon Santa Clarita; ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT 1/25, The Daily Pint, SM; ERIC ANDERSEN, SCARLET RIVERA, 1/25, McCabe's, SM; PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT Presents PUCCINI'S Gianni Schicchi, RAVEL'S L'Enfant et Les

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 300 CALLS ON JAN. 14

Battery Just Occurred 300blk 15th St 2:26 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 2nd St 2:36 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Olympic Dr 5:13 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 5:32 a.m.
Encampment 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 5:46 a.m.
Encampment 1400blk 5th St 6:06 a.m.
Burglary Just Occurred 2400blk Main St 7:00 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 7:24 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1200blk 4th St 7:35 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Ave 8:00 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2900blk 10th St 8:19 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1100blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:27 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:03 a.m.
Fraud Report 700blk Wilshire Blvd 9:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 9:26 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1000blk Euclid St 9:36 a.m.
Burglary Report 100blk Wadsworth Ave 10:01 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1200blk 26th St 10:32 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 10:39 a.m.
Smoking Violation 700blk Ozone St 10:45 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2600blk 31st St 10:46 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2nd St / Broadway 10:49 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3000blk 18th St 10:49 a.m.
Valet Zone Violation 200blk Wilshire Blvd 11:05 a.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 11:17 a.m.
Fraud Report 2500blk Broadway 11:28 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2900blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:10 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 15th St 12:14 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 12:17 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2000blk Olympic Blvd 12:24 p.m.
Sexual Assault 1200blk 16th St 1:01 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1500blk Maple St 1:04 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2800blk Ocean Front Walk 1:09 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1500blk 2nd St 1:15 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2800blk Main St 1:21 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 1:43 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:46 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk Broadway 1:53 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:11 p.m.
Fraud Report 900blk Pico Blvd 2:12 p.m.
Burglary Report 500blk Washington Ave 2:13 p.m.
Suspicious Vehicle 500blk Pacific St 2:19 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1200blk Marine St 2:22 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:36 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 800blk Montana Ave 2:41 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk Ocean Ave 2:42 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1800blk 7th St 2:43 p.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk California Ave 2:43 p.m.
Person Down 4th St / Pico Blvd 3:04 p.m.
Missing Person 1900blk Pico Blvd 3:04 p.m.
Person Down Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 3:06 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1300blk 14th St 3:44 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 200blk Broadway 3:48 p.m.
Fraud Report 900blk 10th St 3:59 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 3100blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:59 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 4:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1700blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:05 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk 17th St 4:21 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:28 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1900blk Ocean Way 4:44 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:55 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:59 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 3300blk Barnard Way 5:03 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk Franklin St 5:12 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 300blk Santa Monica Pier 5:41 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Marine St 5:49 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 5:51 p.m.
Identity Theft 1800blk 10th St 5:55 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 700blk Broadway 6:07 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk 20th St 6:50 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 7:06 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2000blk Olympic Blvd 7:47 p.m.
Suicide Just Occurred 700blk 12th St 7:59 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 200blk Ocean Ave 8:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 8:25 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 8:52 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk Euclid St 9:03 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1100blk California Ave 9:19 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Adelaide Dr 9:31 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1100blk California Ave 9:43 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1600blk Stanford St 9:51 p.m.
Identity Theft 400blk Pacific St 10:04 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1600blk Stanford St 11:52 p.m.

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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Original Cannabis Cafe Faces Some Headwinds



Photo by Won Ho Lee.

CAFE: Menu items available at The Original Cannabis Cafe in West Hollywood.

If you're a guest in someone's home, is it right to nitpick? This is the dilemma I have writing about the Original Cannabis Café, formerly known as Lowell Farms - a Cannabis Café in West Hollywood, the first place in the nation where a person can order marijuana and food and indulge in both on site. I strongly believe that as the first in the marketplace, this place needs to be the standard bearer.

When it first opened, thanks to its uniqueness, there was a whirlwind of media reports. Most were glowing, but I didn't feel that way at the press preview. My guest and I found much too much wrong to give a fair and honest review (it's easy to be dazzled by the mere idea of a Cannabis Café). So I was pleased to be invited back with the same friend, and this time we found that much had improved – but there are still some glitches.

To their credit, they take feedback from customers really seriously. And that's evident in the improvements they've made. A recent name change involves a State of California lawsuit against Lowell Herb Co. for processing without a license; an original corporate sponsor, Lowell apparently is now no longer in the picture.

Their staff is exceptional. Host/maître d' Feliciano is impeccably fashionable, cool under stress, and with his charming personality keeps a continual eye on the floor to be sure things are moving. Chantelle and Cole (we sat at three different tables during our visit) were terrific, and another managerial-type gent, William was accommodating to us in every way.

THE EXPERIENCE

But now the details. We arrived earlier than our reservation time, so we were lucky to get a table during a very busy brunch on Sunday. Brunch is new-ish, the menu's solid, with an emphasis on plant-based foods but meat is available. The patio backdrop is lovely: a woody, green, vine-entwined wall; the patio action is also fun to watch. There's also an indoor section but I prefer the patio. Many of the people we sat at nearby tables with were visiting from other parts of the USA and the globe.

If we'd arrived at the correct time, we'd have gotten one of the comfy square tables around the patio rim instead of a small round one under a tree. Service has improved, now the waiter handles both food and pot orders (no alcohol is served). Downside: it took a very long time just to order water, longer to order and pay for the cannabis (you pay as you go), and then even longer to order and receive the food. We think the problem was a backup in the kitchen, and maybe they could use a few more wait staff. Upside: credit cards accepted and you get to indulge at your table.

We arrived at 1 p.m. and didn't leave until well past 3:30. OK, when you're indulging, it's nice to be leisurely, but we felt it took an unconscionably long time. Meanwhile we watched a number of four- and two-top tables order, eat, finish, pay and go. Mystifying.

DON'T THINK ABOUT THE CALORIES

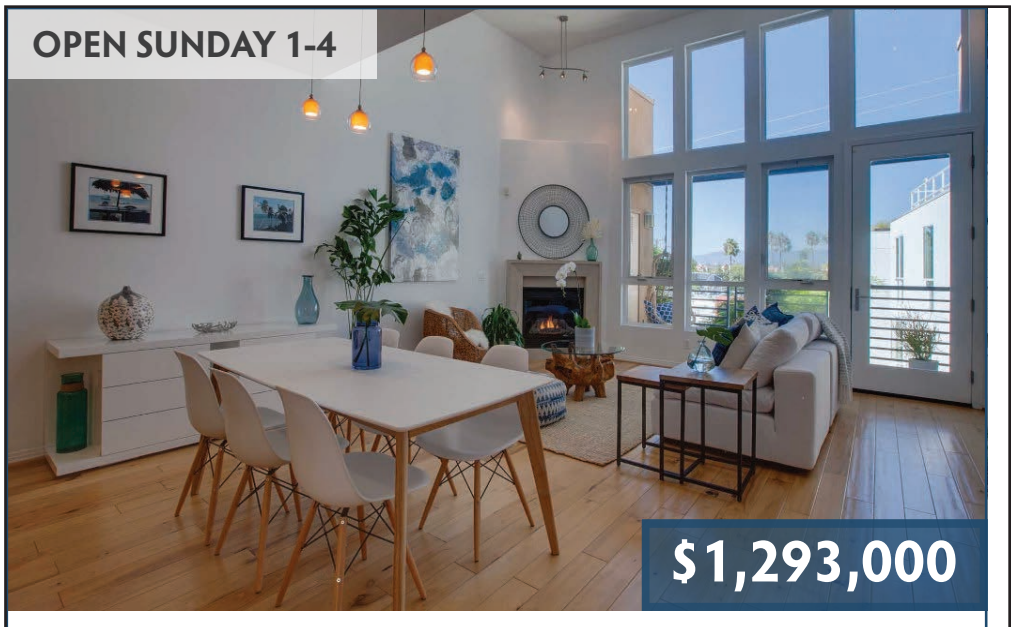
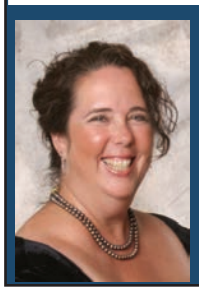
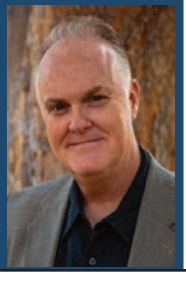
For me, food continues to be hit and miss. Also, it is NOT cannabis infused. Get your green on with their flower menu and light up before, during and after the meal as you wish.

If you need to satisfy an ooey-gooey, crispy craving, you can't go wrong with the Mac N' Cheese bites; cheesy in the middle with a satisfying exterior crunch, and the accompanying jalapeno sauce has quite the kick.

The chilaquiles elicited cries of joy from my dining companion, who desperately wanted the recipe for the sauce—it's dairy free yet cheesy tasting, spicy but not killer hot. HUGE portion too. It was a complete hit (pun intended) for her and served as both lunch and her dinner later.

My Cobb salad, however, I can only describe as deconstructed. With all the elements separated and artfully laid out on a plate, including a rim full of garbanzo beans, it made for complicated combining on a flat surface. There wasn't enough dressing and what there was, was tasteless. The textbook definition of a Cobb includes chopped chicken (or turkey), but here it was laid out

SEE CULTURE WATCH PAGE 11

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The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A place for pizza

In 1952, I was living in Hollywood with my sister Corky. Once a week we'd go to Miceli's Restaurant for pizza, located in the heart of Hollywood, near Hollywood and Vine. Pizza was new and exciting then and we found that Miceli's pizza was the best anywhere. When our dad came to visit one day from Freeport, Illinois we took him to Miceli's for a pizza, which he had never had. After the dinner, we asked him what he thought about it. His reply: "well, it's interesting and okay but it's just a fad and it will pass by soon." Instead of a passing fad, there are so many pizza restaurants now, it's not really possible to write much of an article about them. But I'll try.



Merv Hecht

PIZZA: You have several options for pizza in Santa Monica.

Pizza in California was a new entry into the food scene. Italian immigrants brought it to the east coast in the late 1800s, but it didn't immigrate to California until around 1940. Soldiers returning from World War II were familiar with pizza and were some of the first aficionados. But once it got here, it proliferated quickly.

While we associate pizza with Italy, stuff like pizza has been around for thousands of years. But the basic pizza, dough fired in a wood oven with tomato sauce, cheese and basil (the colors of the Italian flag), dates from the 1800s in Naples. Today there are lots of innovations and toppings and in Italy, some strict rules, such as what kind of tomatoes can be used for the sauce, and I guess there are a variety of preferences. For me, the important considerations are:

1. The thickness of the crust: I like it thin.
2. The texture of the crust: I don't like it too crisp. Traditionally pizza from Naples is soft and pliable while pizza in Rome is thin and crisp.
3. The acidity of the tomato sauce: I like some bite to it.
4. The texture of the cheese: I like it sort of gooey with strings as you eat it.
5. I like some fresh garlic flavor, and a sprinkle of hot pepper is nice.
6. Yes, a wood-fired oven is preferred but that is not the most important factor for me.
7. I prefer it really hot, right out of the oven. By the time I get a delivery, a little something has gone out of the flavor and texture.

So, with a product so infused into society, and with so many variations and personal preferences, how do you write anything new about it? All I can do is tell you what I've found.

First the bad news: When I called my favorite pizza vendor this week for a delivery, I discovered it has gone out of business. The Ritrovo in Pacific Palisades had a real Italian oven and made two varieties of pizza, one with thin crust and one with a thicker crust. I will miss it.

The best crust I've found in Santa Monica is at Milo & Olive. I love their mushroom pizza, but I had a couple of problems there. First of all, it is way too loud for me. Secondly, they have one pizza with mushrooms, and another one with sausage. I asked if I could have one with both mushrooms and sausage and the waiter said "No." Then the manager came over to reinforce the "NO," so now I just eat the mushroom pizza during quiet times. I also think that the pizza at Pizzana in Brentwood on San Vicente Blvd. is really good and innovative. It's not covered with cheese, and the cheese is a lighter texture, but they have a good thin crust and an excellent selection of toppings.

If you are willing to drive into Hollywood, which I rarely am, there are some really good pizza restaurants. The best one I know is L'Antica. This is a beautiful indoor-outdoor restaurant, which is not trendy and thus not overly busy and noisy. The good feature about it is that the pizza is just like you get in Naples Italy. Their sister restaurant is in Italy and the people there are real Italian. It doesn't get any better than this.

Most of the other pizza places I've tried are OK, but not exceptional. The one that I found below par is the 800 degrees on Wilshire. If you want to see a list of what can go wrong with pizza, just look at their reviews on Yelp.

Milo & Olive
2723 Wilshire, Santa Monica.
310-453-6776
Pizzana
11712 San Vicente, Brentwood
310-481-7108
800 Degrees
120 Wilshire Santa Monica
310-566-0801
L'Antica, 1534 N. Mccadden PL., LA 90028
(323) 366-2408
Miceli's
1646 N Las Palmas Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90028
Phone: (323) 466-3438

Merv Hecht, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988, he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book is "The Instant Wine Connoisseur" and it is available on Amazon. Or you might like his attempt at humor in "Great Cases I Lost." He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and beverages, including wines, internationally. Please send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 16)

Harmony is your forte and superpower this solar journey. You will be a peacemaker, liaison, diplomat or contract negotiator. You'll lose yourself in work for weeks at a time, a blessing because being in the flow of your passion fills your spirit. New mentors help you see the way to earn from what thrills you. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 4, 44, 21 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Many beliefs come through osmosis, and we are not even aware of adopting them from the people around us. That's why questioning your beliefs regularly is so important. You'll ask "is this true?" at least 10 times today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The creative process brings you joy, and that's not all! There's also impatience, wonder, envy, excitement, frustration, flow, embarrassment, laughter, satisfaction and innumerable other emotions – all for the low, low price of diving in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The twins can see things from different angles more easily than the rest, and yet it's important to keep to one story for everyone today when consistency matters. Which story? Check your heart.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll mix into the world with gusto, seeking a greater breadth of experience. It's the way to figure out how people are thinking, what their pain points are and how you might help.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Relationships come and go as needs change. People are transactional like that. There are very few ties that extend beyond immediate circumstances not reliant on a confluence of interests. Cherish those; hold them sacred.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Most bad habits can be more easily bent than broken. Poke, prod and lean on your patterns to see how flexible they are. Perhaps what's needed isn't blunt force but a twist.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It is natural to imagine oneself as very different from other people when, in fact, it is likely that the very particular and unique feelings you are having have been processed by humans for thousands of years. Do share.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). While you're trying to improve, don't turn your internal world into a battlefield where the you of your dreams fights the you of your nightmares. Tenderness and inclusion are the way. Accept yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you act out of curiosity, a need for a challenge or a desire to grow yourself, all works well. Don't take action because you think it will bring you love. Love is a connection of being, not doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Children in the playground scream freely and for a wide range of non-anger related reasons including joy, fun, alarm and release. Your screams are now on the inside. You'll benefit from listening and interpreting them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The work you do to build relationships may not feel like work to you, but it is. By connecting as you do, you get the benefit of a strong support system, a network to call on, friendships that buoy you and love, sweet love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Other people don't see the totality of who you are, a fact you're sometimes glad about and sometimes lonely over. Continue to work on accepting this truth of the human condition, which affects each and every one.

Mercury and the Monkey Mind

As Mercury enters the intellectual realm of Aquarius, stay aware of your two minds – the monkey mind thought generator and the hovering angel choosing which thoughts seem useful enough to act on. In short, to identify with or believe in the thoughts that bring you down is to make a deal with monkeys instead of angels.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"My daughter has gained 30 pounds recently, and I know it bothers her. What can I do to help her get back in shape? I'm a little limited in my reach since she lives in a different state and since she happens to be 40 years old. But still, I'm her mother. I'm a Cancer, very intuitive and my daughter has always listened to me. We're very connected. So connected that sometimes I feel as though if I'm eating healthy and exercising, then it's doing some benefit to her, too. Anyway, maybe there's something I can say to help."

No, there's not. Stay out of it. Focus on your own health and fitness and stay out of her business. I appreciate how connected you are with your daughter. It's true that Cancers are extremely intuitive. It's also the sign of mothers. I don't doubt that your caring runs deep. That makes it even more important that you recognize boundaries between you and your daughter, accept her the way she is and relinquish the need to control her. At 40 years old, she is more than capable of making her own decisions.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

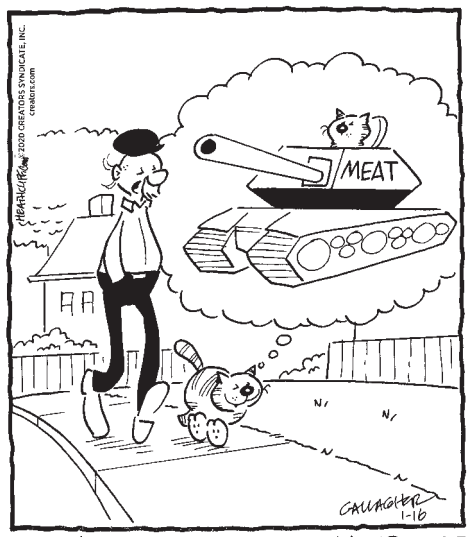
Capricorn women are known for their enduring beauty, but supermodel Kate Moss elevates the concept with her unwavering popularity. Does her inherent Capricorn respect for all things timeless and elegant have something to do with it? The style icon, born under a mysterious, sensual Scorpio moon, is known to be a connoisseur of vintage couture with a passion for antiques. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Trangam
Noun
Archaic. An odd gadget; gewgaw; trinket..

Heathcliff

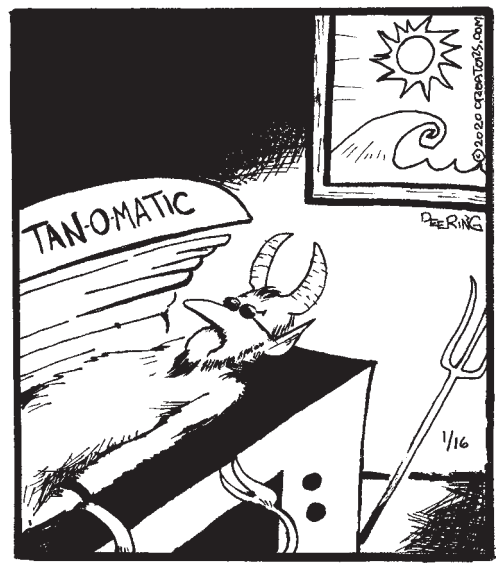
By PETER GALLAGHER



"I DON'T LIKE THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE."

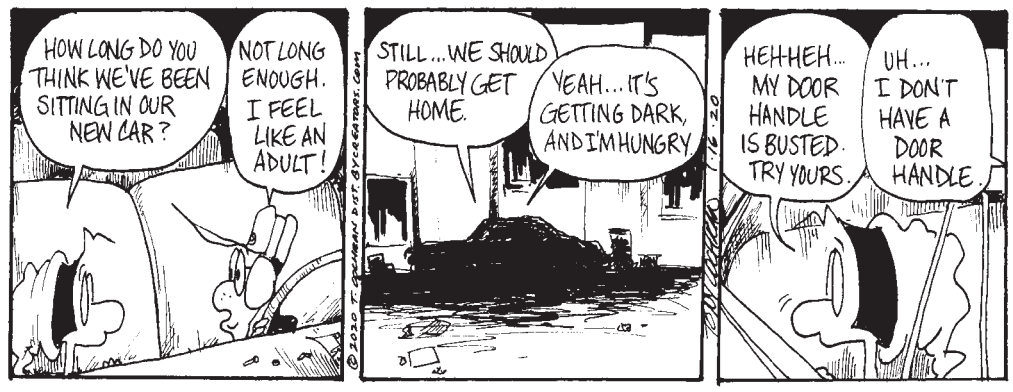
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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POWERBALL
Draw Date:01/11
3 21 23 31 59
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 296 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 01/14
9 11 13 31 47
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 103 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 01/11
4 9 13 18 34
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 01/14
2 7 15 18 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 01/15
Midday: 7 8 0
Draw Date: 01/14
Evening: 8 3 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 01/13
1st: 08 - GORGEOUS GEORGE
2nd: 02 - LUCKY STAR
3rd: 04 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME: 1:49.23

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.7°

THURSDAY- **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft knee to waist high
Fresh, shorter-period NW swell-mix and Southerly windswell pick up. SSE swell peaks. Rising southerly winds expected through the day.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Steeper NW swell-mix tops out. Fading SSE swell. Improving winds.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

B	A	L	S	A	■	S	A	W	T	O	■	R	A	N
U	N	I	O	N	■	O	T	H	E	R	■	O	W	E
S	T	R	I	N	G	B	E	A	N	S	■	P	A	R
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■	■	■	E	R	A	■	■	F	E	M	A	L	E	S
R	E	C	E	I	V	E	R	■	S	O	D	A	■	■
E	V	A	■	P	A	T	E	■	■	N	O	D	E	S
B	I	B	L	E	■	S	A	G	■	I	N	D	I	E
A	L	L	I	N	■	■	D	E	S	K	■	E	R	E
■	■	E	V	E	N	■	D	E	T	E	R	R	E	D
S	O	M	E	D	A	Y	■	■	O	R	E	■	■	■
A	M	O	S	■	C	A	M	E	O	■	J	O	K	E
S	A	D	■	T	H	R	E	A	D	C	O	U	N	T
S	H	E	■	S	O	N	G	S	■	B	I	Z	E	T
Y	A	M	■	A	S	S	A	Y	■	S	N	O	W	E

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

1	7	2	8	6	3	9	5	4
8	9	5	4	2	7	3	1	6
4	3	6	1	9	5	7	8	2
5	2	8	7	1	6	4	3	9
7	1	4	2	3	9	5	6	8
3	6	9	5	8	4	1	2	7
9	5	1	6	4	2	8	7	3
2	8	3	9	7	1	6	4	5
6	4	7	3	5	8	2	9	1

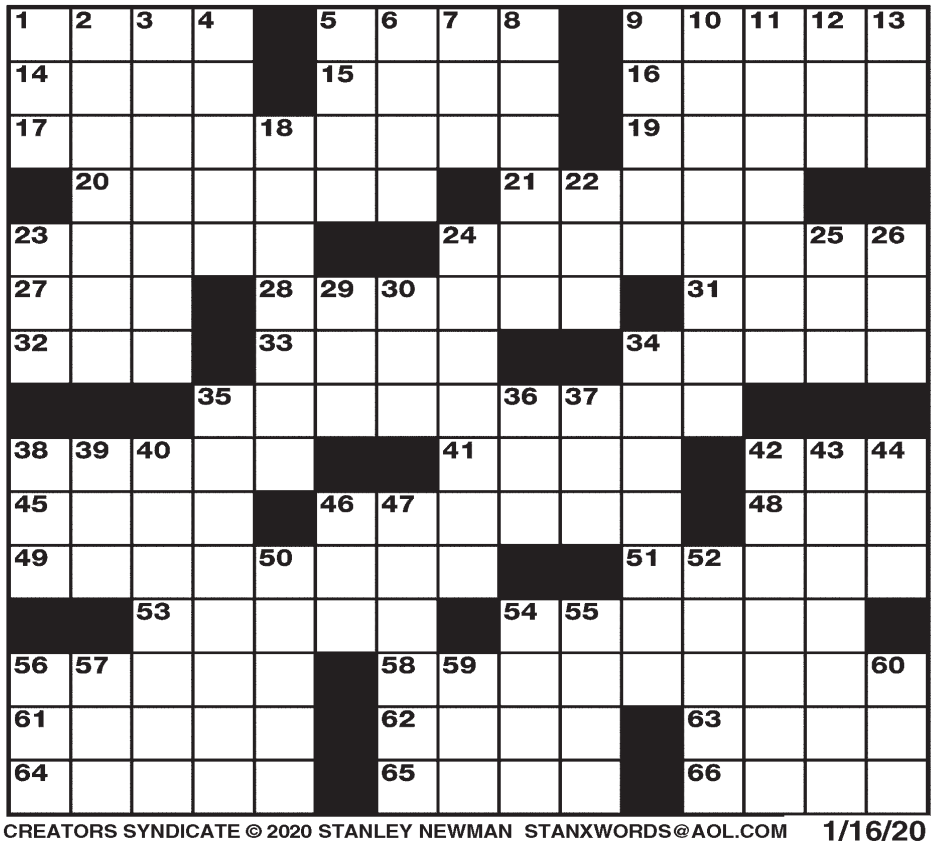
	3	2			6		7	
8			3				1	
	9			7		3		5
	8				4	9	2	
3		4		2		5		1
	7	9	1				6	
9		5		6			3	
	4				2			6
	1		7			2	9	

Newsday Crossword

PLUS PAIRS by Addison Hayes
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Citizenship descriptor
5 Organic pouches
9 Additional
14 Memo header
15 Have heard (of)
16 Big shrimp
17 Section + hills = bird
19 They're related
20 SUV ancestors
21 Metaphor for freshness
23 Alligator tour locale
24 Pigsty + intone = strong tendency
27 Mineral holder
28 Unclear, as some videos
31 __ Scott decision
32 Took a partner
33 Fling with force
34 Grows dim
35 Subsequently + depend = with candor
38 First time out
41 Polygon prefix
42 Amaze
45 Thought while nearing the stage
46 Urn controller
48 *Game of Thrones* airer
49 Remnant + hatched = bullheaded
51 Pat down
53 It means "not exactly"
54 Fold mark
56 Book jacket bio
58 Nag + doorway = trade
61 Reagan cabinet member
62 School event
63 Edison's middle name
64 Bulb box word
65 Some pols, in headlines
66 Be brimming

DOWN
1 Use a ladle
2 In the dark
3 Decoratively laid out
4 "Hands off!"
5 Largest human organ
6 + + + +
7 Machine shop tooth
8 Where IKEA was founded
9 Microscope lens
10 Curbside pickup time
11 Sail-hoisting rope
12 Feta source
13 Some health coaches: Abbr.
18 Go camping, say
22 "__ ideas?"
23 Hair accessory
24 Entered en masse
25 Wedding announcement word
26 QB's stat
29 Play back
30 Windshield wiper's path
34 Fixed charge
35 Sudden shining
36 __ U.S. Pat. & TM Off.
37 Prefix for friendly
38 Malign, slangily
39 Rescue pro
40 Aroma
42 Ref's accessory
43 Follow obediently
44 Stir-fry cooker
46 Rescue request
47 With cost set
50 Innocents
52 Rushed towards
54 Overstuff
55 Turntable speeds
56 Autobahn auto
57 Grassland
59 Apt rhyme for "lumberjacks"
60 Dinner table tuber



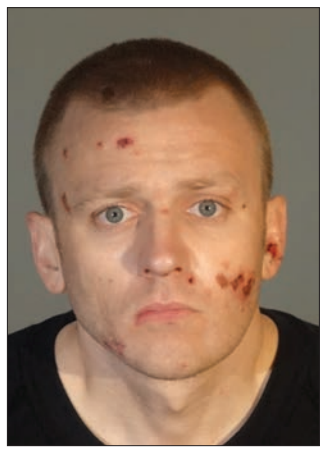
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CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON NOVEMBER 10, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 10 P.M.

In the area of Lincoln and Broadway, a female was driving her boyfriend to an area in Los Angeles. While driving, they got into an argument about the boyfriend's use of narcotics. He became upset and slapped her across the face. He then punched her and attempted to strangle her. The female grabbed her boyfriend's phone threatening to throw it out the window if he did not stop attacking her. The boyfriend stopped his attack and opened up the car door. The female then drove off causing her boyfriend to fall out of the car. She was able to call the police. Police were unable to find the suspect that evening and placed a want in the system. On January 1, 2020 LAPD arrested the suspect and brought him to the Santa Monica Jail for booking. Chase Farrington McFadden, 32, of Los Angeles was arrested for inflicting corporal injury on spouse/cohabitant/Etc. Bail was set at $50,000.



File photo
CHASE FARRINGTON MCFADDEN

CHARGERS

FROM PAGE 1

drivers of the charges.

The overstay charges will be reinvested in the charging network, which currently numbers 140 chargers but will double by the end of the year. As of December 2018, about 2,700 EVs were registered in Santa Monica, about 4% of all vehicles. Officials project the number of EVs in the city to grow dramatically as they become more affordable.

Santa Monica's EV Action Plan calls for a total of 1,000 chargers by 2025, but the city is one of the last municipalities to offer free EV charging and officials said meeting that goal will be difficult without asking users to shoulder some of the installation and operating costs.

The city will conduct a fee study based on Clean Power Alliance rates, which range from $0.04 to $0.15 kilowatts per hour, though prices can be up to $0.40 kWh during summer peak energy demand periods. CPA became the city's default energy provider last year and charges slightly higher rates than Southern California Edison because its electricity comes from renewable sources.

City staff are looking at fee scenarios ranging from $0.20 kWh to $0.49 kWh, or $8 to $19.60 to fully charge a Nissan Leaf to $15 or $36.75 to charge a Tesla Model 3. Nearby Beverly Hills and Long Beach charge $0.25 kWh and $0.49-$0.59 kWh, respectively. Staff said rates could change depending on time-of-day energy demand.

With the 300 total chargers that will come online by the end of the year and assuming a rate of $0.25 kWh, the city would earn about $645,000 annually after covering direct operating costs of $405,000.

City Council may vote in the future to use the surplus revenue for additional chargers — a single port costs $4,500 and a dual-port costs $6,000 — and incentives for apartment and office buildings to install chargers.

madeleine@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Venice

Man Sentenced for Shooting at Venice Bar

A 48-year-old man was sentenced to 22 years in state prison for shooting a bar patron during an argument at a Venice bar, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Robert Leo Mewhorter, a transient, pleaded no contest on Jan. 10 to one count of attempted murder and admitted allegations of using a handgun and causing great bodily injury.

Deputy District Attorney Brenda Chan prosecuted the case.

On March 7, 2018, Mewhorter got into an argument at a Venice bar, prosecutors said. The defendant left and returned soon after and opened fire, injuring the victim, the prosecutor said.

Case SA097575 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

SUBMITTED BY RICARDO SANTIAGO, D.A. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

LA murders are down, but homeless victims increased

Even as murders in Los Angeles have decreased in recent years, the number of homeless homicide victims has gone up, authorities said.

Overall, homicides in the city dipped from 260 in 2018 to 253 in 2019, city officials announced Wednesday. Meanwhile, the number of homeless people who were murdered rose from 40 to 42 from 2018 to 2019.

NPR first reported the trend in Los Angeles homeless homicide victims last month.

The city's homeless population rose 16% to 36,300 between 2018 and 2019, according to the most recent count.

Los Angeles Police Chief Michel Moore said Wednesday at a news conference that in half of 2019's homeless homicide cases, the perpetrator was someone also believed to be experiencing homelessness.

The chief said the department works with other city agencies to get homeless people access to shelters and other resources. Combating homelessness has been one of Moore's priorities in his tenure. He has said law enforcement and arrests are not the solution.

It's not clear if this is the city's highest number of homeless murder victims. Los Angeles Police Capt. Gisselle Espinoza said in an email the department only recently started categorizing specific homeless crimes.

Moore and other city officials, including Mayor Eric Garcetti, touted other 2019 crime reductions Wednesday. Citywide violent crime is down 5.5%, and property crime dipped 7.4%.

In the coming year, authorities said they want to focus additional efforts on recruiting a diverse pool of candidates to reflect the city's population, modernizing technology to free up officers for non-administrative duties and expanding accountability within the department.

Moore also said he expects an update this week regarding an investigation into members of an elite crime suppression team who allegedly falsified records and listed innocent people as gang members. Of the 20 officers who are under review, 10 have been suspended.

STEFANIE DAZIO ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles

UCLA receives $25M gift from head of Japanese retail giant

The University of California, Los Angeles has received a $25 million donation from Tadashi Yanai, the founder and CEO of Japanese clothing giant Uniqlo, the school announced Wednesday.

The money will endow a center named for Yanai devoted to the study of Japanese literature, language and culture, the university said in a statement.

Yanai's gift is the largest from an individual donor in the history of UCLA's humanities division, according to the school.

In 2014 he donated $2.5 million to create the Yanai Initiative, a collaboration between UCLA and Japan's Waseda University. The program supports academic and cultural programming and enables student and faculty exchanges between the two universities. The latest gift will ensure the initiative's long-term future, the statement said.

"Thanks to his generosity, UCLA will lead the way in research and teaching in Japanese humanities, bringing new attention to a rich culture that has captured people's imaginations for centuries," said David Schaberg, UCLA's dean of humanities.

Yanai founded Uniqlo in the 1980s and grew it into a brand known for its casual clothing.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RESTAURANTS

FROM PAGE 1

prix-fixe menus at price points varying from $15 to $110. Here's a complete list of Santa Monica restaurants participating in dineL.A.

1 Pico @ Shutters on the Beach, lunch: $35, dinner: $49.
1212 Santa Monica, lunch: $20, dinner: $49.
Art's Table, dinner: $49.
Ashland Hill, dinner: $39.
Belcampo Meat Co., lunch: $25, dinner: $49.
Blue Plate Taco, lunch: $25, dinner: $29.
BOA Steakhouse, lunch: $35, dinner: $99+.
Calabra, dinner: $49.
Chinois on Main, lunch: $35, dinner: $59.
Citrin, dinner: $99.
Coast, dinner: $39.
Colapasta, lunch: $20.
Elephante, lunch: $35, dinner: $49.
Enterprise Fish Co., dinner: $39.
Estate Restaurant + Bar, dinner: $39.
Farmshop, dinner: $59.
Fia, dinner: $49.
Flower Child, lunch: $35 for two.
Herringbone, dinner: $49.
HiHo Cheeseburger, lunch: $15, dinner: $29.
Il Forno, lunch: $20, dinner: $39.
Local Kitchen & Wine Bar, dinner: $49.
Lunetta Dining Room & Bar, dinner: $49.
Malbec Argentinean Cuisine, dinner: $39.
Margo's Santa Monica, lunch: $25, dinner: $49.
Massilia, lunch: $20, dinner: $39.
Meat on Ocean, dinner: $59.
Melisse, dinner: $236.
Mercado, dinner: $39.
Michael's, dinner: $39.
Nordstrom Bazille, dinner: $29.
Orto Santa Monica, lunch: $35, dinner: $59.
Red O Taste of Mexico, dinner: $39.
Sonoma Wine Garden, lunch: $20, dinner: $39.
Sugarfish by Sushi Nozawa, lunch: $20, dinner: $39.
Sushi Roku, lunch: $35, dinner: $49.
Tallula's, dinner: $39.
Terrazza, lunch: $25.
The Penthouse at the Huntley, lunch: $35, dinner: $59.
Uovo, lunch: $15, dinner: $29.
Upper West, lunch: $20, dinner: $39.
Water Grill, lunch: $35, dinner: $59.

madeleine@smdp.com

CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 6

in a solid mass, a little overcooked, and hard to slice. So this was a "miss" for me.

Upon recommendation we ordered the Baked Alaska for dessert. It was impressive to look at, torched marshmallow coating replacing the traditional meringue, but it was tooth-achingly sweet on the outside and on the inside, there wasn't enough ice cream and too much of a very ordinary chocolate cake to make this one a "hit" for me.

FINAL VERDICT

I do want to stress that the environment is lovely, the action is lively, the people watching and open friendliness of fellow imbibers make this a really fun place to go pretty much any day of the week, but especially at Brunch.

Would I return? Yes, the Brioche French Toast looks wonderful, I'd like to try the Smashburger and the fried chicken, and I'd give one of the three other desserts a chance.

It's easy to justify a review based only on the uniqueness of the venue. But if this café wants to be judged on its merits for food, ambiance and service, I think they're getting there but haven't fully achieved their goal.

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

NOTEWORTY

FROM PAGE 4

Sortilèges 1/25, 2/1, 2 Occidental College, LA; JOHN MAYALL 1/25, ENGLISH BEAT 1/31, The Rose, Pasadena; BALLET FOLCLORICO NACIONAL DE MEXICO DE SILVA LOZANO 1/30, The Soraya, CSUN; REFLECTIONS IN A D'BACK'S EYE 1/31, 2/1, Highways Performance Space, SM; MARCUS KING BAND 1/31, Fonda Theatre, Hwd; LA OPERA - EURYDICE 2/1-23, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA; PHAST PHREDDIE & THEE PRECISIONS Reunion! 2/1, Burbank somewhere; ELTON JOHN 2/1, The Forum, Inglewood; JACARANDA - PAX AMERICANA I & II, 2/2, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica; WYNONNA & CACTUS (yeah, that Wynonna) 2/4, McCabe's; MAVIS STAPLES, 2/13, The Soraya, CSUN; NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL STARS 2/13, Teragram Ballroom, DTLA; LONNIE LISTON SMITH 2/23, Lodge Room, Highland Park.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

FARZAM

FROM PAGE 1

her and her family and a false criminal record, the Daily Journal reported in December.

Farzam allegedly falsified a Los Angeles County Superior Court seal in February 2018 while trying to get Google to take down an expose of his past history of criminal behavior written by former Daily Press reporter David Mark Simpson for Atavist, an online journalism platform.

Farzam has been convicted of impersonating a police officer, larceny and possession of an assault weapon, among other charges. His 2015 case resulted in a 90 day jail sentence and five years of probation.

The Shore Hotel, which is owned by the Farzam family, faced a record $17.8 million Coastal Commission fine last month because the Farzams built the upscale hotel without a permit. The commission decided to allow the hotel to remain open after the Farzams offered to replace the moderately priced accommodations that were lost when the family illegally built the luxury hotel.

madeleine@smdp.com

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2019323530 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/17/2019 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Donna Sternberg & Dancers . 911 9th St #206 , Santa Monica, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Dancessence Inc 911 9th St #206 Santa Monica, CA 90403. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)09/1990. /s/: Chris Bradford . Dancessence Inc. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/17/2019. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 01/16/2020, 01/23/2020, 01/30/2020, 02/06/2020.

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