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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, November 30

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.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now

One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 3:30 – 7 p.m.

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.

Friday, December 1

Daybreak Designs Holiday Sale

The women of the Daybreak shelter are selling handmade crafts this weekend at the Cloverfield Services Center, 1751 Cloverfield Blvd. Items include jewelry, cards, knit/crochet items, pictures and paint-

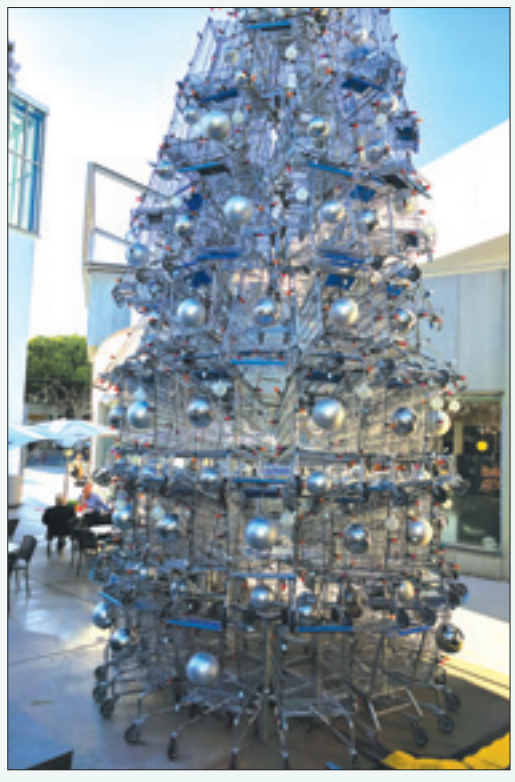
SEE CALENDAR PAGE 2

Holidays hit high gear in Santa Monica



Courtesy photos

TREES: There will be several tree lightings in the coming days including two on Main Street.



MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's holiday season is in full swing this week with tree lightings and holiday walks kicking off the festivities.

Downtown, Main Street, Montana Ave. and Pico all have holiday activities in the coming weeks.

DOWNTOWN

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Join Santa and city officials as they light the Official City of Santa Monica Holiday Tree on the Third Street Promenade today at 6 p.m. Sing classic Christmas carols with some of Santa Monica's most talented vocalists while the little ones can get creative at the coloring station featuring designs by DABSMYLA. Santa will be available for photos.

SANTA'S BREAKFAST

Dec. 2, 9 -11 a.m. at Santa Monica Place

SEE SEASON PAGE 8

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Misses and Hits

OK, CALL ME THE GRINCH. "Something Rotten" at the Ahmanson Theatre just did not float my boat. Having recently seen both "Hamilton" and "Spamilton," the bar for true theatrical innovation, as well as satire and parody of Broadway, is very high for me.

SEE CULTURE PAGE 6

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

From Addis

R.I.P. 100.3 THE SOUND - and KCRW

The first has finally faded from the airwaves, too bad so sad, they were a quality music station pulsating from your dashboard in a dial full of dreck rock. Don't go

SEE MUSIC PAGE 4

Film Review

By Kathryn Whitney Boole

Roman J. Israel, Esq.

Rated PG-13
129 Minutes
Released November 22nd

"ROMAN J. ISRAEL, ESQ.," THE title character in the movie of that name, is an extraordinary and unusual character, highly intelligent, with mild symptoms of Asperger's Syndrome. His border-

SEE MOVIE PAGE 5


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 1

ings. Money raised will support and empower women at the shelter as they seek permanent housing. The sale will be held Friday from 11 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Parking is available on site or at nearby meters.

Schroter's Valley on the Moon and the Seven Sisters

The feature shows are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m. Take a look through various telescopes at a nearly-full Moon, the area around its bright crater Aristarchus, and the winding canyon known as "Schroter's Valley." Then turn your gaze to the beautiful Pleiades star cluster, one of the prettiest open clusters in the sky, and a harbinger of approaching winter. If clouds interfere, we'll view high-resolution images in the planetarium.
Second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd.). $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Saturday, December 2

Santa's Breakfast

Santa Monica Place will host the annual Santa Breakfast event in the Food Court. Families and children of all ages will enjoy crafts, games, music, light breakfast bites and an appearance by Santa. Admission is $5 per child. Adults and children ages 2 and under are free to attend. http://downtownsm.com/events-calendar/6422/santas-breakfast, 9 – 11 a.m.

St. Monica Annual Boutique Sale

Shop for all handmade items: gifts for all occasions, baby items, afghans, scarves, jams, baked goods, Christmas decorations, quilt raffle, and much more. Location is St. Monica Catholic Church, 725 California Avenue, Santa Monica. For more information call (310) 752-3445. Sat. Dec 2 from 2 – 7 p.m.; Sun. Dec. 3 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

A Dog's Purpose: Screening & Screenwriter/Author Discussion at Main

Join organizers for a very special of this family movie, based on the beloved bestselling novel by W. Bruce Cameron and directed by Lasse Hallstrom. A Dog's Purpose is the soulful and surprising story of one devoted dog (voiced by Frozen's Josh Gad), who finds the meaning of his own life through the lives of the humans he teaches to laugh and love. Screenwriter Cathryn Michon and author W. Bruce Cameron join us for a post-screening discussion (schedule permitting). Free program. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 p.m.

Family Folk Concert: The Susie Glaze New Folk Ensemble

Join organizers for a special afternoon of folk music for the family! Sing along with the Susie Glaze New Folk Ensemble, as they play early American folk songs with traditional instruments, like the mountain dulcimer, autoharp, and mandolin. For families. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Writer in Residence Office Hours

Visit Sakae Manning during her public office hours. Ask about her work and Beach House residency, receive literary advice, and more. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON NOVEMBER 24, AT ABOUT 9:53 A.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at Chevron – 432 Wilshire Blvd – regarding a battery that just occurred. The suspect had reportedly thrown merchandise around the store before leaving. Officers learned the suspect entered the store and asked for a book of matches. The store clerks told the suspect they did not have any. The suspect became irate and threw two water bottles at the clerks but did not strike them. The suspect proceeded to throw other display items at them. The suspect then pushed the computer monitor to the floor and left the location. One of the clerks was struck by a smoking vape pen. Officers located the suspect in the 1300 block of 4th Street. The victims were able to identify the suspect. The suspect was taken into custody. A search of the subject led to the recovery of narcotics paraphernalia. Adrian Keith Somers, 24, from Los Angeles, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, vandalism and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. Bail was set at $30,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 400 Calls For Service On Nov. 28.

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

Encampment 1100 block Pico 12:19 a.m.
Theft recyclables 1600 block 11th 1:42 a.m.
Domestic violence 400 block Palisades Beach 4:26 a.m.
Burglary 800 block 17th 5:13 a.m.
Hit and run 900 block Stanford 5:22 a.m.
Person with a gun 600 block Wilshire 7:03 a.m.
Battery 1500 block 2nd 8:39 a.m.
Bike theft 1300 block 6th 8:42 a.m.
Identity theft 500 block 15th 8:58 a.m.
Petty theft 2500 block Broadway 9:04 a.m.
Fraud 900 block 3rd 9:05 a.m.
Elder abuse 1300 block 15th 9:24 a.m.
Burglary 1700 block 22nd 9:35 a.m.
Threats 1700 block Main 9:59 a.m.
Battery 700 block Broadway 10:14 a.m.
Indecent exposure 800 block Lincoln 10:35 a.m.
Fraud 1400 block 7th 10:35 a.m.
Identity theft 2600 block 24th 10:40 a.m.
Theft recyclables 1500 block Berkeley 10:50 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block 17th 11:02 a.m.
Traffic collision 100 block Wilshire 11:06 a.m.
Encampment 1000 block Euclid 11:23 a.m.
Auto burglary 2400 block Ocean Park 11:23 a.m.
Speeding 22nd / Wilshire 11:34 a.m.
Petty theft 1000 block 20th 11:37 a.m.
Petty theft 1200 block Santa Monica 12:01 p.m.
Stolen vehicle recovered 1300 block Pine 12:02 p.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block 17th 12:04 p.m.
Encampment 4th / Pico 12:06 p.m.
Bike theft 1600 block 26th 12:28 p.m.
Identity theft 1000 block Wilshire 12:43 p.m.
Bike theft 400 block Santa Monica 12:56 p.m.
Battery 600 block Santa Monica 1:44 p.m.
Fraud 1200 block 20th 2:01 p.m.
Petty theft 1200 block Wilshire 2:52 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block 16th 2:58 p.m.
Traffic collision 6th / Colorado 3:02 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1800 block 17th 3:10 p.m.
Grand theft 700 block Pier 3:18 p.m.
Burglary 1400 block 16th 3:26 p.m.
Traffic collision 21st / Dewey 3:56 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100 block 6th 4:03 p.m.
Threats 400 block 17th 4:08 p.m.
Animal related incident 1000 block 5th 4:11 p.m.
Grand theft 2600 block 7th 4:12 p.m.
Battery 900 block 11th 4:25 p.m.
Fight 1800 block 9th 4:26 p.m.
Identity theft 2400 block 3rd 4:43 p.m.
Battery 1900 block 11th 4:45 p.m.
Auto burglary 600 block Grant 4:45 p.m.
Traffic collision 16th / Broadway 4:48 p.m.
Battery 500 block Olympic 4:48 p.m.
Vehicle parked in a driveway 100 block San Vicente 5:30 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 42 Calls For Service On Nov. 28.

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

Emergency 1300 block 15th 2:20 a.m.
Emergency 1000 block 11th 2:28 a.m.
Odor investigation 2600 block Washington 2:56 a.m.
Emergency 2800 block Lincoln 3:17 a.m.
Emergency 2000 block Santa Monica 9 a.m.
Odor natural gas 1100 block California 9:37 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block Pico 10:16 a.m.
Emergency 2100 block Ocean 10:54 a.m.
Emergency 1800 block Wilshire 11:39 a.m.
Emergency 200 block Santa Monica 12:11 p.m.
Emergency 300 block San Vicente 12:53 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2100 block Wilshire 1:09 p.m.
Emergency 2400 block Virginia 2:15 p.m.
Emergency 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 2:23 p.m.
Emergency 3000 block Ocean Park 2:34 p.m.
Emergency 2nd / Santa Monica 2:47 p.m.
Emergency 1700 block 12th 2:48 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block San Vicente 3:45 p.m.
Emergency 21st / Dewey 3:55 p.m.
Emergency 1700 block Cloverfield 4:09 p.m.
Emergency 2700 block Neilson 4:27 p.m.
Emergency 900 block 6th 4:47 p.m.
Emergency 16th / Broadway 4:48 p.m.
Emergency 2500 block Pico 4:50 p.m.
Emergency 500 block Olympic 4:51 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2400 block Colorado 5:07 p.m.
Emergency 1300 block 15th 5:18 p.m.
Emergency 500 block Ashland 5:32 p.m.
Emergency 400 block Pier 5:51 p.m.
Emergency 400 block Ocean 5:59 p.m.
Emergency 900 block 21st 5:59 p.m.
Wires down 2600 block Highland 6:11 p.m.
Emergency 900 block 3rd 6:24 p.m.
Emergency 300 block Colorado 7:08 p.m.
Emergency 9th / Montana 7:18 p.m.
Emergency 2400 block Ashland 7:26 p.m.
Emergency 5th / Colorado 7:44 p.m.
Emergency 1300 block Lincoln 8:56 p.m.



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

1437-1443 Lincoln Boulevard, 16ENT-0098 and 16ENT-0142. Development Review Permit 16ENT-0098 and Vesting Tentative Parcel Map 16ENT-0142 to allow a new five-story (50 feet), 33,845 square-foot (2.25 FAR) mixed-use project containing 43 residential units, 3,777 square feet of ground floor commercial space, and 90 parking spaces within a three-level subterranean parking garage on a property located in the MUB (Mixed-Use Boulevard) zoning district. Pursuant to Section 9.40.020 of the Zoning Ordinance, a Development Review Permit is required for any project exceeding the maximum Tier 1 limits of 3 stories/39 feet in height and a 1.5 FAR for a property in the MUB zoning district. [Planner: Grace Page] **Applicant: Jesse Ottinger, KFA Architects. Property Owner: Luxe 1441 Lincoln LLC.**

601 Wilshire Boulevard, 16ENT-0115 and 16ENT-0155. Development Review Permit No. 16ENT-0115 and Vesting Tentative Parcel Map No. 16ENT-0155 to allow a new four-story (50 feet), 33,584 square-foot mixed project consisting of 40 residential units, 6,324 square-feet of ground floor commercial space, and 93 automobile parking spaces within a three-level subterranean parking garage. **Applicant: Jesse Ottinger, KFA Architects. Property Owner: WNMS Properties, LLC.**

NEW DATE: **Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, Main Library
601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Case Planner at (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #5 and #18 service the Main Library. *The Expo Line terminus is at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, a few blocks from the Main Library. Public parking is available in the Main Library Parking Garage, which is accessible from Seventh Street, and in the metered parking lot and on the street. **Only limited validations will be available for the garage.*

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

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MUSIC
FROM PAGE 1

there now, 100.3 — you'll find a Christian rock station. Why Christianity seems antithetical to rockin' out I don't know but I defy you to bring me a great "Christian rock" band, performer or even a song. Sure doesn't hurt gospel, reggae, country or soul; it's a foundation for some of the best of those. There are some excellent rockers who are Christians, like U2 and Lenny Kravitz, but they're savvy enough to know the music has to serve the message not the other way around, and the message needs to be suggested, philosophical, proffered, not doctrinaire, dogmatic, rigid. Best if you can do so without a single "Jesus" or "Lord."

KCRW is still on the air but they died, for me, years ago. I reminded myself by checking in for a few songs the other day. Admittedly it was morning, but there's a difference between mellow and milquetoast. It hit me in the face when I parked my car and walked into CVS and then the 99 Cent Store and BOTH were playing better music than KCRW. Ouch. Tuning in briefly a few days ago also reminded me that the other reason I used to love KCRW was the public affairs programming, but PBS has taken a substantial lean to the right.

What a world. Can't listen to KCRW, can't trust the League of Women Voters, can't stroll in Santa Monica without a pepper spray in your pocket.

MY NAVAJOMIES

Were incredibly disrespected by the Draft Dodger-in-Chief Monday. You surely heard about it: the White House ceremony supposedly to honor the brave Navajo code talkers from WWII was staged under the evil glare from the huge portrait of "Indian Killer" Andrew Jackson, culminating with a gratuitous racist reference to Pocahontas from Chief Bone Spurs.

I didn't recognize Peter MacDonald, now nearly 90, from the video coverage, as one of those "honored." Growing up in New Mexico, he was as well-known as any local politician, the only person ever elected Tribal Chairman four times (16 years). He's an Arizonan but the really huge reservation, 27,400 square miles, stretches across three states, covering a large chunk of northwest NM and more than 100,000 Navajos in New Mexico. That's larger than Albuquerque was when I was a kid.

MacDonald created many innovative, vital programs for his people, but was also controversial, eventually forced out and convicted of defrauding the Navajo Nation, conspiracy to commit burglary and to incite riot, kidnapping, taking bribes and kickbacks, racketeering, extortion, riot, and corruption. Government prosecutors later admitted their misgivings about the charges and trial to the NY Times. "I've always wondered if we (prosecutors) were the dupes," one remarked. President Clinton commuted his sentence in 2001.

Another of the honorees, Thomas Begay, told CNN that while he was puzzled by Trump's Pocahontas comment, he was not offended by it. "The Marines made us yell 'Geronimo' when we jumped out of planes, and that didn't offend me either," Begay said. God bless the Din?.

"Guzo" — Samuel Yirga; "Addis Through the Looking Glass" — Dub Colossus (both, Real World Records). Last "Noteworthy" column I teased about "stunning young Ethiopian pianist Samuel Yirga, and his exciting work with Addis Ababa collective Dub Colossus. Well, here they be, you've got the info, what are you waiting for?

Yirga is definitely a gifted pianist barely into his 30s, a crafter of gorgeous melodies and keeper of a fierce rhythmic pulse. No one I've told the story to believes that he auditioned for a famous music school in Addis Ababa and was admitted based on his performance that day on the piano — an instrument he had never previously touched. But it probably is true that he was thrown out for ignoring classical studies to spend hours reworking Ethiopian folk classics into jazz hybrids.

His distinctive touch is also all over the Dub Colossus disc, which is a project of producer Nick Page, who started off in a hut in Ethiopia. It moved to the big city and then to London, picking up influences from Ethiopian and other African musicians residing there, and of course the reggae/dub flavor all over London for decades ("My Boy Lollipop"). The "Addis" disc is wide ranging, definitely dub in places, jazzy horns, very African (if I may be so generic), stirring vocals, a wild ride that never confuses or loses the thread of its influences, and the desire to supercharge solid folk melodies into gotta-dance sing-alongs (you try, even though you don't know a word of Amharic). ("Guzo" means "journey").

"Addis" is more frenetic and culturally mixed, "Guzo" more stamped with Yirga's pianistic vision. They make exceptional bookends to take you through an afternoon of dancing, reverie or vacuuming. I can't name a cut on either I don't look forward to.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: Tonight! — Tal Wilkenfeld, a truly awesome Ozzie bass player who, since her teens (she still looks that young) has played with Chick Corea, Jimmy Page, Wayne Shorter, Prince, Clapton, Jagger, Ringo, Sting, Pharrell, Brian Wilson, Herbie Hancock, the Allman Brothers Band, Buddy Guy, Dr. John, opened for the Who tour last year, and really blew people away as a featured performer with the still-amazing Jeff Beck on his tours, recordings and videos. The Troubadour, 8 p.m., $20.

ALSO HIGHLY: Wed., Dec. 6. Our one truly great remaining FM AAA-Americana rocker, KCSN-FM, 88.5, now with a much stronger signal, presents an invitation-only concert with one of my favorite new bands (that I discovered through them), the gritty Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats. Village Studios in Canoga Park, free, if they draw your name and email you — must sign up at the website by Dec. 1. If you get lucky, please take me as your guest.

ALSO RECOMMENDED: Friday. Holy hip hop heroes retro! "Kings of the West" Ice Cube, Snoop and Cypress Hill. Microsoft Theater, 8 p.m., $75 - $350.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: To my famous, long-gone cousin. May you always light up the world, like a comet.

LYRIC OF THE WEEK: "Hail stones beatin' on the roof, the bourbon is a hundred proof, it's you and me and the telephone, our destiny is quite well known" — Robbie Robertson ("Rag Mama Rag")

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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MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

line personality disorder allows him to think outside the confines of common belief and opinion – and thus to perceive the substance of problematic situations more clearly. It also makes him focused, driven and obsessed with his goals…and sometimes vulnerable to very bad choices.

Roman, played with superb sensitivity by Denzel Washington, has flaws, as we all do, that allow him to succumb to human folly. However, the beat of his life definitely marches to its own drummer. On a deeper level, Roman connects the political activism of the 60's and 70's with today's awareness of social concerns, and that is cause for reflection. Denzel truly embodies Roman. There is a scene that was actually filmed at Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles, where Roman interacts with the homeless – that scene is not staged with extras – here Denzel is actually communicating, as his character, with real people who are without a home. The actor reminded us in the Q&A following the screening, ""Don't step over Roman Israels if you see 'em on the street."

Dan Gilroy wrote and directed this project with his brother John as editor. The individuals they have created are not clichéd or stale – they are all very real and original. The final editing of the movie was rushed in order to release it at the Toronto Film Festival in September. However, after watching audience reactions at the first screening, the Gilroys and Washington spent a few more weeks in the editing room. The finished product is superb. The rhythm of the narrative never flags and the development of the characters is revealed gradually, always leaving a bit of mystery.

The cast is amazing. Carmen Ejogo was chosen out of 40 actresses seen for the role of community activist "Maya" because, according to Dan Gilroy and Washington, she was the only one who truly got the soul of the character. Colin Farrell gives a great nuanced performance as the young head of a powerful law firm who hires Roman. His character embodies an inner struggle between the focus on money and prestige versus the fight for justice.

Production designer Kevin Kavanaugh has filled Roman's apartment with music, books and items that give insight to his personality. There are other visual symbols in the film as well. The shiny all-black luxury car … seems to be the choice for "young Turk" attorneys, as well as for kids on a joy ride and for gangbangers. It's the symbol of power for all of these disparate entities – perhaps they are subconsciously looking to emulate one another.

Gilroy's message is that "we are all agents of change." Just because someone dies does not mean that the baton is not carried on. The person in this story who probably has the most lasting effect on everyone is an attorney who lies near death in a vegetative state in the opening minutes of the story. The symbol that represents his spirit and legacy is passed down to others as the story unfolds.

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

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Photo by Jeremy Daniel

ROTTEN: The cast of "Something Rotten!" at the Ahmanson Theatre through December 31, 2017.

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 1

I am vastly in the minority on this one – on opening night, midway through Act One, a "rockettes"-like dance line generated a three-minute standing ovation…I didn't stand. Sorry. And of course, the play received loud guffaws throughout, cheers and applause when the curtain closed. I didn't stay. Sorry.

My critique takes nothing away from the excellence and the energetic work of the actors, singers and dancers, all of whom are truly top notch. It's just … well … the material.

The difference between clever and intelligent is what's at work here, for me. "Something Rotten" is, to my eyes, obvious, the premise ridiculous (though that's never stopped a musical before), the sex jokes and double entendres as old-school and tired as they come, and the attempt to parody Broadway musicals is nowhere near as smart as "Spamilton."

The story line is that it's The Renaissance; theatrical rock star William Shakespeare is sucking all the air out of the room, and stealing ideas everywhere to write his hits. The hapless brothers, Nick and Nigel Bottom, are trying to compete and failing. Nick consults a soothsayer to find out what Shakespeare's greatest play in the future will be so he can produce it now … and, well, "Omelette, the Musical" came up. A slight predictive mis-translation of "Hamlet," of course. And, of course, musicals don't exist in Renaissance England.

Not a hummable tune in the batch; just silly, over-the-top action, love between a Puritan's daughter and Nigel, the Puritan's reveal as a closet hypocrite, I mean, seriously. When I say obvious, this play is it. And I know, it won a Tony, and reveled in great reviews…but hey, I feel what I feel. It's a super crowd pleaser, but I'm not part of that crowd.

SEE THEATRE PAGE 7

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THEATRE

FROM PAGE 6

THANK HEAVEN FOR STREAMING

I've been busy with a temporary "gig," so I haven't gotten out as much as usual, but streaming comes to my rescue! This really IS the golden age of the small screen and yes, I am willing to pay for the pleasure of streaming services that provide top quality fare.

What I have been watching lately: "Godless" and "Alias Grace" on Netflix. "White Famous" on Showtime. "Queen Sugar" on OWN.

Directed by Steven Soderbergh, "Godless" revolves around a mining town in New Mexico, where all the men were killed when the mine exploded, only the women remain to take care of the treacherous business of living in the pioneer wilderness that is largely unprotected.

One woman, Alice Fletcher (admirably portrayed by Michele Dockery, Lady Mary of "Downtown Abbey" fame), living outside the town of LaBelle, is an outcast with an Indian son, whose husband (the boy's father) was shot in the back by townspeople. Into her life rides Roy Goode (Jack O'Connell), a good guy gone bad and back to good again (maybe), who's being sought after by the murderous and rapacious outlaw gang leader Frank Griffin (an almost unrecognizable Jeff Daniels) for betraying him.

It's stark; it's dark; it's beautiful. I'm three episodes in and really wondering what going to happen next.

"Alias Grace," also on Netflix, is quiet but equally disturbing. Based on a Margaret Atwood novel, Grace Marks has been convicted of killing her employer, his housekeeper and his mistress. Is she guilty, innocent, crazy or demonic?

As a group of social reformers and spiritualists attempt to prove her innocence, they hire a doctor who specializes in the new field of mental illness. He tries to get at the truth, unlocking her memory (she says she cannot remember what happened) and falling for her in the process. She was terribly abused, it could be traumatic brain disorder, or maybe she justifiably did the dirty deed. The answers are not clear; the drama is amazing.

"White Famous" on Showtime is a cutting take on Hollywood. Floyd (Jay Pharoah) is an up-and-coming black comic, tapped for breakout fame in Hollywood, a town hungry to prove its that it can be diverse. Can he remain true to himself and not be co-opted by the players who have their finger on the power buttons? Can he break through without being broken? The series is co-created by Jamie Foxx, who's lived this experience and based the show on it.

"Queen Sugar" on the Oprah Winfrey Network is as soap opera as soap operas get, but oh my gosh, is it addictive (a little like sugar itself). The siblings in the family are estranged from one another. There's Nova, the crusading journalist, played by one of the stars of "True Blood," Rutina Wesley, who.

Her sister, Charley (the breathtakingly beautiful Dawn-Lyen Gardner) was married to a basketball star but they're now divorced. She owns the only sugar mill in America run by a black woman and she struggles in the face of entrenched racism. Their brother, Ralph Angel (Kofi Siriboe) was formerly incarcerated, and now is seeking redemption through farming, and raising his son the boy's mother, a former drug user.

This well-spun sugar is stuff drama is made of.

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: **60.6°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Minor SSW swell laps in. Steep new NW swell builds - Stay posted.

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Small SSW/NW swell mix.





Matthew Hall

DTSM: Downtown will host their tree lighting ceremony tonight on the Promenade.

SEASON

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica Place will host the annual Santa's Breakfast event in the Food Court. Families and children of all ages will enjoy crafts, games, music, light breakfast bites and an appearance by Santa. Admission is $5 per child. Adults and children ages 2 and under are free to attend.

HOLIDAY KIDS CLUB

Dec. 6, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Santa Monica Place

Join Mrs. Claus at the Holiday Kid's Club at Santa Monica Place Food Court. Kids will enjoy storytelling, music, games and other fun surprises.

MENORAH LIGHTINGS

Dec. 12 – Dec. 19, Sundown at Third Street Promenade

Join local synagogues and community groups as their members celebrate the Festival of Lights this Hanukkah season. Lighting the menorah will begin shortly after sundown each evening. Mayor Ted Winterer is expected to participate on the 5th night (Dec. 16). Shalom!

MONTANA AVE

Montana merchants will host their annual Holiday Walk on Friday, Dec. 1 from 5 - 9 p.m.

MAIN STREET

Main Street's tree lightings and parade will be held on Dec. 2 from 5 – 9 p.m.

The street actually hosts two tree lighting with a short parade between the two.

The first will be at the California Heritage Museum (2616 Main Street) at 6 p.m. After Santa helps light the more traditional tree, he will lead revelers on a brief walk to the world famous Shopping Cart Tree at the Edgemar Center (2437 Main Street). Following the tree lightings, merchants will be open for holiday sales with roving music along the street.

Merchants will also decorate their storefronts and windows to compete in the annual holiday decorating contest. This year's categories include best restaurant holiday display, best retail holiday display and peoples' choice via Instagram. Hashtag #MainStreetSMHoliday to help your favorite business win.

PICO

TREE OF LIFE/HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

On Friday, Dec. 1, Woodlawn staff extends an invitation to the community to ring in the holiday season at their facility as well as honor departed loved ones. Decorate their Tree of Life, located in the Mausoleum lobby, with ornaments provided by the Cemetery that can be personalized in memory of loved ones and placed on the tree.

This annual event also features live holiday music performances by the John Adams Middle School Choir, photos with Santa, light refreshments, a photography exhibit by Santa Monica College Photography Department students and more. It also kicks off their annual toy donation drive for the Toys for Tots Foundation, so bring your toy donations. This event is free. 4 – 6 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery & Mausoleum, 1847 14th St.

On Saturday, December 9, there will be a Trio of Holidays Celebration at Virginia Ave. Park from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. followed by the Pico Holiday Walk from 1 – 4 p.m.

The Holiday Trio event is a celebration of Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa - three holidays featuring foods, music, library readings and crafts. Along with Buy Local Holiday Shopping Ideas from the Santa Monica Farmers Market, Pico Boulevard merchants and Buy Local Santa Monica. There will be a grab bag of giveaways to stores plus photos with Santa.

Locals can then join the merchants on Pico Blvd. for a Holiday Walk. Catch the Free Ride shuttle up and down Pico all afternoon, enjoy the entertainment, festive window displays and holiday shopping.

editor@smdp.com






DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/25
8 13 27 53 54
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 163M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/28
10 17 47 51 61
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 145M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 11/25
13 17 21 25 46
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 35M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/28
5 6 8 30 31

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/28
MIDDAY: 0 8 4
Draw Date: 11/28
EVENING: 5 6 9

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 11/28
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:43.19

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!

sagittate

1. shaped like an arrowhead.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Counts

■ 104: Average number of hours that a driver in Los Angeles spends sitting in traffic each year

■ 107: Average number of hours that a driver in New York City spends looking for parking

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Never Say Diet

■ The Major League Eating record for frozen yogurt is 10.5 pounds in 6 minutes, held by Matt Stonie, who naturally remained stony-faced during what must have been a major "ice cream headache."

Doc Talk

■ Homonymous hemianopia: term describing similar loss of vision in both eyes.

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

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

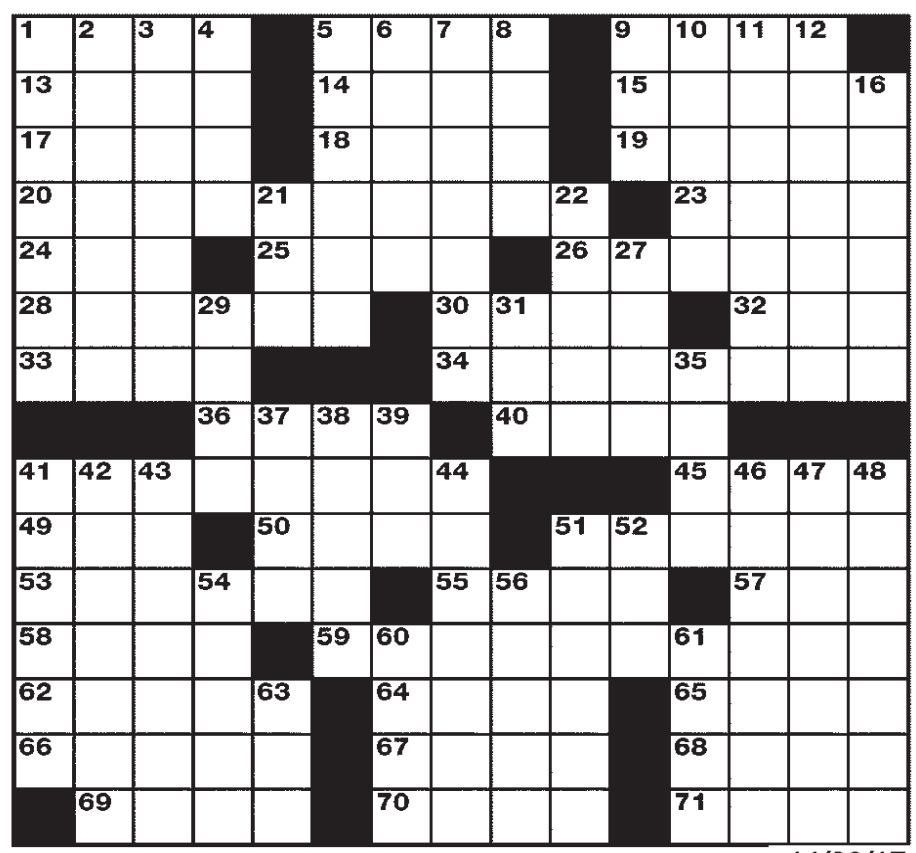
68 ACROSS QUARTET by Clive Probert
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Last word of *The Wizard of Oz*
5 Sounds of laughter
9 Email sent by bots
13 Cameo shape
14 Big name at Tesla
15 Smarter now, perhaps
17 Animal org. with a bunny logo
18 Evocator of laughter
19 Tureen accessory
20 Papers and mags
23 Very vivid, as crayon colors
24 Wall bracket shape
25 Number-picking game
26 "Platinum" shade
28 Transmits, as some messages
30 High-pitched instrument
32 Unkind comment
33 Mud bath venues
34 Avoid embarrassment
36 Little guys
40 Actress Hatcher
41 Begin litigation
45 Ballet move
49 Brewpub designation
50 Give up rights to
51 Obligate
53 Plenty of nothing
55 Castro of Cuba
57 CPA suggestion, maybe
58 Enthusiastic about
59 Unrestricted period
62 French land
64 Temperamental mood
65 Anatomical projection
66 Rolex rival
67 Pinnacle
68 Work with a word processor
69 Taiwanese PC maker
70 Oracle
71 Informal instants

DOWN

1 Lottery ball holders
2 Have coverage in common
3 Title girl of a Dahl novel
4 Special flair
5 Mercury alias
6 Any *Star Wars* person
7 Jinxes
8 Prefix for oxidant
9 Scale note
10 Dallas suburb
11 Supplementary material
12 Singable
16 Go back (on)
21 Fight stopper of a sort
22 Superior to
27 Sidelong look
29 Ireland or Iceland
31 Mammalian pollinator
35 Bubble's exterior
37 *The Nazarene* author
38 Resulting from
39 "Science Kid" toon
41 "Done!"
42 Rio beach
43 Half an artist's surname
44 Roman comic playwright
46 About 22 current-sitcom minutes
47 Workout category
48 Astrological influences
51 Civil War's "Boy General"
52 Jai alai shout
54 Small canyon
56 Japanese cartoons
60 Smokey Bear TV spots
61 Beverages labeled 49 Across
63 65 Across locale



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/30/17

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 17)

It's big-picture stuff this year. You'll make a life defined by what you do, not by the world's reaction. You'll care less what people think and understand about your work, and you'll set new standards for yourself that have to do with achieving a brand of success that's extremely meaningful to you. Victory will be yours! Libra and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 41, 1, 9, 17 and 22.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
What you're looking for is out there, but you have to start asking the right questions to find it. Asking friends is a start, but a stranger will be able to tell you more.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Personal disclosures are, as a rule, unprofessional, and you're glad about that. Now if only everyone else would get the memo! You're in the mood to be concise and to the point, avoiding chitchat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Your conscience will be even more influential over your day than usual. Your mind will hold on to responsibility until it's handled. For this reason, if you get the hard work out of the way first, you'll have a much better day.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
The magic itinerary for maximum happiness isn't something that you'll naturally luck into. It's a puzzle to work out. The perfect plan must be researched and carefully thought through. You can do this.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You'll be looking at the bottom line and thinking about how you can get there faster, with less of a mess, and fewer involvements along the way. The others probably aren't thinking along these lines. So how will you bridge the gap?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Though you've looked at it carefully, you can't see every angle. Stay open. Maybe you've already made up your mind, but try to open it anyway. Value the input of others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You may never get the complete agreement you want, but the potential for concession, cooperation and getting your goals met will be very high if you can avoid argument and conflict altogether.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Witnessing a messy drama, you get the feeling that it would be wise to limit your involvement. The trouble is, you're already involved; you just don't realize yet how.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You're not doing the work merely to earn money. There's much, much more involved, including the need to express yourself, to fill a need and to contribute to an experience all can be proud of.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Why is it that the more you want something, the harder it is to ask for it? It's as though the energy of wanting has an actual weight to it that makes the exchange more cumbersome.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
The project will progress with teamwork, which is not something you can achieve by crushing weak links and dissenters with smart-bomb logic. Forget about being right. All for one and one for all.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
It's empowering to have choices. Neediness is a function of limited choices. If you're feeling a little needy, think bigger. Figure out how you can create more choices for yourself.

Two-Toned Moon

This day is two-toned as the moon shifts from Aries to Taurus. You'll wake up in one emotional place and go to sleep in quite another as the atmosphere changes. Just remember that you're more than a mood or an action or event that happens because of or to you. Much will depend on your core character. Build that and you're golden.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Statement of Qualifications for:

Progressive Design-Build Services for
Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP)
Project No. SP2456

The City of Santa Monica (City) is inviting Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from interested firms or joint-venture entities to provide Progressive Design-Build Services for the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP). The City will employ a two-step procurement process for selecting the firm or entity that will serve as the Design-Builder for this Project.

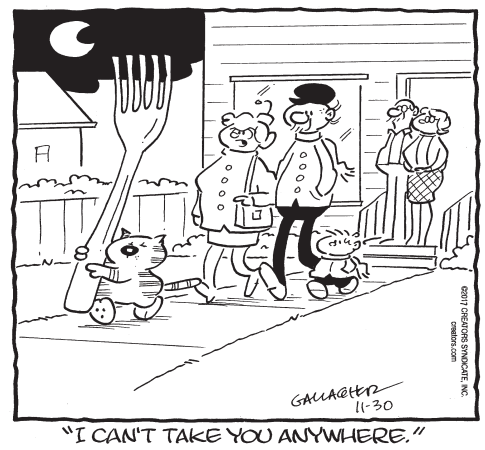
Project includes design and construction of new advanced water treatment plant, two new stormwater storage tanks and modification of existing treatment facility.

RFQ questions to be submitted to Selim Eren via email at: selim.eren@smgov.net prior to December 14, 2017, 1:00PM.

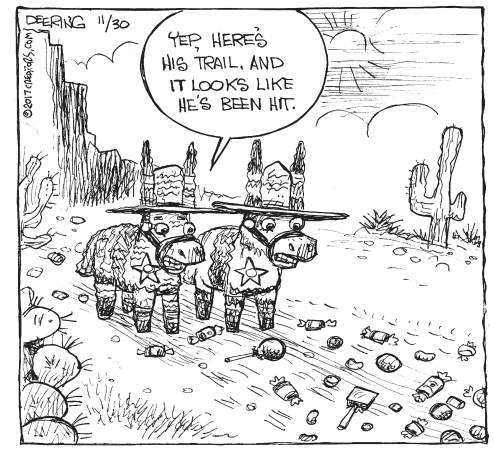
Proposers shall provide only seven (7) paper copies and one (1) electronic version of their Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401, not later than **1:00 p.m. on JANUARY 17, 2018.**

RFQ Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/.

Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



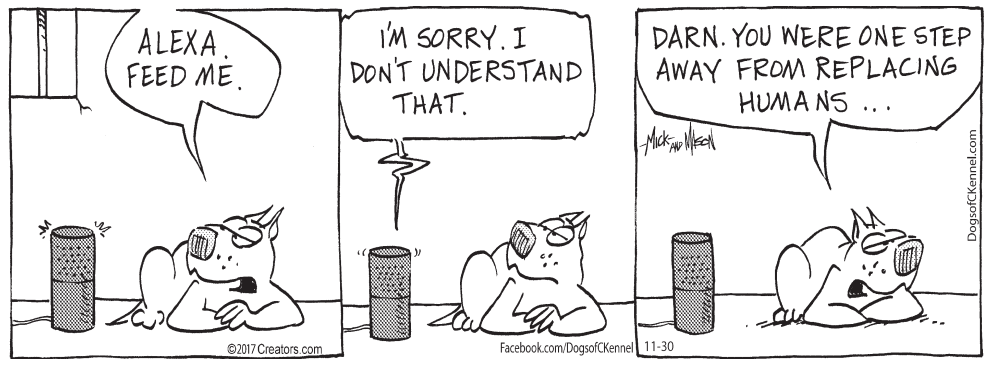
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



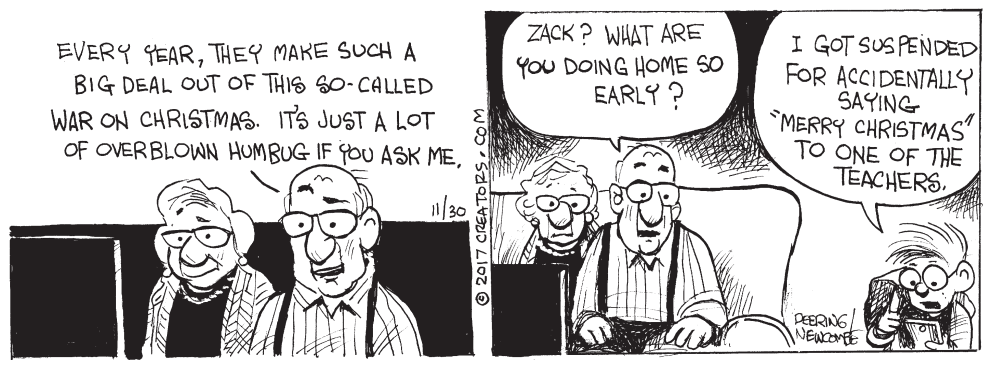
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel
By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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Charity Toy Ride and Holiday Light Tour

SAT, DEC 9TH RIDE STARTS @6PM

The Toy ride starts at the Bike Shop Santa Monica.
We will be riding along the Strand to MDR Boat Parade and back along Via Dolce through the Venice canals, back down Main st. ending at Windward circle and the Bank of Venice for treats and raffle prizes.

**** Please bring an unwrapped toy to make a child's Holiday special ****

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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Hosted by **The Bike Shop Santa Monica**
Sponsored by **Bianchi, The Bank of Venice** and **The Santa Monica Daily Press**
To collect gifts for **The Santa Monica Police** Activity league holiday event.

SANTA MONICA Grand Opening



FRIDAY, DEC 1 AT 9AM

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Join us as we celebrate the Grand Opening of our new store in Santa Monica! Shop our wide selection of deeply discounted, one-of-a-kind clothing, accessories, home goods and more!

On opening weekend enjoy fabulous prizes and offers* including:

- **100 FREE Items Hidden Throughout the Store**
- **First 100 Shoppers in Line Receive a $10 Merchandise Voucher**
- **Drawings for a Flat Screen TV and 2 Blu-ray Players**
- **For Every $50 Spent Receive a $5 Merchandise Voucher**

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* Vouchers good at all GSC retail stores. Visit goodwillsocal.org for locations. Vouchers not valid at GSC outlet centers or donation center/ bookstores. May not be used for food or beverages. While supplies last. No purchase necessary to enter drawing. One free item per customer. Eighteen years or older. Restrictions apply.

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