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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY
04.18.19
Volume 18 Issue 133
@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE ..... PAGE 2
CONSUMER CORNER ..... PAGE 3
NOTEWORTHY ..... PAGE 4
PLAYTIME ..... PAGE 5
CULTURE WATCH ..... PAGE 6



Courtesy Photo
OFFICER RASHAD RILEY

Police officer drowns while swimming in Hawaii

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A Santa Monica man that died during a Hawaiian vacation has been identified as Santa Monica Police Officer Rashad Riley.

According to the County of Kauai, Riley jumped off the point at Shipwreck's and was swimming back to shore when he apparently encountered trouble near the rocky area at about 2:40 p.m. on April 12.

Lifeguards, firefighters and aircraft responded to the scene and conducted a search. Riley's body was located at approximately 3:20 p.m. aircraft with the help of surfers, who were also assisting in the search.

Lifeguards on jet ski recovered his unresponsive body and brought him to shore. He was transported to a local where doctors pronounced him dead.

On April 17, the Santa Monica Police Officers Association released a statement on his death.

"Officer Riley was a beloved friend to all who knew him, and mentor to local youth in both the Santa Monica Police Explorer and Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) programs," said the statement. "He served the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) with great pride, courage and integrity for the past three years. Officer Riley was a cherished member of the Department's Homeless Liaison Program. With an infectious and genuine smile, he always demonstrated compassion and empathy when interacting with the community."

According to the POA, Riley had a wife and three children.

"Officer Riley will be truly missed by his SMPD family, all those who served the City of Santa Monica along with him, and all community members he so deeply touched," said the statement.

A GoFundMe page has been established to collect donations on behalf of Officer Riley's family; GoFundMe link: https://www.gofundme.com/supporting-the-family-of-officer-rashad-riley. Contact the SMPOA Office at poa@smgov.net, or (310) 393-1003, regarding donations by check.

Samohi students reflect on Notre Dame performance

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Samohi senior Sophie Golay was nodding off and on during her Paris to LAX flight before she received a tap on the shoulder, shocking her. At 11 hours long, a surprise tap would startle anyone who was winding down on such a lengthy flight. However, it wasn't the tap that shocked Sophie, it was the news that was tied to that tap: the Notre Dame Cathedral was on fire.

"It was crazy," Golay said, recalling when she first heard the news. "We had just performed there." Typically a time people stretch and laugh and check their messages with passengers happy to have landed, Golay says the plane was a somber place.

She was part of over 60 Samohi choir students that had the opportunity to perform at historic cathedrals throughout France, the Notre Dame Cathedral being one of their final stops. Little did the choir know, they'd be one of the final performers at the cathedral before flames engulfed the historic site early this week.

Golay says students performed for masses of people during that weekend, some who already planned to listen to the choral and passerbys who were attracted by the sounds of Psalms, prayers and "Ave Maria".

Since then, the choir's students and choir director have been battling jetlag, receiving an inundation of media requests, and allowing time for themselves to reflect.

Golay's mother, Kecia, said the gravity of the situation is still hitting her.

"[Sophie] was walking through halls filled with history, a place where years and years of other

SEE **NOTRE DAME** PAGE 3



Madeleine Pauker

WOLF: The California Fish and Game Commission voted Wednesday to formally oppose the Trump administration's proposal to end federal wolf protection across the country. A group of wildlife supporters rallied in front of the early morning meeting.

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Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District
Notice of Public Hearing-Measure R Parcel Tax

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing on the matter of the 2019-20 Special Parcel Tax (Measure R) regarding applying a Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment. The public hearing will be held on May 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Malibu City Council Chambers at 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA 90265. Subsequent to the public hearing on May 2, 2019 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of $420.75 per parcel, which includes a 2.5% CPI adjustment. The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from February, 2018 through February, 2019, was used to calculate the adjustment. Information to apply for the Measure R Senior Exemption may be found at **http://www.smmusd.org/fiscal/senior_exempt.html.** The application form and supporting documentation must be completed, signed and returned by June 30, 2019.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR PRE-QUALIFICATIONS SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Prequalification Questionnaires from General Contractors wishing to submit Bids on **Math and Science Addition Building Project.** The District has determined that bidders must be prequalified to bid on this Project. The Project encompasses the following overall scope:

- DEMOLITION OF EXISTING LETTERS AND SCIENCE BUILDING, LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING, AND COUNSELING VILLAGE.
- SHORING OF EXISTING BUILDING.
- SITE WORK, GRADING, AND UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.
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Estimated Construction Cost Range

- M+S Building $85.0M to $90.0M

Procedure

- Wednesday, May 1st, 2019, Prequalification package available from Vanir, SMCCD Program/ Construction Management Site Office. 1530 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. Contact for all inquiries; Gabriel Murillo, SMC Project Director, (213) 999-2284, gabriel.murillo@vanir.com or Soufiane Boudiaf , Deputy Director, (310) 999-3263, soufiane.boudiaf@vanir.com.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS (SOQ) PACKAGE: BETWEEN 1:00 TO 2:00 PM, ON May 31st, 2019. APPLICATIONS MUST BE HAND-DELIVERED. LOCATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSALS: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, DISTRICT FACILITIES PLANNING OFFICE, 1510 PICO BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, ATTENTION: CHARLIE YEN

1. Contractors License Classification. In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §3300, the District requires that Pre-Qualifying contractors possess the following classification(s) of California Contractors License A or B. Any General Contractor not so duly and properly licensed will result in denial of pre-qualification.

2. Labor Compliance Program (AB 1506). The District has established a Labor Compliance Program ('LCP") pursuant to Labor Code 1771.5. The Contractor qualifying to bid the work shall comply with the LCP and provisions of the Contract Documents relating to implementation, compliance with, and enforcement of the LCP.

3. No Withdrawal of Pre-Qualification Package. Pre-qualifying contractors shall not be withdrawn by any list for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of the Pre-Qualifying package approval.

What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, April 18

The Recreation & Parks Commission Regular Meeting
The Recreation & Parks Commission advises City Council and City staff on matters related to recreation and use of public open space. City Hall, 7:30 p.m.

S.T.E.A.M. Week: ART- Milk Marbling
Participate in S.T.E.A.M. activities for a week during spring break! ART day is for ages 5-11. See Flyer for more details! Main Library, 2 - 2:45 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.

Citizenship Classes
An ongoing series of classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors, who help students complete and submit their application, and prepare them to pass the official review. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Center (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203. Pico Branch Library, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Friday, April 19

Craft, Swap, or Create
Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us at the library to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures, and while you are at it, make some time to create, invent and learn a new craft or skill. Sewing machine, crochet tools, and other items available for your use. Pico Branch Library, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

S.T.E.A.M. Week: MATH- Candy Count BINGO!
Participate in S.T.E.A.M. activities for a week during spring break! MATH day is for ages 5-11. Main Library, 2 - 2:45 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, 12:20 - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 20

The Seed Library: Plant a Tiny Garden!
Celebrate Earth Day and learn about the branch's new Seed Library. Decorate and plant a tiny garden with reusable materials. Limited space; to register call 310-458-8681 beginning April 1st. For ages 4-12. Fairview Branch Library. 2 - 3 p.m.

Get Dirty at the Library: a Workshop for Adults
Bring out the child in you while creating a hypertufa (lightweight cement-like material) tea-light candle holder or small pot for your garden. Come dressed for getting dirty. Materials and protective gloves provided. Main Library, 2 - 4 p.m.

Ocean Park Fiction Winners Book Group
This book group reads and discusses prize-winning fiction. The group meets the 3rd Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Ocean Park Branch Library.

Connected Families: Robot Playtime
Play with robots and coding toys with your family. For Families. Main Library, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Master Gardeners at the Market
Master Gardeners provide free gardening tips, solutions to gardening problems, seeds and seedlings as well as their technical expertise based on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program which provides intense gardening training emphasizing organic gardening and covers vegetables, fruits, flowers, shrubs, trees, soils, composting, pests and harvesting. The Master Gardeners of Los Angeles visit the Pico Farmers Market on the third Saturday of each month 9:30 am - Noon. Virginia Avenue Park

EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Hop on down to the Beach house for a fun-filled morning of egg hunts, sack races, crafts, face painting and more! Hunts will be organized by age so every child can have an opportunity to find eggs. Annenberg Community Beach House, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

Consumer Corner

Andrea Cavanaugh Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Consumer Protection and Online Purchases

Carly went online one day to check her email, and before she knew it, two hours had passed – she had gone from one social-media site to another, clicking every link that looked interesting. She saw an ad for a pill that said she could lose up to 50 pounds without dieting or exercising, with a "free," 14-day trial. All she had to do was enter a credit-card number to pay for shipping.

The mail carrier delivered a small package of pills within a couple of days. Carly received another, bigger package a couple of weeks later, and then checked her bank statement and saw a $125 charge that she wasn't expecting. By then she couldn't even remember the website where she had requested the free trial, or where she had seen the ad. And although she had taken the pills as directed, the only thing that was thinner was her bank balance.

Fortunately, Carly was able to get her money back by disputing the charge with her bank. However, many people aren't so lucky. There are several steps consumers can take when ordering online, that will help them to avoid scams in the first place:

• Investigate the company before you buy. Bookmark the website and take a screen shot of the advertisement or site so you can find it again if needed.

• Check with the Better Business Bureau to see if there are complaints about the company.

• Look at online reviews of the company and its product. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

• Do a search for the company's physical address if one is listed on the website. Is it a mailbox or co-working space? That doesn't necessarily mean it's a scam — but it may be harder to get a resolution from a business that doesn't have a public presence.

• Pay with a credit card instead of a debit card whenever possible. Credit cards often have better protections.

If you already bought something online and are having trouble getting a refund or getting the business to stop making automatic charges, try the following tips:

• Dispute the charge with your bank if you think it was fraudulent or if the business refuses to stand behind its product or service.

• Consider taking the company to Small Claims Court if you lost a substantial sum and are in the same physical location as the address on the website. In California, if a business operates from a commercial mailbox or co-working space, the company that offers the mailbox or co-working space is required to accept court paperwork when their clients are sued.

• File a complaint with the Better Business Bureau or consumer protection agency where the business is located.

If you believe you've been defrauded by a business that's located in Santa Monica, you can contact the City Attorney's Consumer Protection Division at 310-458-8336 or smconsumer.org.

NOTRE DAME

FROM PAGE 1

performers walked," she said. "One day she'll be able to say to her kids, 'I performed there before it burned down.'"

Samohi Director of Vocal Music and Performing Arts Chair Jeffe Huls was still mired in thought when describing the incident and its effect on him. It was his third time performing in the cathedral.

"It's such a special place, for many people and for many reasons," Huls said. "It's a structure that wasn't just about being a place of worship. Its a structure and historical building with art. It transcends the religiosity of all. It's the reasons visitors of multiple faiths visit."

Golay agreed with Huls, noting how special it was to perform in the space.

"It was breathtaking, one of the most beautiful places I had ever been," Golay said. "It was so gorgeous and so surreal. I couldn't describe to you how big that place was. The acoustics were crazy. It was an honor and privilege to sing there."

"As far as performances go, it's a Gothic cathedral," Huls said. "Those date back to the beginnings of choral music as we know it. People singing together in the choral got its beginning in those cathedrals. That made it a space that was incredibly special to perform in."

As pledges of donations to repair the cathedral pour in from across the world, Golay and Huls are hopeful they'll be back someday.

"I would love to go back to France and perform there again," Golay said. "That'd be a dream." "I'm certain they will rebuild and that it will return," Golay said. "It'll probably never be what it once was, maybe different, maybe better. I have faith and confidence. Communities have already reached out to make it happen. That's a bright light in a dark time."

angel@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Venice

Gang Member Sentenced for 2015 Murder of Homeless Man in Venice Beach

A 32-year-old gang member was sentenced today to 93 years to life in state prison for the murder of a homeless man following an argument in Venice Beach four years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Francisco Cardenaz Guzman (dob 11/9/86) was convicted by a jury last month of one count each of first-degree murder, attempted murder and possession of a firearm by a felon. Gun and gang allegations also were found true.

Deputy District Attorney John McKinney of the Major Crimes Division prosecuted the case.

On Aug, 30, 2015, Guzman was involved in an argument with a group of homeless people near Ocean Front Walk in Venice Beach when he opened fire. Another argument ensued and Guzman shot and killed 26-year-old Jascent Warren.

Guzman fled the scene. He was arrested about a month later.

Case SA091180 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stravinsky, Sonny, Summit

READ THIS NOW!! Lots going on TONIGHT!

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — MELISSA ETHERIDGE (at the Troub? need I say more?), Thurs 7 p.m., The Troubadour, West Hollywood, $44-$244.

TONIGHT! — ALBERT LEE (never heard of him? you're not alone but go listen any time he's within 20 miles, a picker's picker, played with everyone from Eric to Everlys to Emmylou), Thurs 8 p.m., The Rose, Pasadena, $24-$44.

TONIGHT! — MASON SUMMIT, Irene Greene (one of SM's finest young singer-songwriters, you've seen him opening Library Girl at the Ruskin since he was 12, by now he's got something to say and he sings it real good with the help of golden voiced Irene Greene), Thurs 7:30 p.m., The Love Song Bar, DTLA, free.

TONIGHT! — LA PHIL - SALONEN, Stravinsky (Myth Ballets "Orpheus," "Persephone," director Peter Sellars), Thurs, Sat 8 p.m., Fri 11 a.m., Disney Hall, DTLA, $55-$194.

It's the COACHELLA!!! Valley Music & Arts Festival - JANELLE MONAE, KACEY MUSGRAVES, CHILDISH GAMBINO, BILLIE EILISH, TAME IMPALA, TY SEGALL, KHALID, UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA, WEEZER, PINK (plus this year's Beyonce, cough cough, Ariana Grande, not so great reviews from her first weekend's performance, and a couple more), Fri, Sat, Sun, all day and all night, Empire Polo Club, Coachella Valley Preserve, twixt Palm Springs and Indio, $429 and up, way up.

KURT ROSENWINKEL Standards Trio (OK forget his unsexy name, the "standards trio" tag, you will hear something different that you will remember), Sat 8 p.m., Moss Theater, Santa Monica, $35-$40.

WAYNE HANCOCK (if you ever start to muse, what does REAL country music sound like? just throw on some Wayne The Train or, lucky you, head on down to Alex's Bar Sat), Sat 8 p.m., Alex's Bar, Long Beach, $18.

BOB DERWOOD ANDREWS, Zander Schloss (Derwood left Gen X, grew his beard long and grey and knocks you out now with lap steel authenticism, Zander you may remember from Circle Jerks and Weirdos but this is the 21st Century, ain't it?), Sat 9 p.m., Maui Sugar Mill Saloon, Tarzana, free, buy 2 drinks.

LOS LOBOS (sure it's a long way south but, it's Los Lobos, in a smallish club, need I say more?), Sat 8 p.m., The Coach House, San Juan Capistrano, $45.

SONNY GREEN & the Soul Brothers (straight outta Compton, and Inglewood, this diminutive soul and blues crooner is a giant, believe me, I've seen him many times on his home turf, and The Soul Brothers with Lester Land are a band to reckon with who can play everything through the roof from Otis to the Stones to the Tempts to Johnny Cash to Nipsey Russell), Mon 8 p.m., Maui Sugar Mill Saloon, Tarzana, free, buy 2 drinks.

DWIGHT YOAKAM (boy things have changed since I first saw Dwight for free at The Palomino in the early'80s and he would scream at his band or the sound guy if things weren't just dwight, now he's got 25M albums sold, 12 gold and 9 platinum, five No. 1s on the Country charts and 14 others in the top 10, 21 Grammy noms and lotsa wins, blah blah blah but the important thing is, this Kentucky native was a large force in focusing country music away from slick Nashville and back to CA), next Thurs 8 P.M., The Roxy, West Hollywood, $100.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: CHRISTIAN McBRIDE BIG BAND, The Soraya, Northridge, Apr. 26; LA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - MOZART's REQUIEM, Apr. 27, Alex Theatre, Glendale, Royce Hall, UCLA, Apr. 28; The Spring Quartet with ESPERANZA SPALDING, JACK DEJOHNETTE, JOE LOVANO, LEO GENOVESE, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, Hollywood, Apr. 27; RED HEN PRESS: The Figure of Orpheus in Poetry and Performance, Broad Stage, SM, Apr. 28.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAY: — today, not last Thursday, is CLARENCE "GATEMOUTH" BROWN's birthday but I was rolling too many spliffs while writing last week's column and mistakenly wrote about him last week. When I should have picked Friday's boy, the very interesting JOHN KAY of Steppenwolf. I have a personal story about him from years ago, but maybe another time.

So, yesterday you had ROY ESTRADA (1943) aka Roy Ralph Moleman Guacamole Guadalupe Hidalgo Estrada, who recruited a guitarist into his Soul Giants band named Frank Zappa, giving birth to The Mothers of Invention, and later was a founding member of Little Feat. He was also in Capt. Beefheart's Magic Band and played with Ry Cooder, Van Dyke Parks and Leo Kottke. But his good judgment abandoned him and he is currently serving 25 years without parole in a TX slammer for child abuse and won't be released until he's 93.

Skip to tomorrow and you have another Mother, MARK VOLMAN (1947), probably better known as a founding member of The Turtles, which morphed out of their Westchester High surf band The Crossfires. He has remained a musical partner for more than half a century with Crossfire/Turtle Howard Kaylan. Their weird contract for The Turtles did not allow them to use that name for any project, nor their own names (?!) so when they split they proceeded as The Phlorescent Leech & Eddie, or Flo & Eddie, into a myriad of bands and projects. And I do mean myriad, and motley.

Volman returned to college at age 45, at Loyola Marymount and earned his B.A., magna cum laude (his parents were shocked), and as valedictorian led his fellow grads in singing "Happy Together." He went on to earn an MFA, is now an Associate Professor and does a lot of music business consulting and teaching, from junior high level up through university.

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

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AWARD WINNER

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Exploring the Mind of Stephanie Abrahams

If you've ever felt the need to share your most intimate concerns with a patient psychiatrist, you'll recognize and probably identify with Stephanie Abrahams, the troubled star of "Duet for One," which recently opened at the Beverly Hills Playhouse.

It's a grueling play that compresses about eight years of therapy into two and a half harrowing hours. But it's well

worth it to see two magnificent actors do their stuff.

As it opens, Mia Christou, as Mrs. Abrahams, cultured and intensely self-involved, breezes into her new doctor's comfortable office and you can almost smell the perfume you imagine she is wearing. And it doesn't diminish her presence a bit when you notice she is carrying a cane or riding in a wheelchair.

Imperiously, she informs the doctor that she is there only because her husband has insisted that she needs help. But the fact that she has multiple sclerosis is not her major problem, as she demonstrates immediately when she begins to interact with the doctor.

Her opening monologue, delivered at breakneck speed, is accompanied by erratic hand gestures, coy, wide-eyed

smiles, and abrupt swivels of her head. It's obvious that she means to appear "charming."

The doctor, Dr. Feldmann, played with quiet dignity by Howard Leder, exudes the appropriately grave manner that gently encourages her to express details of her life which she had been avoiding since childhood. He even gets her to acknowledge that in her "low" times she has considered suicide. Although, she is quick to assure him, she "thinks of it infrequently now."

On her next visit she declares, maniacally, that she is "happy" now. And at Feldmann's soft urging, she tells him of her family history. Her mother was a distinguished concert pianist who supported her daughter's passion for music and was gratified when the girl became something of a virtuoso on the violin. Unfortunately, her mother died when she was 9, and as an only child she was left with a father who had no interest in music and was completely indifferent to her talent. "Artists are no better than scum," he told her. And when he stopped paying for her music lessons, she screamed at him, "Hurry up and die so I can use the money for my music lessons!"

Then, shortly after meeting David, a fellow violinist, she married him and they contentedly played their violins together. "It's not a fairy story," she confesses to the doctor, but turns defensive when he asks her if her debilitating illness has affected their relationship. Instantly angry, she shouts, "We have worked out ways of working out these changes BECAUSE WE LOVE EACH OTHER!"

When David began to compose music, however, she voluntarily gave up her career in order to support him, but she became thoughtful when the doctor pointed out that action paralleled her mother's. Her mother had also given up her career for the sake of her husband, but not before she had nurtured her daughter's considerable talent.

Nearing the end of her sometimes combative sessions with Dr. Feldmann, Mrs. Abrahams has grown significantly and manages to maintain a calm demeanor as he suggests that she has been at the mercy of her "unconscious mind" and worried too much about the purpose and challenges of getting through life.

"The purpose of life is life itself!" he calls out to her as she prepares to leave his office for the last time.

Tom Kempinski is the author of this heavy-duty drama that has played successfully in London's West End, Broadway,

and 42 other countries. The two incredible actors were meticulously directed by Allen Barton, a Los Angeles-based playwright, director, teacher, and classical pianist.

"Duet for One" will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 through May 12 at the Beverly Hills Playhouse, 254 S. Robertson Blvd., in Beverly Hills.

Tickets may be obtained by phoning (800) 838-3006 or online at https://duetforonebhp.brownpapertickets.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Earth Day

Editor

Earth Day is April 22, marking a half century of promoting environmental awareness and calling for protection of our planet. But are we making a difference? Can we do more than reduce, reuse and recycle? Sure! We can adopt a plant-based diet and stop consuming animals.

Why the focus on meat and dairy? An article in Nature argues that animal agriculture is a major driver of climate change, air and water pollution, and depletion of soil and freshwater resources. Oxford University's prestigious Food Climate Research Network reports that solving the global warming catastrophe requires a massive shift to plant-based eating.

Animal agriculture is responsible for carbon dioxide emissions from burning forests to create animal pastures and the operation of machinery to raise and transport animals. More damaging methane and nitrous oxide are released from digestive tracts of cattle and animal waste ponds, respectively. In fact, meat and dairy production dump more animal waste, fertilizers, pesticides and other pollutants into our waterways than all other human activities combined, and it's the driving force behind wildlife extinction.

An environmentally sustainable world replaces meat and dairy products in our diet with vegetables, fruits, and grains, just as fossil fuels are replaced by wind, solar, and other pollution-free energy sources.

We can celebrate the observance of Earth Day at our supermarket.

Sincerely,

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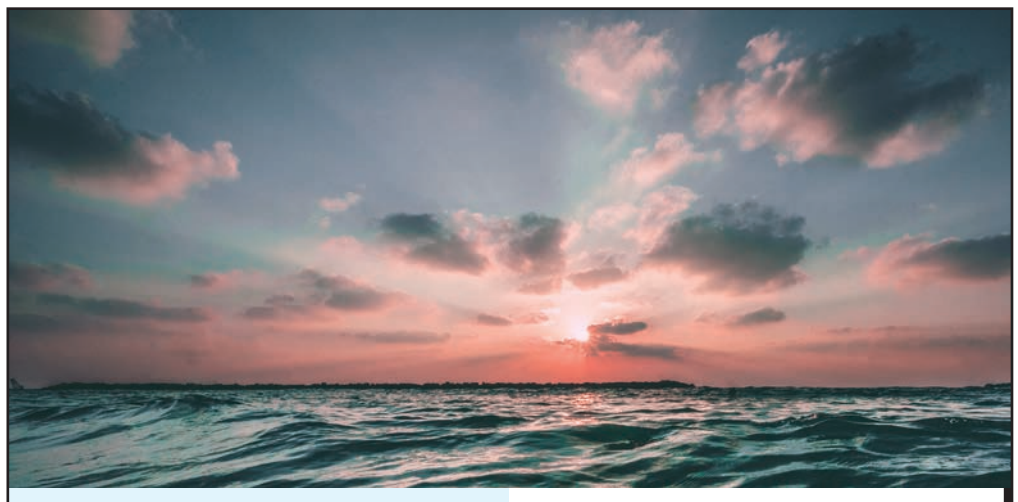
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Culture Watch

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

Massive Mural in Malibu at Former Detention Center



Photo: Michael Lee Jackson

MURAL: Artist Gus Harper with a section of his massive mural at Camp David Gonzales, a former juvenile former detention facility being converted to a vocational school.

Camp David Gonzales in Malibu Canyon is located in a scenic setting, surrounded by rolling hills, tall trees and with the recent rains, vibrant greenery. But for years it housed a juvenile detention center, with grim, forbidding walls enclosing confinement buildings and a large outdoor yard. Riddled with recidivism, up to 70 percent of the population returned to crime after being released.

Two years ago, LA County handed control over to juvenile justice reformer Harry Grammer and his Culver City-based New Earth Organization, to convert the former prison into an innovative residential vocational training center for young people, who would otherwise be on track to adult incarceration.

When Harry met Gus Harper and later saw images on social media of a gigantic mural—23 feet tall by 100 feet long—he'd painted in Santa Barbara, Harry asked him to beautify the former prison's wall—18 feet tall by 600 feet long—with a mural.

NEGATIVE TO POSITIVE

Gus is a Santa Monican with a studio at Santa Monica Airport, who sold his first painting as a senior at Santa Monica High School. For 19 years, he's made his living through art. "Most kids start out as artists in their own way, it's only when we stop expressing that creativity that we no longer are artists. I just never stopped."

He began the Malibu mural in January and completed it two weeks ago—entirely freehand. "I had a house painter do a power wash on the walls to get all the dirt off," Gus said, "and I told him I was going to paint a giant buffalo skull. He said, you can't just freehand that, you need a template. And I said, 'Oh yeah? Watch me,' and I did it right in front of him. I started the mural by putting in three skulls and built the rest around that."

Wait, skulls? Gus laughs, "I'm making a transformative piece of art, from the negative to a more positive, uplifting vibe. People associate skulls with death but I remember hiking as a kid with my family, and we found a totally intact deer skeleton, and we just thought it was beautiful and said, look how amazing God's beauty is, all the way down to the intricate details inside."

SOJOURNER ART

The mural presents a number of themes that Gus has developed over the years, most recently inspired by his travels to Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.

"I was in a place where things were going pretty well, I had a studio on Venice Blvd but I'd been there for eight years and I could see what the next eight years would be like so I decided to break out. You only grow when you leave your comfort zone." Though he'd traveled throughout South America, Southeast Asia gave him a whole new way of seeing the world and sharing his art.

When he travels, he rolls his canvases into a container he constructed out of PVC pipes so he can work on the road. Seeing some graffiti in Nepal, he was struck by the idea of painting murals wherever he traveled. "It dawned on me that every time we go somewhere, we tend to take. It would be nice to give."

On his next trip, to Sri Lanka, he began asking people if they'd like a mural on their wall and showing them samples of his paintings. "Once I started, a crowd would gather, I'd start meeting people, making new friends, being invited to dinner, going on excursions I never would have made, so it was like opening new worlds to me."

Last year, Gus was in Tokyo for the opening of one of his shows, and three months later he came back for the closing. In between, he visited Malaysia, where district officials invited him to paint murals in their small village.

"I ended up having such a good time I stayed for a month. During that time, I didn't spend a penny, they paid for everything, the paints, my hotel, every meal, I couldn't even buy a bottle of water. Everyone was so welcoming. It was a small town, no westerners ever come there." Now he's been invited to another village two districts over to do the same there.

SEE **MURAL** PAGE 11

The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The disappearance of local foods in the Caribbean

There's no place like home

I've enjoyed many cruises since our family went to England on the Queen Mary in 1952. What a memorable trip that was! My wife and I have enjoyed around 40 cruises over the last 50 some years, some on big boats like the Queen Mary, the Queen Victoria and the Crystal Cruise line. And many on smaller boats to exotic places like Bali and even Yemen and Djibouti.

In the 1980's when the kids were teenagers, we sailed our own sailboat through the leeward islands of the Caribbean, one of the best boating experiences of my life. But we didn't get to the "ABC" islands, Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao. So this year we decided to take a cruise through the Caribbean islands, including the ABC islands, and we found the perfect itinerary on a Celebrity cruise line. The boat was well equipped, the service, while poorly trained, was well intentioned and friendly, and the range and quality of food was so excellent we rarely ate on shore. In fact, if the French specialty restaurant were in Los Angeles, and Michelin was still giving stars, it would get at least one! The cabin was comfortable with a nice balcony which let us look out at the islands when in port.

From Fort Lauderdale Florida the ship first went to Antigua, Barbados, St. Lucia and Grenada.

We were surprised at the change in this first group of islands. Forty years ago there was an indigenous food culture. All that is gone. In most of the ports all I saw were U.S. style fast foods, like hamburgers, interspersed between tourist stores. I searched but didn't find one good local restaurant in any of those islands, unlike 40 years ago.

After some time at sea, we arrived at the "ABC" islands. This part of the itinerary turned out to be as interesting as we had hoped.

In terms of culture and infrastructure, it was interesting that each island visited was more advanced than the last. Antigua reminded me of Tijuana 60 years ago, while Aruba was a modern, busy cosmopolitan shoppers' paradise. While the local food on the leeward islands was not so good, on the ABC islands, which are so much more advanced, it was a different story. We had a great seafood lunch in a marina in Aruba, where we made friends with the folks at the table next to us from Russia. He was a really big guy, from a really big yacht in the harbor, with a really beautiful tall blond wife decked out with beautiful jewelry.

In spite of these good features the trip was less than perfect, and we would never go on a Celebrity cruise again. As I learned in business school, management is everything. Below are just a few of the many problems we suffered through on the cruise:

So with a well-designed boat, good food, nice staff, what can go wrong? Let me just recite some of the problems we encountered so you can watch out for them in the future.

Number one, and the most distressing was the medical service. Who wants to go on a cruise without a good doctor on board? I had slight stomach pains and a bit of diarrhea one day. I always carry modium when I travel just for that problem. On this trip I had run out and failed to refill. So I went to the ship doctor. His receptionist asked me when the problem started and I said today. To which she replied "the doctor doesn't treat patients with just one episode of diarrhea! She didn't offer take my temperature and wouldn't give me any modium just in case.

The next day I had a really bad bout of diarrhea and I was really sick all day. The following day it started to ameliorate and I recovered —-no thanks to the doctor.

Number two, I think there were three thousand people on board. Whatever the number, there was not enough staff to handle them, and there were frequently long lines to get anywhere. Inadequate staffing was clearly a problem.

Number three was poor organization of the trips off the boat. On one snorkeling venture on a catamaran they motored a few miles out to sea (it seems they never use the sails) where the seas were rough and there was a lot of wind. I passed on the snorkeling. Then they went to a beach and that was calm and that was where the locals were snorkeling. On another snorkeling trip the motor went out, and they didn't know how to sail back, and didn't have a rescue boat on tap, so the boat just sat there wallowing in the sea for two hours until another boat towed it in.

On the other hand, a trip in a semi submarine was great, with a good guide, and we saw a turtle, a school of Barracudas, and dozens of schools of different fish as well as a sunken German boat from around 1940 deliberately sabotaged by the skipper rather than return to Germany, which had just invaded Poland. Smart guy who, with his crew, probably lived happily ever after in the islands.

Number four, no one checked the volume levels of the sound amplification, nor gave any training on the use of a microphone. The board had a central opening and when the band was playing on the bottom floor very loud music permeated throughout much of the boat. Lots of people liked it and were dancing to it, but for us it was a distraction, and it totally wiped out any chance to hear the waiter in the 5th level sushi bar. The same was true of some of the guest speakers, although the singing and dancing shows were generally OK. The worst case was a bus driver on Antigua who had the microphone in one hand pressed against his mouth. Between his accent and the poor use of the microphone we didn't understand much of what he said, but we were concerned about his erratic one-handed driving on a narrow, bumpy road, with oncoming cars seemingly playing "chicken."

SEE **THE RE-VIEW** PAGE 8



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THE RE-VIEW

FROM PAGE 7

Aruba had a lot of infrastructure and shopping centers with a Wendy's, KFC and all the other familiar faces, and downtown shopping was like being on 5th Avenue in New York. Curaçao was much less developed, and Bonaire was a small town. I was disappointed to find that all of the Indonesian "rice table" restaurants in Curacao were out of business. It was almost impossible to find a restaurant with local foods, and we ended up in a buffet with a Chinese name, but the food was nondescript.

I could go on and on with this subject, but let me get to the point: the islands in the Caribbean are well worth visiting, especially the well-developed ABC islands. If you are a beach person there are some of the best beaches anywhere — although I find them too windy. If you can get on a sailboat this is one of the best sailing areas in the world — maybe the best. BUT, the food is better in Santa Monica. The weather is better in San Diego. The snorkeling is almost as good in the Channel Islands, especially Santa Cruz island. And it's not as windy. We should be so grateful to live in California.

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.

DAILY FIRE LOG

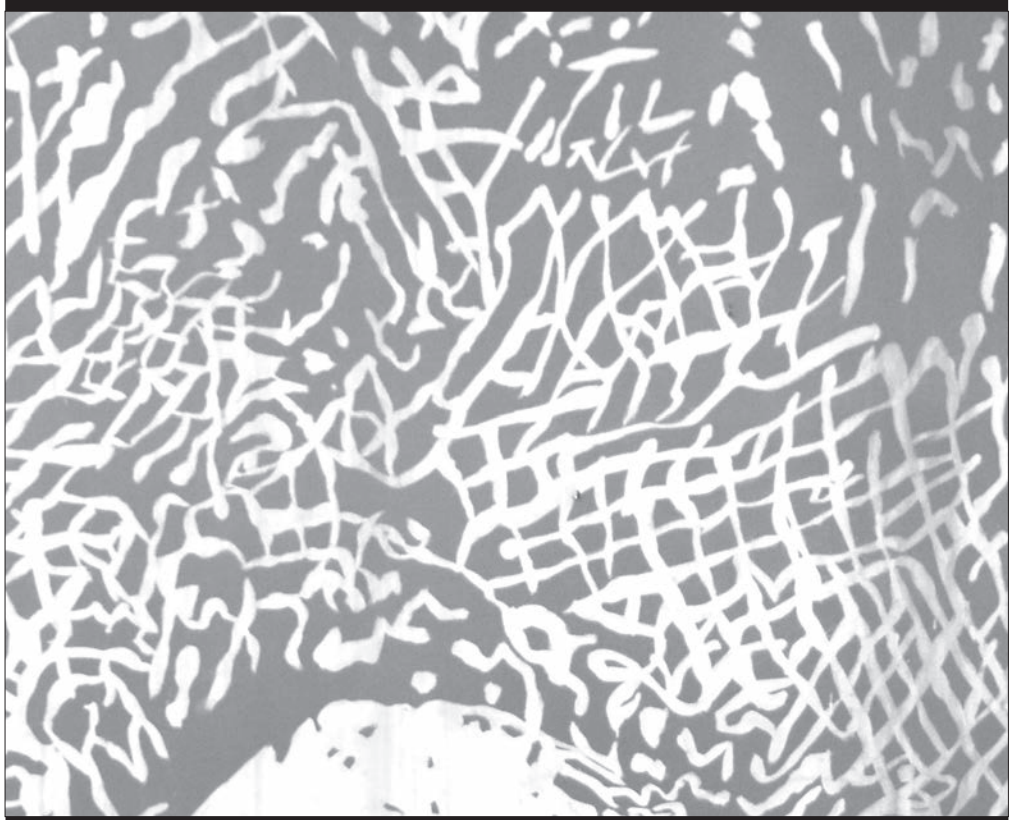
SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON APRIL 16

Emergency Medical Service 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:34 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 4:50 a.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 6:24 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 7:31 a.m.
Automatic alarm 3300blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:53 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 9:18 a.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 10:05 a.m.
EMS 2700blk Neilson Way 10:39 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 10:44 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Virginia Ave 11:16 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Wilshire Blvd 11:18 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 1:05 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 16th St 1:23 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 1:54 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:56 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Bay St 2:06 p.m.
EMS 800blk 10th St 2:40 p.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:51 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 3:54 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2700blk Pico Blvd 4:24 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 4:42 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 12th St 7:11 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 7:21 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 14th St 8:13 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 8:13 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 9 p.m.
EMS 1500blk San Vicente Blvd 9:32 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 10:24 p.m.

MYSTERY PHOTO

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DAILY POLICE LOG

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Silent robbery alarm 1300blk 4th St 12:27 a.m.
Speeding 4th St / Interstate 10 2:04 a.m.
Prowler 2700blk 4th St 2:07 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1100blk Euclid St 2:59 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Palisades Park 4:56 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 300blk Olympic Dr 4:59 a.m.
Encampment 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:11 a.m.
Construction noise 700blk Wilshire Blvd 6:42 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk 23rd St 6:46 a.m.
Burglary 900blk 7th St 6:49 a.m.
Lewd activity Ocean Ave / California Ave 8:28 a.m.
Encampment 3000blk Olympic Blvd 8:39 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1100blk 17th St 8:43 a.m.
Violation of restraining order 2200blk 20th St 8:45 a.m.
Urinating/defecating in public Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 8:55 a.m.
Petty theft 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 9:55 a.m.
Auto burglary 2800blk Exposition Blvd 9:56 a.m.
Hit and run 1000blk 11th St 10:03 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 7th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:09 a.m.
Burglary 2900blk Highland Ave 10:27 a.m.
Petty theft 600blk Wilshire Blvd 10:31 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 10:56 a.m.
Battery 400blk Broadway 10:59 a.m.
Vandalism 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 11:10 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 3rd Street Prom / Wilshire Blvd 11:13 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 800blk Ocean Ave 11:40 a.m.
Indecent exposure Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 11:51 a.m.
Missing person 1500blk the beach 11:59 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking violations 400blk Pacific St 12:02 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 12:04 p.m.
Auto burglary 2600blk 3rd St 12:09 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1300blk Montana Ave 12:10 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1900blk Pico Blvd 12:12 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 300blk California Ave 12:16 p.m.
Fight 1300blk 6th St 1:02 p.m.
Drunk driving 2000blk Ocean Ave 1:11 p.m.
Drunk driving 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:11 p.m.
Bike theft 1100blk Palisades Park 1:15 p.m.
Petty theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 2:10 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk 16th St 2:16 p.m.
Identity theft 1500blk 7th St 2:36 p.m.
Auto burglary 2600blk 3rd st 2:42 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:29 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 800blk Pearl St 3:51 p.m.
Abandoned vehicle 500blk Washington Ave 3:52 p.m.
Burglary 600blk Arizona Ave 4:03 p.m.
Battery 1600blk Ocean Ave 4:08 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:08 p.m.
Vandalism 2200blk Virginia Ave 4:15 p.m.
Auto burglary 700blk Pier Ave 4:19 p.m.
Petty theft 900blk 20th St 4:20 p.m.
Petty theft 2300blk Pico Blvd 4:38 p.m.
Petty theft 1100blk 22nd St 4:50 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2800blk 2nd St 4:53 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 4:53 p.m.
Speeding 200blk Pacific Coast Hwy 5:05 p.m.
Petty theft 2300blk Pico Blvd 5:34 p.m.
Grand theft 600blk 23rd St 5:41 p.m.
Hit and run 1500blk Ocean Ave 5:46 p.m.
Out of order traffic signals 14th St / Colorado Ave 5:49 p.m.
Silent burglar alarm 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:02 p.m.
Encampment 1000blk Pico Blvd 6:07 p.m.
Assault 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 6:59 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 900blk Lincoln Blvd 7:12 p.m.
Petty theft 100blk Bicknell Ave 7:30 p.m.
Hit and run 3000blk Paula Dr 8:15 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 500blk Wilshire Blvd 8:16 p.m.
Fight 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:50 p.m.
Burglary 1500blk 5th St 9:01 p.m.
Burglary 1400blk California Ave 9:17 p.m.
Encampment 600blk Pico Pl 9:25 p.m.
Loitering 2800blk Virginia Ave 9:28 p.m.
Overdose 1500blk San Vicente Blvd 9:32 p.m.
Encampment Stewart St / Virginia Ave 9:35 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 2000blk Cloverfield Blvd 9:42 p.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 17th St 9:44 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 9:53 p.m.
Public intoxication 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 10:24 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1900blk Pico Blvd 10:57 p.m.
Construction noise 2900blk 4th St 11:21 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 04/13
4 17 26 32 49
Power#: 10
Jackpot: $118 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 04/16
11 29 34 48 54
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: $175 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 04/13
3 6 11 36 45
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: $36 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 04/16
18 23 24 31 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 04/16
Midday: 6 7 2
Draw Date: 04/16
Evening: 6 5 5

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 04/16
1st: 1 - GOLD RUSH
2nd: 3 - HOT SHOT
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:43.17

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WATER TEMP: 58.5°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft + waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Steep NW swell. SSW/S swell tops out - most size through northern half of region.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft + waist to stomach high
Steep NW swell trend down. SSW/S swell continues - most size through northern half of region.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

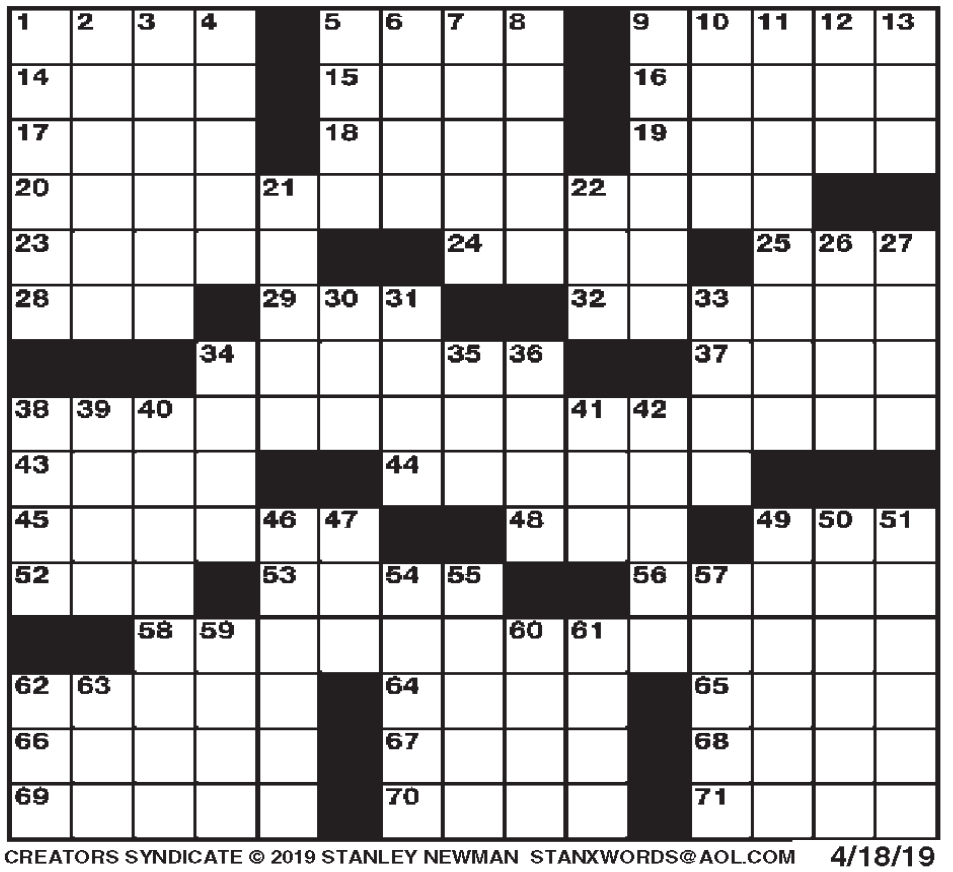
	4					9		3
	3		2		9			1
9			3		1	2	4	
		7		1				9
	1	9	7		3	6	2	
4				9		7		
	2	4	5		6			7
6			1		7		8	
7		1					5	

Newsday Crossword

REACT DIFFERENTLY by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Late October decorations
5 Hogwarts mail carriers
9 Steamed
14 Color close to turquoise
15 Any *Porgy and Bess* solo
16 Lost cause
17 Modest abodes
18 Small peak
19 Out-and-out
20 Leaving no clues behind
23 Of hives and honey
24 Printer's primary color
25 Sailor's back
28 QVC competitor
29 Dict. label
32 Turnover, e.g.
34 YouTube uploads
37 Datebook spread
38 Bought courses individually
43 Gas used in lasers
44 Kind of patch
45 Arizona bloomer
48 Volleyball venue
49 QB's successes
52 Yosemite herd
53 New Horizons launcher
56 Trap by freezing
58 Forklift's burden
62 Recoils
64 "So that's it"
65 Longing
66 Pierre, in Panama
67 Besides that
68 Egyptian port
69 Refrigerant gas
70 Writing surface
71 Lively

DOWN
1 Trombone sound
2 Outfits
3 Be a meddler
4 Recent First Daughter
5 Aloha Tower locale
6 Legal order
7 Purple shade
8 How many like their popcorn
9 Exotic pet
10 MIT marchers
11 Termite hunter
12 Accessory for driving
13 Go off course
21 Televising at present
22 Criticism
26 Lose sleep (over)
27 Preschooler
30 WWII commander
31 Sci-fi knight
33 Duck cousin
34 Let it all out
35 Gondola mover
36 Trudge
38 Back in the day
39 Concrete
40 Where to say "Bon voyage!"
41 One, some, or all
42 Humorous
46 Total accord
47 Drain
49 Piece of china
50 Flustered state
51 Friend of Snow White
54 Laid eyes on
55 Coronation ceremony path
57 Boorish
59 Decorated one
60 Suffix like -ity
61 Tech whiz
62 UV-blocking no.
63 "Little Miss Muffet" pronoun



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/18/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 18)

This year's sense of forward motion is unparalleled – it's like a theme park ride. You're always on trend or leading the trend. An upgrade to your domestic life leads to more improvements. New relationships have a positive influence on your work and will set you on an adventure in August. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 3, 30, 22 and 19.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The epiphany will not be a thunder bolt. It won't come with the opening of clouds and a booming voice from heaven. Rather, it will unfold in stages and a series of ideas, each building on the last.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Motivation is an unreliable fuel source, so don't count on it today. Get started and a half-hour later, motivation may kick in, though it probably won't stay. You don't need it. You can work without it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Prevention isn't glamorous or dramatic. It's the opposite of a story, since you don't really ever know the extent of what you're preventing. Still, you sense it's the better option, and it is.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It may not be as clear to you as it really should be, but you need a break. You're like that frog in the pot of water being incrementally raised one degree at a time, so you hardly notice when the cooking starts. Get free.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What if you forgive someone and the person does the exact same thing again? Maybe what's needed is something other than forgiveness. Maybe what's needed is to learn a person's nature and design your part of the relationship accordingly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Like spotty cellphone service, you'll get moments of clarity and plenty of blanks to fill in, which you're perfectly capable of. Look at this like a puzzle or a game and you'll have some fun with it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll do what you can. It's good enough. It's more than good enough – it's reality. So you may as well accept yourself and feel positively about your contribution. With that mindset, growth will come naturally.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). To better understand what's going on, you'll slip into a state that's neither logical nor illogical, both of the body and beyond it. You'll do what the spiritual guru calls "entura," meaning "entering the aura."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It won't be enough to face, or even to embrace, your fear. Snuggle it instead. Get very vulnerable. Curl up. Let it envelope you, and do the same back. You are, after all, in this together.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Stay connected to the group even though the project seems to be taking forever. It won't take forever. In a finite amount of time, you will reach the end and reap well-deserved benefits. Keep chipping away at it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You can learn something from almost anyone today. You'll use some people as role models and others as reverse role models, as their lives play out like cautionary tales.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Just as a change in music can switch a movie scene from funny to scary, or create a mood that's epic, folksy or any number of tones, music can also do this in your life. Today it will lighten, lift and inspire you.

Prelude to a Full Moon

On this day before the full moon in Libra, relationship issues are in danger of getting blown out of proportion. Walk away for a while. Problems don't need to be solved immediately or all at once. Employ distraction. One of the best kinds of distractions will be education. Learning occupies your mind so fully you'll forget what was bothering you.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"I'm a Libra, and I'm trying to lose weight. I hate the way I look. I frequently set weight loss goals and promptly ignore them when I fail to lose weight. I've tried several methods, but I don't last more than a week on any plan. I feel like a total loser in every area of life, though I know that it's not true. I'm actually quite an accomplished person who can't seem to get this one thing right – feeding myself in a way that's appropriate. Do you have any advice for a Libra in crisis over her weight?"

As the sign of the scales, the last thing you need is to be battling one. Consider giving up this battle – just letting it go completely, thus freeing yourself from the tyranny of your own self-rejection. You may not currently recognize the cruelty of these constant attacks on yourself. Give up this fight and you'll attain the inner balance necessary to deal with the issue rationally. Focus on self-acceptance now, and take on the weight loss when you've replaced the habit of self-bashing with kindness and compassion turned inward. You cannot change that which you do not accept.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

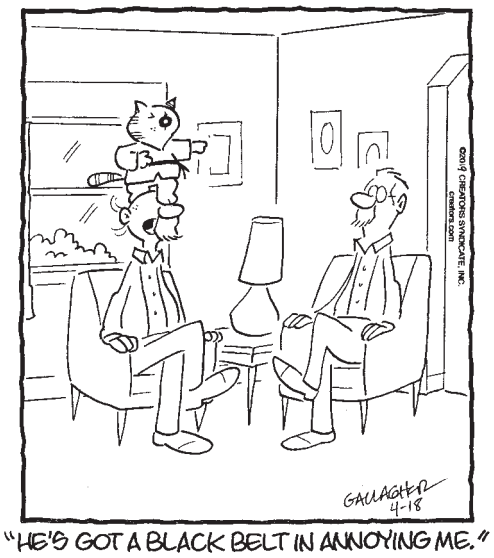
Whether she's working at Cloud 9 on the show "Superstore," playing Betty on "Ugly Betty" or voicing Astrid, the teenage Viking in the 3D fantasy film "How to Train Your Dragon," America Ferrera's Aries warrior spirit shines through. Her feisty fire-sign nature is at the heart of her characterizations. Her natal moon in worldly Sagittarius lends sophistication and savvy, while Mercury in Taurus indicates she is a grounded individual. Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.

WORD UP!

Lese majesty
noun [leez maj-uh-stee, lez]
an attack on any custom, institution, belief, etc., held sacred or revered by numbers of people: Her speech against Mother's Day was criticized as lese majesty.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S GOT A BLACK BELT IN ANNOYING ME."

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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Tourism Talks

By Misti Kerns Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tourism Talks: Santa Monica Recognized as Leader in Sustainability Across the Globe

Our coastal city has long taken bold steps to be a more sustainable place to live, work and visit. Santa Monica's reputation as a destination that places the environment first is extending across the globe, as the city continues to be acknowledged as a global leader in sustainability with several prestigious awards and recognitions.

National Geographic named Santa Monica as one of 25 Cities Committed to Going Zero-Waste. Santa Monica has long been committed to protecting the environment and our precious oceans. Recognized with a number of other international cities, National Geographic cited Santa Monica's Zero Waste Strategic Operations Plan, adopted in 2014, as well as its goal of 95 percent diversion from landfills by 2030.

In the travel and tourism industry, Santa Monica has also recently been recognized as a destination that allows travelers to "go green." To this end, Santa Monica was named the leading Eco-Friendly Green Destination by the Travel Weekly Magellan Awards, the premier award honoring the best in travel.

At just 8.3 square miles, the ability to get around without a car is the top reason hotel guests choose to stay in Santa Monica. In fact, 83% of overnight hotel guests don't use a car to get around once they've arrived. Visitors are able to move around the city via 113 miles of bikeways, public bike share programs, electric scooter and bike rentals, Metro Expo Line, Big Blue Bus, and the electric Free Ride Shuttle.

For travelers who are eco-conscious, the city offers numerous ways to protect the destination and environment while visiting. Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) worked with the City of Santa Monica's Sustainable Works team to create the Santa Monica Green Business Certification Program, an official certification program to grow a vibrant and healthy green economy. To date, nearly 60 local businesses have become Green Business Certified including hotels, restaurants and attractions. Additionally, 10 of our hotels have been honored with a SQA, or Sustainable Quality Awards, recognizing businesses that are successfully putting sustainable practices into action. The SQAs are produced in partnership with the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Sustainable Works.

For more information on how to "go green" in Santa Monica visit: https://www.santamonica.com/go-green-santa-monica/.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

A book, a thick book, could be written about his partnership with Kaylan. I had the hilarious privilege to interview them in their messy Hollywood office in the early '80s, arranged by their famed producer Henry Lewy (Van, Joni, Neil, Leon, Mamas & Papas, Leonard Cohen, CSNY, The Chipmunks) and it was crazy. Neither could complete a sentence because the other would jump in mid-sentence, like twins, and always trying to up the humor quotient while attempting to provide actual information.

They had just released a reggae album, a real-deal rocksteady and reggae album (classic songs but throwing in a great version of "Happy Together") recorded at Bob Marley's Tuff Gong Studios in Kingston with stellar Jamaican sidemen, their last recording as a duo. "And we never said 'Yes I' once, the whole time," Volman grinned. I think Kaylan grunted, "Respect." They were taking turns for my entire long interview rolling giant spliffs. (I did not partake, they most certainly did.) They were very excited about having taken on some project marketing a doll because it was so left field. They would say yes to anything, then figure it out.

They recorded with Alice Cooper, John Lennon, T. Rex (added the "inadvertent extra chorus that worked" to "Bang a Gong"), Stephen Stills, The Knack, Psychedelic Furs, Blondie, Bruce ("Hungry Heart"), The Ramones, Darlene Love, Hoyt Axton, many others. Versatile, and in demand by the best.

In '77 the duo met for the second time with David Bowie to discuss starring with him in his film "The Traveller," for which he had written a 750-page outline. They went over every detail for several days in New York, flew back to LA — and never heard another word. They were prominent in Zappa's cwazy movie "200 Motels," for which my NM friend Jill Silverthorne later produced a documentary, "The True Story of…," working with Frank (not a cakewalk) in his home in the Valley.

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 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

MURAL

FROM PAGE 6

"GREAT TIME"

Gus's paintings are large, filled with vibrant color and multiple layers, with spheres, blocks of color, skulls, faces, upside down bodies and lacy patterns. They're abstract in some ways, accessible in others.

"In Nepal I learned about this idea called 'Great Time,' which is that time is an illusion and everything happens at once. I thought I'd try making a painting with a lifetime of memories condensed into one canvas, so I was looking at tons of these shapes and figures, some very abstract and blurry, some very vivid, because some people in your life are prominent, and others are like ships passing in the night."

Realizing he liked the aesthetics of these shapes, he fused them into the Malibu mural as well as a series called "Sojourner Art." In case you can't get up to Camp David Gonzales, Sojourner Art 3 is on view now at Il Moro Restaurant in West LA for the next few months.

Take a look at these and more of Gus's art here: www.gusharperart.com.

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

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