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NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 1, 2013
Volume 13 Issue 16



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

HOLIDAY SHOPPING GUIDE INSIDE!
SEE PAGE 8

THE BEAT THE BRUINS ISSUE



File photo

GRUB ON: Folks enjoy the Tuesday night food truck event at the California Heritage Museum on Main Street. The City Council is likely to approve new rules for food trucks that will allow more food truck courts like this one.

Main Street food trucks to stay

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET Food trucks are poised to become a regular thing in Santa Monica.

Regulations modeled off those applied to a popular weekly food truck event at the California Heritage Museum will be included in the Draft Zoning Ordinance after a unanimous City Council vote this week.

The Planning Commission will start debating the ordinance, which regulates the uses of the various parts of the city for various types of businesses, next month.

They'll discuss it six times before passing it off to council for finalization. The commission has restricted food trucks in the past.

The regulations would allow private properties to host food truck events one night a week, on Mondays, Tuesday, or Wednesdays.

The Heritage Museum event has been held on Tuesday nights since 2010, when council issued a temporary use permit. The new proposed zoning language is more permanent, allowing events for at least three more years. About ten food trucks show up each week for 400 to 500 patrons. Vendors' fees help support Heritage Museum programs.

"I think it's extending what we've already had," said Matt Geller, CEO of the Southern California Mobile Food Vendor's Association. "They went in front of council asking for a more permanent thing. I think it's great. The city of Santa Monica has worked with the food trucks better than almost any other city so they always ask for our input on things."

Tobi Smith, executive director at the Heritage Museum, came out in support of the trucks.

Planning officials surveyed main street businesses and food truck patrons ultimately determining that the events do not "appear to have a significant negative impact to Main Street business activity."

Gary Gordon, executive director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association, asked council to move forward with caution. City officials should compare Tuesday night restaurant revenues from before the events took place with current Tuesday night revenues, he said.

"I think staff has solved the regulatory issue that was before you and previously

SEE TRUCKS PAGE 10

Buffer Park: A series of garden rooms

Plans make use of park's linear space

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

EXPOSITION BLVD Plans for Buffer Park are looking like more than just a noise barrier for neighbors.

Meant to shelter residents from the racket of the adjacent Exposition Light Rail maintenance yard, which began construction this summer and will be done next fall, the park includes bird towers, exercise stations, and an art wall.

SEE PARK PAGE 11

Latinos want U.S. to sue over L.A. supervisors' board

BY MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The Obama administration is aggressively pursuing lawsuits over minority voting rights in Texas and North Carolina, but the Justice Department has not moved on evidence that the latest round of redistricting in Los Angeles County unfairly reduces the influence of Latino voters.

Nearly half the 10 million people in the nation's largest county are Latino. But political boundaries redrawn in 2011 make it possible for Latino voters to elect just one of the five supervisors.

The administration has resisted calls to sue the county, despite the county's history of discrimination against Latino voters in earlier redistricting efforts.

The inaction rankles some Latino

SEE VOTERS PAGE 10

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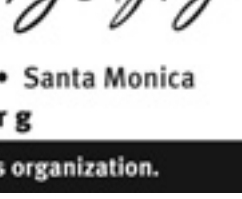
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013

It's a wrap
Levi's Store
1409 Third St., 10 a.m. — 9 p.m.
Visit a vintage Airstream trailer parked outside of the Levi's Store on the Third Street Promenade to receive free gift wrapping this Black Friday. All shoppers are welcome.

Walk it out on Pico
Pico Boulevard
Between 27th Street and Centinela Avenue, 3 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Pico Winter Holiday Art Walk will reflect holiday spirit in the form of entertainment, art, and, most importantly, food. The five-block stretch between 27th Street and Centinela Avenue will be transformed into a holiday getaway. For more information, visit picopassport.com.

Light the menorah
Third Street Promenade
1300 block, Sundown
Public menorah lighting, live music and dancing fill the air with the Chanukah spirit. For more information, call (310) 341-3837.

Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013

Lace 'em up
Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue
10 a.m. — 10 p.m.
Hit the rink at ICE at Santa Monica, a popular holiday attraction. For more information, call (310) 461-8333.

Under the sea
Santa Monica Pier Aquarium
1600 Ocean Front Walk,
12:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Back by popular demand, for a limited time only during the holiday season, Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium is offering its wolf-eel for adoption. Nine different marine animals on display at the aquarium are available for adoption year-long through the Aquadoption program, but the wolf-eel is only available through Jan. 1, 2014. For more information, call (310) 393-6149.

Monday, Dec. 2, 2013

Sign of the times
Architectural Review Board
City Council Chambers, 1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Architectural Review Board will discuss signs for new restaurants, Simply Raw and Steak N Shake; and the building design, colors and materials for the remodel of an existing structure. For more information contact the city Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Any documents produced by City Hall and distributed to a majority of the Architectural Review Board regarding any item on this agenda will be made available at the City Clerk's Counter located at City Hall, 1685 Main St., during normal business hours.

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013

Dynamic duo
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Highway,
6:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Guitarist Tom Farrell and violinist Javier Orman of Dúo del Sol create original music, transfiguring music all along the classical/jazz/rock spectrum. Tickets are free but space is limited and reservations are required. To view and make reservations for future free Beach=Culture events, check http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture or call (310) 458-4904.

Make a gift
1450 Ocean Ave., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Learn to make bar soap from olive, coconut, and other oils, aromatics and lye. Use safe kitchen chemistry to make versatile holiday and hostess gifts, and explore different wrapping and decorative techniques to make your gift soaps stand out! This class requires a $15 materials fee paid in cash to the instructor before the start of class. Call (310) 458-2239 to confirm availability.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at **310-458-7737** or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to **smdp.com/communitylistings**



Americans kick off 2-day holiday shopping marathon

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

DOWNTOWN The holiday shopping season started as a marathon, not a sprint.

More than a dozen major U.S. retailers stayed open for 24 hours or more on Thanksgiving Day through Black Friday, and crowds formed early and often over the two days.

Southern California's Black Friday became shades of gray, and dripping wet.

Storm clouds pushing in from the ocean brought bands of rain across the region, despite expectations that a low-pressure system off the coast would bring only sprinkles and a slight chance of showers.

Bargain-hunting shoppers had to sprint from awning to awning to avoid getting soaked.

That was the scene in Downtown Santa Monica, where shoppers braved the rain to grab gifts at discounted prices along the Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Place Mall. In Bloomingdale's shoe section, several woman were trying on boots, while at the third floor food court shoppers set their bags down and snacked on some lunch at the Curious Palate. A clerk at the mall said the crowds were decent for a rainy day.

"It's been pretty steady," she said.

Forecasters say another low pressure system will bring the possibility of showers Tuesday through Thursday.

About 15,000 people waited for the flagship Macy's in New York to open at 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving. Long checkout lines formed at the Target in Colma, Calif., on Friday morning. And by the time Jessica Astalos was leaving North Point Mall in Alpharetta, Ga., after a six-hour buying binge that started on Thanksgiving, another wave of shoppers was coming in about 5:30 a.m. on Friday.

"You just have to be out in the midst of all of it," said Ricki Moss, who hit stores near Portland, Ore., at 5:30 a.m. on Friday. "It's exciting."

This year may cement the transformation of the start of the holiday shopping season into a two-day affair.

For nearly a decade, Black Friday had been the official start of the shopping season between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It was

SEE **SHOP** PAGE 7



Photo courtesy dooduboy.com

ONE AND ONLY: Bryan, pictured performing his one-man show, collaborated for two years on 'Doodu Boy' with director Jared Scheib.

'Doodu Boy' a funny, powerful testament to the human spirit

BY MELONIE MAGRUDER
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Los Angeles has a lot of black box theatre. The kind where all 99 members of the audience can hear the soundboard changing cues and view all $10 of the theatre company's production budget onstage. Los Angeles has a lot of cringe-worthy theatre.

But occasionally, a piece comes along that is so compelling, so beautifully structured and played with such raw honesty that it transcends the boundaries of the theatre walls. "Doodu Boy," at the Santa Monica Playhouse in a limited run, is such a piece.

Conceived, written and performed by Jamaican artist Stefhen Bryan, "Doodu Boy" is an autobiographical journey of such searing pain, its miracle is in just how much you laugh your way through to its poignant, but triumphant conclusion.

Bryan collaborated for two years on "Doodu Boy" with director and dramaturgical adapter Jared Scheib, and their friendship is unlikely. Bryan — as we learn in the play — grew up surrounded by poverty in Jamaica, graduated from UCLA with a degree in economics and ended up teaching English half a world away.

Scheib is a self-described artist-entrepreneur from Texas who attended USC to study film production and neuroscience as an inaugural member of the Brain and Creativity Institute. Together, they illustrated Bryan's life from abused childhood through a youth struggling for identity, to adulthood stripped of hubris, revealing a hard-won peace. It makes for a mesmerizing 95 minutes.

This is theatre at its most elemental; a lit stage, two rectangular boxes that become a number of different props, no musical cues and one man. Bryan begins his story as a young boy in Kingston, living in a one-room house with a mother whose fierce love is applied as liberally as her regular beatings given to ensure his righteous path to God. In Bryan's performance, you can feel the sting of each whack of his mother's supple hicko-

SEE **PLAY** PAGE 11

Woman pleads not guilty in dog bite case

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE A dog walker pleaded not guilty earlier this week to child endangerment charges after the dog she was watching allegedly bit a 4-year-old girl.

Police responded Oct. 19 to a report of a dog bite in the 2300 block of 23rd Street in Santa Monica, said Sgt. Jay Moroso of the Santa Monica Police Department.

Detectives learned that Rebecca McGroerty, the dog walker, was given instructions by the owner of the 10-year-old Staffordshire terrier to keep it muzzled and on a leash while it was outside the home, Moroso said.

McGroerty's employers told her she was not to have anyone other than employees or residents in the home where the dog was because the animal was afraid of and had aggressive behavior toward children, Moroso said.

The girl was not a resident of the house. The dog was not on a leash and was not wearing a muzzle at the time of the attack, Moroso said.

The 4-year-old girl was treated with stitches to an injured leg, Moroso said.

The dog was impounded by the Santa Monica Animal Control Unit for a 10-day quarantine and then released to the owner, with muzzle and leash restrictions. However, the owners had already been using these restrictions, Moroso said.

The next hearing for McGroerty is Jan. 8, 2014.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Creating future problems

Editor:

The recent letter from Ron Goldman ("The power lies with you," Letters to the Editor, Nov. 22) asks the question, what is it that the city personnel, who are controlling the design of our city, have in mind as they set about increasing density and height, and increasing demand on all aspects of the infrastructure and services? As he points out, it is in contrast to the tenets of the Land Use & Circulation Element (LUCE), which were already pushed beyond the desires of the residents at numerous public meetings and workshops.

The notion that additional height, for example, is necessary for creative architectural solutions flies in the face of this architect's 50-plus years of involvement in studying and working within the architecture and planning profession, and is contrary to the stated goal of LUCE to reduce overall heights. Yet proposals for towers to 330 feet are being considered. What you should believe is that additional height and massing, along with the increased density of higher FARs (floor area ratio), will create more shadow and less blue sky and sun, will result in darker Downtown streets, will increase both pedestrian and traffic congestion, and will increase demand on all infrastructure components and services.

The proposed 35-plus development agreements, if approved, will certainly change the face of the city and the quality of life for its residents. As Mr. Goldman asks, why? What are you thinking? Is it economics? If 10 million square feet already added to the city in the last 30 years has not produced a sustainable economic base, why believe that adding another 3 million is going to "solve" a supposed economic problem, and such development would not seem to help maintain the community's beach culture, another LUCE tenet.

One thing is for certain; the notion that increasing density and population is sustainable in the water-deprived region we live in is in fact a path to a future nightmare. If not for us in the immediate future, for sure it will be for our children or grandchildren. Those of us that oppose this massive rush to development have been called xenophobes, or selfish because "we have ours," or are unable to face change and can't see the future, etc. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Our only motivation in opposing this massive development push is based on our professional experience, and the best interest of the residents and our environment. Protestations and recommendations continue to fall on deaf ears or are simply ignored, and it is likely that going forward in this direction is creating new problems, not solving existing ones. The question remains, why?

Bob Taylor
Santa Monica



Your column here

Diane Carpenter — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I'd rather be at the beach

I FIRST MET DAVE HEISER WHEN I WAS IN seventh grade. He was a P.E. teacher at John Adams Jr. High. He was an amazing athlete, and an inspiration to us kids. Among other things, he was a tremendous gymnast. On occasion he would perform on the high bars in our auditorium as we watched breathlessly. A lifeguard in the summers, he would also frequently take us kids to swim at Santa Monica College. Not surprisingly, he was everybody's favorite teacher.

More than 50 years later, I became interested in finding Mr. Heiser because of a photo I was given of the Santa Monica Paddle Board Club, which was dated "1935." At the Santa Monica High School all-class picnic that year, I was told that Mr. Heiser was not only in the photo, but possibly the only one still alive, and was thought to be living in Santa Monica. Somehow, I felt compelled to find him.

Luckily for me, my friend, Michelle Dawn, is a licensed private investigator. Given her skills and the vast information on the Internet, to my amazement, Michelle located him.

In the meantime, I found an L.A. Times article from 2008 with a photo of all the Santa Monica lifeguards from 1946. Mr. Heiser was identified in the photo as being 22 so I knew he was too young to have been in the paddle board club. It didn't matter that my quest had begun on a mistake, I still had to re-connect with my former teacher.

Michelle was eventually able to get Mr. Heiser's phone number and when I called I was very nervous. He said he wasn't well, but that he'd be delighted to see me. So it was set.

And on May 23, I was even more nervous when I knocked on his door. Even at 89, I couldn't get over how much Mr. Heiser still looked the same as he did at John Adams. I hugged him, and he said, "You're all grown up now, Diane, just call me Dave." We both laughed.

I was awestruck by the amount of photos on his walls documenting a lifetime on the water and in the gymnastics world. He patiently explained to me who everybody was in the photos, as well as where the pictures were taken.

As I settled in to the chair across from him, one of my first questions to him was, "What was it like to be on the top of a 20-foot wave?" His response was, "It was scary, oh God was it scary!"

Of course, today they are surfing 60-foot waves with the help of "tow-ins" by Jet Skis.

Dave told me that in order to surf these "mavericks," or giant waves, he would have to hold his breath for 4 minutes. "If I did that today, I would expire!"

I asked if he had ever made any of his own boards. "I made four. One I made a table out of, and this guy liked it so much I sold it to him for $300."

As Dave reminisced, he told me that during the winter months, when they didn't need many lifeguards, he worked as a stuntman for the movie studios. Once he was part of a three-tier water ski stunt.

"Oh, wow!," I said. "Kind of like they'd do at Cypress Gardens in Florida?" He smiled modestly, "Well, yes, you could say that."

I then had to say good-bye, and asked if I could come back the following Tuesday. He said, "I'd like that!"

DAVE HEISER (1914-2013) WAS A GREAT TEACHER, SURFER, ATHLETE, AND ALL AROUND WATERMAN. HE WAS ALSO A GREAT GUY. R.I.P.

Upon my return, I brought something to share with Dave. It was my '59 yearbook from John Adams. He studied it and carefully turned the pages, as the cover had already torn away from the binding. There were several pictures of him and when I pointed them out he smiled with amusement. He also found a few I had missed. He appreciated my bringing the book, and said he enjoyed it immensely.

As I was leaving, I asked, "Do you mind if I come by and see you when I'm here in Santa Monica?" He replied, "Sure! I'll either be here, or over at Woodlawn." I said, "Oh, is that the nursing home where you are during the day?"

"No, it's the cemetery on 14th Street." Ill as he was, he hadn't lost his sense of humor. "I even have my tombstone picked out," he joked. "I'd rather be at the beach!"

Dave passed away a month and a half after my meeting with him. I could not believe it, and was very saddened by the news. I couldn't help but think, if it were not for the mistaken identity in the paddle board club photo, I never would have had the opportunity of seeing him again. I was so glad that I did, as we had come full circle.

Dave Heiser (1914-2013) was a great teacher, surfer, athlete, and all around waterman. He was also a great guy. R.I.P.

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The Q Line

Getting to the bottom of things

City officials recently admitted that they have no clue as to how a more developer-friendly zoning map was included in the Land Use & Circulation Element in regards to A-lots ("Residents, City Hall propose corrections to planning document," Nov. 13). That change has already led to one development proposal that currently would not be allowed.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Given that City Hall doesn't know how the change occurred, should an independent investigation be conducted? What do you think happened?

Here are your responses:

"I DO THINK THERE SHOULD BE AN independent investigation. It's a crooked thing that's going on, but I can't say what happened. The guy that answered last week's question about the minimum wage who said kids should go to work, he's probably the guy that messed around and somehow finagled the plan because he sounds like a crook or something that wants to put kids to work."

"I AM SAYING YES, WE DEFINITELY NEED an independent investigation."

"BY ALL MEANS, HAVE AN INDEPENDENT investigation conducted, and while we're at it, how about investigating why parkways disappear and pedestrians are forced into the street in some parts of town? Are there different rules for different owners?"

"ABSOLUTELY AN INDEPENDENT investigation. This is just one more instance where the city is being stolen from the residents"

"I SUPPORT AN INVESTIGATION OF HOW A-lots (parking lots on the edges of residential areas) were changed from residential to commercial in one of the maps in the LUCE. SMDP's Nov. 12 issue quotes Rod Gould as saying, 'It was not clear to staff as to what led to the map being inserted ... . And why and whether or not there was adequate documentation of that change, much less public consideration, is very much in question.' Since many residents feel City Hall favors commercial interests over those of residents, it is important to find out if these changes are symptomatic of an overall bias in the LUCE. Such an investigation would be timely given staff's proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance to conform to LUCE. Also, over the past few years the City Council has authorized many exceptions to the LUCE in the form of development agreements, many of which have been contentious. We need to know if we are all playing by the same rules."

"WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO SANTA Monica, when a developer can think just because he paid a lot of money for the property he purchased that he can do what he pleases? Something fishy is going on. We should get to the bottom of how and who did this change. Not just sweep it under the rug. We want and deserve answers. I am a 42-year resident and I live on Berkeley Street. Maybe you should try and back out of my driveway any time of day. It is getting worse all the time."

"ABSOLUTELY! AN INVESTIGATION NEEDS to be made into how the A-lots changes slipped into the LUCE undetected. How many other changes slipped into LUCE and zoning that have not yet been detected? If we are to trust city staff then an investigation must be made."

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"AS A LONGTIME RESIDENT OF SANTA Monica, I well remember in the late 1970s when the City Council allowed a developer to demolish three single-family homes (which he owned) that were zoned R1 to build parking lots behind the stores and shops on north Montana between 14th and 15th streets. The then City Council placated the protests of residents in the neighborhood and the city at large by designating the parcels as A-lots, meaning they would revert to their R1 status if the parking lots were ever taken out of service. I am concerned that R1 lots may be commercialized through an 'untraceable oversight.' In particular though, I live one house removed from the subject R1 A-lots and don't want to be in the shadow of taller commercial developments because it may be too late to reverse this 'mistake.' I request that the City Council change the clause in LUCE that codifies this mistake. Further, I request an investigation into how this oversight occurred, lest it lead to more distasteful feelings residents have toward the perceived cavalier attitude the council has on the limited development wishes of the city's citizens."

"I DON'T CARE HOW SANTA MONICA goes regarding getting to the bottom of things regarding the A-lot change from residential to commercial. I simply know that something stinks. Someone tried the old 'sleight of hand' trick and thought this change could go through without being noticed, but, thankfully, that's not the case. I hope City Hall reverses this unauthorized alteration. I'm not a developer. My husband isn't a developer. My friends and neighbors aren't developers. No one I know would ever have approved this change as this is our neighborhood. We don't need more buildings and more traffic and more congestion. I don't know how to explain it more simply."

"THERE WAS NO OVERSIGHT, AND IF there was developers know how to jump through loopholes, with the assistance of city officials, and no one will be held accountable. The great stewards of our

SEE **INVESTIGATE** PAGE 6

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The Q Line

INVESTIGATE
FROM PAGE 5

city's plan is to pack us in like sardines. Neighborhood groups are doomed in fighting one development agreement at a time. Once a beautiful city, it is now heading from mediocre to downright ugly. Once a beach town, now a town with a beach in front of it, from charm and warmth to cold and sterile. It's all about greed."

"WE USED TO HAVE A TERM, WHICH was to be Fricked, Suzanne Frick. Time and time again we would be Fricked because of the dirty tricks, the underhanded machinations, trickery, by the former planning director and key staff. Those key staff remain in place and I am 99.83 percent certain they are behind this little trick with this map."

"GIVEN THE OVERALL LEVEL OF deviousness by various city departments, it would not be surprising that this particular issue, among many others, will cause the city of Santa Monica to hurtle to an investigation by the L.A. County District Attorney's office. I think an investigation by not only the district attorney, but the state attorney general, regarding the way things are being handled here is long overdue. It's just a matter of time. It's a ticking clock. No doubt there are going to be city officials who are going to be scrutinized just like the officials in the city of Bell."

"IT IS UTTERLY RIDICULOUS AND INSULTING as a citizen of Santa Monica that developers are running roughshod over existing building codes, whose sole purpose is to manage the growth of the city in a balanced way. At this point, from the few public hearings I have attended I feel like the city is following in the footsteps of Washington D.C. where money talks via lobbyists and overwhelms any actual public sentiment or opinion. LUCE was put in place for a reason. Let's not fool anyone into thinking that this is a blatant attempt to change the balance of city development, which largely ignores the input of those of us who vote and pay taxes. 'Re-zoning without representation' seems to be the current plan."

"WHY IS IT THAT NO ONE KNOWS HOW this happened or who is responsible for the changes? This is a very important issue to many Santa Monica residents who don't want to see our neighborhoods ruined. We want the City Council to investigate this matter soon. Something is fishy here!"

"I FIND IT VERY DISTURBING THAT OUR mayor, Pam O'Connor, has not come out with some reassuring words that explicitly state that a forensic investigation as to the facts in regards to the A-lot mystery is taking place. The public needs assurance that this investigation is taking place from her directly. In my opinion, when an elected official in her position doesn't take great care to publicly explain the details of how an investigation is proceeding on such a grave matter, they are contributing to a culture of mis-management and they should maybe themselves be recalled."

"HOW MUCH IS THIS INDEPENDENT investigation going to cost us, with all these $200,000-a-year lawyers working at City Hall and devoted to the city of Bell standards? They believe the ends justify the means. None of them care about you or this city. All of them have been in office too long. They have no love for the simple beach town we were. It's all about their oversized egos, their love of the free lunch, their ecstasy at spending other people's money and the power that comes from disrupting people's lives. One of the labors of Hercules was cleaning out the massive stables. Even Hercules couldn't clean out the muck at City Hall enough to have an independent investigation."

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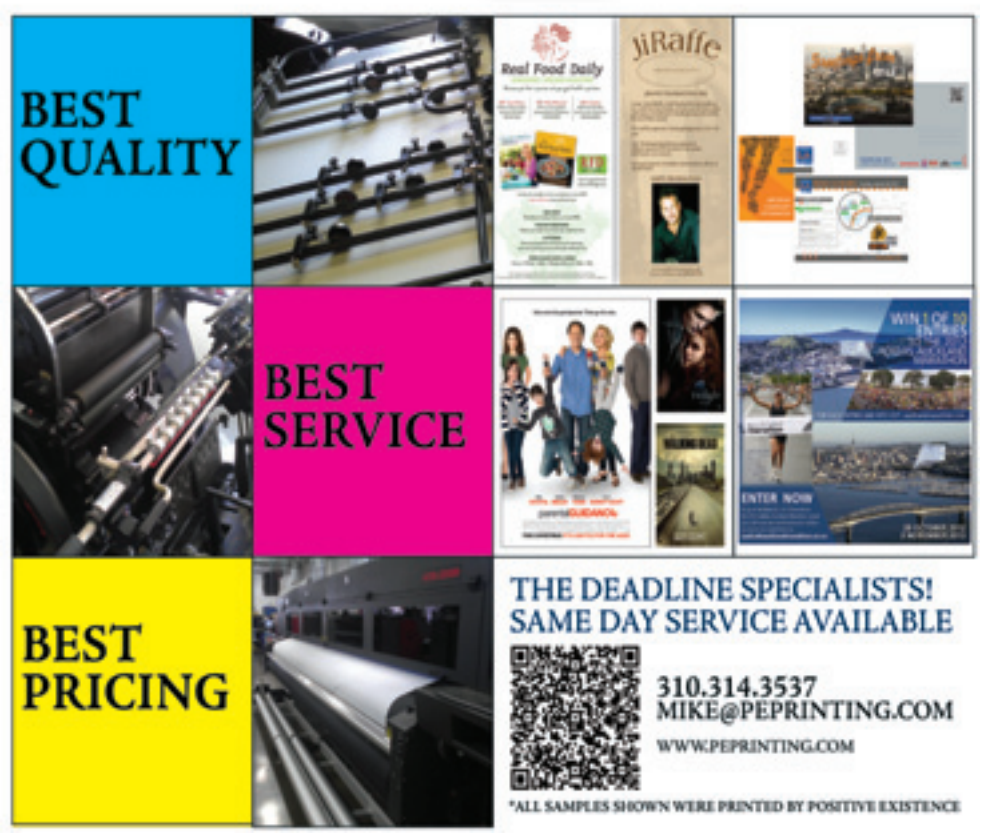
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Paul Alvarez, Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

GRAY FRIDAY: Shoppers came out in force Friday despite the rain Downtown.

SHOP
FROM PAGE 3

originally named Black Friday because it was when retailers turned a profit, or moved out of the red and into the black. Retailers opened early and offered deep discounts.

But in the past few years, store chains have been opening on Thanksgiving.

This year, several welcomed shoppers for the first time on Thanksgiving night, while Gap Inc., which owns Banana Republic, Gap and Old Navy, opened half its stores earlier on the holiday.

Wal-Mart stores, most of which stay open 24 hours, has for the past several years offered doorbusters that had been reserved for Black Friday. And Kmart planned to stay open 41 hours starting at 6 a.m. on Thanksgiving.

That has led some to question how much further Black Friday will creep into Thanksgiving, which along with Christmas is one of only two days a year that most stores are closed.

"Black Friday is now Gray Friday," said Craig Johnson, president of Customer Growth Partners, a retail consultancy.

The earlier openings have met with some resistance.

Workers' rights groups and some shoppers had planned protests on Thanksgiving and Black Friday to decry the way some store employees were forced to miss holiday meals at home. But as of Thursday afternoon, there were no reports of widespread protests.

Judy Espey ducked out of a Thanksgiving family dinner to buy a 50-inch flat-screen TV at Wal-Mart near Clifton Park, N.Y., for $288. But "I don't really dig the Thanksgiving night thing," she confessed. "I feel bad for the workers."

Vinnie Gopalakrishnan pledged not to hit the stores after seeing TV footage of people shopping on Thanksgiving. But he flip-flopped after his cousin told him about a deal on a big-screen TV.

"I said, 'I'm not going to do it. Those people are crazy,'" Gopalakrishnan said before heading to a Wal-Mart on Friday.

It's unclear whether the early openings will lead shoppers to spend more over the two days or simply spread sales out.

Last year, sales on Thanksgiving rose 55 percent from the previous year to $810 million, as more stores opened on the holiday, according to research firm ShopperTrak. But sales dropped 1.8 percent to $11.2 billion on Black Friday, though it still was the biggest shopping day last year.

Store sales numbers won't be available until Saturday. The National Retail Federation said 140 million people planned to shop during the four-day holiday weekend.

IBM Benchmark, which tracks e-commerce for 800 retailers, said online sales rose 19.7 percent on Thanksgiving.

There are signs that stores fared well, too.

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, started its holiday sales events at 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving, two hours earlier than last year. Wal-Mart said customers bought at least 2.8 million towels, 2 million TVs, 1.4 million tablets, 300,000 bicycles and 1.9 million dolls.

Terry Lundgren, Macy's CEO, said the 15,000 people who showed up for the opening of the flagship store was the most ever, up from 11,000 last year. "Clearly people are in the shopping mood," he said.

Of course, not every retailer saw robust crowds.

At Woodland Hills mall in Tulsa, Okla., the owner of Bags and Bangle complained that he had to stay open from 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving to 10 p.m. on Friday. Suhail Zaidi, who was required by the mall to keep his booth open, said Thanksgiving was somewhat busy, but business had died down by 3 a.m. On Friday morning, he said he had seen only about 20 customers.

"We ruined the holiday," Zaidi said. "Black Friday is a good shopping day, but opening up on Thanksgiving is ridiculous."

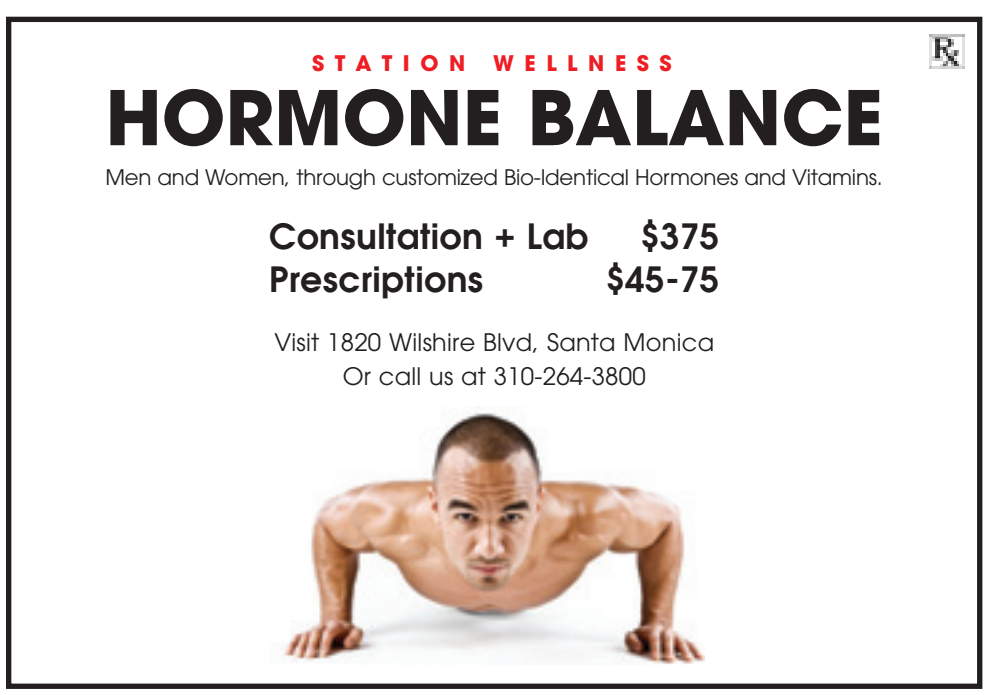














Tour De Feast

Michael 'Snacks' Ryan — Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Michael Ryan *michael@smdp.com*

STUFFED: The Thanksgiving turkey sandwich. Make your own — if you dare.

Bring on the leftover turkey

IF YOU WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HOST a Thanksgiving dinner, chances are there is a fridge full of leftovers. Right about now those leftovers are hitting their peak, which means it is time to act. Freeing up fridge space could come from a multitude of methods like soups, salads and casseroles. But nothing utilizes your treasured leftovers while capturing the essence of the past Thursday feast like a fully stacked Thanksgiving sandwich.

Starting with the bread, size does matter. How big is your blueprint? A couple slices of rye will do if you just want a quick snack. But if you plan to relive the Thanksgiving gluttony, something more substantial, like a French roll hallowed out, is required.

For a sandwich spread, cranberries are key. Not only do cranberries add color, the sweet, tangy and tart flavors cut through a sandwich dominated by savories. The gelatinous log dropped right out of the can is perfectly spreadable, but fancy cranberry compotes work just as well. Cranberries are also a quick fix to some dry turkey.

Turkey is traditionally the focal point of the Thanksgiving table. The same goes for the sandwich. White, dark or a mix of the two meats is a matter of preference, just be mindful to make room for the other ingredients.

A few unspoken rules of sandwich making are broken during the construction of the Thanksgiving variety. In general, adding mashed potatoes and stuffing to a sandwich is a starch on starch crime. But if it's a staple on your Thanksgiving table, it should be in your sandwich as well. A fully loaded Thanksgiving sandwich requires mashed potatoes as a binder so other ingredients don't fall overboard. For many, including myself, stuffing is the best part of the meal, making it the best part of the sandwich too.

It doesn't stop there. Perhaps you had macaroni and cheese on the table or some yams? Don't be afraid to carbo-load, you'll need the energy to properly complain about the holidays from in front of your TV.

By now the sandwich should be filling out nicely, but you mercilessly need to add some greens. Depending what you have available, the "lettuce" for the sandwich may come in the form of Brussels sprouts, green beans or spinach. Of course add what you like. The main thing is just have fun with it.

Now it's more than just a sandwich, it's a holiday experience.

A Thanksgiving sandwich should be an extension of your personality, so be sure to make any individual embellishments. My mother always starts Thanksgiving off with a first course of ravioli. So in honor of her I find room for a couple of raviolis in my sandwich. Chanukah and St. Andrew's day may be underway, but I'm not advising that you start throwing latkes and haggis on your sandwich. Wait … I guess at this point that's exactly what I'm telling you to do.



Michael Ryan *michael@smdp.com*

INGREDIENTS: Leftovers from a Thanksgiving feast get ready to be incorporated into a stuffed sandwich.

Nevertheless, the Thanksgiving sandwich is a cornucopia of holiday flavors under a bun. I now look forward to Thanksgiving dinner just because I know how great the sandwiches are afterward (plus being thankful for good health, family and friends). Even if I'm going to someone else's Thanksgiving dinner, I find time to make my own leftovers at home. Celebrating the season is best with a festive holiday sandwich. Just make sure to garnish it with a deviled egg for the proverbial cherry on top.

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food. He can be reached at michael@smdp.com. Follow him on Twitter at https://twitter.com/greaseweek

How to brew up holiday cheer with craft beers

BY MICHAEL FELBERBAUM
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. Gone are the days when only a bottle of wine — or maybe a bottle of the hard stuff — would suffice as a gift to bring your holiday party host.

Today, craft beers have the respect they deserve, opening up tons of fresh ways to share the cheer this season. But there is a drawback, too. The number of producers and styles available even in small shops — never mind larger grocers and specialty stores — has proliferated almost ridiculously. Making sense of them all can be enough to leave you with a hangover before you even open a bottle (or an increasingly hip can).

So with gift-giving and revelry in mind, we've sorted through the options to suss out a few beers that are sure to bring holiday cheer.

DRAGON'S MILK (FROM NEW HOLLAND BREWING CO. IN HOLLAND, MICH.)

Style: Barrel-aged stout

Alcohol: 10 percent

Named after special ale made exclusively for royalty and served at great 17th century feasts, Dragon's Milk is a strong ale aged in oak for more than 90 days. Dark in color, this barrel-aged stout has flavors of vanilla, coffee, chocolate and dried fruit. The aging process imparts bourbon and wood notes that blend with the roasted malt.

The beer was first released in 2001 as a seasonal beer, but gained a following and became a year-round offering around 2009. Its popularity led New Holland Brewing to double production of the beer last year and expand their facility. Dragon's Milk is best paired with red meat, smoked foods, rich cheese and dark chocolate.

Price: $9 per 22-ounce bottle, $16 for four-pack of 12-ounce bottles, or $110 for a 3-liter bottle.

SANTA'S PRIVATE RESERVE (FROM ROGUE ALES IN NEWPORT, OREGON)

Style: Red ale

Alcohol: 6 percent

Rouge Ale's annual holiday offering is a double-hopped red ale made with hops and barley from the brewery's own farm. The brewery and distillery founded in 1988 even malted the grain in the beer themselves. The result is a two-time World Beer Championship gold medal-winning amber beer with a roasted caramel malt flavor and a hoppy pine finish. The bottle itself features snowflakes that glow, err, glisten in the dark. Enjoy it with pork, beef, spicy foods and potent cheeses.

Price: $7 for a 22-ounce bottle, or $25 for a gift box with a bottle and a glass.

VICARIS GENERAAL (FROM BROUWERIJ DILEWYNS IN BELGIUM)

Style: Belgian abbey dubbel

Alcohol: 8.8 percent

The family-owned brewery opened in 2011 to much fanfare because new breweries in Belgium are few and far between. But brewer Anne-Catherine Dilewyns has a family brewing history. Her great-great grandmother turned a former benzene oil factory into a brewery in 1875 that operated until World War II, when the brew kettles were confiscated.

Dilewyns' Vicaris Generaal is a head-scratcher of a strong ale brewed in the tradition of Trappist monks. It's also brewed in three stages: a warm fermentation, lagering, and then a secondary fermentation in the bottle. The careful combination of water, malt, sugar, hops and yeast (no spices) yields a deep mahogany beer with the lightly sweet flavors of dried fruit, licorice, chocolate and caramel with a twinge of hop bitterness and spicy notes from the yeast. Enjoy with holiday ham, duck and hard aged cheeses.

Price: $12 for a 750-mililiter bottle

XVII ANNIVERSARY ALE (FROM FIRESTONE WALKER BREWING CO. IN PASO ROBLES, CALIF.)

Style: Barrel-aged blend

Alcohol: 13.3 percent

Firestone Walker, which earned the title of mid-size brewing company and brewer of the year at the Great American Beer Festival in October, has worked to create a yearly offering that pushes the envelope ever since its inaugural anniversary release called "Ten" in 2006. For this year's release, brew master Matt Brynildson again enlisted winemakers from the area to help come up with the latest blend to create its anniversary ale.

During the blending process, the winemakers are divided into pairs and tasked with concocting the best blend. Votes then are cast for the winning blend during a blind taste test. This year's winner blended together 220 oak barrels and seven different beers — including imperial brown ale, imperial stout, barleywine and black rye India pale ale.

With a list like that it goes without saying that the end product is incredibly complex with a balance of toasted coconut, bourbon and chocolate flavors along with a bit of spice. This is a good beer to store in a cool place to allow the beer to age and develop. When you do open it, it should be allowed to warm to 55 degrees F to enjoy all of its flavors and aroma. Enjoy this beer with bowl of rich French onion soup or pumpkin pie.

Price: $24 for a 22-ounce bottle.

BOURBON COUNTY BRAND STOUT (FROM GOOSE ISLAND BEER CO. IN CHICAGO)

Style: Barrel-aged imperial stout

Alcohol: 14.5 percent (differs by variant)

Goose Island's former brew master Greg Hall began producing Bourbon County Brand Stout in 1992 in honor of the 1,000th beer batch at its brewpub. At first, no one was sure what to make of the beer — sort of like cavemen creating the wheel, said current brew master Brett Porter. But it has since become a favorite and coveted craft beer for its intense mix of smoky, chocolate, vanilla, caramel and, of course, bourbon flavors.

Last year more than 400 people lined up in Chicago on Black Friday for a chance to purchase Bourbon County Brand Stout and its variants. The imperial stout is aged in bourbon barrels for various periods of time, enduring both the hottest Chicago summer days and coldest winter nights lulling a layer of flavors out of the barrels and into the beer.

Price: Around $25 for a 22-ounce bottle, but can differ by market and variety.

SAMUEL ADAMS UTOPIAS (FROM THE BOSTON BEER CO. IN BOSTON)

Style: Barrel-aged blend

Alcohol: 28 percent

First introduced by Sam Adams founder Jim Koch in 2002, Utopias begins its evolution as malt and hops fermented with several yeast strains, including one normally used for sparkling wine. The beer then is blended with a few different brews, some of which have been aged in different wood barrels for more than 20 years.

Price: $200 per bottle.

MICHAEL FELBERBAUM can be reached at http://www.twitter.com/MLFelberbaum.





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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the city of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for the:

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FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. CML-5107 (028)

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, not later than 2:30 p.m. on December 17, 2013, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents and will be evaluated based on the Lowest Responsible Bidder.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2013, 10:00AM at The **Civil Engineer's Office**, Large Conference Room, 1437 4th Street, #300, Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401 – Parking is across the street (Structure 5).

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE: $1,400,000
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Bid Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's online bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids. Additional information may be obtained on the City's website at: www.smgov.net/engineering. The contractor is required to have a Class **C-10** license at the time of bid submission.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

TRUCKS
FROM PAGE 1

before the Planning Commission," he said. "But the economic survey, I think, requires a little bit more scrutiny… I think if you look at the numbers that are presented you will see that there is a negative impact on a number of restaurants."

A Wednesday food truck event called Hump Day popped up last year on 14th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. It ended earlier this year when the group lost its lease.

Eventually, there could be several events in the city.

"I do see it expanding," Geller said. "The good thing about food trucks being mobile is that they can go where they're wanted. So do I think it's going to happen? If the demand is there: yes. If not: no."

If the popularity of the Heritage Museum event is any indication, the demand is there.

"They are always slower in the winter," Geller said. "It's always been that way for the past three years. We're probably going to work on making it a little more event-oriented as we come into the spring. But people still love their food trucks."

dave@smdp.com

VOTERS
FROM PAGE 1

activists who count themselves as strong backers of President Barack Obama.

"I support the Obama administration and the president, but frankly, Obama and the top people around him seem to be unaware on this issue. Obama is somewhat blind to the issues of Latinos," said Cruz Reynoso, a former California Supreme Court justice and member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Reynoso said the administration seems more attuned to voting rights complaints of African-Americans.

He said the administration also appears reluctant to pursue a complaint against a jurisdiction that is dominated by Democrats. "Most of the folk in Los Angeles have been supporters of the president, so why make them unhappy despite the fact that, from my point of view, there is great injustice going on," he said.

In the wake of a stinging U.S. Supreme Court defeat in June that rendered useless an important enforcement provision of the Voting Rights Act, the administration has focused its voting rights resources on Southern states that are controlled by Republicans.

The Justice Department has initiated or joined suits targeting voter identification laws and redistricting plans in North Carolina and in Texas, where Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott began moving to put the state's tough voter ID law into effect just hours after the high court's decision.

The suits were filed under other provisions of the voting rights law that were not part of the Supreme Court case.

The situation in Los Angeles County predates the high court decision and the passage of the laws now being challenged in North Carolina and Texas.

The Justice Department acknowledges it is looking at the situation in Los Angeles, but otherwise declined comment.

"We have received significant amounts of information from the county and others about the issue and the matter is still under review," said Justice Department spokeswoman Dena Iverson.

Matt Barreto, a political science professor and voting rights expert at the University of Washington, said the evidence against the county is overwhelming and includes a history of racially polarized voting that has hurt Latinos.

"My perspective is that this is one of the easiest cases to be made nationally," said Barreto, who has worked for the group of Latinos that includes Reynoso. Barreto also served as a consultant to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, a voter-approved independent board that draws the state's congressional and legislative districts.

Counties, though, retain the authority to devise their own districts. Nowhere is there more power and money at stake than in Los Angeles, where each of five supervisors represents nearly 2 million people and the county's annual budget tops $26 billion.

Following the 2010 census, the board adopted districts in 2011 that made relatively few changes even though two supervisors cautioned that their colleagues were exposing themselves to a voting rights lawsuit.

Gloria Molina, the only Latina ever elected to the board, and Mark Ridley-Thomas, the board's lone African-American member, supported maps that would have created a second district with a majority of Latino residents. But the two members could not persuade their three white colleagues to join them.

"Today this board had an opportunity to make history, not repeat it, but all signs indicated that they would repeat history, and unfortunately, they did," Molina said in 2011.

Molina was elected after a federal court documented political discrimination against Latinos dating back to the 1950s and drew a map to ensure Latinos would be represented.

Yet since that vote, Molina has not aligned herself with the loose association of activists and voting rights experts who are pushing for greater Latino representation. Her spokeswoman, Roxane Marquez, said Molina continues to back two majority Latino districts, but otherwise had no comment on possible Justice Department intervention.

Ridley-Thomas told Bill Boyarsky, a columnist for LA Observed, that he wants the Justice Department to get involved.

The map Ridley-Thomas proposed in 2011 would have increased the chances of making the Los Angeles board more diverse, said redistricting consultant Alan Clayton. Ridley-Thomas' map would have preserved his district, created a second district likely to elect a Latino and increased the odds that an Asian-American candidate could be elected, Clayton said.



PLAY
FROM PAGE 3

ry stick.

He earns the name "Doodu Boy" in a hilarious enactment of a childhood moment of innocent play gone wrong, and it just fuels the boy's determination to escape the indigence of his home life for the bright lights and assuredly big city adventures his father lives in Brooklyn. When "Stevie" finally gets to leave Jamaica to go live with his father, in his own bedroom, with a cool dad who drives him around in cool cars, he can't believe his luck.

Unfortunately, it doesn't turn out so well. "Junior" Bryan is "tall and skinny like a coconut tree" and he has the cool cars, but not a shred of paternal instincts, and his ultimate rejection of Stevie is scathing and confounding. However, through the kindness of strangers, a lively intellect and a lot of psychotherapy, Stefhen comes out of an itinerant adolescence with a degree from a noteworthy Southern California university and a determination to show his father that he made something of himself.

But Junior isn't ready to hear it. His rebuff of his son is agonizing and infuriating and very, very funny. In his rebound, Stefhen finds himself in Japan, reveling in the "rice fields" of nubile, willing young women and burying himself in a culture a world away from his own. It's a good fit; Bryan's public description of deflowering his girlfriend is so forthright and hysterical, it is a tribute to her good nature that she is still married to him.

But, if, as Faulkner said, the past is never dead, Bryan finally learns how much it's not even past. Some long overdue candor from his mother tells Stefhen more about his father than he probably wants to know, but also allows him forgiveness and the chance to see the lengths people go just to cope with so much unfairness of things.

Ultimately, Bryan's new sense of identity is ready to seek some kind of resolution with his father. Their inevitable confrontation is heartbreaking, but, somehow, you know



Photo courtesy dooduboy.com

TYKE WITH TRIKE: Stefhen Bryan as a young boy in Jamaica.

Stefhen is going to be OK.

Bryan's performance is astonishing. His enactments are so spot-on, you can smell the leather of that new car on the bare stage and see the colorful fabric of a Jamaican woman's dress. Playing some half dozen characters, he moves seamlessly between roles, transforming vocally and physically with such precision and emotional investment that you would swear there was more than one person on stage.

"Doodu Boy" was originally sponsored by the Jamaica Cultural Alliance as part of their mission to expand American awareness of Jamaican culture and heritage. But Bryan's tale surpasses cultural identity and allows us a peep into the frailty and power of the universal human spirit. This is story telling at its very finest.

"Doodu Boy" plays at the Santa Monica Playhouse Sunday, Dec. 1 at 3 p.m. Tickets may be found at: http://dooduboy.com.

editor@smdp.com

PARK
FROM PAGE 1

"The plans are playing with the continuity of this long linear park while conceptualizing it as a series of long linked rooms," said Karen Ginsberg, director of Community and Cultural Services for City Hall. "It's a long stretch of gardens."

One of the challenges for planners, she said, was designing within the uniquely narrow space, which is 13,320 feet long and by 110 feet at its widest and 60 feet at its narrowest. Planners studied narrow parks in Paris, Madrid, Toronto, and San Francisco for inspiration.

The park runs along Exposition Boulevard from Stewart Street to Dorchester Avenue.

"The beauty of it is that it's really been a collaboration with the neighbors," she said. "They've played a key role in articulating in what they want to see."

What neighbors want more than anything is a buffer from the maintenance yard, which is necessary for the incoming Expo Light Rail. This is the purpose of the Forest Room, a grove of ficus and native oak trees that will surround visitors and block the sounds of nearby Stewart Street.

The Meadow was the most popular proposed section of the park, according to a survey performed by planning officials. It includes flowering trees that shade a sunken open grassy space for kids to play. Broad steps abut the meadow, allowing for potential stage performances or movie screenings. A low vine-covered wall will run along Exposition Boulevard.

The plans have an emphasis on education with the Learning Garden as the prime example. It will include a garden lab meant to demonstrate planting techniques.

A new "master gardener" will be appointed to lead the demonstrations a couple times each years.

"As part of this concept the master farmer would provide a limited number of gardening or raw cooking classes that help the community implement the concepts of the learning garden into their own backyards," city officials said.

Fruit from an orchard, also in the Learning Garden, will be donated to food banks.

Another section conducive to education, the Bird Garden, will be filled with trees that support bird habitats.

"Mounded planting islands will support butterflies and birds of all kinds with food and nesting opportunities," city officials said. "A series of bird towers, simple trellis structures planted with vines, will provide a third opportunity for bird habitat in this garden."

As catchy as the name "Buffer Park" is, it won't stick. The community will select a formal name next year.

There's been no word as to how much the 2.35-acre park will cost to create. The cost will be incorporated in the 2014-15 budget.

Construction could begin as early as the spring of 2015.

dave@smdp.com



SURF REPORT



O'NEILL

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **62.6°**

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
WNW groundswell fades; stay tuned

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high occ. 4ft
Potential longer period WNW groundswell builds in; steep-angled S-SSE swell joins in; stay tuned

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high occ. 4ft
Blend of WNW and SSE swells continues; stay tuned

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Potential WNW swell fades

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 25, 2013**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - beachreportcard.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38/5
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5/8

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA and Swain Barber Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for at least 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	D	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	F
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	D	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Westward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card℠ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

Pride, bragging rights at stake for No. 22 UCLA, No. 23 USC

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Brett Hundley figured out the prime importance of UCLA's annual crosstown showdown with Southern California when the Bruins quarterback won it last year on his first try.

"It's crazy how much the UCLA and Southern Cal game changes things," Hundley said. "To our fans, it's the game of the year. We could do nothing and win this game, and it would still be a successful season."

Both teams have accomplished plenty in a pair of impressive seasons, albeit on divergent paths leading to the Coliseum on Saturday.

After overcoming the midseason misery of Lane Kiffin's firing with six wins in seven games for interim coach Ed Orgeron, 23rd-ranked USC (9-3, 6-2 Pac-12) wraps up the regular season by hosting No. 22 UCLA (8-3, 5-3), which fell just short of Rose Bowl contention.

The winner claims the Victory Bell and bragging rights for two schools separated by 14 miles of freeway. Even better, the game is a chance to put an unforgettable finish on the fall.

"You want to leave a mark on this game," said USC quarterback Cody Kessler, who gets his first chance to face the Bruins. "You never want to lose to your rival, because you hear about it for a whole year. And we've heard about it."

Although the rivalry dates to 1929, the game has rarely been played on such equal ground. The schools haven't been next to each other in the Top 25 standings heading into the game since 1976.

After more than a decade spent looking up at USC, the Bruins interrupted the Trojans' rivalry dominance last season with a cathartic 38-28 victory in Pasadena, capping their breakthrough under new coach Jim Mora. They've kept it going this fall, reaching the Top 10 with steady success while USC rose and fell.

"That was one of the big things we wanted to change, the whole aura of UCLA being the little school in L.A.," Hundley said. "Now it's a different story. It's two great teams going at it, and the rivalry is back, big and strong again. It's a start, and hopefully we can keep it going."

But Los Angeles football took another improbable turn in October when the Trojans started winning for Orgeron. The good-natured assistant wasn't considered a serious candidate for the full-time job until USC won its last five games — and with a win over the Bruins, his case would be compelling.

"This team is something special," Kessler said. "It's going to be a year that people are going to remember for a long time, how we turned things around and took as much adversity as a team could take. We just fought back and kept working hard."

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Belmar Apartments located in Santa Monica, Ca is now accepting requests for applications for all of our Affordable Housing waiting lists. Applications will not be distributed or accepted at the property.

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1 or 2 persons	Studio	From $439 to $888	From $13,440 to $39,780
1 or 2 persons	One Bedroom	From $468 to $949	From $14,400 to $39,780
2 to 4 persons	Two Bedrooms	From $561 to $1138	From $17,280 to $49,680
4 to 6 persons	Three Bedrooms	From $648 to $1314	From $19,980 to $57,660

* NOTE: Income Limits and Rents are subject to change based on area median income data when published by HUD

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Please include your full name and address including city, state, and zip code on your request. You will be sent a preliminary application along with instructions on where to submit.

Completed applications **must be postmarked no later than January 2, 2014** in order to be included in the initial lottery. Receipt by regular mail only - Certified or Registered mail cannot be accepted. Applications will be opened only after the application deadline of **January 2, 2014.** Applications received will be selected utilizing a random lottery process and will then be dated, numbered and logged in the order that they are opened.

Telephone device for the hearing-impaired is **TTY: 877-735-2929** . If you have a disability that prohibits you from fully participating in this process please call **888-865-9779** during the dates above and be ready to provide your full contact information in order to obtain an application.

Due to the limited number of these apartments, the filing of an application in no way guarantees you an apartment.

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Saturday, Nov. 30

An American in Paris (NR) 1hr 55min
7:30pm

Sunday, Dec. 1

My Neighbor Totoro (G) 1hr 26min
4:00pm
All ticket holders can enter a drawing for free tickets to Miyazaki's "The Wind Rises" at this year's L.A. EigaFest!

Out of the Furnace (R) 1hr 56min
The Fighter (R) 1hr 55min
7:30pm
Discussion between films with "Out of the Furnace" director Scott Cooper.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-3924

Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 4:30pm, 10:40pm

Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 7:40pm

Oldboy (R) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:35pm

Black Nativity (PG) 1hr 32min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Homefront (R) 1hr 50min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:10pm, 10:45pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
10:30am, 1:25pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm

Gravity 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
10:00am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) 2hrs 26min
10:10am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:05pm, 6:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm, 11:15pm

Frozen 3D (PG) 1hr 25min
9:45pm

Frozen 3D (PG) 1hr 25min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 8:15pm

Delivery Man (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Dallas Buyers Club (R) 1hr 57min
10:45am, 1:45pm, 4:55pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Book Thief (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Nebraska (R) 1hr 50min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
12:30pm, 2:55pm, 5:20pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

Desert Runners (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:00am

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Dear Mr. Watterson (NR) 1hr 29min
11:10am

For more information, e-mail **editor@smdp.com**

ORDER IN TONIGHT, LEO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your intuition helps you land on your feet and deal with an unexpected. This situation could involve some travel or encourage a meeting with a very offbeat person. Know that you will have the control you need if you decide to head down that path. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Others come to you before you even pick up the phone to call them. Try not to get uptight about all the invitations you receive. Something you have wished for could become a reality. Tonight: Talk about your path and get feedback.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might be back to the humdrum of your daily life, as you have so much on your plate that you need to complete. Work with a partner directly, but understand that this person could change direction at the drop of hat. Tonight: Watch a movie.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Your naughtiness seems to be contagious. News from a distance might persuade you to hop the next plane. You could find it difficult to change gears as quickly as you might want. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Realize that you might need a day off from the intense holiday pace that is starting to build. Lounging at home seems like a good day. You might need to handle a personal issue. Some of you might decide to take a stab at the holiday frivolity. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Take news with a grain of salt, especially if it comes to you from a child or loved one. This person might have heard only what he or she wanted to. You could be surprised by the whole story, once it become readily available to you. Tonight: Partake in some eggnog with friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ No one would say anything if you took off and indulged yourself instead of everyone else. Lose any feeling of guilt, and enjoy yourself. Meet a family member or friend for a late lunch. Tonight: Swap news with a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Wherever you are, you shine. It is obvious that you are filled with confidence and are making excellent choices. Call home or check in with an older relative or parent. You might opt to adjust plans after having this conversation. Tonight: Do what pleases you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Be discreet, especially if something bothers you. Choose to be an observer and gather more information. You might not be prepared to make a change or walk in a new direction just yet. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You might not feel as if your desires can be realized. Think positively so that you don't jinx yourself. You might not realize just how many friends you have supporting you. Tonight: Where the gang is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Listen and be more direct when dealing with an older friend who always wants to have it his or her way. When you are too busy to hang out, this person tends to throw tantrums. The time has come to clear the air. Remember to honor your needs first. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You still might be trying to detach and understand a recent development in a relationship. Try imagining that you are the other party, and let go of your own inner chatter. You might need to set a stronger boundary between you and this person. Tonight: Try a new music spot.

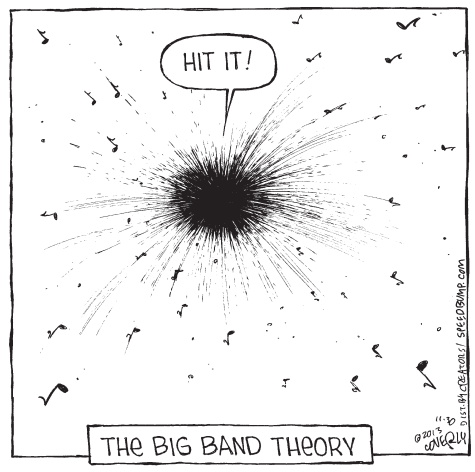
November 30, 2013

This year you open up to many new opportunities, though some of them come with quite a few hassles and difficult people. Go for what you want, but be aware that there could be some unwanted trappings. If you are single, you could meet someone who is emotionally unavailable. Unless you desire a situation like this, walk away fast. If you are attached, the two of you often sit down to have a conversation. Look for the best ways to support each other in your life goals. SCORPIO is willful; avoid arguing with him or her.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

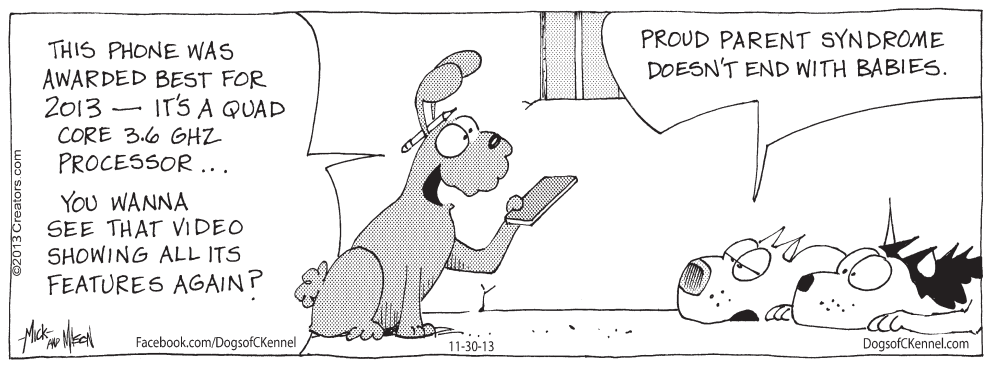
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



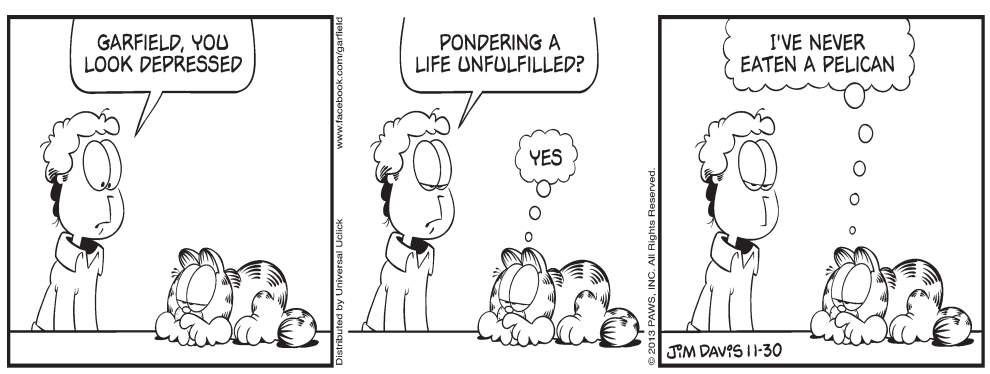
Strange Brew
By John Deering



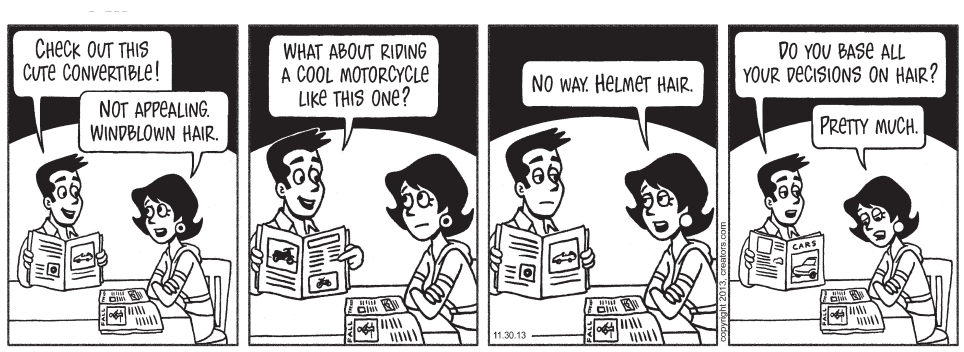
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



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. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@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*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Outfits
5 With 20-Down, African capital
10 "No Turn —"
12 "Lorna —"
13 Hot spot
14 "... like I need — in the head"
15 Belief, in brief
16 Flock father
18 Crude shack
19 Kath-mandu native
21 Tex-Mex snack
22 Science fiction genre
24 Pricing phrase
25 Have a long sleep
29 Dunham of "Girls"
30 Film awards
32 Outmoded
33 Fitting
34 Custodi-an's tool
35 Letter feature
37 Gladden
39 Make law
40 Museum piece
41 Wise ones
42 Dealing need

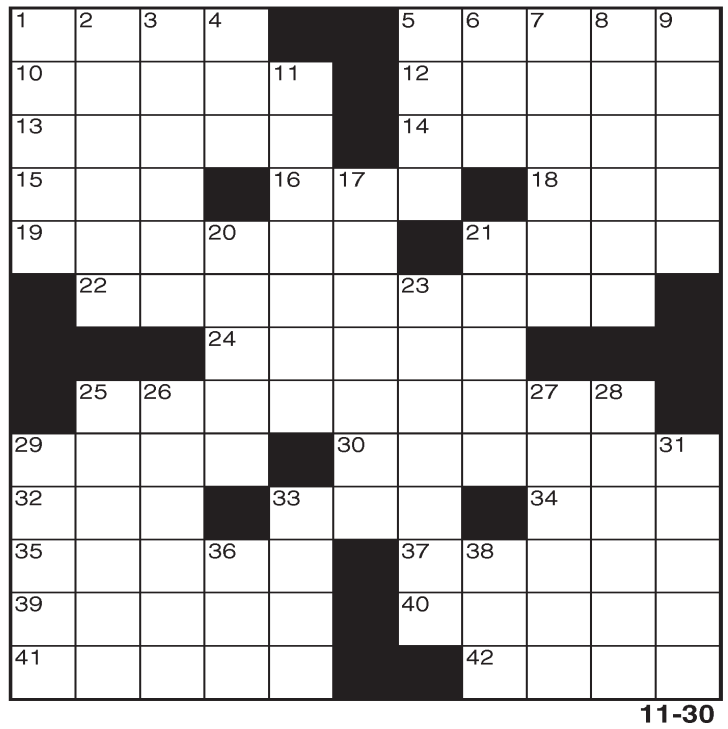
DOWN

1 Fiddler's need
2 "Hold on!"
3 Cross
4 Capitol Bldg. worker
5 First person
6 Cry from Homer
7 Co-star of Nimoy and Shatner
8 Fortunate
9 Handle
11 Love of music
17 Delivery via parachute
20 See 5-Across
21 "Dear Mama" rapper
23 Witty fellow
25 Western capital
26 How Hoffman played Tootsie
27 Tex-Mex snack
28 Steamy
29 Places last
31 Tiny dot
33 P.M. times
36 Water cooler
38 Headed

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



11-30



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Recurring Themes: (1) Steven Campbell, 51, entering a courthouse in Kelso, Wash., in November for a hearing on his previous arrest for possession of methamphetamine, apparently failed to consider that he would be searched and was forced to hand over to courthouse screeners a 3-inch methamphetamine pipe with suspected meth residue on it. (2) Andrew Laviguer, 57, was captured and accused of robbing several banks in Oregon and Washington in September, including the Wells Fargo branch in Portland, Ore., that ended the spree (and on whose counter he had mistakenly left his car keys when he fled).

■ (1) Hells Angels, which in the old days reputedly handled thieves in a different way, filed a lawsuit this time, in October, against Dillard's department stores -- alleging a violation of its Hells Angels Motorcycle Club trademark by a similar design on one of the store's T-shirts. (2) A 43-year-old Canadian man is not guilty, argued his lawyer in court in November, of violating a local Dubai law on public insults, even though he used the "f-word," because he had merely uttered "(f-word) off" and not "(f-word) you." Explained the lawyer, "(f-word) off" is simply a demand (in Canada, anyway) that someone leave you alone.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1804 - The Democratic-Republican-controlled United States Senate begins an impeachment trial against Federalist-partisan Supreme Court of the United States Justice Samuel Chase.

1853 - Crimean War: Battle of Sinop – The Imperial Russian Navy under Pavel Nakhimov destroys the Ottoman fleet under Osman Pasha at Sinop, a sea port in northern Turkey.

WORD UP!

wight
\ wahyt \ , adjective;
1. active; nimble.
2. strong and brave, especially in war.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale as of Mid November 2013		
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 2,243,500
North of Montana	=	$ 4,352,118
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,675,516
South of Wilshire	=	$ 882,833
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,912,600
Ocean Park	=	$ 2,447,250
Statistics updated every Friday		



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