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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE .....PAGE 2
ART GALLERIES .....PAGE 3
CRIME WATCH .....PAGE 8
MYSTERY PHOTO .....PAGE 9
HOROSCOPE .....PAGE 10

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, October 19

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Recreation and Parks Commission. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Santa Monica Institute, 330 Olympic Drive.

SEE CALENDAR PAGE 2

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Come On, People

JUST WHO DO I THINK I AM?

Well, there's a weighty question, eh? But let's narrow it down.

I'm referring to questioning why any arts critic has the cheek to think their opinion of something as subjective as poetry, painting, photography, architecture, litera-

SEE MUSIC PAGE 5

The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Our East Coast Trip

WE'VE JUST COME BACK FROM two weeks in Manhattan and Washington DC. What an experience! It certainly is different than Santa Monica, and here are some of the differences:

SEE FOOD PAGE 7

Expo art to expand with new sculpture along 4th Street



Courtesy images

TEARS: Artist Walter Hood will be installing a new stone sculpture at the Downtown Expo Station in the coming months.

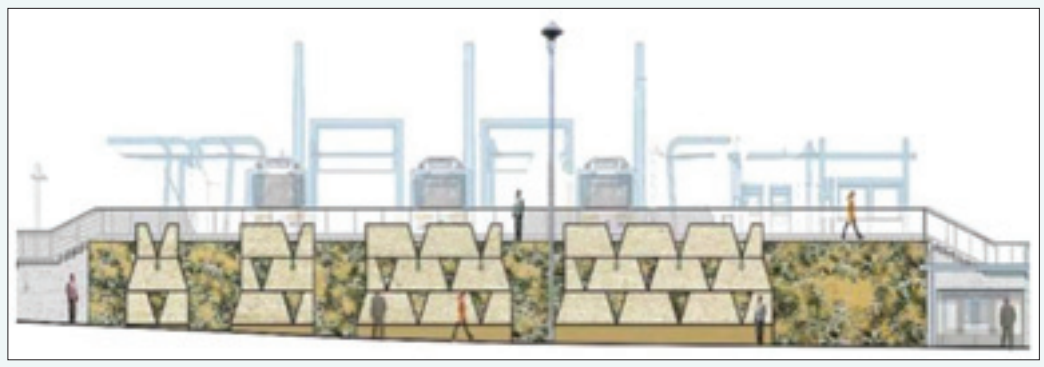
MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Given the title of a new sculpture coming to Downtown Santa Monica and its placement at the Expo station, you might think the artist was inspired by the realities of driving a car through the city but the work is actually a reference to Santa Monica's history.

"Saint Monica's Tears" will be installed this winter by artist Walter Hood and Metro is inviting art lovers, transit riders and anyone interested in the project to meet Hood this Saturday from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Hood will host a guided walk through Palisades Park from 10 – 11 a.m. exploring the

SEE ART PAGE 4



Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

MICHAEL'S: Timeless and Contemporary

MICHAEL'S RESTAURANT HAS achieved the nearly impossible: after 38 years, it's still a trendsetter, without the pitfalls of hipster

SEE CULTURE PAGE 6

Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

An Evening with A Happy Family

THE PLAY "SOMEWHERE IN THE Middle" is about three generations of a family living together somewhere in the Midwest. For once, they are not a dysfunctional family,

SEE PLAY PAGE 10

Film Review

By Kathryn Whitney Boole

GOODBYE CHRISTOPHER ROBIN

Rated PG
107 Minutes
Released October 6

GOODBYE CHRISTOPHER ROBIN is the story of the creation of the Winnie the Pooh stories written by

SEE MOVIE PAGE 4


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Volunteer Information
Apply your skills as a volunteer at WISE & Healthy Aging and area non-profits. Get information about available opportunities at this informational orientation!
Tuesday, October 24
9:30 am - 11:30 am
(310) 394-9871 EXT. 552
WISE & Healthy Aging
1527 4th Street, 2nd Floor, Santa Monica
www.wiseandhealthyaging.org

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 1

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Housing Commission. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, 1st Floor. 4:30 p.m.

Discover-ME Method for College Success

Discover how factors such as personality and emotional intelligence can help you figure out what you truly want out of college and life. Presented by Scott Cvetkovski, founder of the S.A.F.E (Students Achieving Future Excellence) Academy. Grades 11 - 12. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8 p.m.

Santa Monica's Food Evolution: A Decade of Change

This fall marks the tenth anniversary of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market Cookbook and a decade of change in the city's food scene. Join author Amelia Saltsman, Market Supervisor Laura Avery, restaurateur Josh Loeb, and farmers Peter Schaner and Romeo Coleman for a deep dive into Santa Monica's food evolution. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8 p.m.

Home & Harvest: 25 Years of Harvesting Hope for Homeless Families

Upward Bound House celebrates 25 years of empowering homeless children and their families in Los Angeles. 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. At the historic Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club, 1210 Fourth St. in Santa Monica. www.HomeHarvestEvent.com or call 310-458-7779

Friday, October 20

Apollo 4: When the Power Met the Dream

The feature shows are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m. Fifty years ago, the Apollo program symbolically rose from the ashes with the first test launch of the Saturn V booster. Will show some of the original coverage of this pivotal, triumphant day. Second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd.). $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Saturday, October 21

Free Paper Shredding and Electronics Recycling

The City of Santa Monica's Resource Recovery & Recycling Division can help you safely dispose of your unwanted records and documents from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. during a Free Paper Shredding event. The event is open to Santa Monica residents and will be held at the City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave. Documents brought to the event will be commercially shredded — safely and properly — by the trained, licensed and bonded document destruction specialists of Confidential Data Destruction. For more information, visit Resource Recovery and Recycling online at www.smgov.net/r3events or call (310)458-2223.

Cardboard Mask Making workshop with Shannon Freshwater

Halloween is approaching! Studio resident Shannon Freshwater will guide participants through the process of making their own large head mask built from cardboard boxes. The workshop will be focused on building the structure and features of the head, leaving it optional to paint at a later date. Cost: $5. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/59087

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

Art Galleries
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

The following is a list of art galleries open to the public in Santa Monica. To add a gallery to the list, email the name, address, website, phone number and current exhibit description to editor@smdp.com

Amber Goldhammer Studio
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.AmberGoldhammer.com
(424) 262-3780

bG Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
bGartdealings.com
(310) 906-4211

Beyond The Lines Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://beyondthelinesgallery.com/
(714)369-9869

Building Bridges Art Exchange (BBAX)
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.buildingbridgesartexchange.org
(310) 770-1961

Copro Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.copronason.com
(310) 829-2156

Craig Krull Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
craigkrullgallery.com
(310) 828-6410

Duncan Miller Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.duncanmillergallery.com
(310) 453-1111

FIG - First Independent Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.figgallery.com
(310) 829-0345

Laura Korman Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.laurakormangallery.com
(424) 272-0634

Leslie Sacks Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.lesliesacks.com
(310) 264-0640

dnj Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.dnjgallery.net
(310) 315-3551

Lilla Bello
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
https://lillabello.com
(310) 453-3311

Lois Lambert Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.loislambertgallery.com
(310) 829-6990

Lora Schlesinger Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://www.loraschlesinger.com/
(310) 828-1133

Patrick Painter, Inc.
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://www.patrickpainter.com/
(310) 264-5988

Richard Heller Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.richardhellergallery.com
(310) 453-9191

Robert Berman Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.robertbermangallery.com
(310) 315-1937

Revolver Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
revolverwarholgallery.com
(310) 786-7417

ROSEGALLERY
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.rosegallery.net/
(310) 264-8440

Ruth Bachofner Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://ruthbachofnergallery.com/
(310) 829-3300

Schomburg Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://www.schomburggallery.com
(310) 453-5757

Sloan Projects
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.sloanprojects.com
(310) 917-5084

Sulkin / Secant
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.

William A. Karges Fine Art - Watercolors
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
www.kargesfineart.com
(310) 276-8551

Timothy Hogan Projects
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
https://www.timothy-hogan.com/
(310) 315-5455

William Turner Gallery
Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.
http://www.williamturnergallery.com/
(310) 453-0909

Hale Arts
395 Santa Monica Place
halearts.com
(310) 260-2914

Grimes Christopher Gallery
916 Colorado Avenue
www.cgrimes.com/
(310) 587-3373

ARENA 1 Gallery
3026 Airport Avenue
arena1gallery.com/
(310) 397-7456

Duganne Ateliers Art Gallery
2651 Main St
www.duganne.com/index.html
(310) 314-0050

FLOWER + HEWES
Loews Santa Monica Hotel: 1700 Ocean Ave,
FlowerAndHewes.com
(786) 296-5655

Adamm's Stained Glass & Gallery
1426 4th St
adammsgallery.com
(310) 451-9390

Santa Monica Art Studios
3026 Airport Ave
santamonicaartstudios.com
(310) 397-7449

M Hanks Gallery
3008 Main St
www.mhanksgallery.com
(310) 392-8820

Streetcraft La
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streetcraftla.com
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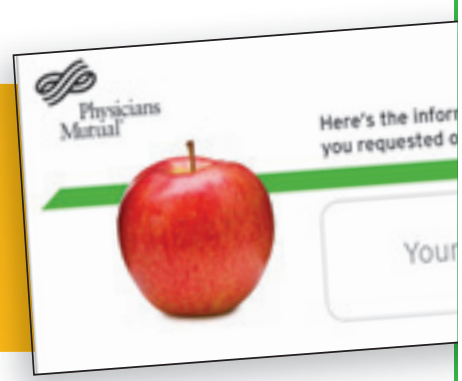


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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 142 DESIGN SERVICES FOR 4TH STREET PHASE II PROJECT

- **Submission Deadline is November 20, 2017 at 5:30 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

WINNER

ART

FROM PAGE 1

natural and cultural points of inspiration for his Expo station work. He will then host a talk from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Camera Obscura Annex (1450 Ocean Ave.) to discuss his artistic process, past work and Metro-commissioned artwork slated for installation this winter.

The Downtown sculpture will be installed at the west side of the station facing 4th Street. According to the artist, the "Saint Monica's Tears" was inspired by the city's namesake.

"Saint Monica is known as the 'weeping saint,' as she was said to have shed tears every night over her son Augustine's hedonistic lifestyle," said Metro's description of the project. "Father Juan Crespi thought of her eyes when he first saw a pair of sacred springs, named Kuruvungna by the local Tongva tribe, at what is now the border of Santa Monica and West Los Angeles. Water has shaped the geology of Santa Monica, eroding the sandstone at the coastline. The artwork will reference both the geological and cultural history of Santa Monica through the use of sandstone and hand-formed glass that recall Saint Monica, Kuruvungna and the Palisades."

Hood is known for his work in public spaces and has worked extensively in urban environments.

"The power of water is integral to the geologic history of Santa Monica. Water shaped the coastline, eroding the sandstone at its edges," said the artist's statement of the Santa Monica project. "And yet most residents seldom engage this geology. This proposal springs from this enmeshing of geological and cultural history."

Hood is one of eight artists chosen to create works along the second phase of the Expo Line from Culver City to Downtown Santa Monica and his work will add to the existing artistic touches along the tracks.

In addition to the sculpture at the DTSM station, the three Santa Monica stations feature murals by different artists. Bergamot Station's works feature collages of locally found items, 17th street showcases the wardrobes of residents who donated items to the artist and the downtown station's works showcase the diversity of Los Angeles.

There are also etched drawings depicting transit history set into the platforms of the local stations and several local artists were commissioned to create custom TAP cards for the Santa Monica section of the line.

The event is free and open to the public however space is limited, so please RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-the-artist-walk-and-talk-with-walter-hood-in-santa-monica-tickets-38164346588.

editor@smdp.com

MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

A.A. Milne, based on the fantasy life his son Christopher Robin had created around his stuffed animals in their remote country home. This is not a simply children's film however. It is also an allegory for the dismantling of the power of the British Empire between World War I and World War II. The changes wrought on all of Europe were vast – and perhaps it was the changes that triggered the wars as well.

The story of A.A. Milne and his son parallels the fall of the dominance that the culture of the British Empire had held over the Western World through the 1800's until World War I. The ability of the character of the British people to survive the cultural quagmire that had gripped the country, and to weather the transformation, was commendable. It is shown in this movie to be an uneasy struggle that is mirrored in a sense in the life of Christopher Robin. A daily lifestyle that was taken for granted by the landed upper class in Britain was coming to an end, just as Christopher Robin's life was always a bit on the verge of falling apart.

Simon Curtis, who discovered the young Daniel Radcliffe also found Will Tilston, who is wonderful in this movie as "Christopher Robin," and his spectacular smile lights up the screen. This young actor seems to innately understand what his character was going through and what he was searching for. With a father suffering from his experiences in the trenches during World War I and his life in a home isolated in the countryside, this lonely child built a world around his stuffed animals. His father grasped onto those imaginary stories as an effort to soften his own anguish. Thus was born Winnie the Pooh.

Domhnall Gleeson is excellent as A.A. Milne. He portrays the irony of the suffering of an upper class British man who goes to war and returns to his former life carrying the emotional wounds of battle. For Milne, war was the ultimate class equalizer on a personal scale. Christopher Robin takes his Dad's pain in stride, as children do, and helps him break through the suffering, only to be bullied himself in boarding school later in his childhood.

Kelly McDonald is memorable as Christopher Robin's nanny, the one constant in his life. She is more of an influence in his life than is his mother, played by Margot Robbie. Robbie's character almost seems like a cypher, incompletely drawn, whose main drive is the urge to distance herself from her relationships with her son, her husband and her home.

The origin of the Winnie the Pooh stories that brought happiness to so many of our young imaginations, was not exactly all sweetness and light. This is evidence to my belief that comedy and tragedy come from the same heart. As Christopher Robin's nanny so thoughtfully tells him, "After the war there was so much sadness. Then Winnie the Pooh came along."

KATHRYN WHITNEY BOOLE has spent most of her life in the entertainment industry, which is the backdrop for remarkable adventures with extraordinary people. She is a Talent Manager with Studio Talent Group in Santa Monica. kboole@gmail.com. For previously published reviews see https://kwboole.wordpress.com

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MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

ture, film or music, is worth anything more than your opinion. Come on, you know you've thought that at least once, probably following a dismissive "hmpff!" as you disagreed with every word of some review and wondered how such a cretin could be paid money to spew such nonsense.

I've had this discussion way too many times, usually with friends or family who are honestly (if naively) pondering something that they probably just thought of, and without understanding they are repudiating my life's work. They are usually not ticked off — more vexed, maybe a little righteously indignant, but as the discussion ensues I see them get more entrenched in defending this newfound notion. Because they begin to realize that what's at stake is their heartfelt belief in the awesomeness of some favorite artist of theirs. They usually have some singer or band in mind that they adore, that they feel no elitist critic has any right to say anything negative about, because they are clearly awesome. Everybody they know says so.

Now you see one reason why I got away from this biz. People may sort of understand what lawyers do, or doctors, mathematicians, mechanics or jet pilots, and they know they couldn't do it. You need knowledge, special training, experience. But give an opinion on music? Hell, they think, I can do that. I've got some really good opinions. (Everybody's got one, as they say.)

If I'm lucky I can eventually get them to agree on a couple of things. One, that there is a difference between saying, I really like this music, and saying it has artistic worth. Thousands of people on their feet at the end of a show does not mean it was a great show. It means that fans of that performer, who invested time, hassle, emotion and the price of the ticket (sometimes hundreds of dollars), came determined to have a great time, and they did.

I saw a concert decades ago by the Lawrence Welk Orchestra (you see what music critics have to endure?) where the multitude rose out of their seats (with great difficulty, but they were moved, they were rejuvenated!), straightened up in their walkers, leaned on their canes, and gave Mr. Welk as much acclamation and love as Mick Jagger ever got. Was it music well-played, songs well-sung? Yes. All the notes were there. Was it art? Hell, no. It was champagne music. It was treacly, it was awful. But that crowd would never forget that show for as long as they lived (probably not that long — I have never seen so many medical personnel at a show, ever).

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG

With getting lost in music you love. I approve, wholeheartedly! Everybody loves some kind of music. No one should ever pass judgement on someone's enjoyment of the music that moves them, gives them pleasure, speaks to their soul. Just — don't — insist — that — it's art. So, number two is trying to convince my questioners that enjoying the music is enough and they shouldn't worry about what the critics say. (But… they do.)

Then I bring up someone going to their very first live music show. Do you remember yours? Who was it? How old you were? Did you dig it? You probably did. It was the Best Show You Had Ever Seen in Your Life. It may have been Minnie Pearl, or Pearl Bailey, or Pearl Jam, but you couldn't imagine at that moment the Rolling Stones or Berlin Philharmonic or Elvis being any better, more fun. If you see one show a year, and it's one you know you'll dig, you don't have much perspective or experience. My daughter sees 150-200 bands a year. I've seen way more than 2,000, lifetime. (Yes, at 23, she will undoubtedly pass me.) That's perspective. That's experience. And that's what a critic brings to bear when writing about art.

I mentioned at the beginning reading a review and disagreeing with every word. Fantastic! You have just found your perfect critic. You'll know if they liked it, you'll probably hate it, and vice versa. I'd prefer you wind up agreeing with much I write in this Noteworthy music column, but either way, let's celebrate music and explore and forgoshsakes, get out and hear some live music, will you? You've got to work a little for it, but it's one of the great gifts of being alive, and you live in an exceptional place for it.

RECOMMENDED (mostly): Bluegrass and classical gas, this weekend, all right here. Devitt Feeley's Acoustic Carnival will be turning the grass in Reed Park blue this Saturday at 5 p.m., free. Should be great. Feeley's got impressive cred, and I heard him a couple times at Ruskin Theater when they were playing their terrific musical "Sneaky Old Time."

Classically, you're covered both days, from the avant garde to the Russians. Saturday at 8 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church at 1220 2nd Street, the always fascinating, highly accomplished Jacaranda program launches its 15th season, exploring six themes: environment, power, solidarity, sensuality, science and identity. Compositions by microtonal pioneers Lou Harrison, Ben Johnston, Philip Glass and others are first up, covering environment. $45 general, $20 students.

Sunday night at 7, Samohi's Barnum Hall, free, opens the 73rd (amazing!) season for our Santa Monica Symphony, featuring Lyadov, Prokofiev and Shostakovich. They're an excellent orchestra but since I am not a fan of the Russian composers (go ahead, write me nasty emails) and less enamored of SMS since they turned hard right for a fundraiser (very successful, but at what price?) showcasing conservative star Dennis Prager, I'm not personally recommending this performance. According to NPR, Prager "often targets multiculturalism, Muslims and LGBTQ people," and asserted that the AIDS crisis was "entirely manufactured by the Left." Just three months ago, he said that "the news media in the West pose a far greater danger to Western civilization than Russia does." Sound familiar?

LYRIC OF THE WEEK: "Love is but a song to sing, fear's the way we die… Come on people now, smile on your brother, everybody get together, try to love one another, right now" ? Youngbloods ("Get Together")

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 31 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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City of Santa Monica
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for
RFP: #141 DOWNTOWN REAL-TIME PARKING SIGNS
• **Submission Deadline is November 9, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**
Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

City of Santa Monica
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for
RFP: #143 TRANSIT TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT
• **Submission Deadline is December 1, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**
RFP: #144 EMERGENCY MEDICAL PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICES
• **Submission Deadline is November 27, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**
RFP: #145 STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRAINING
• **Submission Deadline is November 6, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**
Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 1

trendiness.

In Los Angeles restaurant years, this is practically an eternity. If you're a fan of red banquettes and martinis you can still find the old-school classics like Musso and Frank's in Hollywood, Taix in Echo Park, even the Rat Pack hangout, Matteo's in Westwood.

Michael's of Santa Monica (and New York), however, is anything but old-school; but neither is it the hippest, hottest place in town. And that's a good thing.

Instead, it is a both a destination restaurant and a neighborhood gem (in New York, it's a place where power players dine to see and be seen), with a beautiful garden patio for special occasions or romantic trysts, a restaurant whose menu has changed with the times, but has not fallen into kale, yak butter or pumpkin spice territory.

Michael McCarty does not follow the herd; he leads it. And he's still setting the standard for casual elegance, in a restaurant that's classic and classy, casual and contemporary, warm and inviting with a menu that, throughout time, has always featured top quality ingredients prepared deliciously.

McCarty not only helped launched the movement we now take for granted—seasonal California cuisine—but he hired a who's who of rock star chefs before they were known. Case in point: Nancy Silverton (Campanile, Mozza), Mark Peel (Campanile, Prawn), Sang Yoon (Father's Office, Lukshon), former Chez Panisse chef Jonathan Waxman (New York's Barbuto) and Brooke Williamson (Playa Provisions, Small Batch), a champion on TV's Top Chef.

What's amazing is how his latest young chef, Miles Thompson, fits in with this tradition as he completely revamped the menu. Miles's pedigree is impressive for a guy who's not even 30 years old. He worked at world-renowned The Shed in Healdsburg, a roster of top L.A. hotspots including Nobu, Animal and Son of a Gun, and he ran his own restaurant, Allumette in Echo Park, named by Bon Appétit as one of 2013's Best New Restaurants.

Keeping with one new trend, however, Michael's now features smaller plates with creative flavor pairings. And the wine list is curated by a down-to-earth sommelier (Roni, she's new to the Westside and to L.A.) who not only pays close attention to enhancing the tastes on the plates, she also advances your knowledge of wine with some surprising choices.

I have never enjoyed texturally disgusting, rubbery, chewy, deep fried calamari. But I bravely took a taste of octopus, because of Miles's renowned skill with this dish. His features lime curd, Thai chile and shrimp vinaigrette. The balance between the sweet curd and the acidic vinaigrette helped each bite of this remarkably tender dish explode in my mouth.

If you're a bread lover you mustn't let your fear of gluten stop you from ordering the irresistible buckwheat sourdough bread with toasted barley butter. We only stopped after one order (plenty for two) because we had so many courses coming. It's as perfect a bread as you'll find at local artisanal bakeries.

Order the Hamachi collar. I had no idea what this was but it is actually the neck of this fatty fish, and it comes out looking quite crunchy. We were fortunate enough to have Michael himself show us how to break it up and eat it – and eat it, we did, dressed with baba ganoush, honeydew melon and marjoram vinaigrette.

As far as small plates go, this one's so big we had to take half of it home. The double-cut pork chop is served (for now—Michael's is seasonal) with summer squash hash, tomatillo and pickled red onion.

See what I mean about Miles Thompson's creative flavor pairings? The menu depends on what is at the market, and Miles's experiments with ingredients we might not ever consider together. Go in expecting surprises and trust that they'll work.

Not one but three somewhat "deconstructed" desserts later, we politely tapped our napkins to our mouths after indulging in whipped cheesecake, roasted barley pot-de-crème and hazelnut chocolate ganache. Total satiety.

Michael's is a great place for holiday parties, so if you or your business are considering doing something special this year, the patio garden and restaurant can accommodate up to 350 people for receptions, 50 to 150 for dinner. Or, if you anticipate a smaller crowd, the private Palisades room upstairs can handle groups of 10 to 75; and for very intimate gatherings, the Santa Monica room has a spacious round table that can accommodate 2 to 10 guests, with your own private outdoor terrace for cocktails or post-dinner nightcaps.

On a personal note, I want to acknowledge that Michael has been a generous supporter of the non-profit I am involved with, Food Forward (gleaning and harvesting for the hungry), as well as C-CAP (Careers through Culinary Arts Program) and many others.

Michael's is still located in its original setting, with stunning artwork everywhere (Michael is a collector with exquisite taste), just north of Wilshire on 2nd Street in Santa Monica. It's a wonderful night out.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW – Santa Monica. She has also reviewed theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.




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Merv Hecht

VACATION FOOD: **A typical East Coast Greek restaurant — this one in Washington DC**

FOOD

FROM PAGE 1

1. In Santa Monica we keep our trash in big cans from which it is picked up once a week. In Manhattan everybody puts the trash on the sidewalk in black bags, apparently to show off how much trash they produce and thus how affluent they are.

2. In Santa Monica we hear a siren perhaps once a week or less. In Manhattan and Washington there are sirens going by every few minutes. And because the streets are so jammed, they don't just go by, they sit in the middle of the street waiting for cars to pull over with the sirens blaring.

3. Here, we occasionally see a policeman on the street, and once in while a police car drives by. In Manhattan, perhaps because we were there during the United Nations meeting and President Trump's visit, there are several policemen on virtually every corner, many of the streets were blocked off by police cars, and there were police cars going by every minute. In front of the Trump tower there was a group of policemen with machine guns, and a dozen garbage trucks were parked in a line along the sidewalk to prevent a car from driving toward the building.

4. When I want a slice of pizza or a taco, I go to a restaurant serving those dishes. Not in Manhattan. There most people buy something from a corner food truck and eat it while walking down the street. There are one or two trucks on every corner with a variety of delicacies.

5. My wife tells me that there are over 1 billion people in China. My guess is that now there are only 1/2 billion left, and the other half billion are visiting New York City. They are easy to identify as they travel in a group with several taking pictures of Times Square.

But, you ask, what about all the great New York restaurants? Some are still there, but the best appear to have the good tables reserved for big-time customers who are regulars in the restaurant. We did get to La Grenouille, one of the early great French restaurants, since my mother took me to lunch there about 65 years ago. My wife sent back her appetizer because it was too salty and ordered something different. I had a very good slice of foie gras followed by a delicious Dover sole, but the fish was boned out of sight, not tableside as in the old days. I was fortunate to have selected an exceptional half bottle of Chevry-Chambertin. But when I asked for a few slices of Roquefort cheese to finish with the wine, the waiter (from Mexico) brought me an inferior creamy blue cheese nothing like real French Roquefort. But it was nostalgic and perhaps worth the $350 tab. Or not. Melisse in Santa Monica is a much better choice.

Gallagher's Steak House was equally disappointing, with an over charred steak, but it was a pleasant evening as we made friends with a couple from France at the table next to us, who fell in love with their bottle of California Zinfandel, and pronounced it better than the wines in France for the price. The Santa Monica Boa steak house is just as good or better.

We had some good meals in Greek restaurants. The one great meal we had was at Nougatine, the second level restaurant of the famous chef Jean-George Vongerichten. There each dish was perfect, including the service, and we had a comfortable table looking at Central Park. The stuffed duck breast was perfectly prepared, but no better than the same dish I had recently at Spago in Beverly Hills.

But even Nougatine has a drawback for some: it is located in the Trump hotel.

The bottom line is that ITS GOOD TO BE BACK HOME!

MERV HECHT, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after practicing law. In 1988 he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book is "The Instant Wine Connoisseur, 3d edition," available on Amazon. He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and wine products internationally. Send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com.



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **67.8°**

THURSDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
BIGGEST EARLY: Easing SSW swell.

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
Primary SSW swell fades while a new/secondary NW swell moves in.



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 OCTOBER 6, 2017 AT ABOUT 1:06 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at Gelson's Market - 2627 Lincoln Blvd – regarding a petty theft suspect in custody, Officers determined the suspect entered the store and was monitored by store security guards. The suspect selected several items from the sales floor and concealed them under his jacket. The suspect exited the store without paying for any items. The security guards confronted the suspect and inquired about the items he took. The suspect returned several items and walked away. The security guards detained the suspect for police arrival. The store was desirous of prosecution. The suspect was taken into custody. Sebastian Greg Plaszewski, 47, from Los Angeles was issued a citation for shoplifting.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 369 calls for service on Oct. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Vandalism 800 block 4th 12:17 a.m.
Indecent exposure 2700 block Neilson 12:50 a.m.
Speeding 26th / Santa Monica 12:58 a.m.
Party complaint 400 block Broadway 3:58 a.m.
Battery 1800 block Lincoln 5:25 a.m.
Person down 2400 block Santa Monica 6:26 a.m.
Auto burglary 600 block 23rd 6:30 a.m.
Trespassing 2400 block Santa Monica 7:23 a.m.
Grand theft 500 block Pico 7:29 a.m.
Encampment 800 block Pacific Coast Hwy 8:08 a.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Lincoln 8:18 a.m.
Hit and run Lincoln / Pico 8:44 a.m.
Found person Lincoln / Olympic 8:52 a.m.
Missing person 600 block Ocean 9 a.m.
Encampment 100 block California 9:07 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 9:25 a.m.
Vandalism 1400 block Lincoln 9:29 a.m.
Encampment 7th / Taft 9:31 a.m.
Theft recyclables 1400 block 17th 9:46 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block the beach 9:49 a.m.
Speeding 1300 block Euclid 9:51 a.m.
Stalking 2400 block Colorado 10:05 a.m.
Petty theft 1400 block 4th 10:14 a.m.
Person down 2400 block Wilshire 10:18 a.m.
Burglary 1200 block 6th 10:24 a.m.
Encampment 1500 block the beach 10:29 a.m.
Vehicle blocking 800 block Washington 11:13 a.m.
Identity theft 14th / Broadway 11:15 a.m.
Domestic violence 1100 block 12th 11:42 a.m.
Hit and run Highland / Ashland 11:53 a.m.
Traffic collision 600 block Santa Monica 12:18 p.m.
Hit and run 1200 block 19th 12:36 p.m.
Hit and run 4th / Ocean Park 12:41 p.m.
Grand theft 300 block Colorado 12:52 p.m.
Loitering 200 block Arizona 12:52 p.m.
Encampment 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 12:53 p.m.
Fight 2000 block Ocean 12:57 p.m.
Burglary 2000 block Olympic 1:14 p.m.
Person down 1800 block Lincoln 1:25 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 2:13 p.m.
Animal related 2600 block 31st 2:15 p.m.
Loitering 3rd / Bicknell 2:17 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 800 block 2nd 2:21 p.m.
Elder abuse 1000 block 12th 2:22 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1300 block Santa Monica 2:24 p.m.
Fraud 2500 block Broadway 2:25 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Santa Monica Pl 2:53 p.m.
Grand theft 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 4:06 p.m.
Loitering 2500 block Main 4:08 p.m.
Hit and run 2200 block Navy 4:11 p.m.
Indecent exposure 21st / Idaho 4:13 p.m.
Petty theft 2700 block Ocean Park 4:24 p.m.
Hit and run 2200 block Navy 4:33 p.m.
Traffic collision 17th / Colorado 4:41 p.m.
Illegal weapon 1400 block 4th 5:07 p.m.
Burglary 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 5:31 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block Lincoln 5:42 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 34 calls for service on Oct. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 1900 block Stewart 12:04 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block 2nd 12:07 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block California 2:03 a.m.
EMS 400 block Pier 2:27 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 12th 3:01 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 3:25 a.m.
EMS 0 block Pico 5:59 a.m.
EMS 1600 block Main 6:35 a.m.
EMS 1200 block 9th 7:32 a.m.
EMS 500 block Palisades Beach 8:55 a.m.
EMS 1400 block 7th 9:35 a.m.
Automatic alarm 0 block Pico 9:47 a.m.
EMS 2400 block Wilshire 10:20 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 1:04 p.m.
EMS Barnard / Hollister 1:06 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block 6th 1:22 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block Stanford 2:30 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1900 block Colorado 2:31 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 2:48 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1300 block 4th 3:22 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Pico 3:42 p.m.
Smoke investigation 2400 block 22nd 3:47 p.m.
EMS 2900 block Pico 4:13 p.m.
EMS 700 block Broadway 4:32 p.m.
Traffic collision with train 1700 block Expo Line 4:42 p.m.
Elevator rescue 2200 block Main 5:45 p.m.
Automatic alarm 3000 block Pennsylvania 5:54 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 7th 5:56 p.m.
EMS 100 block Georgina 6:13 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Hill 8:24 p.m.
EMS 900 block Pico 8:50 p.m.
EMS 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 9:17 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 9:18 p.m.
EMS 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 9:53 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 10/14
32 37 56 66 69
Power#: 11
Jackpot: 156M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 10/17
31 45 49 56 70
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 20M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 10/14
3 6 20 40 41
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 23M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/17
5 6 12 34 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 10/17
MIDDAY: 8 7 0
Draw Date: 10/17
EVENING: 6 1 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 10/17
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:43.43

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

gorgonize

1. to affect as a Gorgon; hypnotize; petrify.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Counts

■ 1: Ranking of first aid among Boy Scout merit badges

SOURCE: BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. INCIDENTALLY, THE LEAST POPULAR MERIT BADGE IS BUGLING.

Doc Talk

■ Bolus: a large dose of a drug that is given (usually intravenously) at the beginning of treatment to raise blood-level concentrations to a therapeutic level. It can also refer to a rounded mass of food or pharmaceutical preparation ready to swallow, or to a mass passing through the gastrointestinal tract.

Phobia of the Week

■ Apotemnophobia: fear of persons with amputations

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

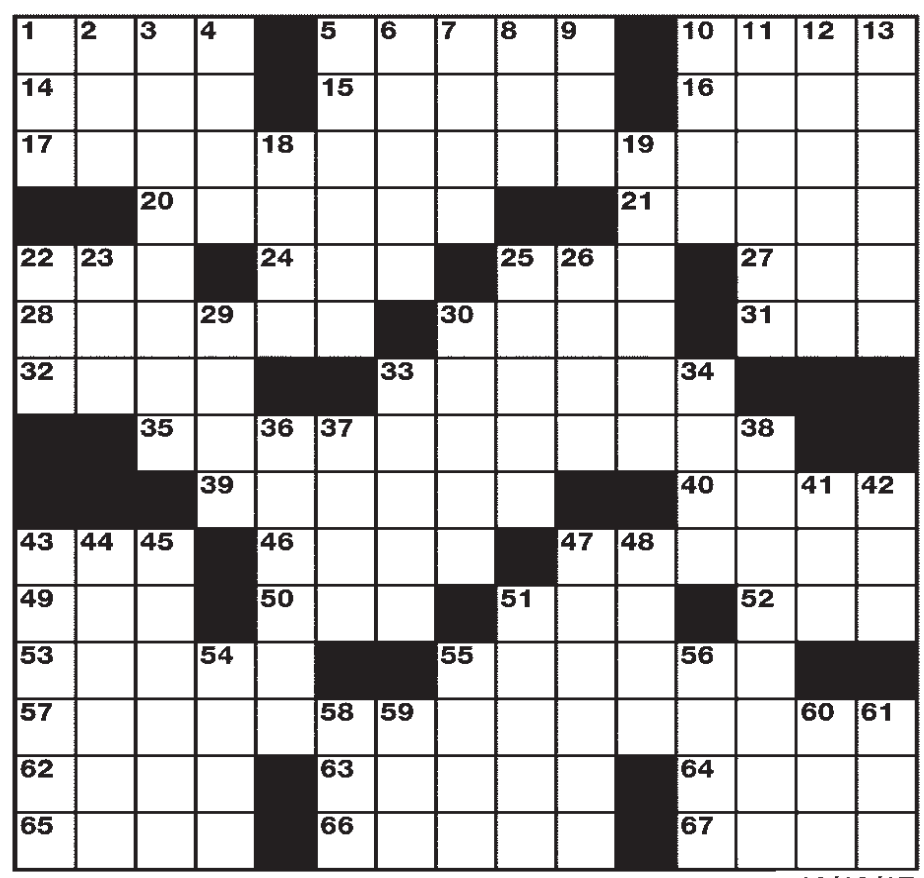
		1	5	7	3			
3		4				1		5
	7		4		1			9
		2	1		8	7		
6	3						9	1
		7	9		4	8		
1			3		5		2	
7		9				3		8
			7	4	9	5		

Newsday Crossword

STREAMING AUDIO by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Family nickname
5 1981 Oscar winner as Loretta
10 Holds up
14 Colossal
15 Show regret
16 Crunchy cheesecake ingredient
17 Emma Bovary creator
20 Mall tenant, often
21 Stable sound
22 Disparaging remark
24 Profs' helpers
25 Links org.
27 DOJ arm
28 Whodunit elements
30 Hassle, for short
31 Little tree climber
32 Parisian prayer addressee
33 Fancy trimmings
35 *Show Boat* impresario
39 Word on the South American capitals list
40 Has a balance
43 Crock, for one
46 Capture by surprise
47 Not inert
49 Hosp. area
50 Facebook giggle
51 Swampy spot
52 Squelch
53 Sunlit lobbies
55 Rotten
57 Adapts easily
62 Olympics implement
63 Strike down, old-style
64 Evening in Pisa
65 Pitchfork prong
66 Distance runner
67 Poetic tributes

DOWN
1 Eldest of the "Little Women"
2 *The Simpsons* shopkeeper
3 Troublemaker's doings
4 Overture follower
5 File-menu command
6 News bits
7 Sectional, e.g.
8 NBC skit show
9 Assenting vote
10 Boxer's garb
11 Big potato processor
12 Norwegian port
13 With the result being
18 Social starter
19 Without the wherewithal
22 Terrible
23 Will Smith biopic role
25 Very fussy ones
26 Part of 25 Across
29 Eyedropper part
30 Hospital area
33 Ultimate
34 Problematic roommate
36 Western stock character
37 Not a one
38 Declined gradually
41 Manning in a huddle
42 Gender
43 Rolex alternative
44 Squid cousins
45 Serving piece
47 Nature personified
48 Fairy tale giant
51 Vertical-sided hill
54 "Got it!"
55 Punxsutawney groundhog
56 "In that case ..."
58 Doctrine
59 "We don't need to hear that"
60 Underground resource
61 Took place



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 10/19/17

PLAY

FROM PAGE 1

a subject that many playwrights these days tend to focus on. This family is an affectionate, intelligent, funny, and reasonably harmonious company.

The older generation is represented by Roz (Cynthia Kania), who was a self-described "hippie" during the turbulent decade of the '60s, marching for civil rights and the end of the Vietnam war, but always maintaining her identity as an ardent and vehement Jew.

Her son David (Richard Van Slyke), the head of the household, considers himself a "secular" Jew: emotionally tied to his culture and its traditions, but not religiously observant.

David's son Adam (Adam Simon Krist), a teenager, had a Bar Mitzvah at 13, but is not currently involved with Judaism.

And David's wife Lauren (Joanne McGee-Lamb) is not Jewish at all. She is Catholic.

As the play opens, the family is waiting for daughter Sarah (Julie Lanctot) to return home from Stanford to join them for the Passover holiday. When she arrives, however, she is dressed from head to foot in an abaya traditionally worn by Muslim women, with a scarf draped over her head and covering the lower part of her face. She is greeted with an assortment of reactions. Her father and brother recognize her immediately, but are bewildered by her costume. Her mother is apprehensive. But her terrified grandmother thinks she is a terrorist come to kill her and she approaches her granddaughter defensively, armed with a frying pan. When Sarah finally uncovers her face, her grandmother only wants to know why she is wearing "that shmatta."

It turns out that Sarah is taking a class in Religious Studies and has chosen to wear a Muslim costume to gauge the reactions and prejudices of the people she meets. This explanation opens a barrage of questions and accusations. When Sarah accuses her father, David, of being a "half-ass Jew" because he doesn't adhere to his religious obligations, he tells her he is a "modern" Jew, and "being Jewish is our identity." And when she continues her attack he responds with "We're not prejudiced, we're human."

And when she points out that Jews have always chosen to segregate themselves, Roz counters with "Segregation is the Torah's choice!"

Eventually Sarah reveals that she has invited her friend Jamal to join them for the Passover holiday. The family is happy to include him, but when he arrives they are startled to discover that he is black. ("A schwartze?" Roz exclaims.) Which opens a new round of racial and ethnic discourse that becomes more heated as the evening progresses. When Jamal informs them that he is a Palestinian, the conversation devolves into an angry argument over Israel.

The discussion is cogent, forceful, and provocative and the six players handle it beautifully. They are guided effectively by director Gary Lamb, who is also the author of "Somewhere in the Middle," a play so impassioned that one can't help but surmise that this work comes directly from his own life. Lamb is Jewish, but his wife, actress Joanne McGee-Lamb, who plays Lauren, David's compatible wife, is probably not.

Even though the play is set in 2007, the familiar arguments voiced by David, Jamal, and Sarah are no closer to being resolved than they ever were. So it is left to Roz to offer the final word. "The truth," she says, "lies somewhere in the middle."

The World Premiere of "Somewhere in the Middle" has been playing at the Crown City Theatre, 11031 Camarillo St., in North Hollywood, but is currently scheduled to close this Sunday, October 22, after the 3 p.m. performance. You can still catch it, however, this Friday or Saturday at 8 p.m.. To order tickets and to check on possible extensions, call (818) 605-5685.

CYNTHIA CITRON has worked as a journalist, public relations director, documentary screenwriter and theater reviewer. She may be reached at ccitron66@gmail.com.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 19)

A relationship flourishes and love inspires you. The way you express yourself is developing in magical and most effective ways. Amateur attempts will be very lucky for you at the start of 2018. The less you know, the more you'll do with pure intent and open mind. You'll get places that pros can't. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 3, 38, 22 and 19.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You have expressed your affinity through giving gifts, and it's about time to do that again. With new relationships, be very careful not to set up a precedent that will be difficult to uphold later.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

It starts with a pang of envy, a lingering glance at a brochure or a full-body response to the lure of an image or idea... and suddenly you're in the very earliest planning stages of an adventure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

There's a trade — your energy for a feeling of acceptance, love or validation. Just know that the feeling won't last. It will always have to be earned again and again. So make sure your energy expenditure is really worth it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

The cycle is so subtle, and yet it's spoiling your plans. It goes something like this: You have to do what you'd rather not; then the thing you do to calm and comfort yourself works against the larger goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Just like the plants, you get energy from your ruling luminary, the sun — the value of which should not be underestimated these days. Feeling sunshine rays on your skin will help your mood and your soul.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

It's not a one-size-fits-all kind of situation, and you won't be able to come up with a fix that pleases everyone, but try anyway. Efforts that don't land on anything will still lead to something.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Talk is cheap, and some will say anything to go to the next stage in the relationships with you and/or your money. Be careful now. Do your research. Check references. Ask for proof that people can do what they say they can do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

You'll be overcome with a desire to make things spotless and orderly. It's a sign that you're about to change again. This is a way of taking stock of (as well as honoring and appreciating) what you have.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You've a special charismatic energy with those in physical proximity. Whenever possible, go where you can lock eyes. You'll be even more effective when you can see and read the situation in person.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

When you've lost some control of your internal situation it will help to take power over your external situation. Your emotional changes are quickly reflected in the world. It's not at all surprising to you when life defies the notions of cause and effect or space and time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're a quick study these days, and you only have to do a job once to get the gist and know if it is or isn't for you. The same goes for other interests, studies, hobbies, dates and locations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The moral of today's story is that real life isn't a fable. You don't have to come up with a moral and probably shouldn't try, because everyone is going to take something different from it anyway. Live without judgment for a while.

New Moon With a Twist

Usually the new moon in Libra is a luck elixir for exciting meetings, fresh faces and the start of beneficent relationships. However, the position of Uranus puts a twist on this classic cocktail, and it's more about being surprising than sweet. Don't worry. Even sour exchanges can be refreshing in the zesty way they wake you up.

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Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"PLEASE LEAVE THE KISSING FISH ALONE."

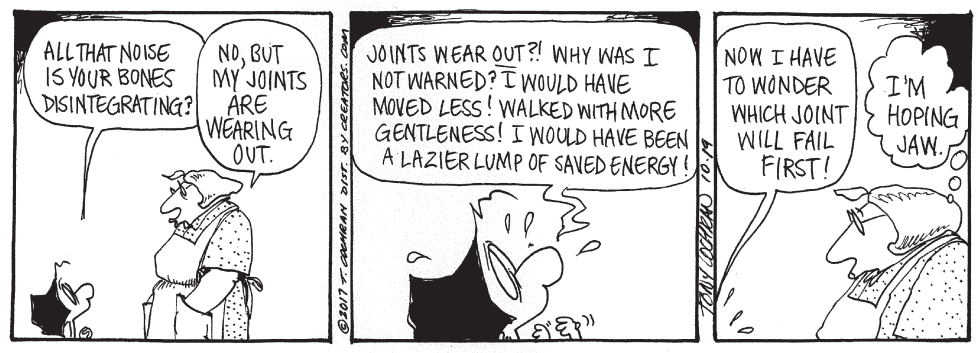
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



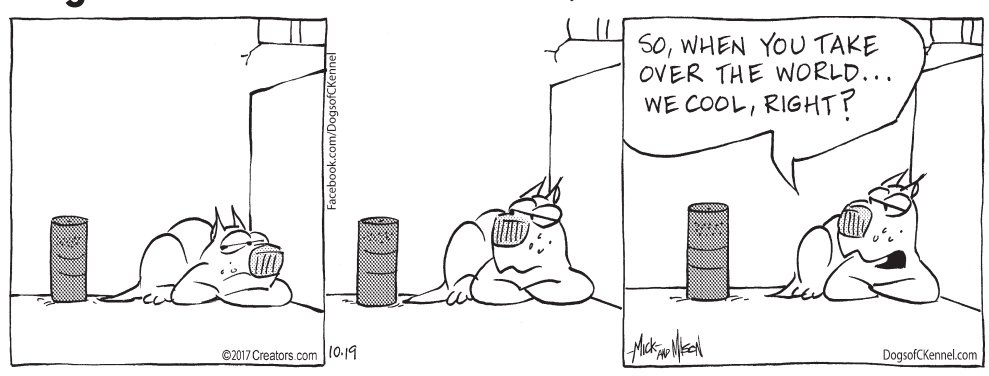
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