2 **Mighty Mariners**
Capture CIF title.

3 **Nutcracker**
Returns this weekend.

4&5 **Local events**
Plan your week.

6 **Help Wanted**
To identify patients.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 12 THURSDAY 11/30/23 smdp.com

Local entrepreneurial women taste success with launch of new Lodestar whiskey brand

Two Santa Monica residents have ventured into the spirits scene with the launch of their debut drink, a blend combining a straight high rye bourbon and American single malt. Called Lodestar American Whiskey, it's the result of a collaboration between two cousins, Anna Axster and Wendelin von Schroder.

Both women are self-proclaimed whiskey aficionados and originally hail from an entertainment marketing background. As such, they've traveled extensively and have sampled all manner of similar spirits from countries all over the world.

"We came at this very much from a we-are-the-audience angle based on our love affair with whiskey over a long period of time" Axster said, adding, "We honed in on what we liked and what we didn't like and that's when the idea started forming that we wanted to make our own and start a new brand."

She says that they visited a considerable number of distilleries to learn about the kinds of processes involved and to ultimately source their distilling partners. "During that process, the flavor profile that we were aiming for became clear to us and that what we had in mind would best be achieved through blending," Axster said.



The accompanying blurb describes the booze as "approachable, uncomplicated and deliciously versatile" with "notes of caramel, hints of citrus, warm baking spice and smooth malted finish." And while all that can be debated and discussed until it's time to call last orders, there's no denying, it is rather palatable.

"Over the course of many years, we really developed a taste for whiskey," laughs von Schroder. "One of the big things that we wanted our whiskey to achieve was versatility, so even people who are less familiar, even intimidated, with the whiskey category would enjoy it.

"What we ended up with was the high rye bourbon. That brings in the familiar kind of caramel notes that you'd expect from a bourbon. Then the high rye brings in the baking spices, which adds a really interesting flavor profile, that also gives you a little bit of that bite that you would expect from a whiskey. And then the American single malt brings in those kinds of toasty malted notes, but also makes the body of the whiskey incredibly smooth and it gives it a really nice long finish," von Schroder said.

According to Axster, they chose the name Lodestar because of its dual definition in the dictionary: It is both "a star that's used to guide the course of a ship, especially the Pole Star" and "a person or thing that serves as an inspiration or guide."

As such, the choice of a compass as a logo seemed entirely appropriate. The number 1837 at the center of the logo is a reference to French philosopher and Utopian socialist Charles Fourier, the man who first coined the term "feminism" in 1837.

"Feminism, community and equity are definitely principles that we navigate by, so we thought it'd be fun to include this. And we're a fully female owned and operated company, so we preferred to do that, rather than have our year of origin on it, which of course would be 2023," von Schroder laughs.

The operation is

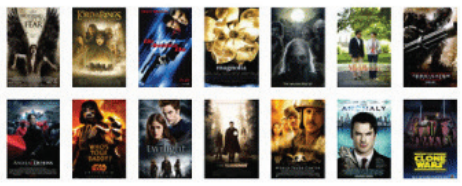
SEE **WHISKEY**
PAGE 11

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Courtesy image

LODESTAR: A pair of Santa Monica residents have launched their own whiskey brand and the spirit is available at local restaurants.

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Mighty St. Monica Mariners capture CIF divisional title

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's foray into the 2023 high school football slate has seen several successes, with perhaps none bigger than a championship 25 years in the making.

Saint Monica Preparatory athletics secured its largest win in years this past week, as the St. Monica Mariners football squad was victorious in the CIF Southern Section Division 13 championship game, defeating Walnut by a score of 28-21. The Mariners jumped out to a 14-0 lead and used a tremendous defensive effort to keep Walnut at bay. Now CIF divisional champions for the first time since 1998, the squad will be playing in a Regional Bowl Game on Saturday evening, facing Sweetwater in National City.

The victory was celebrated throughout the community this week, including a commendation by Santa Monica City Councilmember Christine Parra at Tuesday's meeting of City Council. Parra, a Saint Monica parent, introduced Mariners coach Thomas Barnes and Saint Monica Upper School Principal James Spellman to the council during the meeting. While Barnes was succinct in his words, channeling the late legend Kobe Bryant by saying the "job's not done," Spellman took the time to applaud the student-athletes' victories on and off the field.

"I'm so proud of our students, one because academically they're succeeding in the classroom ... (and they) go out on the field and (play with) Saint Monica spirit and make our city proud," Spellman said. "(They) make their parents proud, make their principal proud, make their coach proud, and (make) their pastor proud."

The Mariners went 7-3 in the regular season, starting off 4-0 while riding a high-powered offense. The team began its playoff run on Nov. 3 with a 27-0 victory over Santa Ana Valley, followed by a nail biting 45-42 affair with Montclair. Down 42-37 with time ticking down in the Montclair contest, freshman quarterback Bradley Cassier hooked up with freshman wide receiver Anthony Mason for a 40-yard touchdown, also finding Mason for a subsequent two-point conversion.

A divisional semifinal matchup with Desert Hot Springs ended in a 29-7 Mariners victory, landing the team in the division championship against Walnut. The monumental CIF title was the culmination of a remarkable turnaround led by Barnes, who took over a Mariners program that was looking for more participation.

"It's been really exciting," said Saint Monica Athletic Director Jason Bowers. "It's been a pretty wild ride, especially considering (where we were). When coach Barnes took over the program, we had about 13 kids, and he came in and really just put (in) a lot of time and energy and effort ... so it's been really exciting to see him get rewarded for all that effort."

That effort has gone beyond just fielding a team, as Barnes' crew has been overpowering offensively behind several freshman contributors. The Mariners have scored over 33 points per contest in 2023, led by a balanced attack in the passing and rushing games. Cassier, in his first season as Mariners quarterback, has thrown for 1,707 yards and 25 touchdowns. Behind him in the backfield all season has been freshman running back Elijah Wilson, who gained 1,344 yards on the ground and scored 13 touchdowns in the running game.



Courtesy Photo
MIGHTY MARINERS: The St. Monica Mariners football squad was victorious in the CIF Southern Section Division 13 championship tilt against Walnut.

Another freshman, Mason, has been impressive as the team's second-leading receiver, securing 16 receptions for 315 yards and 5 touchdowns. The Mariners' receiving leader has been senior Joshua Barnes, who has caught 32 receptions for 812 yards and 10 touchdowns in 2023.

The team's defensive attack has also been led by a freshman, as Dequan Carter has terrorized offenses to the tune of 88 total tackles, 68 of them solo efforts. Carter also racked up 4 tackles for loss, 2 sacks, 3 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries for the Mariners. Aiding in Carter's exploits has been the secondary duo of Barnes and junior Luke Griffin, who have combined for 12 interceptions and 18 pass deflections against opposing passers.

Bowers noted that this has been the first boys athletics squad to reach a CIF finals in "quite a while," and was ecstatic describing the strong community response to the football squad.

"It was nice to see us finally bring home the gold ... the sports in general have been really trending up for us over the last few years," Bowers said. "The (administration has) been very supportive and putting a lot of energy and resources into athletics in general, and so we're starting to see the results of those

SEE **MARINERS** PAGE 6

Iconic holiday show brings dancers back to the Westside



Photo by Anne Slattery

50 YEARS IN THE MAKING: Lucia Connolly grew up in Pacific Palisades, attending Westside Ballet of Santa Monica from age 5. She says all her childhood Nutcracker memories are evoked as she returns to perform the iconic Nutcracker roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Dew Drop Fairy.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A holiday staple in the arts community is the setting of both a local milestone and several cheerful reunions.

The BroadStage in Santa Monica played host to Westside Ballet's celebration of "The Nutcracker" this past weekend, with another set of performances already sold out for this Saturday and Sunday. The rapid demand for the shows has the ballet company offering a free Vimeo and YouTube link to the performances, giving the community a chance to watch the iconic dance piece on their big screens during the holidays. In addition, local veterans and members of local charities and organizations will be treated to a free performance of "Nutcracker" on Friday evening.

Always a popular production, 2023 marks the 50th anniversary of Westside's "Nutcracker" shows. To celebrate the occasion, the ballet company reached out to three alumni to take center stage as the Sugar Plum Fairy character, those being now-professional dancers Tiler Peck, Lucia Connolly and Lyrica Woodruff.

"As we celebrate Westside Ballet's remarkable 50th anniversary production, we honor our legacy through the exceptional artistry of our star alumni," said Producer and Westside Ballet President Judith Meister. "This year's 'Nutcracker' (is) an unforgettable journey into the enchanting world of dance, art, and magic, blending the spirit of tradition with the brilliance of our talented performers."

Peck's involvement in the Dec. 2 and Dec. 3 performances caused quite the stir in the local arts community, as the dancers' shows sold out weeks in advance. Studying under Westside co-founder Yvonne Mounsey as a youth, Peck rose the ballerina ranks to become a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, and is known as one of the country's leading ballerinas.

The addition of Connolly and Woodruff to the cast was also a boon for the anniversary shows. Both also grew under Mounsey's leadership before securing professional roles, as Connolly has been performing as a company artist with the Joffrey Ballet since 2016, dancing in both classic and contemporary works. Woodruff's ballet career took her from "Nutcracker" all the way to Broadway's "Anastasia," and the dancer won the prestigious Chita Rivera Award for her Broadway exploits.

The duo were both inspired by their older sisters to dance, quickly growing fond of the teachers at Westside.

"I just wanted to be like my sister, and I think my mom didn't want to drive me to a different activity, so I just started doing ballet," Connolly said with a laugh. "(Woodruff) and my sister grew up in the same level and grew up very good friends, so I've known (her) since 8 years old (or) even earlier. Once I joined Westside, I realized actually how much I love to dance and how much it meant to me that I could go somewhere every week where all my friends were, and that was really special."

Woodruff was quite literally born into the art form, as her mother took her straight to the hospital after her birth to pick up her sister from a Westside class. She credited her training at Westside for her path towards professional ballet and theater, and said "it always feels like coming home" when she stops in Santa Monica.

"My whole existence (I was) at Westside all day, every day, and I fell in love with it from the time I was two," she noted. "And by the time I was 9 or 10, I basically decided this is what I want to do forever. You really do have to figure it out early because it ... takes up so much of your time and dedication and sacrifice that if you haven't made the decision (early), it's too late."

Both have fond memories of "Nutcracker" performances, with Connolly stating that the choreography hasn't changed much, and neither has the nostalgic feeling of returning to Santa Monica for the anniversary show.

"I just really have so many memories of doing Nutcracker, so it's pretty amazing to come back ... it's very unusual that you will have any sort of community in your life that

SEE **BALLET** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.2**

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Playful pulse of W/WNW swell looks likely -- storm is developing off the California coast now. Wind looks favorable in the morning just account for the higher tide. Low tide spots with NW wind blockage in play in the afternoon.

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Continued WNW/NW swell joined by a rise in shorter period NW swell. Blow through of WNW/NW winds looking likely with sheltered breaks the only real option for fun surf.

Weather

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. West northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north after midnight.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Breezy, with a north northwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/11/30	Thu	03:40 AM	2.81	L
2023/11/30	Thu	10:00 AM	5.80	H
2023/11/30	Thu	5:46 PM	-0.40	L
2023/12/01	Fri	01:02 AM	3.42	H
2023/12/01	Fri	04:21 AM	3.03	L
2023/12/01	Fri	10:41 AM	5.34	H
2023/12/01	Fri	6:35 PM	-0.03	L
2023/12/02	Sat	02:17 AM	3.46	H
2023/12/02	Sat	05:16 AM	3.23	L
2023/12/02	Sat	11:27 AM	4.84	H
2023/12/02	Sat	7:28 PM	0.32	L
2023/12/03	Sun	03:27 AM	3.62	H
2023/12/03	Sun	06:43 AM	3.35	L
2023/12/03	Sun	12:25 PM	4.33	H
2023/12/03	Sun	8:26 PM	0.62	L
2023/12/04	Mon	04:13 AM	3.85	H
2023/12/04	Mon	09:01 AM	3.21	L
2023/12/04	Mon	1:44 PM	3.86	H

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/27
2 21 38 61 66
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 374 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/28
27 37 42 59 61
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 355 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/25
3 8 26 43 44
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 18 M

FANTASY 5
Draw Date: 11/28
3 6 26 29 39

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

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 11/28
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:47.92

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Santa Monica Daily Press

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Holiday Festivals Abound!

Saint Anne Holiday Fair: "Free crafts and games for kids. Take free pics with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Buy holiday gifts from vendors. Food trucks and bake sale." Friday, Dec. 1, 5:30 - 7:30p.m. @ 2015 Colorado Ave. https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnneSchoolSantaMonica/

An Evening of Phish with members of Great Divide and Special Guests: Kevin Winzer (guitar) and Justin Hellman (bass) perform in Southern California's premiere Phish tribute The Great Divide. Friday, Dec. 01, 8:30p.m. @ Harvelle's, 1432 4th St, https://santamonica.harvelles.com/shows/240363

Safe Streets for 17th St. & Michigan Ave. Ribbon Cutting and Community Festival: Celebration starts at 9:00 am with free donuts, coffee, and hot cocoa from DK's Donuts, followed by performances from the Samohi Marching Band, Academia de Danza BFFM, and LA Jugglers, plus bike-themed workshops from Santa Monica Spoke and reDiscover Center, remarks from Mayor Gleam Davis, and guided bike tours along the bike lane, plus giveaways with a grand prize $500 gift card to a local bike shop! Saturday, Dec. 2, 9a.m. - 12p.m. @ 1610 Colorado Ave. (Metro Station Parking Lot) https://www.santamonica.gov/mobility-projects/safe-streets-for-17th-street-and-michigan-avenue

Pico Neighborhood Holiday Celebration: The event will feature tree lighting, complementary sweets and hot chocolate, gingerbread cookie decorating and an opportunity to add a wish to the Gratitude Tree. Local non-profit agencies will also be sharing health and wellness information, with several artisans selling their wares. And a surprise visitor bearing seasonal treats will be stopping by! Saturday, Dec. 2, 9a.m. - 1p.m. @ Pico Farmers Market, Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4aetwcb37j9e5551pnw1cdzp5c/202312020900

Pet Photos with Santa @ Holiday Conscious Market: Bring your fur babies for FREE pics with Santa at the Holiday Conscious Market (open 9a.m. - 6p.m.) along with FREE fitness classes from 11a.m. - 2p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 @ 3rd St. Promenade More details here.

First Saturdays @ Kuruvungna Village Springs: "The story of Santa Monica begins centuries before the arrival of Spanish explorers, Mexican ranchos and America's Westward migration, back when the indigenous Tongva people inhabited our coastal plain. While human remains from 8,000 years ago have been discovered at Ballona Creek, perhaps the most observable evidence of the local Tongva population can be found at the Kuruvungna Sacred Springs, a California Historical Landmark on the grounds of University High School." Visitors welcome on the first Saturday of each month 10a.m. - 3p.m. @ 1439 South Barrington Ave. More details here: https://smconservancy.org/property/kuruvungna-sacred-springs/

SaMo Conservancy Holiday Celebration at the Church in Ocean Park The Conservancy has an exciting afternoon in store for our annual Holiday Celebration! During the festivities, we will debut a new video, produced by our Preservation Next affinity group, to showcase how the next generation is shaping the philosophy and practice of historic preservation. Saturday, Dec. 2, 3 - 5p.m. @ 235 Hill St.

Community Dog Training Classes: Love At First Sit is a nonprofit pet care and dog behavior and training company that donates class proceeds to various charities for people and animals, animal shelters, and animal rescues. Class fee is $5. Most Saturdays 12 - 1p.m. @ Virginia Ave Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. https://www.loveatfirstsit.net/group-dog-training-classes

Snow White - The Musical: The captivating Rudie-DeCarlo musical fairytale for girls, boys, and young-at-heart audiences of all ages returns for two performances only after a sold-out 2023 run. Saturday, Dec. 2 & Sunday, Dec. 3 @ Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/snowhite.html

Holiday Walk on Montana Ave.: Expect Santa, Carolers, Klezmer and more. 11 blocks of Holiday cheer, sales, and great food! Saturday, Dec. 2, 4:00 to 8:00pm Montana Avenue. from 7th to 17th Streets. https://montanaave.com/

Art At The Airport Holiday Art Sale & Open Studios: The artists-in-residence at the 18th Street Arts Center will be on hand to help you navigate your holiday shopping list, ensuring that you find the perfect gifts for everyone, including yourself. This event stands out as Santa Monica's premier shopping extravaganza for fine art at studio prices, allowing patrons to buy directly from the talented emerging and established makers behind the creations. With over 20 fine artists participating, you can expect to discover a diverse range of art, jewelry, ceramics, and other one-of-a-kind giftables during this exclusive one-day event. Sunday, Dec. 3, 11a.m. - 3p.m. @ 3026 Airport Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-at-the-airport-1-year-anniversary-event-tickets-742947795857

Fairview Branch Library presents an Open House and Children's Holiday Book Fair: Library patrons are invited to bring their cards and learn how to sign up for the branch's unique self-service system, find out a little bit of history of the branch and its place in the Sunset Park Community, browse and check out books and other media, enjoy crafts with the kids, as well as light refreshments. And from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., the branch will host a children's holiday book fair, where kids 18 and under will be able to "shop" for free books for their parents, siblings, or anyone special to them. The library will also provide supplies, and assistance if needed, to wrap their book gifts and have them ready to share this holiday season. Tuesday, Dec. 5, 12 - 8p.m. More details here.

SaMo Public Library Holiday Card Making Workshop: During the month of December Santa Monica Public Library invites the community to upcycle old holiday cards into festive bookmarks and new greeting cards at the Main Library, Multipurpose Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Bring your gently used cards to make a new one in a cozy atmosphere amidst the hectic season. Monday, Dec. 4 & Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 - 5p.m.

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Abbot Kinney First Friday Food Truck Fest: About two dozen food trucks are expected to line the street for the monthly event. Friday, Dec. 1, starting at 5p.m. https://www.abbotkinneyblvd.com/

Joseph Phelps Wine & Cheese Tasting @ Wally's: "Joseph Phelps is practically synonymous with Napa Valley's greatest wines. The famous Insignia label, which debuted nearly 50 years ago, represents a unique blend of the finest wines from each vintage. At this exclusive event, you'll get to enjoy the award-winning wines of Joseph Phelps, including the latest Insignia release which earned a staggering 99 points from Jeb Dunnuck. Each pour will be expertly paired with a fine cheese. It's

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: 23ENT-0206 (Certificate of Appropriateness)
302 Colorado Avenue
APPLICANT: Mark 302 Property Owner, LLC-Eric Dinenberg
PROPERTY OWNER: Mark 302 Property Owner, LLC-Eric Dinenberg

A public hearing will be held by the Landmarks Commission to consider the following request:

Certificate of Appropriateness for the development of hardscape and landscape to accommodate 54 parking spaces extending the parking lot serving the Sears building, a City Landmark, at the northeast corner of the Landmark Parcel, replacing an accessory structure not included in the designation. The accessory structure is vacant, was most recently used as a garden shop, and is proposed to be demolished.

DATE/TIME: **MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:00 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Landmarks Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

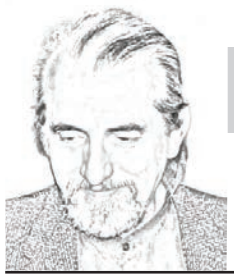
You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Stephanie Reich, Design and Historic Preservation Planner**
Re: 23ENT-0206 (Certificate of Appropriateness 302 Colorado Ave.)
VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Stephanie Reich by e-mail at stephanie.reich@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 5547.



OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

BRUCE? DON'T MISS MAHLER!!



Courtesy photo

PERFORMANCE: BRUUUUUUCE (guitar), E STREET BAND

MUSIC GIFT SUGGESTIONS

For your holiday giving. Think local. Who could use a little more? Still recovering from the pandemic – everybody! The Jazz Bakery. School music and arts programs (pay for another teacher!). Jacaranda. Santa Monica symphony. The Ruskin Group Theater is moving next year and their new setup is awesome, but expensive. Grab naming rights to a theater seat, or an entire theater. Use your imagination, for a gift that won't be forgotten. Support the arts!

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Tonight! - "FRIDA & DIEGO," LA Opera – Fresh on the heels of excellent stagings of chestnuts "The Barber of Seville'' and "Don Giovanni," LA Opera gives us a new production devoted to our favorite fun couple. Perhaps because of their proximity to LA, and our large Latin population, they have held a special place in our art hearts. Also, Hollywood loves a chaotic tale of love and hate, from a pair of mismatched geniuses. A Day of the Dead ghost story from Grammy Award-winning composer Gabriela Lena Frank and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz, resident Conductor Lina González-Granados commands a cast packed with international talent. I can't wait to see it, but holiday travel means I won't be able to give a personal comment before it leaves. But I wouldn't miss this one for anything. Sun 2 p.m., Thurs, Wed 7:30 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA $34-324.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN & THE E STREET BAND - Bruuuuuuuuuuuce! Mon, Wed 7:30 p.m., Kia Forum, Inglewood, $99-6,000.

THE HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – Looking for something different? But really good? And on a Monday? EVERY Monday? They'll even be there Christmas night – "Hot Club's brand of virtuoso, Django-style 1930s gypsy swing jazz is found nowhere else and even if it were, it couldn't possibly be this good. These guys are masters, individually and collectively. You will find it hard to stop smiling all night." Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

Next Thurs - MEHTA, MAHLER, SEONG-JIN CHO – We're so fortunate, with maestro Gustavo Dudamel loving and mastering the works of the great Gustav Mahler, that we also have a renowned former music director who occasionally graces us with his interpretations. Win, win. Korean pianist Seong-Jin Cho has become an LA Phil favorite, for all the right reasons, and all his romantic tendencies are perfectly matched to Schuman's emotional Piano concerto, the only one he wrote. After intermission fasten your seat belts for the first symphony Mahler unleashed on the world, such a sonically powerful examination of no less than life and death that you might think he thought he had only one shot, but thankfully it was only the beginning. If you are a donor (and why aren't you?), this is one of six rehearsals you are given privy to, no extra charge, and with Zubin Mehta holding forth on his beloved Mahler, that's a rare treat. Thurs 7:30 p.m., donor rehearsal 19 a.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, $79-244.

RECOMMENDED:

TONY GILKYSON - I just love Tony Gilkyson, for more than his family. His sister is enduring cult favorite Eliza Gilkyson, both musically emerging from the Santa Fe home of folkie-songwriter dad Terry, immortal for "The Bare Necessities." Tony

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 6



PIPER PRESCHOOL

CHILDREN ARE CAPABLE, COMPETENT, AND CREATIVE LEARNERS.

WE VALUE...

INQUIRY OVER INSTRUCTION

PROCESS OVER PRODUCT

DELAYED GRATIFICATION

MARINERS

FROM PAGE 2

efforts on the field."

The athletic director said that about 75% of Saint Monica's students consider themselves student-athletes, and that the importance of sports is paramount at the preparatory school.

"You often hear that sports build character, (and) while they can, sports can also build poor character if you don't have the right people in place," Bowers added. "So I think we really try to put a focus on making sure that the coaches we're bringing in have the overall well-being development and growth of our student-athletes as their first consideration, that it's not a win-first environment, it's an environment where we want to cultivate strong values and character."

thomas@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 5

was an early LA punk staple, with Lone Justice, then stepped perfectly into the big guitar strap of (temporarily) departing Billy Zoom in X, for almost a decade, but he knows more about guitar strings than just to bash and over-amplify them, and his best performance moments now are often quietly virtuosic. You will be entertained. Fri 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, free/.

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. Toledo may have his trademark ciggy, but it's the band that really smokes! Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

SAMARA JOY, A Joyful Holiday – I've yet to catch this marvelous jazz vocalist live and I hope to, like Amy Winehouse she's a stylistic throwback totally informed by her predecessors, but concerts of holiday songs are not my thing, especially for a trek all the way out to Northridge. But like Patti LaBelle singing the alphabet on "Sesame Street," I'm sure she will be quite a present. Wed, next Thurs, 8 p.m., The Soraya, Northridge, $39-119.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: 'FRIDA & DIEGO," LA Opera, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 12/9; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 12/10, 17, 24; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 12/11, 18, 25; MEHTA, MAHLER, SEONG-JIN CHO, Disney Hall, 12/7, 8, 9, 10; LED ZEPAGAIN, Roxy Theater, 12/9; CHRIS ISAAK, Orpheum, 12/12; MEHTA, BEETHOVEN Symphonies, Disney Hall, 12/14, 15, 16, 17; MANHATTAN TRANSFER, Final Farewell Concert, Disney Hall, 12/15; QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE, Kia Forum, 12/16; RACHEL & VILRAY, Troubadour, 12/18; X, Roxy Theater, 12/19, 20; BILLY GIBBONS & FRIENDS, Troubadour, 12/19. 20, 21; RICK SHEA, TONY GILKYSON, Cinema Bar, 12/28

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com (the real mr music...)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Providence Saint John's seeking the public's help in identifying two ICU patients

Officials from Providence Saint John's said that while it's heartbreaking, especially during the holiday season, they have two unidentified patients in their ICU at Providence Saint John's Health Center and are seeking help in finding their family members.

One patient is a woman believed to be 70 to 80 years old, 5-feet, 5-inches and 129 pounds. She was found in an alley Wednesday in the Santa Monica area and brought by ambulance to Providence Saint John's.

She is unable to participate in her care, nor is the second patient, a young man who appears to be in his mid-20s.

He's 5-feet, 10 inches and just 107 pounds. He was found unconscious under an overpass in the Los Angeles/Santa Monica area about 5 p.m. on Nov. 17. He, too was brought to Providence Saint John's and in need of a family member to make his health care decisions.

If you know either of these patients, please contact the hospital ICU at (310) 829-8745 or call the main number, (310) 829-5511, and ask for the House Supervisor's office.

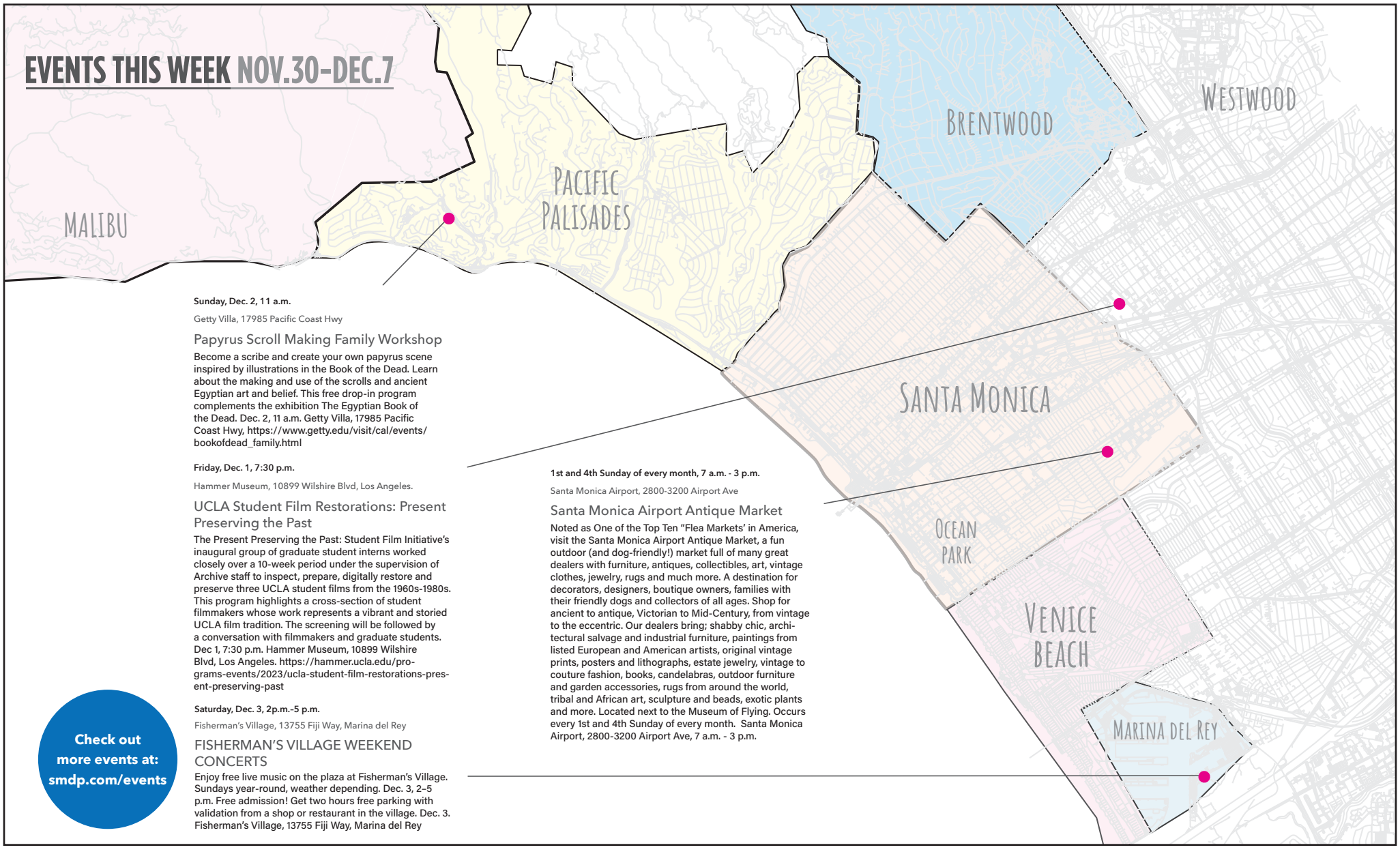
SUBMITTED BY PATRICIA AIDEM





Courtesy photos

PATIENTS: St. John's needs help identifying two people who were found in Santa Monica.





GENTLY LOVED

CLOTHING DRIVE

Santa MoniCARES is in Need of Gently Loved Business Attire

The way you dress can change the way you feel! Help someone build the confidence they need going into a job interview. Santa MoniCARES, in partnership with the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, is collecting **new or gently loved business clothing** to benefit **Chrysalis, changing lives through jobs.**

Donate through December 31st

Pier Shop & Visitor Center
200 Santa Monica Pier

Main Street Visitor Center*
2427 Main St

Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows**
101 Wilshire Blvd

Santa MoniCARES
TOURISM SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

cares@santamonica.com
santamonicares.org

*CURBSIDE DROPOFF at Main Street, text 424-443-8830 at least 15 minutes ahead of arrival

**Through December 24th, drop off gently used clothing or canned goods in oversized gift boxes under the historic Moreton Bay Fig Tree



WESTSIDE FOOD BANK

Holiday Food Drive

November 1 - December 31

Together we can end hunger this holiday season by donating non-perishable foods.

Make a donation today!

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

Visitor Information Center
2427 Main Street
Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Sat & Sun: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Parking validation and curbside drop off available
Simply text 424-443-8830

Le Merigot Santa Monica
1740 Ocean Avenue
Daily: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Santa MoniCARES
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cares@santamonica.com
santamonicares.org

SANTA MONICA PAL'S

Best Gift Ever Toy Drive



Accepting new unwrapped toys, gift cards and monetary donations for local youth ages 6-17

by

Monday, December 11th



Drop off sites:

PAL Youth Center - 1401 Olympic Blvd
Police Community Affairs - 333 Olympic Drive

For more information: 310-458-8988

PAL SANTA MONICA

City of Santa Monica

MONTANA AVENUE
SANTA MONICA

Holiday Walk

SAT, DEC 2 4 PM - 8 PM



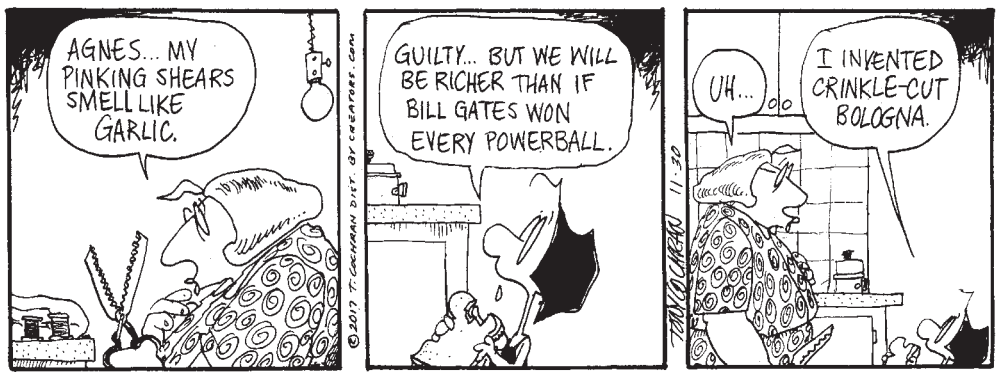
GREAT SHOPPING, GOOD EATS, LIVE MUSIC, ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS & SANTA, TOO!
FROM 6TH - 17TH STREET.

Tumbleweed DAY CAMP

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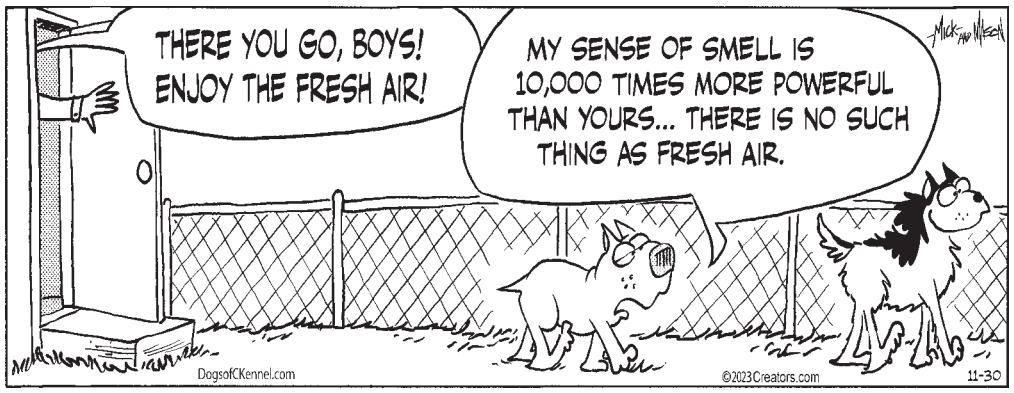
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



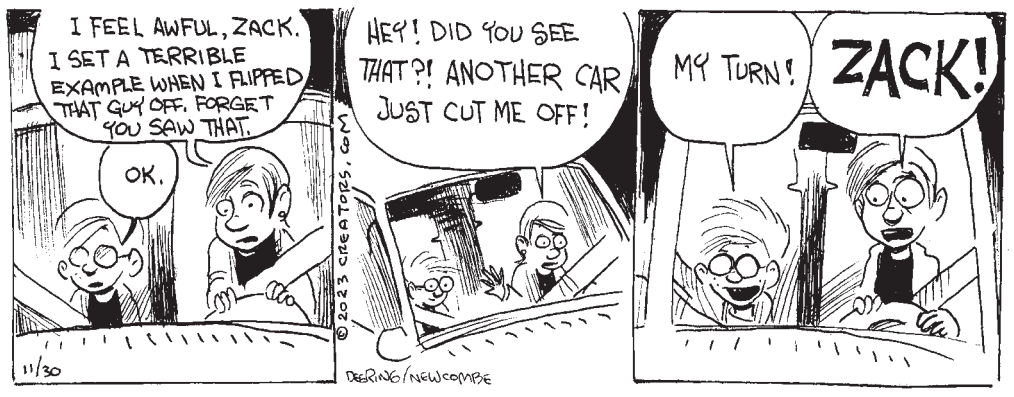
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



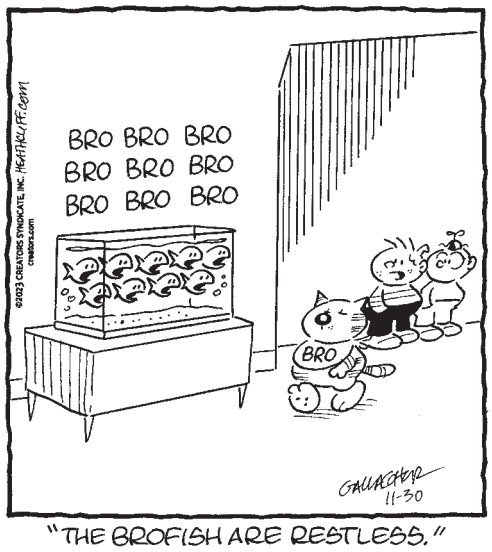
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE BROFISH ARE RESTLESS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6044

Home and away

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

Abu Dhabi
Accra
Algeria
Angola
Bali
Benin
Bolivia
Brazil
Burma
Chad
Chile
Crete
Cuba
Dili
Doha
Dublin
Egypt
Gabon
Ghana
Grenada
Haiti
India
Iran
Israel
Italy
Kosovo
Laos
Libya
Lima
London
Malta
Oamaru
Oman
Oslo
Peru
Queensland
Riga
Rome
Salzberg
Seoul
Sweden
Taipei
Togo
Tokyo
Tonga
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 30)

You'll be cool under pressure and sometimes heroic. These pressurized situations come from your ambition to create beauty and improve the experience of others. You're also a maestro of time management, maximizing every moment with purpose. Other highlights: sweetness in family togetherness, Cancer and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 13, 25, 6 and 30.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It is said that however well you love a plant, it will grow according to the sunlight and soil. Therefore, the best way to love a plant, or anything else for that matter, is to position it well in an environment conducive to its thriving.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you can't quite put words to this thing you're doing, don't let it deter you. Some of the worthiest endeavors will be hard to describe. As suggested by the ancient philosopher Lao Tzu, "The way is ever nameless."

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're a born leader, exceeding expectations and managing more than your share of responsibility. Things will be better because you are in charge, but even if you're not officially running the show you'll be contributing to its success.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Parts of the plot didn't pan out. Some of what was talked about just didn't find an application in real life. It's impossible to do it all. It's the misses that make the hits truly precious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). No one can make you feel any kind of way. They might provide a trigger that sets you in a certain direction, but you could also go in a different direction if you wanted. The same cue can be experienced in multiple ways.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). To celebrate what is, you'll first let go of what you thought it would be. It shouldn't be too hard. There's much about the way things are right now that suits you better than you'd ever dreamed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Inspiration can strike, but mostly it doesn't. The experience of inspiration is more often a slow grow. The things that are right for you will take purchase in your life over time. One day they will just be who you are. It's a custom fit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll gain social savvy by observing what works and doesn't. You give without expectation of return. This feels better when you aim it well. Give to those who really do need what you have to offer, not to those who are just good at taking.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though it feels like everything is coming down to a moment, that's not the case. You'll have plenty of chances to get it right, so take your time and don't stress too much about any one event.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may want to have more control over what you feel, but it's not really the way feelings work. You'll have more luck if you strive instead to be more aware and accepting of your emotions, whatever they may be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your victory will not come in one gallant act. Rather, it's about a body of work and a number of deeds. So don't let the small wins and losses bother you. Keep working and, over time, your efforts will add up to something great.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Black-and-white thinking is a sign that you need a break. So, if you're starting to think everything is bad, or everything is good; it all matters, nothing does, excuse yourself from the job. After a rest, your energy will flow in a productive direction.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

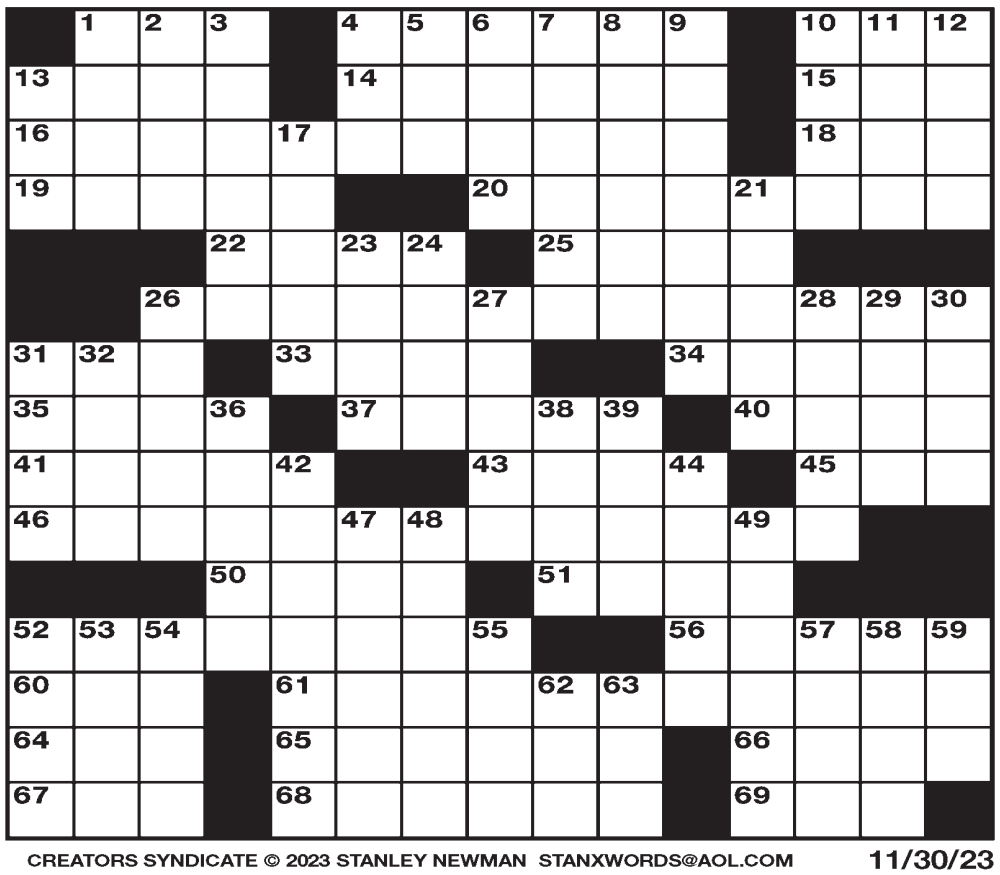
TAKE A SHOT by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 *Big Bang Theory* character from India
4 Dismay greatly
10 Pledge
13 NASA cancellation
14 15 Across sounds
15 Barnyard mom
16 Group of high school sports fans
18 Chest bone
19 Shade of yellow
20 Beneficiaries of a welcome sight
22 Tuscan city
25 Some Old Masters
26 Unexpected encounter
31 Try to win over
33 Mild oath
34 Opera star Fleming
35 Explosive rounds
37 Stands for conductors
40 Venerable boarding school
41 Impertinent people
43 Southern superfood
45 Word on a dime
46 Major pane
50 Footnote phrase
51 Persian Gulf capital
52 Nicaragua neighbor
56 See 57 Down
60 Will Smith title role
61 Education evaluations
64 Jabba adversary
65 Emerson prose
66 Overlay
67 Assent of a sort
68 Two-channel
69 To some degree

DOWN

1 Capacity
2 Lots and lots (of)
3 Nativity scene figure
4 Homer's dad
5 Equal footing
6 DC fundraisers
7 In flower
8 Star of *House, M.D.*
9 Store clerk's device
10 Exceedingly
11 Tot's complaint
12 Organic traps
13 Hoop group
17 Group of three
21 Big name in cosmetics
23 Flip out
24 "Height" prefix
26 Laughable
27 Provide for permanently
28 Being pulled
29 Gas light
30 Splicing subject
31 Nest resident
32 Potent prelude
36 Went (for)
38 "Just joking"
39 River through 22 Across
42 Sews up
44 Special-purpose
47 Most elusive
48 Go by
49 Pacific state of Mexico
52 "Funny!"
53 Beauty brand
54 Best hand in baccarat
55 Rise rapidly
57 With 56 Across, magnetic compound
58 Decisive time
59 Imprecise no.
62 Loaf in a bag
63 General of Chinese cuisine



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/30/23

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

BALLET

FROM PAGE 3

will be consistent from when you're like 5 to 16 or 17," she said. "The teachers here really saw me grow up ... it's pretty amazing that this community still exists and I still get to be a part of it."

Those same teachers are now working with the next generation of great dancers, including Brentwood School 9th grader Eema Kaye, who stepped into principal roles for the 2023 edition of "Nutcracker." Stating that the roles of Lead Mirliton and Snow Queen made her "reach out of (her) comfort zone," she's been grateful for the opportunity and for her teaching at Westside.

"It's such a community, everyone's so sweet and caring, and all the teachers are so welcoming ... I remember when I was younger, I was so inspired by the older girls doing principal roles, and now it's a dream come true to be able to do those roles, and maybe inspire younger girls in my same position," Kaye said.

Joining the 2023 "Nutcracker" cast was Overland Elementary School 5th grader Spencer Collins, who thought the transition to Westside last year was "perfect" for him.

"(The teachers) were able to match technique with ... tricks and things that can help me improve ... what I can do, like variations and repertoire," Collins said. "So it was definitely a good change that I had coming to Westside."

Meeting with the new crop of dancers during rehearsals, the guest alumni preached sticking with ballet for as long as possible, and that hard work in the art form can maximize the youths' considerable talents.

"I think it's the same advice for literally anything that you do in life, which is (that) talent is important, but what is actually the thing that's gonna set you apart from anyone else in anything that you do is just perseverance," Connolly said. "If you do it long enough, and do it hard enough, that's really the most important thing ... I would just say if you want to do it, just go for it."

For more information on how to watch the 2023 "Nutcracker" performances, visit westsideballet.com/nutcracker/.

thomas@smdp.com

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 4

the ultimate experience for those who love to enjoy the best in food and wine." $40. Saturday, Dec. 2, 3:30p.m. @ 214 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.wallywine.com/wine-cheese-tasting-with-napa-icon-joseph-phelps-12-02-23-232832

Spaghetti Sundays @ The Georgian Room: The hidden Italian steakhouse and jazz bar at The Georgian has started a weekly family supper series every Sunday from 5 - 9p.m. where the room "will transform into a cozy and casual restaurant locale, complete with red checkered tablecloths and an abundance of parmesan." They are offerings a prefix family-style menu of House-Made Garlic Bread, Caesar Salad, Spaghetti and Red Sauce, and diner choice of Grandpa Tony's Meatballs, Chicken Parmesan, Eggplant Parmesan, Branzino, or their signature New York Strip, along with dessert. $65. 1415 Ocean Ave. https://www.thegeorgian.com/drink-and-dine.htm

Stella Barra & Boisson Tasting Dinner: Boisson is a non-alcoholic beverage retailer featuring non-alcoholic brands like French Bloom, Pentire, Giesen and De Soi. The event focuses on helping people "find your new, guilt-free drink of choice as Stella Barra bartenders teach you how to make them at home. Tickets are available for $60.00 (plus tax and gratuity) and include two non-alcoholic cocktails, passed appetizers, and pizza, salad, and dessert stations." Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7p.m. @ 2000 Main St. https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability

'East Comes West,' Dinner Series @ SaMo Proper Hotel: Starting Dec. 9, the hotel's Siete restaurant space will host specialty dinners offering "a playful nod to the Angeleno's reluctance to brave traffic...and bring some of the city's most critically and popularly acclaimed, established restaurants to the Westside community. Part I of the dining series will launch on Dec. 9 with Camphor (Downtown L.A.) followed by Tsubaki (Echo Park), Otoño (Highland Park), and Alimento (Silver Lake)." 700 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.opentable.com/r/siete-santa-monica

Birdie G's has transformed "The Bird's Nest" (their nickname for the bar area) into a fun and festive holiday drinking destination starting Dec. 1. Christmas and Hanukkah decorations are festooned throughout, and Bar Manager Stephanie Reading has crafted a playful, themed menu with holiday-stamped ice and over-the-top garnishes. 2421 Michigan Ave. https://www.birdiegsla.com/

Planta Brentwood & Marina del Rey: The upscale vegan mini-chain recently opened a Brentwood location @ 11754 San Vicente Blvd. I have been to this new location and their Marina del Rey spot @ 4625 Admiralty Way and love their cocktails with some of my favorite dishes being the bang bang broccoli, 1000 layer crispy potatoes, and truffled udon noodles. https://www.plantarestaurants.com/

Further Afield: L.A. Comic Con returns for its annual three-day mashup of meet-and-greets, panel discussions, exhibitors, gaming experiences, e-sports competitions, and cosplay. Friday, Dec. 1, 4 - 9 p.m., Saturday Dec. 2, 9:30a.m. - 7p.m., & Sunday, Dec. 3, 9:30a.m. - 5p.m. @ L.A. Convention Center https://comicconla.com/

Looking Ahead Around Town: Venice Art Crawl (Dec. 7), Main St. Tree Lighting & Holiday Festival (Dec. 9), Meet Me Under the Fig Tree Event @ the Fairmont (Dec. 10)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Here are my past columns and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Holiday Festivals Abound!



THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 30

TECH & TASKS

Visit the Tech & Tasks program to receive one-on-one assistance from volunteer tutors and build your skills. Staff and volunteers can assist with reading, writing, and technology related tasks. Drop-in between 2-4pm every Thursday to get help with completing online forms and applications, resume writing, device help, improving reading skills, email, downloading eBooks. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 1

LA COUNTY VACCINE CLINIC

The LA County Department of Public Health will be available to administer COVID-19, Mpox, and Hep. A vaccines along with STI/Tb tests.
Before your appointment:
If you have health insurance, please bring your health insurance card to your appointment.
A consent form for COVID-19 Vaccines is required for minors to be vaccinated at sites run by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Minors are not eligible for the Monkeypox Vaccine at this time.
Note: You do not need to show ID to get a vaccine at a site run by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health: However, it is recommended that when you get a vaccine, you provide the name that is on your ID.
Make an appointment at Myturn.ca.gov or just drop in.
Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library 501 S. Venice Boulevard, Venice

HUMAN BODIES IN SPACE – WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

The goal of NASA's Artemis mission is to establish longterm habitation on the Moon. Every human was born in Earth's gravity, but just under 700 humans have ever gone beyond Earth's atmosphere, and only 24 humans have gone beyond the protection of Earth's magnetic radiation shield. How will our bodies react to the harsh reality of living in space? Lecturer Sarah Vincent explores our current knowledge and the unfilled gaps that remain. Free on Zoom. https://www.smc.edu/community/planetarium/

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 2

PICO HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Kick off the holiday season at the Pico Holiday Celebration! The event will feature tree lighting, complementary sweets and hot chocolate, gingerbread cookie decorating and opportunity to add a wish to the Gratitude Tree. In addition, local non-profit agencies will be sharing health and wellness information as well several artisans will be selling their wares. And a surprise visitor bearing seasonal treats will be stopping by! Be sure to come check it out! Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

17TH STREET & MICHIGAN AVENUE RIBBON CUTTING

Please join organizers in celebrating the completion of the Safe Streets for 17th Street and Michigan Avenue project on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 9 a.m. at 1610 Colorado Avenue (Metro E line parking lot). Enjoy donuts, local musicians and performers, remarks from the Mayor, giveaways, and bike rides along the project. Hope to see you there! 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDER CLUB: MUSIC

Sing and dance with Mr. Gabe from LoveBug & Me Music. For ages 2-5. Limited space. Registration required. Email library@santamonica.gov to register. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10:30 - 11 a.m.

SOUNDWAVES NEW MUSIC CONCERT

Ben Goldberg, Todd Sickafoose, and Scott Amendola. Soundwaves celebrates LA's diverse history of innovative underground music with free performances by world-class artists. Started in 2016 by librarian, author, and musician Jeff Schwartz with composer Daniel Rothman, and funded by the Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, and the Amphion Foundation, Soundwaves has collaborated with presenters including the Angel City Jazz Festival, Microfest, PianoSpheres, Jacaranda Music, the Dog Star Orchestra Festival, the Santa Monica Department of Cultural Affairs, and Cold Blue Music. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

EAST PICO SAFETY PROJECT POP UP AT VIRGINIA AVENUE FARMERS MARKET

The East Pico Safety Project Team will be at the Santa Monica Mobile Food Pantry at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave., collecting feedback about people's lived experiences on East Pico Boulevard between 28th Street/Stewart Street and Centinela Avenue. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

WHISKEY

FROM PAGE 1

run from in Santa Monica, but the whiskey is produced by a small company in Indiana. "We have a wonderful co-packer called Cardinal Spirits, they're a small mom and pop shop in Indiana and they blend, proof down and bottle for us and ship it here," von Schroder said, adding that they're looking to introduce it to more hotels and bars across Southern California and hope to make an appearance at the annual industry event Tales of the Cocktail next year.

Currently, Lodestar American Whiskey is available at Cassia (1314 7th Street), Lunetta (2420 Pico Blvd) and the Surfrider Hotel in Malibu. It is also available to buy from the website lodestarwhiskey.com priced at $44.99.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

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32 YEARS

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