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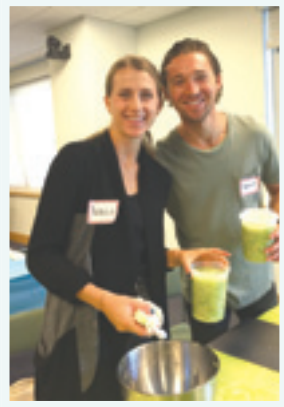
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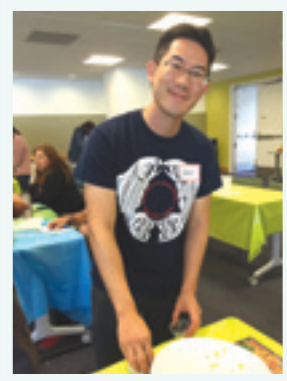












EATS

Barbara Chang Fleeman

Susan Nickels and Hae Jung Cho of Slow Food Preservers Los Angeles hosted a Fermentation Workshop called "Cabbage Two Ways" at the Santa Monica Public Library on Saturday, November 4. Participants turned 80 pounds of cabbage into 60 jars of sauerkraut and curtido (a Salvadoran condiment) during this hands-on session, part of the Library's Santa Monica Eats! series. For upcoming events, see smpl.org/santamonicaeats.

Skate for free at Ice grand opening

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Locals can lace up their skates once again as Downtown Santa Monica welcomes the holiday season with the grand opening of Ice at Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue tonight.

"Ice at Santa Monica has become so much more than just an outdoor ice skating rink," said Kevin Herrera, senior marketing manager for Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. "It has become a beloved community gathering place where friends, family and neighbors come to celebrate the holiday season and make lasting memories."

Skate for free tonight from 6 to 10 p.m. while enjoying a DJ and performances by some of California's most elite skaters. Guests are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped gift or gift card to support the PAL Best Ever Toy Drive, which directly benefits children in Santa Monica.

"We have some new food venders this year we are pretty excited about," Herrera said. Those venders include three of the new tenants at the nearby Gallery Food Hall: STRFSH (fish sandwiches), Everytable (healthy bowls), and Sloans's Ice Cream.

The 8,000 square foot rink officially opened Nov. 1 and stays frozen until Jan. 15. Avoid the crowds by heading to the rink sooner rather than later. The rink tends to fill up further into the holiday season once school lets out and kids and teenagers have more hours to burn on the ice.

SEE ICE PAGE 10

Eyes of the homeless reveal stories of heartache, hope

BY JAE HONG & BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

It's easy to walk past the homeless, to disregard the guy lying on the street or ignore the woman standing at an intersection holding a handwritten sign with a plea for help.

It's harder to look away when you've seen their eyes.

Look past lines drawn by hard living or the still-soft skin of someone young but struggling to break the cycle of dependency or abuse.

Their eyes hint at lost promise or offer a glimmer of hope. Some are haunting, some placid. Others troubled or masking troubles. Some are warm and tender; others tough and anxious.

You wonder: Why did they end up here? How do they get by on so little? What do they need to get back on their feet?

The questions don't always have easy answers. Solutions are not always available. The extent of someone's past troubles can be impossible to know.

As part of its project looking at the homeless crisis on the West Coast, AP photographer Jae Hong went to Seattle, the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles to shoot intimate portraits of the people with no permanent homes. He used a special lens to focus on their eyes.

Here are the stories those people told.

SEE HOMELESS PAGE 6

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Celebrate Green Businesses
Wednesday, November 15, 2017
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Sustainable Works and Southern California Edison invite you to celebrate Santa Monica's green business community. Meet SQA winners and get the latest resources on green business. Enjoy drinks and delicious organic small bites from Uplifters Kitchen.

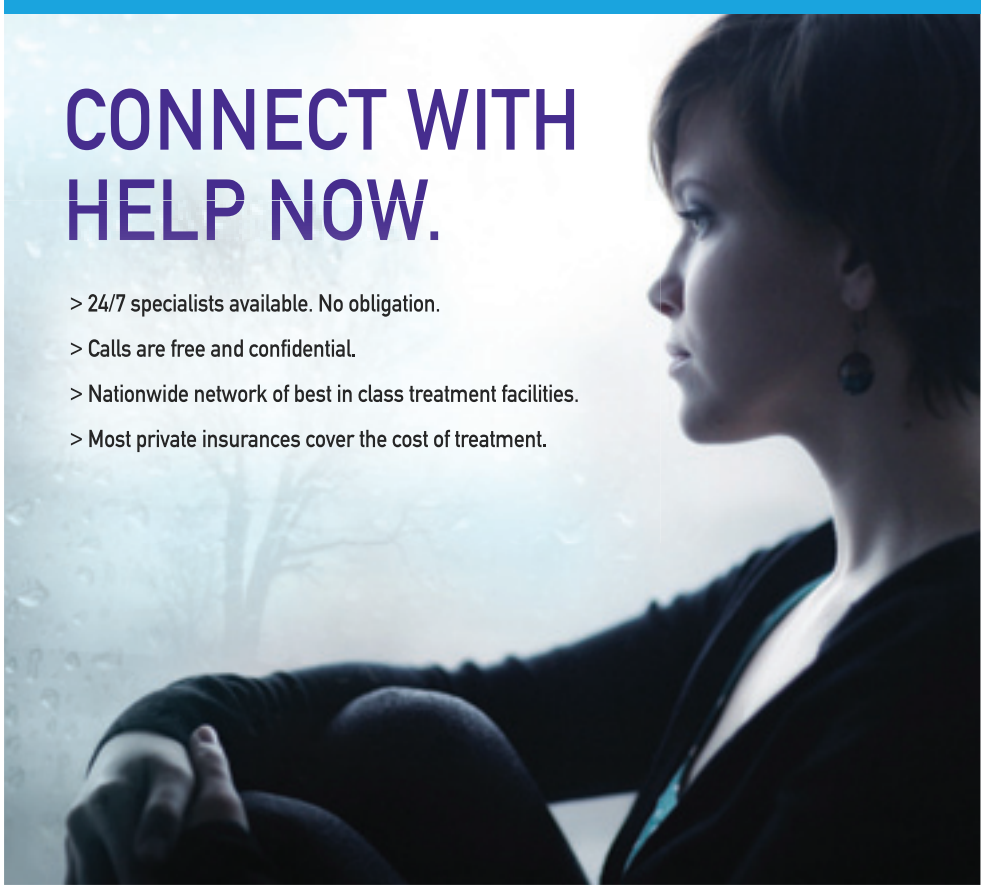
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WISE & Healthy Aging



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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, November 8

Montana Mystery Book Group: The White Cottage

suspects when he was found shot at the White Cottage. Chief Inspector Challenor and his son Jerry had to look deep into everyone's past-including the dead man's before they could be sure who had pulled the trigger. Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women. Ken Edwards, Center, 1527 4th St, 7 p.m.

Fairview Teen Advisory Group

Are you looking for opportunities to serve your community? Join our Teen Advisory Group, help improve teen services at the library, and earn community service credit. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Poets & Writers Literary Roundtable

Poets & Writers, the nation's largest nonprofit organization serving creative writers, convenes Literary Roundtable Meetings in different parts of California and select cities outside the state. These meetings are open to people from all areas of the literary community writers, teachers, editors, and organizations that host literary events to exchange ideas, news, and resources. It's also a chance for P&W staff to share information about the Readings & Workshops program, which helps to provide fees to writers who give public readings and/or teach creative writing workshops. More info at pw.org. 1450 Ocean, Free, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. RSVP appreciated directly to Poets & Writers at rwwest@pw.org.

Thursday, Nov. 9

Not Your Mother's IUD: a look at modern day long-acting contraceptive devices

UCLA Health OB/GYN Dr. Amy Stoddard will provide information on next-generation IUDs and contraceptive implants currently on the market, and discuss why they are safe and effective choices for young women. Thursday, Nov. 9, 6:30 – 8 p.m. Auditorium at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, 1250 16th Street, Santa Monica. Event is free, but RSVP to 800-516-5323

Rent Control Board Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board. Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, East Wing, 1855 Main St. 7 p.m.

L.A.'s Legendary Restaurants

Chef George Geary, author of L.A.'s Legendary Restaurants, presents an illustrated talk on the Golden Era of Hollywood restaurants and favorite dishes from where the stars ate, played and danced. A book sale and signing follows. This program is part of the Santa Monica Eats! series. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8 p.m.

College Affordability: Financial Aid and FAFSA

Diana Hanson of Magellan Counseling explains the different kinds of financial aid and answers questions about making college affordable. She also discusses the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and CSS profile financial aid forms in detail. Grades 10-12. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8:30 p.m.

My Brother Jack: Q&A with Filmmaker Anthony Caldarella

Award-winning director Anthony Caldarella screens and discusses My Brother Jack, a Sicilian family tale about love, sacrifice, and survival in 1960s Manhattan, starring Marco Leonardi (Like Water for Chocolate, and Cinema Paradiso) and Freddy Rodriguez (Six Feet Under, and Dead Presidents). The film is based on the life of Caldarella's brother. (Film runtime: 92 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Downtown

Chef George Geary discusses L.A.'s Legendary Restaurants

Santa Monica Public Library is proud to present chef George Geary, author of L.A.'s Legendary Restaurants, on Thursday, November 9, at 7 p.m., in the Main Library's Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Best-selling cookbook author and chef George Geary takes readers on a journey to the golden age of Hollywood's most famous eateries. His book, L.A.'s Legendary Restaurants: Celebrating the Famous Places Where Hollywood Ate, Drank and Played (Santa Monica Press/October 2016), offers an illustrated history of Los Angeles' landmark eateries. A book sale and signing follows.

From Trader Vic's to Perino's, there are stories to tell and food to talk about. For generations, fans of the big and small screen longed to capture the Hollywood glamour of their favorite stars, most notably where they liked to eat and play. Hollywood lore has it that Elizabeth Taylor had chili from Chasen's flown to the set of Cleopatra in Rome; Howard Hughes and Errol Flynn were regulars at The Cocoanut Grove at The Ambassador Hotel; and Shirley Temple enjoyed ice cream at the Pig 'n Whistle. Iconic Santa Monica establishments Michael's and Chez Jay are among the dozens of classic restaurants featured in Geary's book, along with recipes for favorite dishes of the stars.

This event is part of Santa Monica Eats!, the Santa Monica Public Library's six-week series of programs and displays exploring the food culture of Santa Monica. For a complete list of events, see: smpl.org/santamonicaeats.

Programs are free and open to the public. Space is limited and on a first arrival basis. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, call Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least one week prior to event. The Main Library is directly served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, R10 and 18. The Expo Line and other bus lines stop nearby. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

– BARBARA CHANG FLEEMAN, PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Lincoln Blvd.

Gelson's hosts free holiday meal tastings on November 10

On November 10, Gelson's will host free holiday meal tastings, offering samples of dishes that make the season both delicious and meaningful.

Visit the Service Deli at any local Gelson's and try its special holiday cuisine to know what to pre-order for your holiday dinners. Items to sample will include roasted turkey & gravy, ham & glaze, cornbread stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, yam soufflé, and more. To see a list of complete Meal and À La Carte Sections, click here.

Customers are also invited to try Gelson's/Renaud's/Viktor Benes bakery tastings (each where applicable). Free tastings will take place on Friday, November 10, from 3-6 p.m., at all 26 Gelson's stores across Southern California.

For more information about Gelson's, visit http://www.gelsons.com.

– SUBMITTED BY PAULETTE KAM BWR PR

Santa Monic Blvd.

Santa Monica Physical Medicine hosts Open House Thursday,

Santa Monica Physical Medicine combines an expert staff of Board Certified Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physicians, Physical Therapy, and Chiropractic providers all working together in an integrated setting which utilizes comprehensive PT and gym department and creates multiple active rehab and passive therapy patient programs. Patients typically have access to any single or multiples providers in the group who work together for the benefit of the patient. Santa Monica Physical Medicine combines the recognized physicians from Clinicare /Spinal Rehab Medical Group of Santa Monica with Vitality Health Center of Venice, together in a new location.

Previously with Clinicare, Adam Silver DO is a top-rated Doctor of Osteopathy who is Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R). Nationally renowned back specialist and author of "Back Pain Remedies For Dummies", Michael S. Sinel MD, returns to private practice at Santa Monica Physical Medicine. Yariv E. Rothman DC, joins the Santa Monica Physical Medicine chiropractic team from Vitality Health Center. Alex Kaliakin DC, QME from Clinicare brings over 30 years' experience as a Chiropractic doctor to Santa Monica Physical Medicine practicing in Santa Monica since 1981.

Their Grand Opening is Thursday, November 9, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Santa Monica Physical Medicine is located at 2232 Santa Monica Blvd. #101, behind US Bank and across the street from St. Johns Hospital. Access the parking lot from 23rd Street which is accessible from Santa Monica Blvd. Call (310) 393-2225 for more information.

– SUBMITTED BY HEDY WOOLF

California proposes armored cars to transport pot tax money

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

California should use armored cars to transport hundreds of millions of dollars in cash tax payments expected next year with the state's legal marijuana market, the state treasurer said Tuesday.

The state on Jan. 1 will enter a new era with cannabis when recreational sales become legal and join the long-standing medical industry in what will become the largest U.S. legal pot economy.

But the new market estimated to grow to $7 billion annually has a troubling flaw: Marijuana remains illegal under federal law, so most banks won't do business with pot growers, manufacturers or retailers. That means many marijuana companies typically operate only in cash.

Among California's new state taxes that will go into effect next year is a 15 percent levy on all marijuana purchases by consumers, including medical marijuana. Currently, for legal medical pot, there is no specific state tax on cannabis.

State Treasurer John Chiang formed a task force to work on a solution for gathering the money because the state expects to collect hundreds of millions of dollars from legal pot sales.

The armored car tax collection solution came about amid fears that operators carrying large bags of cash could be targets for theft and create problems for the state workers collecting and counting the money.

"It is unfair and a public safety risk to require a legal industry to haul duffel bags of cash to pay taxes, employees and utility bills," Chiang said in a statement.

He added that the marijuana industry's "reliance on cash paints a target on the back of cannabis operators and makes them and the general public vulnerable to violence and organized crime."

In a report based on the findings of the state's Cannabis Banking Working Group, Chiang also said that changes are needed in Washington to either legalize pot in the U.S., or shield financial institutions that serve the cannabis industry from possible prosecution.

But that seems unlikely anytime soon, so the report recommended:

The state should work with banks to contract an armored courier service to collect tax payments made in cash from businesses, and shuttle those payments to a secure counting facility before it's eventually deposited in state accounts. "Armored courier services would eliminate the need to directly handle large sums of cash at branch offices or open deposit accounts at financial institutions," the report said. It wasn't immediately clear who would pay for the service.

Conducting a study on the potential to create a public cannabis bank or other financial institution to serve the industry. The report warned that the obstacles to creating a public financial institution are "formidable," including unknown startup costs, the probability of losses for several years or more that taxpayers would have to cover and trouble obtaining federal regulatory approval.

Forming a group of cannabis-friendly states, businesses and banks to push for changes in Washington for improved banking access for the industry that would reduce or eliminate the need for cash.

To encourage greater access to banks, state and local governments should create an online portal to collect data on cannabis businesses. It would be designed to help banks assess potential customers and include licensing and regulatory information, data on key personnel, sources of supply and financial records.

Chiang warned in a letter accompanying the recommendations that "the clash between state and federal law threatens to cripple legal California cannabis businesses before they even get up and running."

"The inability of cannabis operations to get banking services means that many of them may remain in the underground economy and not become transparent, regulated, tax-paying businesses, as California voters intended," he said.

During the Obama administration, the Justice Department issued guidelines to help banks avoid federal prosecution when dealing with pot businesses.

But most banks don't see those rules as a legal protection against charges that could include aiding drug trafficking. They say the rules place the burden on banks to determine if a pot business is operating legally.

Colorado tried in 2015 to set up a credit union to serve the marijuana industry but was blocked by the Federal Reserve.

The number of banks and credit unions willing to handle pot money is growing. But they still represent only a tiny slice of the industry.

In Washington state the state began requiring that businesses pay their pot taxes electronically or by check, unless they obtained a waiver explaining why they had to pay in cash.

Associated Press Writer Gene Johnson in Seattle contributed.

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The Request for Bids may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15167. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit a Bid containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

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Your column here

By Dr. Ben Drati
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Message to all parents, staff and community members

DEAR PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY members,

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education has taken the interest of the Malibu community to separate from our district into a Malibu Unified School District (MUSD) very seriously. During the past two years, the School Board has focused on the financial aspects of this request, seeking to determine whether there is an approach that would leave the remaining Santa Monica district financially whole while providing Malibu with the local control it seeks.

Two financial analyses have been completed and presented to the School Board, District leadership, interested parents and community members, including information provided at the most recent special Board meeting held on Oct. 30, 2017. School Services of California (SSC) presented its report at this meeting and the Malibu Unification Negotiations Committee (MUNC) presented twice earlier this year.

If SMMUSD were to split into two districts, there would be a negative fiscal impact on the remaining Santa Monica portion of the district. The two reports (MUNC and SSC) posit approaches to address the negative fiscal impact on the remaining Santa Monica Unified School District (SMUSD) if separation were to occur. Neither the MUNC nor the SSC approach eliminate the fiscal impact though both reports offer ways to diminish the impact. While the formulas are different, both the MUNC and SSC proposals suggest a transition period immediately following separation into two districts during which revenues would remain substantially close to what they would have been in the current district and reductions in current operations would not likely be required. However, once the transition period ends, the Santa Monica-only district would no longer have the revenues it would have had if SMMUSD remained as a district. Diminished revenues result in diminished purchasing power, which will have consequences for new and enhanced programs that the current district is contemplating and for the District's ability to pay increasing expenses and meet rising financial obligations. At the same time, once the transition period ends, the Malibu-only portion of the district will have substantially greater revenues per student.

To obtain a deeper understanding of the fiscal approaches presented to the School Board, I suggest that you read the most recent summary report from SSC. The MUNC report and other information can be found online on the Malibu unification webpages and also as part of the Oct. 30, 2017 agenda item.

The School Board discussed Malibu unification for more than six hours and heard 45 public comments both in support and in objection to separation. The October 30 meeting offered an opportunity for Board discussion and no vote was taken at this meeting. During discussion, Board members expressed concern that the fiscal impact remains too great on Santa Monica under the formulas as proposed while also articulating a desire to explore potential proposals that would offer Malibu the local control they seek in a manner that does not have a substantial negative fiscal impact on the remaining Santa Monica district. Consistent with those concerns, the Board directed staff to explore two potential directions (Plan A and Plan B). To carry out the Board's exploration of these conceptual plans, the following will occur:

Plan A: I will meet with representatives from the Malibu City Council and also with the Malibu Schools Leadership Council (MSLC) and Advocates for Malibu Public Schools (AMPS) to determine whether Malibu stakeholders would be interested in having conversations with SMMUSD leadership about structural or governance solutions to Malibu's desire to have greater local control over the schools in Malibu within the current SMMUSD. This plan reflects a belief expressed by Board members that there is a great deal of room within our district to explore options that would enable greater local control for Malibu schools while maximizing the many assets we retain together as SMMUSD.

Plan B: Concurrently, District staff will communicate with SSC the Board's request for further information regarding their proposed revenue-sharing formula, including extending the timeline to a period of 50 years. If agreed to and implemented, this would provide a pathway to creation of an independent school district in Malibu coupled with a long-term fiscal agreement that effectively shares fiscal resources among both districts.

Meanwhile, the City of Malibu has filed a petition for separation with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) in the form of a resolution that was adopted by the City of Malibu in 2015. The petition, as submitted, does not provide any mechanism for addressing the fiscal impacts of separation on a remaining SMUSD. A preliminary hearing on the petition will be scheduled in December or January.

The School Board will have another discussion at the Nov. 16, 2017 board meeting in Santa Monica, during which I will report on the meetings with Malibu stakeholders and whether they showed interest in Plan A. If Malibu does show interest, then the Board can direct staff to begin those conversations in greater depth. If not, then the Board will examine the additional information and data from SSC (Plan B) and determine whether an extended SSC revenue sharing formula offers a potentially workable solution.

I understand the strong interest in Malibu to separate, however, we need to ensure that all students in both communities will continue to have high-quality programs and services, and resources necessary for closing the achievement gap. Student outcomes are dependent on funding increases over time, and districts must prepare for possible fluctuations in the economy that may result in reduced revenue from property taxes and other revenue sources.

At this time, it is clear that the remaining SMUSD will suffer in a separation, so I must balance that with the interests of Malibu to separate.

I'm hopeful that with all of us working together we can find a solution that is amenable to families in both communities and will serve both Santa Monica and Malibu well for decades to come.

DR. BEN DRATI is Superintendent of the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District.

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WINNER

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fool Circle

IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE

Growing up as a news junkie, in the '50s and '60s, I used to think corruption, serious political corruption, was what happened in other places in the world, but not here. Oh sure, we had crooked politicians, lots of them, willing to vote for something for the right payback, but that was normal politics. They wouldn't vote for something that would kill or impoverish their own people or threaten our future as a nation.

I'll probably never be able to figure out if I was naive or uninformed, if the press of the time didn't uncover it, or if things have changed. Probably all three, but definitely the last.

When I stepped outdoors Sunday for a stroll to the Farmers Market, breathing in another glorious day in paradise, I checked my email one last time only to discover the horrible news of the Texas church slaughter — and for the first time ever I thought, I gotta get out of here. Because I can't believe, anymore, that it's going to change.

America has gone insane. Where can I run to? Spain, New Zealand, Greece, Portugal, Tangier (places I've been with beaches and pretty good weather) — almost anyplace but here. Not because any other place is perfect, or even as good as the USA on most counts. Not because I personally worry about becoming the victim of gun violence (too late for that). But because America and its political system has become, unlike any other civilized nation on earth, willing to continue to sacrifice the blood and very lives of literally hundreds of thousands of its citizens, for the obscene greed of gun manufacturers.

SWEET, INNOCENT LITTLE KIDS

In school, people praying in a church, someone who merely uttered angry words. You shall die, horribly, and we won't lift a finger to stop it from happening again, and it will happen again, probably very soon, judging by our history, so just keep your thoughts and prayers ready folks, to trot out over and over and over.

Nothing new, unfortunately, but all of a sudden I realized I had a big problem being part of that. I think most decent people around the world felt shock, but sympathy, when the great nation of America found itself with a president as odious on every count as Donald J. Trump. Poor America. But they'll fix it. And maybe he won't be quite as bad as he seems. No, we're not fixing it, and yes he is. And the sympathy has turned to disgust and derision.

The tone always starts at the top, with the leaders, and the tone is uglier than ever, by far. But what about us, here in Santa Monica? Gun regulations come from Washington (or, no gun regulations). Not within our city control, but what about the horrible crime surge we've been experiencing lately? What can be done? It would seem our city leaders don't know, so they're having community meetings to ask us what they should do.

Too late for that. You're supposed to be the experts. You are getting paid ridiculously high salaries and benefits to be those experts. Forget Beverly Hills. We hire more staff at higher pay per capita than any city in the state. Our City Manager justifies all those hires at those exorbitant rates by saying it's OUR doing because Santa Monicans are used to and demand the best in city services. I would dispute that, but there is no disputing that we are not getting the best, where we most need it. We are getting community meetings and city surveys that are biased and useless. Meanwhile we are getting stabbed and shot and hit by cars and trains, assaulted and burgled and raped.

That's not what I intended to write about this week. But it's so much in our face, so pressing for immediate solutions, for thinking outside the box, necessary because our Council and staff have been circling the box with their eyes closed and their fingers in their ears, listening to the wrong people and not to their constituents, and now the box is on fire. We're all wracking our brains for answers, for the big picture, but I think it's pretty clear.

There are, of course, regional, state and national trends that contribute to all this. Can't control that. But we can control our specific approach here in Santa Monica to solutions, and it seems to me there's one factor that has been the rotten elephant in the room for a long time.

ONE OF MY VERY FIRST COLUMNS

Four years ago, put forth an extreme reaction of someone who had lived here nearly 30 years and was horrified at the changes that were being wrought. I started going to lots of meetings, talking with lots of people, and weighing what I had learned, and decided and proposed that the entire City Council and its SMRR overlords needed to go!

Boy, was I raked over the coals. You're unsophisticated. A novice. You don't understand our history or how city government works. Well, I've got a lot more experience and knowledge under my belt now, and I've come full circle. You citizen politicians want a position of great responsibility (and influence, power, prestige and benefits)? Then you have to take responsibility for the results of your stewardship.

The results have been bad for a long time but now they are terrible and desperate. I never thought our City leaders were bad people. But their philosophies for our future, so different from mine and many who live here, have not produced results we want to live with. They've made things far worse. You've had more than ample opportunity, years of it. You're doing everything to make Santa Monica a denser, more populous city, and now look where we are.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: What was I going to write about? That same City Council, whose members are now revealing some interesting things as they are being interrogated over a lawsuit to bring district voting here. It could change our political landscape radically. We are seeing in Washington where depositions can take you, what might be uncovered. So far, some embarrassing but not prosecutable revelations, but it's not over. I will write about those in the next couple of columns.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Sure there are dishonest men in local government. But there are dishonest men in national government too." — Richard M. Nixon

---

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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HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

NAME: MOI WILLIAMS, 59
HOME: STREETS OF LOS ANGELES

Across from the elegant Millennium Biltmore hotel, Williams reclined on his side, resting on an elbow on concrete steps leading to a park in the heart of downtown Los Angeles.

Rather than stand out in contrast to the business people hustling by or commuters heading home, he fits in as one of the many homeless people who idle their days in Pershing Square.

Williams' stare is as empty as the details he offers about his life.

He said he's been on the streets three or four years. His beard and hair are starting to gray and a cigarette is propped behind his left ear.

He had a job, but "it just got away," he said. He figured he'd find another, but it never came along.

"I'm not fighting, like I used to," he said. "When I was younger, before I got a job, I used to fight a lot."

Now he is trying to beat drugs and alcohol.

Williams would like a place to live and some money, but said he doesn't stay at shelters and hasn't signed up for any public assistance. For now, he's mostly comfortable where he is.

"I'm not bothering nobody," Williams said. "I'm not being bothered."

NAME: JAMES HARRIS, 54
HOME: A TENT IN HOLLYWOOD

Harris likes to open with "God bless you" before asking for money. It makes him feel better to offer something in exchange for a handout.

"It's hard panhandling and taking things from people," he said.

Harris said he has had AIDS for 30 years. When medication stopped working, he got depressed and was evicted. Now he feels like an outcast, vulnerable and struggling to survive.

"I've been beaten, robbed, chased," he said. "People steal your tents and your tarps and your clothes. I've lost everything I owned."

He's hoping that as a veteran he can get permanent housing, though he missed an earlier opportunity because a stint in a shelter disqualified him from being considered chronically homeless.

He gets by on $900 a month from Social Security and whatever he can scrounge up. A little extra cash might get him some crack to smoke at night.

"I put needs first, drugs last," he said.

He spent the remaining $105 from a recent check on a suit and put on makeup to look like Two-Face, the villain from Batman comics. He wanted to "make an honest living" with others dressed as superheroes or movie characters jostling for tips on Hollywood Boulevard.

But it didn't go well. He said he didn't earn a dime.

NAME: TAMMY STEPHEN, 54
HOME: A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT IN SEATTLE

They call her "mom." Stephen, whose children have grown up, cooks and looks after the denizens of Camp Second Chance as if they were her own.

"I'm not going to let my family go hungry," she said. "We're doing our best to get through life. I don't let people mess with my family."

She has known the cycle of dependence herself and been pulled down in it by partners, she said.

Six times she's lost a place to live because her third husband got high and got them evicted.

The final time came when things started looking up. Her husband had just landed a job, but spent his first paycheck on meth and got them booted again. She went her own way at that point.

"I broke the cardinal rule. I met him at rehab," she said. "One of the first things he said was, 'Don't fall in love with me. I'm not good.' I should have listened."

She didn't get sober until her third try in rehab.

She's been homeless more than three years and has been talking with other campers about pooling money to rent a place, but it can cost $1,200 to $1,500 for tiny apartments.

At one point, she and a daughter were living in someone's storage room for $700 a month. It was hard to afford on her monthly $734 disability payment.

"Most homeless people I know aren't homeless because they're addicts," she said. "Maybe they were at one time. Most people are homeless because they can't afford a place to live."

NAME: JORGE ORTEGA, 40
HOME: SKID ROW, LOS ANGELES

Ortega sleeps on a street in one of the most wretched homeless havens in America.

The sidewalk reeks of urine and drug addicts sprawl nearby, one in the apparent throes of a high with her arms spread wide and head turned toward the heavens.

Ortega said he drove a forklift at Los Angeles International Airport for 18 years before having problems at work and losing his job.

One of those problems may have been drug use. He said he started using drugs as a 12-year-old in Mexico and tried to quit while working.

"Every time there's something good in my life," he said, "something happens."

He collects cardboard for money.

Ortega becomes emotional talking about a 14-year-old son he hasn't spoken with in a few years. He has family that lives in the area, but he doesn't want to be around them and doesn't want them to see him.

"I'm here on my own," he said. "I like to be around by myself."

NAME: ALICIA ADARA, 33
HOME: A TENT IN SEATTLE

Adara says she ended up on the street after losing a custody fight for her two children to her ex-husband.

She panhandles to survive and also gets $198 a month in food stamps. She showers at Mary's Place, a nonprofit daycare center for homeless. Sometimes she takes sponge baths at the Seattle Ferry Terminal.

The tent she sleeps in is not the home she wants, but right now it's the one she chooses - and it beats living in a shelter.

"I don't do shelters. I feel like I'm in jail," she said. "I've been like basically a prisoner all my life. I need to do this. I need to be out here. It's freedom."

As she sat in an alley in downtown killing time, she said she thinks she'll do this for another year and then hopes for a permanent job. She doesn't have a clue what that will be.

She takes a long pause to consider it and then says, "dog sitter."

NAME: BENNIE KOFFA, 66
HOME: A SEATTLE TENT ENCAMPMENT

Koffa stands out among the homeless because of the way he dresses - in a suit. Friends jokingly call him Tony Soprano because they think he looks like a mobster.

He said it's a custom he's maintained since his years working for the government in Liberia.

Koffa said he came to the U.S. in 1990 and never returned as a civil war raged for years back home. He has lived in Canada and sought refugee status in the U.S.

He ended up homeless and living on the streets of Seattle after splitting up with his wife a year ago, he said. Recently, he got an opportunity to live in a tent encampment.

"I've lived some lives, you know, up and

SEE HOPE PAGE 7

HOPE

FROM PAGE 6

down," he said. "I'm very thankful to have Camp Second Chance, which (the) name actually means something to me."

Koffa said he has mental illness, which he attributes to the corruption and strife in his home country.

He tries to spruce up camp by weeding, though he resigned a job in the kitchen out of frustration because of a lack of cooperation.

His goal is to continue studying the Bible to become an ordained minister. He wants to help the poor.

"I would love to get out (of here)," he said. "I understand this is a journey."

NAME: JOHN RUIZ, 9
HOME: A RECREATIONAL VEHICLE WITH HIS PARENTS AND SIBLINGS IN MOUNTAIN VIEW, THE HOME OF GOOGLE

The fourth-grader dreams of going to college. He knows it's the path to a better job and a home that's not on four wheels.

His father is a minimum-wage landscaper, who moved the family to the aging camper after they were evicted from an apartment where the rent kept going up, nearing $3,000 a month. His mother is five months pregnant.

The family parks the RV outside an apartment building where three bedroom apartments rent for up to $6,000 a month.

John's friends at school were surprised to hear he lived in an RV.

"I thought they were going to laugh, but they were OK with it," he said.

The worst thing about living in a camper is that it's cramped, hot in summer and cold in winter. He and his brother have to walk to get water and dump their trash.

"At least we have a home we can live in," he said. "I have a bunch of toys. Mostly the good part is there's a little stove where we can eat."

John dreams of his family having a successful life together and maybe ending up in a mansion — a home that might have a swimming pool and backyard. Or at least one big enough to have his own room.

"I want to have a happy life," he said.

NAME: BARRY WARREN, 52
HOME: A SEATTLE STREET CLOSE TO A WATERFRONT PARK

Warren sits in a lawn chair next to a shopping cart teeming with his possessions. He's been homeless his entire adult life — if you don't count the three years he said he spent in prison.

He said he's schizophrenic and has been collecting disability payments since before he left home in California.

"Mommy wanted the crazy check," he said. "We had that kind of family."

After about 20 years without a home in California, he moved to Seattle, where the benefits are better and life on the street is safer.

"Everyone knows Seattle is a homeless town," he said. "It is and always will be the best town to be in if you're homeless."

Inertia and mental illness have prevented him from getting work, he said. He was lazy until he was in his early 30s. Then when he tried to work, he couldn't get hired.

He said he's obsessive compulsive and would make a good janitor. He sometimes spends up to three hours a day sweeping the sidewalk where he stays.

"Walk in that tunnel - it's nasty. And then you walk out here and you say, 'Is this the same sidewalk?'" he said as he laughed.

NAME: DOLORES EPPS, 41
HOME: AROUND THE LOS ANGELES AREA

Epps talks tough, curses freely and tosses back sexual harassment that comes from men on the sidewalk of Skid Row.

She once had a job at a salon and still makes money cutting hair.

"I don't touch everybody, only the people that are clean," Epps said.

"All these dope fiends are going to keep looking like a dope fiend. You're not my problem. But if you're a clean person and you just want to get a little bit extra sassy or as a man look a little more handsome, then yeah."

Epps said she has been homeless on and off since her mother kicked her out of her home in San Diego five years ago. Her mother has custody of her 15-year-old daughter and 9-year-old son.

She said she doesn't use drugs other than pot, but also talks about having been "straight for a while" before moving back in with her mom for 15 months. She went to jail for fighting with her mother about her kids, she said.

She lives on $900 a month for an unspecified disability and earns some money clipping hair and selling electronics. She also takes college courses online.

She had just spent a night at a friend's house and was able to shower. Compared to many others on the street, she said she's doing well.

"The people out here looking really horrible are doing it by choice," she said. "Or they're definitely severely mentally ill and addicted to serious drugs. That's it."

NAME: HARRISON PERKINS, 31
HOME: A SEATTLE STREET.

The path to the streets began with a prescription for the powerful painkiller OxyContin, Perkins said.

He has a rare heart disease and pain in his legs. He began supplementing his medication with heroin, though that cost him dearly.

"That's why my belongings are gone," he said. "I don't have a watch on my hand. I don't have a wedding band. I got rid of whatever jewelry I had."

He never finished college studies in computer science, but managed to do computer work for years.

He and his wife lost a place to live when she accidentally set fire to her mother's kitchen and the landlord wouldn't let them return.

Perkins said he's been clean for six months, but it's hard to remain sober on the street. He's thinking of moving back to his native Cleveland and hoping to stay with his brother there. Perkins concedes that his drug problems have given his brother reservations, so he's not sure that will happen.

He and his wife can't afford a place to live in Seattle on the $760 disability check he gets each month from Social Security, and he's resorted to begging.

The couple can't stay together at a shelter and don't want to be exposed to bed bugs and lice outbreaks there, so they opted to live on the street, where their possessions have been stolen.

"Drugs are offered to me more than a place to live," he said. "Even in my worst drug addiction days, I always kept a roof over my head. ... We literally have nothing. This is what we've got. It's not worth it."

NAME: BERNADETTE ORTIZ, 39
HOME: A TEMPORARY SHELTER AT A SAN JOSE CHURCH

Ortiz was living in a tent encampment with a boyfriend earlier this year when she learned she was pregnant.

That helped her land a place to stay at a church, though her baby, Serenity, hasn't been able to stay with her there. The infant stays with a family member at night and is returned to Ortiz during the day.

"I don't know what I'd do without her," Ortiz said. "I love her up. I look into her eyes. She looks into my eyes. That's my precious moments with her."

Ortiz said she spent about five years with no permanent roof over her head after argu-

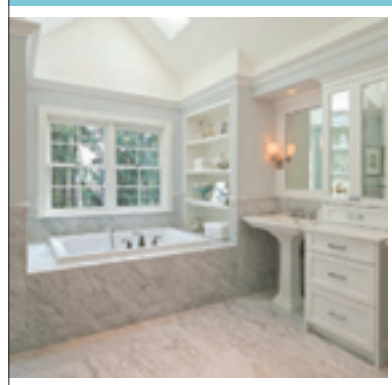
SEE HEARTACHE PAGE 8

THE OP CAFE
SANTA MONICA



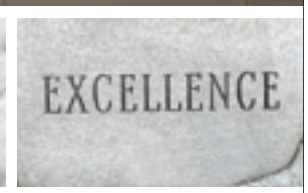
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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **65.8°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Steep NW swell-mix. Small SSW swell.

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Steep new NW swell-mix to build. Forerunners of a new SSW swell creeping up.



HEARTACHE

FROM PAGE 7

ments with her husband escalated and he kicked her out.

She alluded to drug abuse, but wouldn't elaborate: "I had a problem with things," she said.

She left behind four children her estranged husband doesn't let her see because she's homeless, she said.

Ortiz and her boyfriend were getting ready in September to move into a $1,050-a-month studio apartment paid for by Catholic Charities for six months. Mainly a homemaker, Ortiz said she planned to eventually look for a job. But that won't be in fast food, after her previous experience.

"It's too hard," she said. "You have to put up with customers' attitude. And it's really fast. I was too slow."

NAME: ROBERT IRWIN, 72
HOME: SEATTLE TENT CAMP

Irwin is a self-described jack-of-all-trades, who had a steady job as a maintenance engineer for 25 years at a Seattle hospital until it closed down decades ago.

He became homeless earlier this year when staying with other people didn't work out. About three months ago, he landed at Camp Second Chance, which he credits with turning his life around.

"I used to be mad and mean all the time," he said. "They accepted me. From day one, I felt uplifted."

Irwin has put his skills to work repairing tents or shoring up the platforms that elevate them on the gravel lot. He hopes to leave in the spring and move to Michigan to see his ailing older sister and live with a nephew.

He becomes emotional discussing family and said it "kind of gets me down." He said he plans to drive his old Chevy Blazer across the country.

"It would be my last trip," he said.

Hong reported from Seattle, San Jose, Mountain View and Los Angeles. Melley wrote the story from Los Angeles.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 362 Calls For Service On Nov. 6.

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

Death investigation 1600 block Arizona 12:18 a.m.
Encampment 400 block Colorado 1:04 a.m.
Fight 1400 block 17th 1:57 a.m.
Person down 7th / Santa Monica 2:37 a.m.
Battery 1600 block Ocean 3:53 a.m.
Encampment 2900 block Ocean Front Walk 6:28 a.m.
Construction noise 2500 block Lincoln 6:30 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block Berkeley 7:23 a.m.
Fight 2400 block Santa Monica 7:24 a.m.
Vandalism 1400 block 5th 7:48 a.m.
Vandalism 1800 block Colorado 8:16 a.m.
Petty theft 1500 block 4th 8:42 a.m.
Person with a gun 1900 block Lincoln 8:44 a.m.
Vandalism 1800 block Colorado 8:54 a.m.
Encampment 4th / Pico 9:07 a.m.
Fight 1300 block Lincoln 9:11 a.m.
Petty theft 600 block Santa Monica 9:14 a.m.
Fight 300 block Santa Monica Pl 9:31 a.m.
Identity theft 1200 block 23rd 9:39 a.m.
Death investigation 400 block Raymond 9:42 a.m.
Identity theft 1400 block 6th 9:49 a.m.
Fight 1600 block Ocean 9:56 a.m.
Encampment 18th / Michigan 9:57 a.m.
Fight 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 10:12 a.m.
Theft recyclables 1200 block Euclid 10:51 a.m.
Encampment 3000 block the beach 10:52 a.m.
Encampment 2700 block the beach 11:20 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block 16th 11:20 a.m.
Encampment 2300 block 4th 11:57 a.m.
Traffic collision 2200 block Wilshire 11:57 a.m.
Identity theft 400 block San Vicente 12:12 p.m.
Encampment 2000 block ocean front walk 12:16 p.m.
Encampment 400 block Palisades Beach 12:30 p.m.
Fight Lincoln / Bay 12:50 p.m.
Vandalism 1500 block 20th 12:52 p.m.
Burglary 1000 block Euclid 12:52 p.m.
Hit and run 800 block Montana 1:01 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 1900 block Olympic 1:13 p.m.
Traffic collision 17th / Broadway 1:14 p.m.
Person with a gun 1100 block Lincoln 1:19 p.m.
Fraud 1500 block Ocean 1:31 p.m.
Burglary 0 block Arcadia Ter 1:33 p.m.
Harassing phone calls 300 block California 1:35 p.m.
Out order traffic lights 7th / San Vicente 1:49 p.m.
Vandalism 1300 block Oak 2:11 p.m.
Silent robbery 1400 block Wilshire 3:12 p.m.
Traffic collision 1200 block 9th 3:13 p.m.
Abandoned vehicle 2400 block Centinela 3:13 p.m.
Attempt strongarm robbery 300 block Santa Monica Pier 3:17 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 31 Calls For Service On Nov. 6.

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

EMS 7th / Santa Monica 2:38 a.m.
EMS 2200 block Virginia 7:42 a.m.
EMS 500 block Olympic 9:15 a.m.
EMS 2700 block Pearl 9:15 a.m.
EMS 600 block PCH 9:40 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 10:12 a.m.
Smoke investigation 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 10:54 a.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 100 block Palisades 11:24 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Expo Line 12:15 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block 20th 12:33 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block 6th 12:56 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire Ocean / Colorado 1:07 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 17th / Broadway 1:14 p.m.
Automatic alarm 600 block Pico 1:21 p.m.
Automatic alarm 300 block Olympic 1:35 p.m.
Automatic alarm 400 block Broadway 2:02 p.m.
EMS 100 block Broadway 2:12 p.m.
Automatic alarm 3400 block Pico 2:19 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 2:20 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 16th 2:22 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Santa Monica 3:16 p.m.
Flooded condition 1400 block 2nd 5:01 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block 5th 5:45 p.m.
EMS 500 block Lincoln 5:56 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 20th / Interstate 10 18:15:04
EMS 400 block Ocean 6:53 p.m.
EMS 30th / Pearl 7:46 p.m.
EMS 1000 block 11th 8:38 p.m.
EMS Appian / Vicente Ter 9:34 p.m.
EMS 6th / Wilshire 11:13 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Draw Date: 11/4
12 14 26 48 51
Power#: 13
Jackpot: 75M

Draw Date: 11/3
10 22 42 61 69
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 59M

Draw Date: 11/4
5 8 29 32 41
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 29M

Draw Date: 11/6
10 15 29 38 39

Draw Date: 11/6
MIDDAY: 2 1 2
Draw Date: 11/6
EVENING: 9 8 7

Draw Date: 11/6
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:45.39

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!

logrolling

1. U.S. Politics. the exchange of support or favors, especially by legislators for mutual political gain as by voting for each other's bills.
2. cronyism or mutual favoritism among writers, editors, or critics, as in the form of reciprocal flattering reviews; back scratching.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Don't Come Back And See Us Sometime

■ Researchers at George Washington University looked at emergency room use in seven developed countries, including the U.S. They report that ER use was lowest in Germany and Australia, most likely due to better, faster access to primary care. The vast majority of Germans and Australians can make same- or next-day appointments with their regular doctors.

■ ER use was most common in Canada, with the U.S. and Switzerland close behind.

■ The U.S. was tops in keeping people from coming back to the ER, primarily due to efforts to incentivize hospitals to cut readmission rates.

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

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

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

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

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

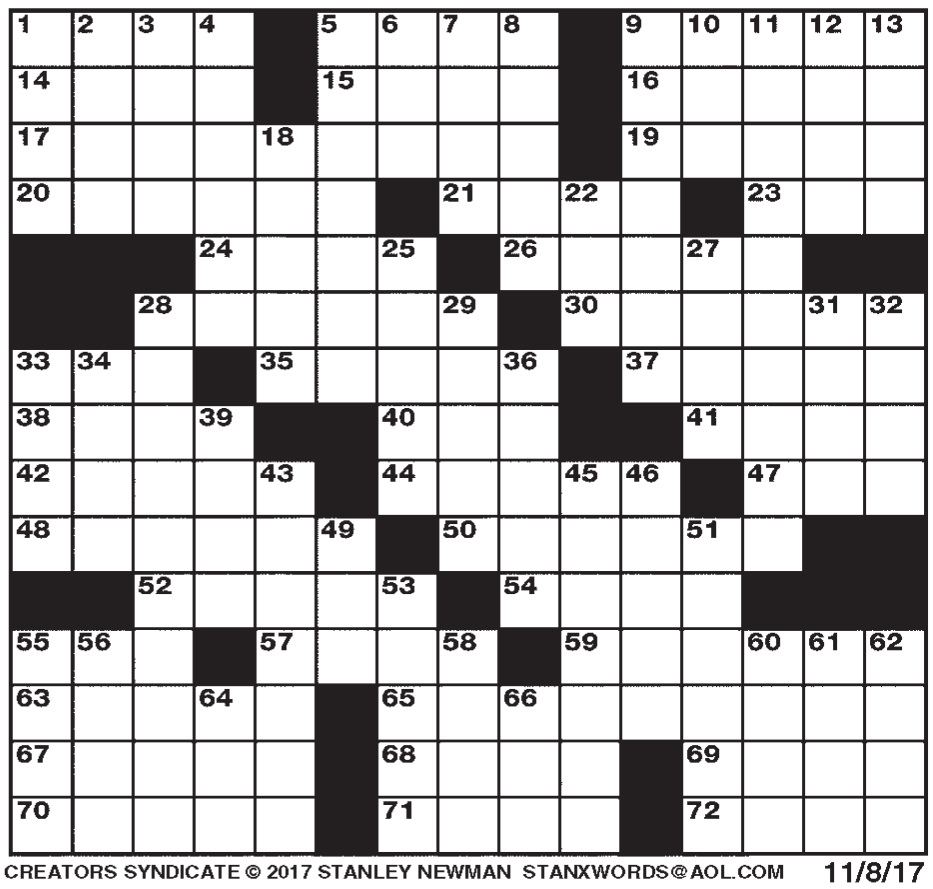
HERE'S THE PITCH by Charles Slack
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Be an omen of
5 Sharp knocks
9 Support, as with a wager
14 Numbered musical work
15 Polish a manuscript
16 Make amends
17 Submit one's ballot
19 Sample of food
20 Acid neutralizer
21 Diplomatic skill
23 Lawn material
24 Narrate
26 Island nation near Sicily
28 Concerning this, in legalese
30 Motive
33 Chimp, for one
35 Scouting group
37 Garden digging tool
38 Woodpecker's nose
40 Buddy
41 Apply the brakes
42 Underground chambers
44 High-fives, for example
47 Gallery display
48 Catches some Z's
50 Uttered
52 Into pieces
54 Messes up
55 *60 Minutes* network
57 Games with no winner
59 The 1990s, for instance
63 Celebrity roster
65 Display anger
67 Scoundrel
68 Parade spoiler
69 Urge on
70 Erstwhile anesthetic
71 Finds a sum
72 Innumerable years

DOWN

1 __ Raton, FL
2 Whitish gem
3 Twilight
4 Many-acre residence
5 One expressing contempt
6 Fuss
7 Actor Brad
8 Radiator output
9 Military engagements
10 Greek vowel
11 Prepare lunch, perhaps
12 Not fooled by
13 Must have
18 Fully awake
22 Hyundai or Honda
25 Stunt flying maneuvers
27 Touches on the shoulder
28 Express relief
29 Young horses
31 Scent
32 Small salamander
33 Reading basics
34 Church-bell sound
36 Dinner holder
39 Don't throw out
43 Produce stray drops
45 Forgives
46 Scatter around
49 __ Lanka
51 Avoid capture
53 Aquarium fish
55 Feel concern
56 Ink stain
58 Type of herring
60 Spherical hairdo
61 Singer Celine
62 Approximate takeoff hrs.
64 Novelist Grafton
66 Get __ of (throw out)



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ICE

FROM PAGE 1

Last year nearly 60,000 people visited the rink during the two-and-a-half month season.

Outside of the free opening celebration, it costs $15 to skate (including rentals) and a wristband allows customers to come and go from the rink all day. Locker rentals cost $5. Spectators can enter and watch free of charge.

The rink is open Monday – Thursday from 2 – 10 p.m., Fridays from 2 p.m. to midnight, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to midnight and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Cabanas are available to rent for parties and large groups.

The Randy Gardner School of Skating provides lessons with experienced professionals for skaters of all skill levels. Anyone interested can find links to schedule private lessons with individual coaches as www.downtownsm.com.

"We've had kids learn how to skate at Ice and then return to help us run the rink," Herrera said. "Every year it's wonderful to see all the familiar faces return, from the rink staff to our loyal skaters."

Organizers use treated urban runoff water to make the ice by slowly allowing thin layers to freeze over food-grade glycol, according to Herrera. The technical term for Santa Monica's rink is 'mechanically frozen' rather than 'artificial.' Ice pulls from the City's 100 percent renewable energy grid to create a sustainable, frozen rink just five blocks from the beach.

"It's as environmentally sound as possible," Herrera said.

The outdoor rink is subject to certain weather conditions – enough rain can cause a closure if the ice becomes dangerous. However, summer-like temperatures during the winter months are not a problem.

kate@smdp.com

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 28, AT ABOUT 6:51 A.M.

Patrol officers were dispatched to The Fairmont Miramar Hotel (101 Wilshire) regarding a fraud investigation. Management of the hotel explained to the officers that multiple guests in two rooms had booked with a fraudulent credit card. Officers went up to the room and made contact with the occupants inside. They discovered one subject, later identified as Ginger Thompson, had a felony bench warrant out of San Bernardino. Officers located a bag of an off-white crystalized substance resembling methamphetamine, paraphernalia and several bank access cards and other identification all in her possession. Officers also learned that Thompson was in possession of the fraudulent card when she checked into the room. Officers also made contact with a male by the name of Gianbcarlo Pineda Barahona, and discovered he was on probation for a firearms violation. Barahona admitted to officers that he had heroin in his pocket. They located additional amounts of heroin along with other evidence indicative of sales. Officers placed both suspects under arrest and transported them to the station. Thompson, 37, of Carson was arrested for defrauding an innkeeper, credit card fraud, possession of a controlled substance and unauthorized us of personal information. No bail was set. Pineda Barhona, 27, of Los Angels was arrested for possession of narcotics for sale. He was denied bail.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 8)

You'll wield great powers of magnetism this solar return, some of which come from knowing what you want and being confident in your plan. You'll get a number of joiners before the end of the year. A special person will come back into your life. An out-of-balance exchange will become equal and just. Aries and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 16, 20 and 1.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You're a person who's not afraid of being wrong because you really want to know what's right, and so you'll meet even your own perception with some measure of doubt. This takes a secure person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Familiar emotions, even negative ones, get comfortable. To feel a certain way might be nothing more than a habit. The more times you conjure up a feeling, the easier it will be to do so.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You may find yourself replaying a drama over and over, and it's certainly getting old. But don't worry: The addition of even one new friend is enough to shake up the whole dynamic.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

The miners weren't the only ones to get rich in the gold rush. Those in the business of selling shovels did mighty fine as well. There's some kind of shovel-equivalent in your realm. Do you know what it is yet?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

It's easier to be yourself when you're comfortable. Getting comfortable is the tricky part, especially in situations and around people very foreign to you. Settling in will take time and repeated exposure.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

If you knew you were going to get criticized for it, would you still do it? Better question: What if you knew that no matter what choice you made, it would get criticized? What would you do then?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

If you try too hard to forget something you'll remember it well, and if you try too hard to remember something you'll forget it. The answer is to write things down. Somehow this will magically help with both remembering and forgetting.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Anticipate boredom, and decide that you're going to do something about it beyond your phone. For instance, paying attention to something different in the scene will open the way to new insights.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

When others behave badly, it makes you want to do better. The misbehavior of others will cause you to check yourself to make sure you are not committing a similar offense.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your originality will shine through today. You'll be in the same situation as the others and take something totally different from it. For this reason, they need you and you need them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Occasionally, the social aspect of your work can go against your mood. But once you adjust and get into the flow, your mood will change for the better. There's a prize at the end of the interaction. This one is not to be missed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You'll be drawn to neutral places and underwhelming experiences, because environments that lack excitement encourage imagination. In the quiet, you'll solve a problem.

Venus Changes the Emotional Approach

There are many ways to get to the same emotion. Satisfaction can be achieved as easily through work as it can through play. The elation of adventure might be found while peering through the window of a plane, or maybe it's found in the flickering eyes of a sweetheart. Yesterday's Venus change is already affecting our emotional approach.

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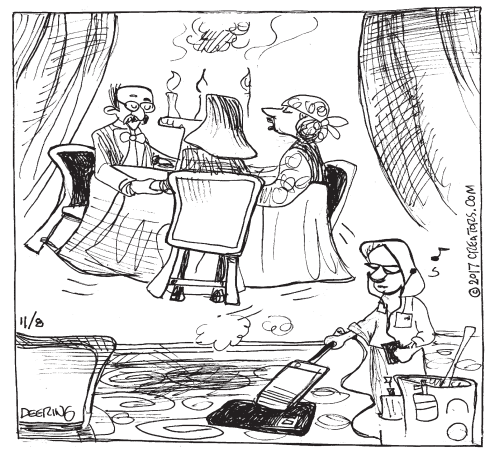
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



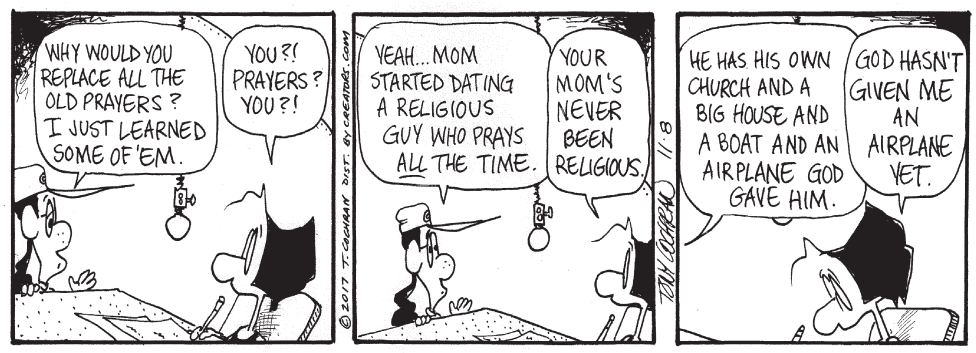
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



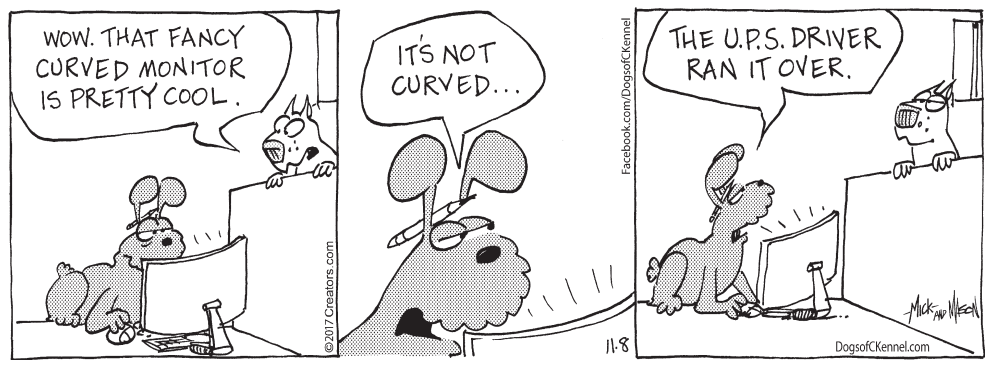
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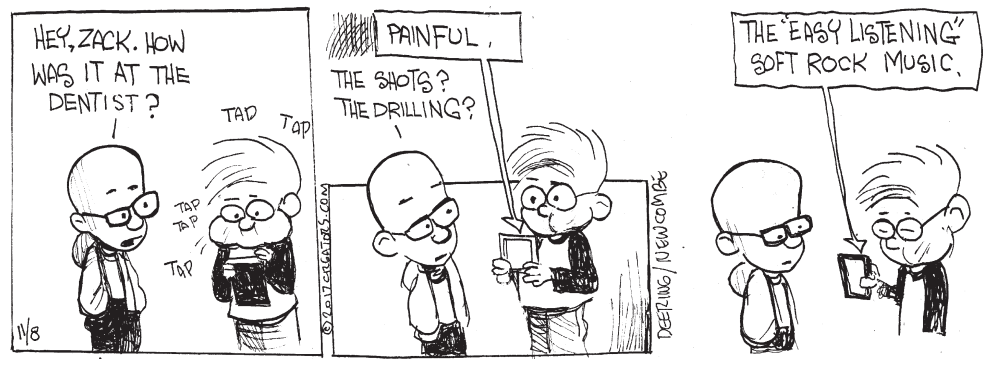
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