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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, November 16

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting
Special meeting of the Santa Monica Recreation and Parks Commission. 7:30 p.m. at the Santa Monica Institute, 330 Olympic Drive

SEE **CALENDAR** PAGE 2

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

From Addis Ababa To Brooklyn

YOU CAN'T JUDGE A BOOK
By its cover, they say. Probably mostly true. But album covers were a different story.

That was back in the day. When a lot of art could be packed onto a

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 5

The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Dining From One End Of The Spectrum To The Other

ONE OF THE THINGS WE LIKE most about the eating scene in Los Angeles is the terrific variety both in ethnicity and in style. And we try them all. Here is an example of going from a hole in the wall to a

SEE **FOOD** PAGE 6

Free exhibit gives locals a glimpse into the plight of refugees



Kate Cagle

FAR FROM HOME: The interactive exhibit at the Pier educates participants on the refugee experience.

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Last Tuesday about a dozen high school students huddled together in a raft near the Santa Monica Pier. As the students sat shoulder to shoulder and imagined what it would be like on the choppy waters of the Mediterranean, they learned that many refugees pay hundreds of dollars for life jackets – which are actually made of straw.



The students were touring a free exhibition open to the public called "Forced From Home," an outdoor reconstruction of refugee settings from around the world in the parking lot off the Pacific Coast Highway. The replica rubber dinghy gave the students a tangible sense of the plight of thousands of refugees from Africa and the Middle East who are fleeing violence.

"The whole thing is a process of extortion," said Mark Leirer, a medical humanitarian aide worker who is guiding tours in the exhibit. Leirer himself has worked on a Doctors without Borders (also known as Medecins Sans Frontieres or MSF) boat monitoring the crisis off the northern coast of Africa. "It's the reality of what's occurring in Libya … once you enter Libya the only way out is on the Mediterranean."

The Pier is just one stop on a coast-to-coast tour giving Americans a better understanding of life for the 65.6 million people currently displaced worldwide. In addition to tents, replica

SEE **EXHIBIT** PAGE 3

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Rants and Raves

FIRST THE RANT. EVERYTHING that can be said has been said about "Hamilton" and Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors at the

SEE **CULTURE** PAGE 7

Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

Swiss Women Grapple With the "Divine Order"

"IF WOMEN GET THE VOTE WILL they still be home in time to cook dinner?"

This was the sardonic campaign poster promoting a man in Switzerland who was running for office. Not in the 19th century, but near the end of the 20th.

SEE **PLAY** PAGE 4

Film Review

By Kathryn Whitney Boole

Mudbound

Rated R
134 Minutes
Released November 17

AT SUNDANCE 2017, MUDBOUND received a well-deserved standing ovation. This is the third full-length feature film from writer/director Dee Rees (Bessie, Pariah). With this film Rees has created a symphony

SEE **MOVIE** PAGE 10


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 1

Stress Management Technique Class

Frances O'Brien at the Kaufman Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard. Learn what stress is, what it can do, and several easy, all-natural techniques for avoiding, reducing or eliminating stress. Admission is free. For more details, call (310) 575-8273. 6 p.m.

Weight Management Seminar

A free Weight Management Seminar hosted by Kaiser Permanente West Los Angeles and the Santa Monica Family YMCA, featuring information and presentations on diabetes prevention and healthy eating. Santa Monica Family YMCA, 1332 Sixth Street, 6-7 p.m.

College Application Drop-In Services

Get free one-on-one assistance with college applications and essays. To submit your application, bring your transcript(unofficial is fine) and Social Security, DACA or Green Card number. Computers provided, or bring your laptop. Presented in collaboration with the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club's College Bound Program and Magellan Counseling. Grade 12. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 – 6 p.m.

Housing Commission Meeting

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

Author & Community Hero: Susan Burton book signing

Los Angeles resident Susan Burton's five-year old son K.K. was killed by a motorist driving a van through their neighborhood. Grief-stricken, Burton began self-medicating to cope with the pain of her loss, leading to a more than fifteen-year cycle of drug addiction and repeated incarceration. Never offered therapy or treatment to deal with her demons, Burton found a way into treatment on her own and put herself on the path to recovery. Empowered by her own bold choices, and bearing witness to the epidemic of incarceration of women, Burton founded her own organization, A New Way of Life, to support women facing similar struggles. 7 – 8:30 p.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Beach=Culture Exhibit Opening

Opening Reception for 'Luchita Hurtado: Figures and Forms'. Join organizers for an exhibition of historical works from the 1940s to the 1990s by artist Luchita Hurtado Mullican (b. 1920, Caracas, Venezuela.) 6 – 8 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, for reservations visit http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.

Classic Movie and Discussion: Body and Soul

Film scholar Vivian Rosenberg screens and discusses this gritty, noir classic about an unscrupulous, mob-affiliated boxer (John Garfield) who tries to find redemption and regain this self-respect with a late-career comeback. (Film runtime: 106 min) 2 – 4:30 p.m. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave,

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

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

CORRECTION

In the Wednesday edition of the Daily Press, language in the story "Restaurant owners, Chamber question Union's influence on policy" suggested money from Unite Here Local 11 had been given directly to candidates' campaigns for office. The figures listed are the total value of support including money given to independent committees not controlled by the candidates. Direct donations to candidates are capped at $340.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Downtown

Dr. Marcela Pan on Maria Callas: Life and Art

Santa Monica Public Library, in partnership with Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera, welcome Dr. Marcela Pan for a multimedia talk on legendary opera diva Maria Callas at the Main Library's Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., on Saturday, November 18, at 2 p.m.

Born on December 2, 1923, soprano Maria Callas grew to become one of the most renowned and influential opera singers of all time. Join us as musicologist Dr. Marcela Pan presents the multimedia lecture Maria Callas: Life and Art. From Callas' childhood and youthful training in Greece, to the peak of her career and her dramatic final years, Dr. Pan's lecture provides insight into the legendary diva's public and private lives. The lecture also provides details on the Los Angeles Metropolitan Opera's Gala Concert to celebrate Callas' birthday on December 2, 2017 – see www.losangelesmet.com for more information.

This program is free and open to all. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. 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 served by Big Blue Bus routes 1, R10 and 18. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

SUBMITTED BY ROBERT GRAVES, PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN

SMC

SMC Public Policy Institute Hosts Annual Arts And Cultural Affairs Forum

The Santa Monica College Public Policy Institute (PPI) will present its Annual Arts and Cultural Affairs Forum November 16-December 3. The theme for this year's community forum is "Princesses, Ballerinas, and Warriors: The 'Woman' Question in American Culture."

The PPI Annual Arts and Cultural Affairs Forum features speakers, panel discussions, and dance performances for audiences ranging from fifth graders to adults. All forum events are open to the public, and most events are free. Seating is on a first-arrival basis if reservations are not required.

"Our forum will explore how art can shed light on important issues in our society and inspire engagement and advocacy leading to changes in public policies and laws," said PPI co-director and SMC political science professor Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein.

The PPI Annual Arts and Cultural Affairs Forum lineup is:

• Thursday, November 16 at 11:15 a.m.: The UnNatural History Museum. A collaboration between One Mile and SMC Public Policy Institute Interns offers a rare exhibition of unusual curiosities, living attractions, and extraordinary experiments in human evolution, presenting the viewer with a paradigm shift, where histories of gender do not have to repeat, social roles are reversed, and more. Free. SMC Clock Tower on SMC's main campus (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica).

• Monday, November 20 at 7 p.m.: Women, Gender, Power – Breaking Barriers in Entertainment and Politics." A discussion on the current climate in Hollywood and in politics, and the challenges women in both fields face to break barriers and to break stories will be led by a panel that includes award-winning journalist Kim Masters, the Editor at Large of "The Hollywood Reporter" and host of KCRW's "The Business"; former Los Angeles City Council member and City of LA Controller Wendy Greuel; and award-winning television producer Korin Huggins, Chief Executive Officer and cofounder of Kronicle Media, which creates content for and about women from diverse perspective. Free. SMC Theatre Arts Complex Main Stage on SMC's main campus (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica).

• Tuesday, November 21 at 11:15 a.m.: "The Unfinished Business of Feminism: The Recent Assaults on Women in Politics, Culture, and Campuses, and the Need for a Gender Center at SMC." A roundtable discussion features SMC students, faculty, and staff leaders. Free. Humanities & Social Science Lecture Hall 165 on SMC's main campus (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica).

• November 25, November 26, December 2, December 3 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.: Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" Ballet. The Westside Ballet, joined by the SMC Symphony and SMC dancers, presents its annual holiday extravaganza featuring Tchaikovsky's majestic score, Balanchine's exuberant choreography, falling snow, and a Christmas tree that grows. See westsideballet.com for ticket details. The Broad Stage at the SMC Performing Arts Center (1310 11th St., Santa Monica). Free onsite parking.

"For this year's forum, we are presenting a wide range of events to highlight how the arts reflect struggles in society," said SMC Public Policy Institute co-director Shari Davis, "and to engage in substantive dialogue about how the issues around women, gender, and power affect us all, and explore how public policy might facilitate positive changes."

SMC's Public Policy Institute provides nonpartisan community programs exploring key economic, social, and political issues. SMC offers an Associate in Arts Degree and Certificate of Achievement in public policy, and students can specialize in one of five public policy areas: arts and cultural affairs, education, environment and sustainability, public health, and urban/socioeconomic issues.

The Annual Arts and Cultural Affairs Forum is cosponsored by a wide range of education, government, and community organizations and donors, including: Associated Students of Santa Monica College, SMC Associates, Santa Monica College Foundation, Westside School of Ballet, SMC Dance Department, SMC Symphony Orchestra, SMC Music Department, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation, and The Broad Stage.

For more information about the Fall Forum, go to www.smc.edu/ppi or call (310) 434-3541.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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Kate Cagle

EXPERIENCE: The exhibit is produced by Doctors Without Borders.

EXHIBIT

FROM PAGE 1

boats and real equipment, the experience utilizes virtual reality and 360-degree videos to take participants to Iraq, Lebanon, Mexico, Tanzania and South Sudan.

"We need to bring back some humanity to this conversation about the refugee crisis," said Jason Cone, executive director for Doctors without Borders.

The exhibit comes to Santa Monica as the United States ends a special refugee program for Central American children. The program was established in 2014 by the Obama administration amid a flood of children attempting the dangerous journey from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, fleeing violence and other threats.

The Trump administration also announced this week an end to the temporary protected status that allowed some Nicaraguans to live in the U.S. In a third blow to refugees seeking help here, President Donald Trump signed an executive order imposing tight new restrictions on refugees from 11 countries that have been deemed to warrant extra screening. The administration says the moves are necessary to ensure national security.

While advocacy groups confront Trump's travel bans in federal courts, Cone says MSF is confronting a misconception by the public on why many refugees leave their homes.

"I think people have a sense that refugees are leaving their homes out of choice and that couldn't be further from the truth," Cone said. "Most of the people I've met … these are people who waited until the very last minute when their lives are directly threatened to leave home."

Among the children on school trips, Santa Monica Mayor Ted Winterer toured the 10,000 square foot exhibit this week, noting that he and his wife donate to MSF every year.

"We believe that those of us who live in the United States, an affluent society where we are lucky enough to have a roof over our heads and access to nutritious food and good medical care and safe and clean water, need to help those throughout the world who are not so fortunate," Winterer said.

Winterer noted that climate change and extreme weather conditions are predicted to worsen the plight of many refugees. While the exhibit is not meant to be a fundraiser for MSF, it gives aide workers a chance to fulfill part of their mission.

"I have an insight into this movement that other people don't get to have and part of our responsibility is to share it," aide worker Leirer said.

The exhibit is in the parking lot adjacent to the Santa Monica Pier at 1550 Pacific Coast Highway, and open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Nov. 19. The public is welcome to simply walk up, no tickets required. The exhibit is free.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

kate@smdp.com

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Not even Wonder Woman can save 'Justice League'

BY LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

It's hard not to feel a little bad for the DC Comics films at this point.

They have the unenviable task having to form an identity in the shadows of the films of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, which are usually good and rarely unwatchable, and the continued glow of Christopher Nolan's Dark Knight trilogy, which are seeming more and more like transcendent anomalies as we get deeper into this never-ending cycle of super humans crowding our multiplexes. DC got off to a rocky start and then Patty Jenkins went and made a very good "Wonder Woman."

And yet somehow it is no surprise that "Justice League " tips the balances back in the wrong direction. Although marginally better than "Batman v Superman" and "Suicide Squad," director Zack Snyder's latest is still a profound mess of maudlin muscles, incoherent action and jaw-droppingly awful CGI. It is big, loud, awful to look at and oh-so-dumb.

With Superman (Henry Cavill) dead, and the world facing yet another devastating threat (yawn) this time at the hands of some ancient creature named Steppenwolf (Ciaran Hinds) and his army of giant alien mosquitoes, which look like Saturday morning Power Rangers villains, Batman/Bruce Wayne (Ben Affleck) and Wonder Woman/Diana Prince (Gal Gadot) go in search of some new recruits: Barry Allen/The Flash (Ezra Miller), a quippy "kid" who's excited to join the team; Arthur Curry/Aquaman (Jason Momoa) who talks like a surfer bro and looks like a Nordic bodybuilder with ombre locks and fishermen's knits; And Victor Stone/Cyborg (Ray Fisher), who is still in the sulky "why me" phase of his superhero career.

There are some good moments, thanks in large part to the addition of Miller, whose quick, self-deprecating humor (likely the result of Joss Whedon's script and reshoot work) and general liveliness steals scenes away from his brawnier and moodier counterparts.

But everything else about "Justice League" feels labored, from a preposterous underwater battle that comes out of nowhere and the camaraderie between the superheroes that never clicks into place, to Batman's lumbering gait (does the batsuit weigh 300 pounds?) and Superman's mouth which looks a little ... off. It's likely because the production had to digitally remove Cavill's "Mission: Impossible 6" mustache for re-shoots. After experiencing this unnaturally altered face on the big screen, it seems like the worst possible compromise.

And never has it been so obvious that the character of Wonder Woman is now being presented through a man's eyes. Snyder chooses on multiple occasions to let the shot linger on Gadot's figure, whether panning up her legs unnecessarily to get to a normal scene of dialogue or making sure that the camera is there to capture the moment when her skirt flies up in an action sequence. It is, quite frankly, gross and a wildly disappointing departure from what Patty Jenkins was able to accomplish with the character earlier this year.

There's even an attempt to humanize the potential destruction with a random impoverished Eastern European family struggling to defend their homestead. The story focuses in on the family's young daughter, who, in braided pigtails picks up a can of bug spray as a defense. You'd think that this might come back and provide an opportunity for her to a) see and be inspired by Wonder Woman in action or b) at least get saved by her. It would be so obvious. But they don't even meet.

It's just a tiny example of how "Justice League" feels like a bunch of disconnected moments with no governing theory behind it other than the fact that this movie has to come at this time to introduce audiences to characters whose stand-alone movies have already been promised to shareholders.

It's not too late to re-think this whole thing and start over. Just keep Gadot around, please.

"Justice League," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "sequences of sci-fi violence and action." Running time: 121 minutes. One and a half stars out of four.

MPAA Definition of PG-13: Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



Courtesy photo

PROTEST: **Women in Switzerland march for the right to vote.**

PLAY

FROM PAGE 1

It was a time in Switzerland when men still made all the rules and all the decisions and their wives made all the beds and washed the socks, in quiet servitude and unrelieved oppression.

A new film, submitted by Switzerland for consideration in the Oscar race for Best Foreign Language Film, is now making its Los Angeles debut. It is called "The Divine Order" and it details the battle waged by the women in a small, beautiful village in the middle of nowhere for their emancipation and their right to vote.

A young woman named Nora (played by Swiss actress Marie Leuenberger) lives modestly with her husband Hans (Max Simonischek) and their two young school-age sons. Hans' unpleasant father lives with them as well, complaining about everything.

Having served as a virtual servant to her family for all the years of her marriage, Nora has grown a bit restless and decides she would like to apply for an available position at a local travel agency. But Hans forbids it.

Shortly thereafter, on an errand in a nearby village she comes upon a table where a woman is offering pamphlets supporting women's liberation. Seeing that Nora appears to be interested, the woman supplies her with an armful of persuasive literature, including a book by Betty Friedan. All of which Nora reads diligently.

Then, at a public meeting in her own village, she meets an elderly woman named Vroni who is apparently the only supporter of the upcoming national referendum on voting rights for women. All the other women present, and the men, contend that "Women don't want the right to vote."

Teaming up with this new friend, Nora begins the massive effort of organizing an "informational event" to discuss the issue, and wisely advertises that free pizza and beer will be provided.

Although everyone comes to the meeting, all the men deride the idea of women seeking equality and the women are too intimidated to speak up. They have been admonished by the crusty female President of the Anti-Politicization of Women Action Committee that "Equality of the sexes is a crime against nature" and "Women in politics are simply against the Divine Order" and "What they call 'emancipation' is in reality a curse for us women.

Disheartened, Nora dares the women to call a strike, and she arranges for them to gather in the local restaurant for meals and then not go home to their families, but go upstairs to sleep in the restaurant's large attic. And she is overwhelmed by the number of women who show up to do that.

In this new venue the women have time to amuse themselves with cards and other games, and also to examine their lives and contemplate changes. So that later, when some of the husbands barge in to drag their wives home, they discover that their women have acquired some strength to change their own attitudes and behavior.

There are a number of subplots which allow the viewer to get to know the women individually, and to rejoice with them when they achieve their goal. But even though the referendum passed in 1971, it took another ten years before Swiss women were actually able to vote.

Ironically, their sister suffragettes in America had been granted the same right some 60 years earlier, in 1920.

This film, "The Divine Order" by Petra Volpe is exquisite, not only for the earnestness of the actors, but also for the snowy beauty of the winter landscape in Switzerland. Beautifully directed and gorgeously shot, this engaging film is a must-see. It opens tomorrow, Friday, November 17, at Laemmle's Royal and Playhouse 7 and in many other theaters in Los Angeles shortly thereafter.

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MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

12 x 12-inch space. (As a lot of born-again vinyl junkies are now discovering.) And a lot of liner notes. I learned most of what I know about the facts and details of music from liner notes, and from musician listings, pored over — who's playing what, on which track.

When I whittled my collection of 7,000 LPs down a few years back (space considerations, in a small condo), I used mainly three criteria for keepers: the rarity, oddity or importance (including awesome excellence), the personal connection, and the album art. In most cases limiting it to one or two, maybe three LPs, max, for any one artist. I was really draconian in the selection process.

I wound up keeping 1800 albums I couldn't bear to live without. (And still shed a tear for those on the periphery that didn't make the final cut.)

But it was different standard by which I plucked an LP from my stacks of promo copies, when I was an active reviewer, deciding which to take a chance on and play next. Many criteria there, but a tipping factor was often, what label is it on?

THOSE DAYS ARE MOSTLY GONE

Of course, because record labels have become much less relevant in these days of indie music. But they're still around, and while the numbers of great small labels has shrunk, you can still sometimes tell an album by its cover, or should we say, publisher.

When I started in this meshugena business, Warner Bros./Reprise was one of the biggest labels, and also the best. Credit the leadership at the top. Joe Smith and Mo Ostin guided them from the days of pop crooners like Bing Crosby and Sinatra through the creative late '60s and '70s, along with Lenny Waronker (later president) and Ted Templeman in production and A&R, and "Creative Director" and "King of the Liner Notes" Stan Cornyn. Amazing, really, that such a corporate giant could be taken over by such a crazy crew of risk takers and visionaries.

(I once had a two-hour interview — his idea — with Waronker in his posh office in Burbank when I was working on a magazine piece about Beach Boy genius Brian Wilson and his first solo album ever. I was impressed but skeptical when he told his secretary to "hold his calls" — yeah, right — but then his phone did not ring the whole time I was there. A boyhood friend of Randy Newman, he was producing a long, very strange cinematic cut on Wilson's album, and they wanted to pitch Brian to a younger, hipper audience as the out-there creative force that he was, not just some corpulent beach boy.)

GOOD NEWS IN THE MAILBOX

Front row concert seats and a cornucopia of music flowing through my mailbox, those were the days. (But very little money, of course.) Great days for all music lovers because the creatives were in charge, not the suits. But to this day, there are still some labels that stand out as good bets.

One of them is Real World, founded by former Genesis frontman and big time humanitarian Peter Gabriel in 1989 to promote his blossoming love of world music, and still going strong. Looking at their catalog and listening to a handful of new releases, I could cruise for a long time on nothing but Real World.

They are now re-releasing some of their "hit" albums from their 28-year history. By the likes of the great Pakistani Qawwali singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Afro Celt Sound System, LA heroes Dengue Fever and Ozomatli, Papa Wemba, Blind Boys of Alabama.



MCEUEN

And, stunning young Ethiopian pianist Samuel Yirga, and his exciting Addis Ababa collective Dub Colossus. These two discs have been occupying my music head the most lately, and I will tell you more about both releases next Thursday. Til then, just trust me, go get them.

I give them both an enthusiastic endorsement. I have a small quibble or two with the newest release from a revered figure in American music, John McEuen.

"(Roots Music) Made in Brooklyn" — John McEuen (Chesky Records) To be fair, this is almost entirely an excellent outing from the founder of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band. But the missteps grate on me.

John, you're an icon of country folk, and so, to a lesser degree, is David Amram. But his flute and pennywhistle mostly don't work, in a mostly country context. You were probably thrilled to find him (at 86) available for this recording, but you should have just had lunch and invited him to watch. I'm fine with pushing musical boundaries, and while the clarinet works… pretty much, a bit of a N'Awlins touch, not the tooty flutes, please.

Another faux pas McEuen should surely be aware of by now: 10-minute story-songs, followed by another minute of just story, are things almost no regular listener wants to hear more than once or twice. He did thankfully put them at the end, so maybe he's saying, just stop after "Mr. Bojangles." Fair enough, but I'm really comfortable and don't want to get up and walk across the room, okay John? We're about the same age. You understand.

Warren Zevon's "Dirty Life and Times" and "Excitable Boy"? Unusual, but they work. Love the nuggets like "She Darked the Sun" and Johnny Cash's aching "I Still Miss Someone." I love New Grass Revival's John Cowan's voice, and David Bromberg's, and Steve Martin's (yes, that Steve Martin) banjo, and everything McEuen plays and sings.

Lose the flutes and the last two cuts and I would probably give it an A plus. God bless John McEuen. In a church in Brooklyn, no less. Oh, and sonic wizard David Chesky, who recorded this live to his superb hi-def standards.

RECOMMENDED: Sat., Walt Disney Concert Hall, as part of the Santa Monica-based Jacaranda Music series, "Opposing Natures: Music of Mark Grey & Dylan Mattingly" (John Adams proteges), approximately (?!) 5:30, as part of the Noon to Midnight: A Day of New Music, with pop-up performances throughout the hall by LA's "top new music ensembles." Food trucks! Beer! Only 10 bucks! Sounds like a great time.

LYRIC OF THE WEEK: "In your eyes, the light, the heat, in your eyes I am complete, in your eyes I see the doorway to a thousand churches" — Peter Gabriel ("In Your Eyes")

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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Merv Hecht

MEAL: My lonely Wagyu beef at Patina.

FOOD

FROM PAGE 1

great French icon.

If you are not looking for it you probably would not notice Kreation near the corner of 10th and Montana in Santa Monica. And if you look at their menu, you won't find the address. It is literally a hole in the wall, with a few tables on the sidewalk, and a long narrow corridor leading to a small room in the back. Food might be best described as New Age with a Persian accent. Clearly a lot of vegans and others on special diets love this place. The most popular dish seems to be chicken kebabs, spiced with turmeric. There are lots of salads, and some excellent dips. The last time I was there I had some hummus, eggplant dip, and grilled corn on the cob. The six soup choices on the menu are clearly for the new age group.

One of the best features is the juice list. I admit to ignorance of many of the names, but I've had great Coconut milk and smoothies. There are about three dozen juices on the menu.

There is a surprising extensive menu for such a small kitchen, lot of salads, wraps, and plates, and 18 choices for breakfast alone. The lox plate at breakfast looked great, and you can order any kind of coffee. We ate well for $45.

The restaurant is open every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. I love those hours!

The next day, on the way to see an opera, we had an early dinner at Patina, clearly one of the best (and most expensive) French restaurants in town. Of course there aren't many French restaurants around any more.

The ambiance, the service, the soft music, the widely spaced tables, the friendly and helpful wine steward, and the beautiful cheese cart—all this was perfect. There is little to complain about— but trust me, I can.

I hate restaurants that only offer a fixed price menu instead of a la carte selections. Sometimes I like to order two appetizers for my meal, and sometimes just one plate plus the cheese carte. Not here.

And I hate wine lists that cater to people interested in spending $500 or more for a bottle of wine. Who wants to go over a list of a dozen Côte Rõtie wines at around $1,000 a bottle or more? Why are the delicious Syrah-Grenache wines of Provence missing? Where are the well-priced Malbecs from Argentina? Note that even the Rothschild family has wine holdings in both of those areas. If those wines are good enough for the Rothschild family they should be good enough for Patina.

Kreation
1023 Montana Ave
Santa Monica, CA 90403
310-458-4880

Patina
Walt Disney Concert Hall,
141 S Grand Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90012
patinagroup.com
213-972-3331

After being unable to find a reasonably priced wine on the extensive list, I threw myself on the mercy of the wine stewardess, who did find an almost reasonably priced half-bottle of Merry Edwards California Pinot noir at $45. But it's disappointing to have to order a California wine in a high-end French restaurant.

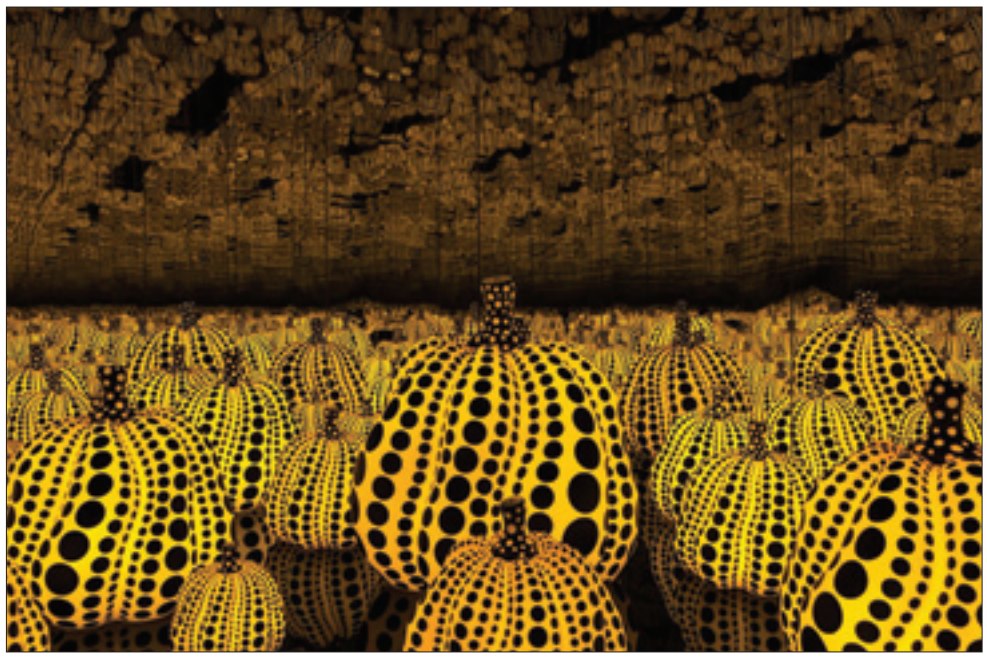
And so we come to the food. Individually the quality was first class. But when I looked at my two slices of (American) Wagyu beef with a few pieces of some fried vegetable on the side and a weird Parmesan strip with little balls of mashed celery—I felt sorry for the beef, which I am sure felt lonely. There was one delicious piece of well-cooked beef in gravy (gravy is not sauce) in the middle of the plate. But the key entrée was bare. In France there would be a great sauce on or next to a lean cut of beef like this, a beautiful timbale of some vegetable soufflé on the side of the plate, and some potato au gratin on a separate side dish. Lean cuts of rare beef don't have much flavor and beg for sauce. The braised beef gravy was not enough, and personally I found two beef preparations overkill.

Was it worth over $300? I guess so, once in a while. But I still remember all the great meals we've had in France. I've lived in France, and this wasn't France.

MERV HECHT, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988 he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book is "The Instant Wine Connoisseur, 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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Collection of the Artist

INFINITY MIRRORED ROOM: All the Eternal Love I Have for the Pumpkins, 2016. Wood, mirrors, plastic, acrylic and LEDS

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 1

Broad Museum. You've seen the Instagram pictures, the selfies on Facebook. But if you wanted tickets for either of these, you'd be hard pressed to get one.

I managed to buy my way into a good seat for Hamilton; I was blessed to attend the Kusama media preview and am immensely grateful for that extraordinary experience.

Here's the issue: Hamilton is excellent, Kusama is mind-bending; and it's nearly impossible to get tickets for either. Shouldn't art and the arts should be accessible to all?

Hamilton's price point is way out of reach for most people and Kusama tickets at the Broad Museum sold out in minutes, even after a second batch was offered. Now all you can hope for is to stand in line for same day entry to Kusama or to mortgage your home for Hamilton.

I loved Hamilton; I loved the Kusama exhibition. But is this fair? Sure, there's a lottery for Hamilton tickets. I still enter daily (not that I want you competing with me but here's the link: www.luckyseat.com).

I paid more than half my mortgage for a Hamilton ticket. I don't see why these things have to cost so much. I don't begrudge performers making a living or producers making a profit. But if the object is to get people in the door, ticket prices ranging from $200 to over $1000 is not the way to do it.

Yes, school children from all across LA and all socio-economic groups were given seats and that's super. It's a great way to interest young folks in history (and not a bad refresher for us older folks) and to get them excited about theatre, too.

Surely the Broad knew how wildly popular the Kusama fest was going to be. But the manner of the ticket release felt unfair. People who waited on hold for hours got disconnected and lost their place in line. I would've been mad enough to punch a hole in a wall.

I know there's no real solution to what I'm saying, but I had to express my feelings.

RAVES

OK, rant's over so let me say Hamilton was worth every penny. It's the first time in my life I've studied a plot summary and listened to a soundtrack in advance of a theatrical event. Because I'm not a rap fan, the price I paid for the ticket made me extra attentive to lyrics and the plot points they deliver.

Hamilton is every bit the phenomenon that it's cracked up to be. And as far as rap goes? It ain't gangsta. It's absolutely intoxicating but even more, it's brilliant. Condensing decades of history into a few key moments in the life of one of our more colorful Founding Fathers, and translating them into rap, rhyme and rhythm is simply an act of genius on the part of creator Lin-Manuel Miranda.

I loved Rory O'Malley as King George (I know I'm supposed to hate him!). His super poppy tune (the one you'll leave the theatre humming) is like watching a 1960s British invasion band movie, kids in mini-skirts and go-go boots with big flowery designs bounding through a field of daisies. And Thomas Jefferson (Jordan Donica), who also plays the Marquis de Lafayette, is just chock full of attitude and a hair-tossing floppy 'fro to match it.

How much did I like Hamilton? Well I worked out to the soundtrack the next day. And I'm still listening to it. I hope I win a lottery ticket so I can see it again.

KUSAMA

As for Yayoi Kusama's Infinity Mirrors, in a word, your eyes will never be the same. The Infinity Mirror that has been on view for a few years will go away when the exhibition closes, and I feel blessed that on media preview day, I was able to go in several times for that remarkable experience of feeling like you're floating in space, looking out into the blinking stars of an infinite universe. It's magical.

I took as many photos as I could while trying to pay attention to the art: you're only allowed 30 seconds in each room. The one I enjoyed the most was the one that allows no photography because it's the most personal to the artist – her pumpkin patch.

And then there's the audience participation room: as you enter, you're handed colored dots to stick on the walls, furniture, everything. It was nearly all white with just a few colored dots when I first saw it. Now it's nearly fully dotted out, thanks to all the people who've seen the show.

I won't try to tell you what Kusama's art means, but she was 16 in Japan when the atom bombs were dropped; infinity and obliteration are embedded in her work (along with a good deal of OCD). But if you have enough adventure in you to wait in line for the few daily non-reserved tickets, you won't be disappointed.

Colorful lights, mirrors, polka dots, infinity: it's the ultimate immersive experience.

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

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **64.4°**

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Small S swell. Smaller NW windswell.

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Small S swell. Small WNW pulse.

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: #148 PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION AND AUDIT SERVICES

- **Submission Deadline is December 6th, 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: #149 ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TEAMWORK AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

- **Submission Deadline is December 15, 2017 at 3:00 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.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON OCTOBER 31, AT ABOUT 4:19 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at the 1800 block of 11th Street – alley - in regards to several subjects taking a bicycle apart that was possibly stolen. Officers arrived and located two bicycles and a subject that was trying to hide behind a car. The subject was ordered out and found to be on probation for grand theft. A search of his property revealed a narcotics smoking pipe, several items commonly used to commit burglaries – bolt cutters, drill bits, shaved keys, pliers. The subject could not explain why he was in possession of the items and indicated he had found them. The subject was taken into custody. Bryan Azael Aceituno, 25, homeless, was arrested for possession of burglary tools, possession of narcotics paraphernalia and misappropriation of lost property. Bail $500.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 367 Calls For Service On Nov. 14.

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

Living in a vehicle 1000 block 7th 12:01 a.m.
Petty theft 1100 block Wilshire 12:35 a.m.
Person down 11th / Wilshire 6:12 a.m.
Auto burglary 800 block 22nd 6:51 a.m.
Petty theft 1600 block the beach 7:21 a.m.
Traffic collision Stewart / Pico 7:32 a.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Lincoln 7:50 a.m.
Encampment1700 block the beach 8:06 a.m.
Theft recyclables 1600 block Washington 8:16 a.m.
Encampment1700 block the beach 8:24 a.m.
Traffic collision 16th / Ocean Park 8:41 a.m.
Traffic collision 18th / Olympic 8:47 a.m.
Auto burglary 2300 block California 8:49 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block the beach 8:50 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block 26th 9:18 a.m.
Fraud 3100 block airport 9:24 a.m.
Encampment 600 block Wilshire 9:25 a.m.
Burglary 3100 block Frederick 9:27 a.m.
Battery 1100 block Wilshire 9:34 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block Ocean Front Walk 9:39 a.m.
Stalking 800 block 26th 10:07 a.m.
Encampment Appian Way / Pacific Ter 10:11 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 10:12 a.m.
Assault 300 block Santa Monica Pl 10:20 a.m.
Burglary 1100 block 11th 10:22 a.m.
Encampment 900 block Palisades Beach 10:27 a.m.
Encampment 700 block the beach 10:49 a.m.
Bike theft 1200 block 2nd 10:55 a.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Lincoln 11:01 a.m.
Burglary 800 block 4th 11:05 a.m.
Identity theft 400 block Montana 11:33 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block Ocean Front Walk 11:46 a.m.
Traffic collision 700 block Montana 11:52 a.m.
Hit and run 1200 block 4th 11:58 a.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 1900 block Cloverfield 1:11 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block San Vicente 1:12 p.m.
Panhandling 4th / Interstate 10 1:17 p.m.
Petty theft 400 block Marine 1:27 p.m.
Vandalism 1600 block Franklin 1:28 p.m.
Person with a gun 500 block Olympic 1:44 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block Wilshire 2:27 p.m.
Hit and run 1500 block 4th 3:06 p.m.
Hit and run 2600 block Colorado 3:17 p.m.
Indecent exposure 2600 block Main 3:29 p.m.
Speeding 1400 block 2nd 3:45 p.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln / Pico 3:51 p.m.
Petty theft 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 3:59 p.m.
Hit and run 1700 block Pearl 5:14 p.m.
Encampment 800 block Bay 5:35 p.m.
Hit and run 1500 block 4th 5:44 p.m.
Hit and run 5th / Broadway 6:14 p.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln / Raymond 6:15 p.m.
Rape 1300 block 9th 6:34 p.m.
Battery 300 block Colorado 6:37 p.m.
Grand theft 1300 block 15th 6:38 p.m.
Petty theft 2700 block Wilshire 6:42 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Colorado 7:09 p.m.
Hit and run Main / Pier 7:33 p.m.
Auto burglary 2200 block Cloverfield 7:33 p.m.
Drunk driving investigation Lincoln / Pearl 8:10 p.m.
Encampment1400 block 25th 8:12 p.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Lincoln 8:12 p.m.
Auto burglary 400 block Adelaide 8:15 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block Stanford 8:31 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 4th 9:07 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 9:12 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:18 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:30 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 25 Calls For Service On Nov. 14.

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

EMS 2000 block main 12:23 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block 2nd 12:43 a.m.
EMS 1100 block 12th 1:45 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block 2nd 5:20 a.m.
EMS 11th / Wilshire 6:31 a.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 800 block 2nd 7:10 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 16th / Ocean Park 8:41:51
Traffic collision with injury 18th / Olympic 9:09:24
EMS 1400 block 14th 9:44 a.m.
EMS 1700 block 12th 9:59 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 5th 10:53 a.m.
EMS 3300 block Airport 12:55 p.m.
Public assist 200 block California 1:52 p.m.
EMS 1100 block Arizona 2:20 p.m.
Elevator rescue 800 block 3rd 2:51 p.m.
EMS 400 block Expo Line 3:07 p.m.
EMS 1800 block Lincoln 3:31 p.m.
Lock in/out 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 4:05 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 4:08 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1100 block 12th 5:22 p.m.
EMS 2000 block California 5:46 p.m.
EMS 300 block Colorado 6:54 p.m.
EMS 2400 block 28th 10:34 p.m.
EMS Ocean / California 10:35 p.m.
EMS 1300 block Franklin 11:04 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 11/11
4 6 16 30 56
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 103M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 11/14
1 14 21 22 28
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 95M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 11/11
4 16 21 39 47
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 31M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/14
2 9 20 26 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/14
MIDDAY: 9 5 2
Draw Date: 11/14
EVENING: 5 3 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/14
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:45.25

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!

attenuate

1. to weaken or reduce in force, intensity, effect, quantity, or value: to attenuate desire. 2. to make thin; make slender or fine.
3. Bacteriology, Immunology. to render less virulent, as a strain of pathogenic virus or bacterium.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Doc Talk

■ Angina pectoris - A severe, acute attack of cardiac pain

Phobia of the week

■ Placophobia: fear of tombstones

Best Medicine

■ Q: Why are hospital gowns like health insurance?

■ A: You're never as covered as much as you think you are.

Observation

■ "After you find out all the things that can go wrong, your life becomes less about living and more about waiting."

–AMERICAN AUTHOR CHUCK PALAHNIUK IN HIS 2001 NOVEL, "CHOKE"

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

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

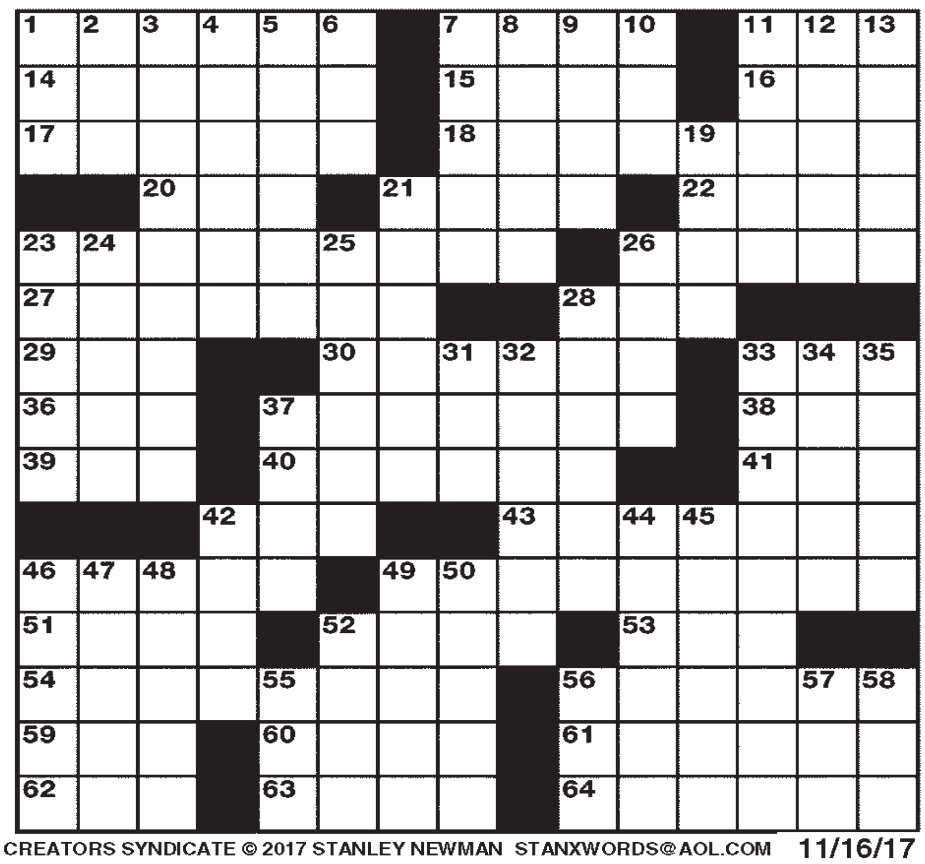
4	6	8	9	5	3	7	1	2
5	1	2	4	6	7	9	8	3
9	3	7	1	8	2	6	5	4
8	7	5	2	9	6	3	4	1
2	4	6	5	3	1	8	7	9
1	9	3	8	7	4	5	2	6
3	8	1	6	4	5	2	9	7
7	5	4	3	2	9	1	6	8
6	2	9	7	1	8	4	3	5

Newsday Crossword

ALPHABETICAL ORDER by David C.D. Dekker
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Faithful" Seuss character
7 Apple computer
11 School lunch standby, briefly
14 Olay competitor
15 11 Wall St. tenant
16 Boom-box button
17 Memorable indecisive Dane
18 Boom-box component
20 Bottom-line PC key
21 It touches Thailand
22 Tapered shape
23 UK mega-author
26 Mouselike mammal
27 Plane controller
28 It's over your head
29 Interrogative "And how!"
30 Stop for the *Bounty*
33 Lunch order from Mom
36 Wool source
37 They're scanned in e-commerce
38 Sports figure
39 Family nickname
40 Bottle of sample perfume
41 "Am __ understand . . ."
42 Start of Grafton's eighth "Alphabet" title
43 *Friends* star
46 Show sudden interest
49 Body art that fluoresces
51 __ chatter (gossip mag fodder?)
52 Two-person Olympic event
53 Workout venue
54 Geometry coordinate systems
56 Literary likening
59 Half-rectangle shapes
60 Indirect assistance
61 Ribbons and medals
62 Slick or quick with tricks
63 Throws in
64 Naval assemblages

DOWN
1 Shout of defiance
2 Latin eggs
3 Took a second?
4 Describe
5 Combo punch
6 "__ bad!"
7 Alpaca breeder of old
8 Pet owner's Pinterest post header
9 African snakes
10 Art in animation books
11 Richard of stand-up
12 Geoffrey of fashion
13 L.L. Bean alternative
19 Feeling sore
21 Purple flowers
23 Bored by it all
24 Oklahoma tribe
25 Petrol measures
26 Glides on snow
28 Chest bones
31 Sultry
32 Put some thought to
33 Paint a perfect picture of
34 Threepio's pal
35 Art in animation books
37 Cotton stick brand
42 Pea pod, essentially
44 Socialite celebrity
45 Thwart
46 Low poker pair
47 Pastoral poem
48 __-turvy
49 Flip over
50 Snug men's wear
52 City in Oklahoma
55 "I see the light!"
56 Sunscreen stat.
57 Ending like -ette
58 Double curve



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/16/17

MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

of rich visual and emotional notes behind a spellbinding story set in the American South of the mid 20th Century. The movie delves into the sociological issues of the Mississippi Delta in the mid 20th Century, in the style of "Grapes of Wrath." The film begins with a dramatic scene teeming with mystery and questions. The thread of the narrative is picked up by Carey Mulligan's character "Laura" who tells the story. Through the movie we are taken back to the beginning of the tale and then brought full circle back to that opening scene.

Along the way beautifully drawn characters play out their stories against the vividly depicted historical backdrop of that time period. The cinematography by Rachel Morrison (Fruitvale Station, Dope) is breathtaking. She shows the beauty and stark loneliness of the area. The rain and the mud become characters. There are close-up glimpses of farm life at that time that pull you into the narrative: a drowned rat, the Saturday bath, the rutted dirt road – all pull you into the environment without taking away from the balance and the rhythm of the film.

The women are the glue that holds everyone together. They safeguard the secrets, keep the evil at bay and soften the bitter blows wrought by the inhuman things humans can do to one another.

Carey Mulligan as the shy and unassuming "Laura McAllen" carries the story forward on her shoulders, embodying a sympathetic role without detracting from the other characters, whose dramatic and intriguing stories circle around hers. Garrett Hedlund as "Jamie McAllen" is a wonderful intense character actor disguised by a pretty face. He provides a beautifully sensitive portrait of a complex and flawed character. He is someone to watch. Jason Mitchell plays "Ronsel Jackson" in a realistic and heartfelt portrayal of a young man whose life is turned upside down by WWII, in both negative and positive ways. Mary J. Blige gives a spectacular performance as "Florence Jackson." This great musician, whose past roles as an actress include only a couple of small appearances on TV in roles like "Hair Stylist #1" in "How to Get Away with Murder," is a natural. She also wrote and performs one of the songs on the sound track. Rob Morgan as "Hap Jackson" is also fascinating to watch. The whole ensemble in this movie is on the same page emotionally and rhythmically, with many outstanding performances. The work of the ensemble as a whole is so in sync that they seem to form one cohesive unit in telling the story.

Mudbound is a straight on look into part of the historical experience in our country that most of us find difficult to acknowledge, no matter what our ethnicity. Visions of the movie will recur in your memory long after you have seen it. You will feel as if you have lived the story yourself. That's when you know the director has succeeded in truly creating a consummate work of art. In my opinion this is another of the greatest films of 2017.

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

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 16)

You're growing in power and will be surrounded by people who can handle that instead of be threatened by it. The next 10 weeks introduce new plans and people to your life. A problem that affects your family will finally be solved at the start of 2018. A quest will begin in March. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 40, 2, 20 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You sense how your loved ones are feeling and cater to that emotional state. For people who have you in their lives, that pretty much comes with the package. Not everyone you know will be so emotionally intelligent today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

It's only natural to want to be near the person who makes you feel good about yourself. Those who make it all about themselves, on the other hand, are repellent to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

The situation may seem to call for a reaction, but there's a huge benefit to being slow to react, if any reaction is necessary at all. This is one of those times when you might do nothing at all and the problem solves itself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

If anyone can de-escalate the tension and purge the atmosphere of negative vibes, it's you. Mostly this is done by changing the subject. It also doesn't hurt that you refuse to buy into other people's realities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Poke into your fears. Whatever you do to face them, deal with them or even avoid them – it will make your life better. That's as long as you're not ignoring fear (which is a strategy that sometimes works, but not today).

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is not a good day to share the details of a relationship, especially facts that could cast a bad light. You may come to forgive some transgressions that others won't, and in that case you'll be glad you kept them to yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Just because something is socially acceptable, that doesn't make it right. You'll notice an injustice and work to make things better, whether or not it's the popular choice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

If you want to say no, just say it and be quick about it and all will be well. Saying maybe (when you mean no) will hang both you and the other person in an uncomfortable limbo.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

There's far too much work to get it all done in a day, but if you start early you'll have a fighting chance. The morning hours show you energetic, and with a determined gleam in your eye.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Tidiness will lead to happiness. The success key today could be as simple as cleaning up some part of your life that's gotten out of hand. This kind of effort may very well change everything.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Although you're very likely to take other people's needs and wants into consideration before you make your move, you are also aware that ultimately they are not the ones who have to live with the consequences.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You're confident in your knowledge, yet you're also well aware that there are many other truths and ways. Your open mind will serve you well and net you more friends and supporters than one with a more rigid mindset.

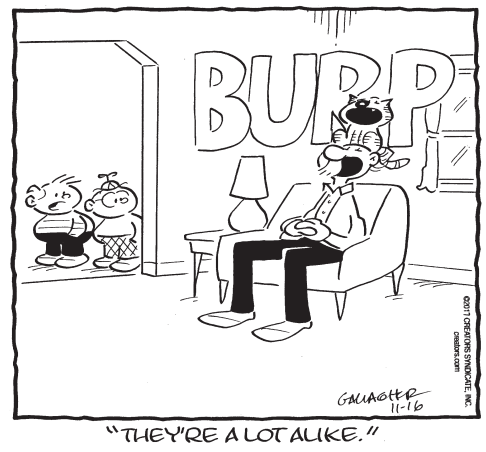
Love Stings

Venus and Jupiter form a pattern that will assign a new level of depth and meaning to relationships of all kinds, though especially to romantic relationships. Because this aspect does involve Scorpio energy, it might come with the signature sting of the scorpion. Love hurts, but not nearly as much as not being loved hurts. Even so, we'll be better for it.

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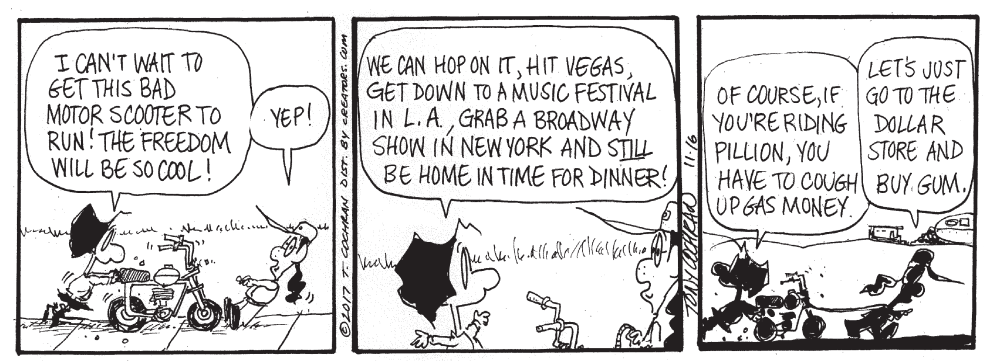
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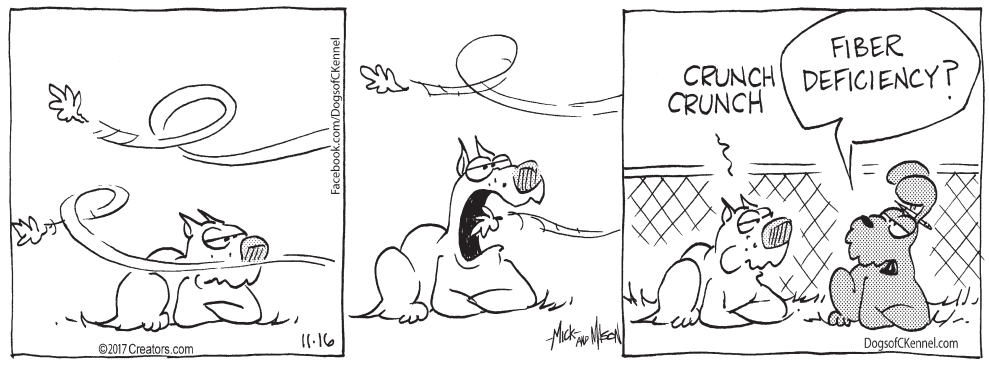
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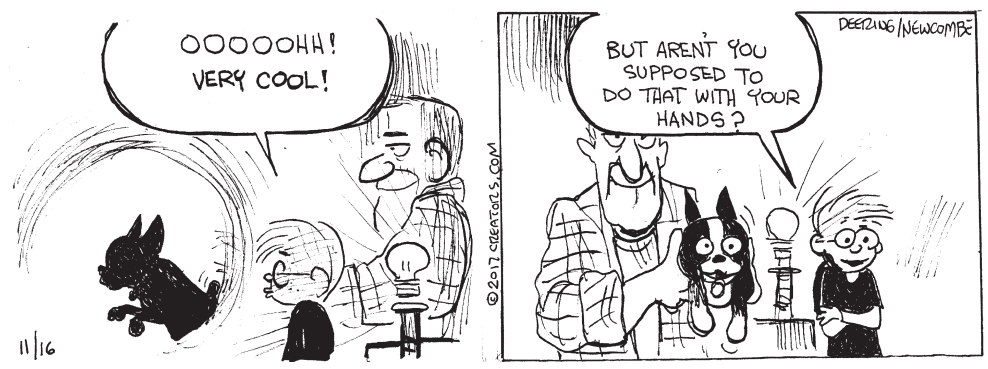
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Twitter, BuzzFeed join for breezy online morning show

BY DAVID BAUDER
AP Media Writer

Twitter and BuzzFeed initially planned to start their new morning show, "AM to DM," each weekday at 8 a.m. Then they considered their likely audience, and scheduled it for 10.

Now there's time to wake up leisurely, have coffee and fire up your smartphone. Hosts Isaac Fitzgerald and Saeed Jones, who like four-fifths of the show's audience are under age 35, don't have to rise at an ungodly hour. It's all so civilized.

Launched quietly in late September from a studio in BuzzFeed's Manhattan office, "AM to DM" is a breezy mix of news and pop culture. Viewers can click on Twitter and watch the stream live, or catch highlights later in the day.

"It's been kind of fun," said Shani Hilton, head of U.S. news at BuzzFeed. "It feels like the early days of BuzzFeed where we were experimenting all the time and making things out of bubble gum and glue."

"AM to DM" (DM standing for 'direct message') neatly fits the ambitions of two young media companies. Twitter has moved aggressively into video during the past year, streaming more than 800 events during the summer months. BuzzFeed wants to make money with its news operation and be top of mind with social media companies experimenting with video.

After working with BuzzFeed on an election night special, Twitter suggested the morning show. Rather than search for potential hosts with a television background, they found their team in BuzzFeed's newsroom. Fitzgerald, 34, is a former firefighter who is BuzzFeed's books editor, and had made several appearances on the "Today" show to talk about the literary scene. Jones, 31, is a published poet who was executive editor of culture at the web site. They make up with energy what they lack in polish.

"I never in my life thought there would be a place for a gay black man to be fully involved in a morning show," Jones said.

"AM to DM" talks about the news more than it reports it; Hilton said producers work under the assumption viewers have already checked out news headlines. The show relies heavily on the collaborating companies.

Opening Tuesday's show with the story about Alabama U. S. Senate candidate Roy Moore and molestation accusations, the hosts review what has been written about him on Twitter. They conducted Skype interviews with BuzzFeed White House correspondent Adrian Carrasquillo to preview what President Donald Trump will face now that he's returned from Asia, and national security correspondent Thomas Frank about the investigation into Russian actions during last year's presidential campaign.

"Will there ever be a point where there will be a smoking gun, or will it be an incremental creep?" Jones asked Frank.

Frank replied: "The answer is, nobody knows."

As Jones conducts one interview Fitzgerald stands beside him, typing on his smartphone.

The show's regular "fire tweets" segment simply involves the hosts kibitzing over random remarks made on Twitter. They laughed at one person who wrote, "no one actually tells you that an adult job is deleting 80 percent of your emails and ignoring the rest."

Melissa Joan Hart stopped by for a celebrity interview. She answered questions about the differences between acting and directing, was given a few minutes to address a social cause she's promoting and played along with a quiz that, among other things, revealed she was an "I Love Lucy" fan. The show has had a mix of politicians and celebrities during its first two months, including Connecticut Sen. Chris Murphy, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, singer Audra McDonald and actress Nicole Richie.

"It was fun," said CBS "S.W.A.T." actress Lina Esco after her recent appearance. "Chill. I felt like I was hanging out at someone's living room."

Tuesday's show also featured a BuzzFeed correspondent giving relationship advice and an "NFL fashion ambassador" talking about "Dungeons and Dragons" with Fizgerald.

The content of "AM to DM" is much like that on Twitter, Fitzgerald said.

"Twitter is not one thing and that's what I love about it," he said. "People are not one thing. People are complex and the complexity is reflected in the platform and I hope it's reflected on the show."

It's hard to tell what kind of an impact it is having. Twitter said at least one million people checked out some part of each show during its first week, but that's deceptive; the standard used by the television industry is how many people watch in an average minute and Twitter won't provide that figure. The company also says "AM to DM" is "one of the most-viewed daily shows" live-streaming on Twitter, but won't say what show has the most viewers and how the new morning show compares.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

IRVINE

California university receives trove of art from collector

Modern art rarely seen by the public will be displayed at the University of California, Irvine, after a collector donated more than 3,000 paintings and sculptures to the school.

The works will be exhibited along with other art in a new museum to be built on the campus about 40 miles south of Los Angeles, UC Irvine officials said Tuesday.

Gerald Buck, a Newport Beach property developer who died in 2013, bequeathed more than 3,200 original works to the university. Officials said Buck kept the collection — said to be worth tens of millions of dollars — in his home, a warehouse and a private gallery. He only occasionally lent pieces out to museums.

In the trove are paintings by prominent California artists of the 20th Century, including Richard Diebenkorn, Sam Francis and Joan Brown.

"For nearly three decades, these beautiful and important pieces have been kept mostly under wraps," said Chancellor Howard Gillman. "We can't wait to exhibit these gems to the public."

The Buck Collection includes works of classic California Impressionism, a huge Los Angeles night cityscape, and iconic "freeway series" paintings, among many others, according to a university press release.

Malcolm Warner, executive director of the Laguna Art Museum, called it "undeniably the greatest collection of California art ever assembled in private hands."

School leaders hope the museum will make Irvine a destination for art lovers.

Buck, who built sprawling suburban communities, was actively involved with Southern California museums as well as the Smithsonian Institution. During the last year of his life, Buck prepared a first-ever exhibition of the treasured collection, along with a book and a film.

Buck's daughter, Christina, said her father wanted the paintings, sculptures and his large library given to an institution with extensive research programs in the arts.

"My dad always said that art was meant to be seen and enjoyed by people. He'd say, 'That's why they make museums — so people can see art and enjoy it," she said.

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