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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2012
Volume 12 Issue 22

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

ST. MONICA OUTLASTS BRENTWOOD
SEE PAGE 3

THE CONGRATS TO KOBE ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

MAKING IT PERFECT: **The first American female Bolshoi ballerina Joy Womack, puts on her hand-made tiara before practicing the Grand das de Deux with her dance partner Evan Swenson in preparation for Womack's role as the Sugar Plum Fairy.**

The Joy of dance

Bolshoi ballerina returns to Santa Monica for 'The Nutcracker'

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

STEWART ST Joy Womack is used to headlines.

As the first American woman accepted to the prestigious Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow at the age of 17, she's certainly made enough of them.

SEE **DANCER** PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ONE, TWO, THREE: **Ballerina Joy Womack and her partner Even Swenson practice.**

Resident's beach cleanup project nears its end

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

SM BEACH When resident Sara Bayles began her quest to keep Santa Monica State Beach clean by spending 20 minutes a day for 365 non-consecutive days picking up trash found in the sand, she had no idea it would inspire others to do the same.

As she reaches the culmination of her three-year project this Saturday, Bayles is encouraged by the e-mails she's received from folks from as far away as Australia who have been inspired by her to keep the cleanup going in their own communities.

"That's a cool development that I didn't expect," said Bayles, who documents her journey on her blog, The Daily Ocean. "I feel so honored that people are inspired by what I've done. It's so simple. Just spend 20 minutes of your time cleaning the beach, post some photographs. I kept the model simple so people feel like they can do it, too."

SEE **BAYLES** PAGE 10

Business-savvy edge for annual SM Film Festival

Organizers introduce attendees to new tech

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

MONTANA AVE Filmmakers and aficionados alike will flock to the Aero Theatre this Saturday for the Santa Monica Film Festival, an annual tradition in the city by the sea that showcases the best that independent creatives have to offer.

But before the main course, festival

SEE **FESTIVAL** PAGE 10

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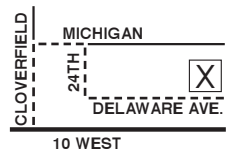
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012

Windows for the masses
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m.
Introduction to the Windows 7 operating system, including hands-on practice with basic navigation and customization. Beginner level. Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, visit the reference desk or call (310) 434-2608.

Dog day
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 3:30 p.m.
All ages are invited to practice reading to some furry friends as part of the Paws 4 Reading program. The event is designed to assist children to develop and improve their reading skills. For more information, visit paws4healing.info/los_angeles_chapter.htm.

Diving deep
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Kenny Broad, National Geographic's Explorer of the Year for 2011, is also an accomplished cave diver who pursues this extreme avocation not for sport but to gain valuable scientific insights. Doubling as a recognized, and quite funny, environmental anthropologist, Broad uses his research to solve problems of climate change and freshwater resource management. Join him for a voyage into the beautiful but dangerous "blue holes" of the Bahamas — a potential treasure trove of scientific knowledge, captured in vivid images and video. For more information, call (310) 434-3200.

Friday, Dec. 7, 2012

Festive walk
Montana Avenue
5 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Businesses along Montana Avenue will host their annual Holiday Walk complete with Santa, sales, streets decked out in lights and holiday treats. This year, the Off Their Jingle Bell Rockers will be on hand for a little musical cheer. For more information, visit www.montanaave.com.

Special moments
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St., 7 p.m.
"Defining Moments" is an evening of storytelling with elders from the community. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. RSVP required. For more information, call (310) 313-0279.

Bah humbug
United Methodist Church
1008 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate the season with a musical of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," based on the 1970 Oscar-nominated film starring Albert Finney. Cost: $10 adults; $5 seniors and children. The production also takes place Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (310) 393-8258.

Colonial night
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
Colonials: An American Shakespeare Company presents Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," a tale of a world turned upside down, the last night of a 12-day party — the end of the Feast of Fools. Noble counts are debilitated by love sickness, beautiful unwed countesses have chosen to enter eternal mourning, and a young vibrant woman, having lost her beloved twin brother in a disastrous shipwreck, decides the best way to deal with the situation is to disguise herself as a boy and enter the courtly life in service of the Duke of Ilyria. For more information, call (310) 804-6745.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Photo courtesy SMC

HONORED: **Santa Monica College Board of Trustees Chair Nancy Greenstein (left) presents a certificate of appreciation to Santa Monica attorneys Sonya and Bruce Sultan.**

SMC

Foundation receives major gift

The Santa Monica College Foundation will provide more than $40,000 in annual scholarships for students thanks to a gift of more than $800,000 from the estate of Pacific Palisades resident Peggy Bergmann, officials with the college announced Wednesday.

Bergmann established the Lenore and John Elmer Bergmann Scholarship Fund in memory of her parents.

"At a time when colleges are struggling with limited funding and course offerings, this generous gift from Ms. Bergmann provides great assistance as our students pursue their dreams," said SMC President Chui Tsang.

The donation was arranged by Santa Monica attorneys Sonya and Bruce Sultan, who recommended to Bergmann that the SMC Foundation be included in her estate.

"When we learned that she wanted to make gifts to local organizations – particularly for education, youth and music – Bruce immediately thought of SMC," said Sonya Sultan. "We really appreciate the college and the great work it's doing in our community and beyond. We were very pleased that Ms. Bergmann wanted to include SMC."

Bruce Sultan has served on the SMC Citizens Bond Oversight Committee since 2009 and as its chair for two years.

Foundation Executive Director Vanessa Butler said the funds will most likely be distributed in more than 40 annual scholarships of $1,000 each from the interest earned.

The Bergmann donation marks the fourth largest gift ever received by the SMC Foundation, Butler said.

Bergmann died in December of last year. Her $15 million estate also included substantial gifts to the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation ($4.8 million), Pico Youth & Family Center ($1.615 million) and the Santa Monica Westside YWCA.

– KEVIN HERRERA

CITY HALL

Help count the homeless

Play a part in ending homelessness by joining city officials and volunteers in the 2013 Citywide Homeless Count, scheduled for Jan. 30 from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

City officials are looking for volunteers to go from street to street, doorway to doorway and document who is sleeping without shelter and where. The annual count informs City Hall's homeless strategy, which has helped reduce the number of people sleeping on the streets by 34 percent from 2009-12.

To register as a volunteer, go online – smgov.net/portals/homelessness – or call (310) 458-8701.

– KH



Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

POWER PLAY: **Briana Harris battles with Brentwood players for the ball on Tuesday.**

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

St. Monica holds off Brentwood, 47-41

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

ST. MONICA St. Monica's Briana Harris had enough.

With her team trailing during the second half, the St. Monica star senior took matters into her own hands, carrying the scoring load down the stretch to stave off a frisky Brentwood team, 47-41, on Monday during the St. Monica Winter Tournament in girls' basketball.

"I just had to take my time," Harris said. "I was getting motivation from my team, that helped."

Harris led all scorers with 24 points on the night. Brentwood guard Drew Cabral led the Eagles with 12 before injuring herself late in the fourth quarter. The extent of her injury was not reported, but she didn't reenter the game after what appeared to be a leg injury.

St. Monica may have been able to pull out the win to improve to 5-1 on the season, but things looked grim during the early part of the second half.

Harris, with three fouls, sat out the end of the second quarter, forced to watch her

SEE **HOOPS** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It is still OK to say Merry Christmas?

Editor:

Dear atheists,

I know most of you are decent, hard-working people who just want to live and let live, but a bunch of you are giving the rest of the gang a very bad name. I am talking about the war on religion or any manifestation of religion some of you have launched.

Why is it so important to some people to rewrite history? Our beautiful country was and continues to be a Christian majority; I am in the minority, not just in this great land we call the USA, but in the entire world! Yes, I am Jewish and quite proud of it. But just because my beliefs are different it does not mean I wish to impose them on the rest of humanity, nor do I want to stop other people's expression and joy of this season. As a matter of fact, I quite enjoy the Christmas decorations and uplifting, beautiful music!

But some of you dear atheists seem to have such an empty life, you focus on the wrong thing; case in point, Mr. Damon Vix was so obsessed with making everyone else as miserable as he, that he has spent many years waging war on the nativity scenes that have adorned one of Santa Monica's parks for nearly 60 years! Thanks to an activist judge by the name of Audrey B. Collins, Mr. Vix has won this war and that beautiful display will be no more.

Sad, isn't it? One tiny little minority has to spoil it for the rest of us! Why? Did Santa Claus put you on the naughty list one year so you didn't get that red truck or doll that talks and walks?

It saddens me beyond words to see this endless war against such a beautiful holiday! It's been about 10 years since I wrote my first "It's OK to say Merry Christmas" column; every year I hope I won't have a reason to serve you a refried version, and every year I find plenty of reason to do!

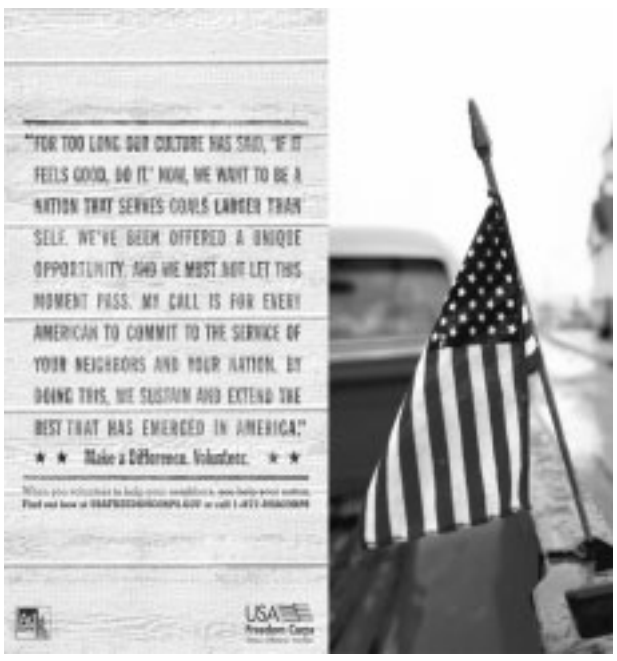
People forget that the Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, not from religion! In the words of a drunken motorist who encountered some very angry police officers, "Can we all get along?"

I know some folks think this is all one huge commercial to sell toys and guilt husbands into buying expensive jewelry they can't afford. (Are you reading this, honey?) But if you look deeper and let your good heart guide you, you will discover the beauty of the season and the joy it brings to children of all ages. I am truly blessed to have had parents who understood and were not limited by their own ideas, and who let me enjoy this beautiful season! Yes, we had a Chanukah bush, and in case you didn't know, Santa is Jewish!

If you don't like a Christmas display, don't go see it! And don't forget that "public property" belongs to all of us, not just a bitter minority.

Lighten up! The next time some sales person wishes you "happy holidays" join the campaign started by my good friend Amalia Gonzalez and say "And a merry Christmas to you to!"

Edie J. Adler
Valley Glen, Calif.



Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Getting others to commit

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I need your advice. I work in a medium-size office and collaborate with a number of staff members to complete regular projects and events. While the majority of team members are easy to work with and they complete their projects on time, there is one person in particular who is consistently late to submit materials and often does not respond quickly to questions that need his immediate response. To make matters worse, this particular person happens to be the head of our unit and my supervisor. He tends to jump from one idea to the next and is much more focused on the bigger picture than the finer details needed to move projects forward.

However, despite his focus on the big picture, he likes to provide an opinion on every piece of the project and insists on approving all design and event materials before publication. In some cases his late response has cost the company more money because we have had to rush order supplies or print jobs. What suggestions do you have for dealing with a supervisor who has difficulty sticking to deadlines when collaborating on projects?

Signed,
Task Master

DEAR TASK MASTER,

Working with a team can be a great experience and a unique opportunity to learn from others, but it can also be a difficult feat when members of the group do not pull their own weight. This can be even more difficult to deal with when this person is a supervisor. I hope that the tips below will help you explore various ways to help keep your supervisor on track while also determining ways to ensure that your projects are completed on time.

Start by thinking about your supervisor's communication and work style. Whenever possible, consider delegating tasks that best fit the personality and work style of that individual. Given that your manager tends to be focused more on the "big picture," he may have difficulty focusing on the finer details of a project and therefore it may take longer for him to provide his feedback on detail-focused materials. Consider paraphrasing the project or asking for broad advice about how to move the project forward rather than counting on this person for suggestions on each detail. You may find that communicating in outline format or with bullet-points is better received than longer paragraphs of text or information.

When you do receive advice about specific details, ask if those standards can apply to other pending projects so that you can avoid asking for approval for each individual assignment.

It is also important for you to examine your primary communication method. Given the amount of messages the average professional receives in a given day, it is easy to lose track of an e-mail. If you rely mostly on e-mail to communicate project tasks and deadlines, you may consider asking your supervisor about an alternative way to engage him in the various projects you manage. Perhaps you could schedule a weekly status meeting where you can quickly run through items that need a simple yes/no or brief comment to move things forward. An in-person meeting may also be a good opportunity to receive approval for your event materials and print publications. Be sure to let your supervisor know what steps have been taken to create the document so that he knows that it has been proofread and reviewed before his approval is requested.

GIVEN THE AMOUNT OF MESSAGES THE AVERAGE PROFESSIONAL RECEIVES IN A GIVEN DAY, IT IS EASY TO LOSE TRACK OF AN E-MAIL.

When you need to rely on the input of your boss to move a project forward, consider setting the timeline as far in advance as possible and creating check-in points to assess where each person stands on the project. It may be helpful to take a large task that requires your supervisor's involvement, and break that responsibility down into a few parts. Given that your supervisor is also the head of your unit, it is likely that he has a number of priorities on his plate. Many managers will tackle the quick tasks first to eliminate items from their to-do list. If your requests are broken down into smaller pieces that can be completed quickly, you may find that your manager can prioritize more of your requests.

KATRINA DAVY, M.A., ED.M, is a professional career counselor who has worked in university and private settings. She holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia universities. Visit her online at www.kdcareer.com. Send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com. All questions are kept anonymous; let us help you with your life matters!



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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Geffen Playhouse

ALL TOGETHER: **Lilly Holleman, Joe Gillette, John Sloan and Isabella Acres with ensemble cast members in the world premiere of Donald Marguiles' 'Coney Island Christmas' at the Geffen Playhouse.**

Holiday hilarity

IT'S LITERATURE GONE WILD! A laugh-out-loud story by Grace Paley is converted into a world premiere play at the Geffen. Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" becomes a manic mash-up of scripted and sketch comedy with touches of improv in "Twist Your Dickens" at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. And at REDCAT, "The Great Gatsby" metamorphoses into an incredibly inventive, full-scale theatrical staging of the novel.

Wow, what a week it was.

If you're looking for a new holiday classic that the whole family will love, you need drive no further than Westwood and The Geffen Playhouse, where Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Donald Margulies has created the warmest, perfect-degree-of-schmaltz play based on Grace Paley's short story "The Loudest Voice."

I'm very familiar with the story because once upon a time at KCRW, we created two volumes of "Jewish Stories" for radio and "The Loudest Voice" was part of the series, vividly brought to life by Julie Kavner, aka Marge Simpson, whose gritty voice and New York accent made this already funny story even funnier.

As Margulies has rendered it in "A Coney Island Christmas," Shirley Abramowitz (Angela Paton) visits her great granddaughter who's home from school with a cold. To entertain her (and get her off her smartphone) she tells the child the story of how she came to play Jesus in her school's Christmas pageant.

What follows is stage magic. We learn about Shirley's first-generation immigrant parents' desire to keep their hard-won Jewish traditions alive. But at school, Shirley's very loud voice is seen as the only possible salvation for her school's holiday play, given the dismal dramatic talents of the other students.

The brilliance of Bart DeLorenzo's direction cannot be underestimated. Of course there's dramatic conflict as Shirley's parents disagree about her participation in this play and as Shirley does it behind her mom's back, with dad's permission.

But it's the rehearsals for the plays-within-the play (there's a Thanksgiving pageant as well) and the actors playing the students, each equipped with his or her own quirky-kid characteristic, that makes it feel so squeamishly real and fall-down funny.

The little playhouse stage with its curtains and canvas backdrops, the cardboard cutouts, the costumes, the wigs, the beards, the kids (all adult actors) who sing out of tune or speak too quietly, the way they forget their lines and incorporate their personalities into their stage characters make everything about this play feel genuinely real.

Hats off to young actress Isabella Acres, a star in the making, for capturing not only Shirley Abramowitz's loud voice but her desire to try to please everyone and do the right thing. Special applause for mom, Annabelle Gurwitsch, and dad, Arye Gross, for playing their roles so sympathetically.

And kudos to the playwright and director for bringing us a new holiday classic; it was commissioned in memory of the Geffen's late artistic director, Gil Cates, and it's a loving tribute.

Don't miss "A Coney Island Christmas," on stage at the Geffen Playhouse in Westwood through Dec. 30, with matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Bring the kids! For more information, visit geffenplayhouse.com.

TIRED OF TREACLE?

Speaking of Christmas classics, we've all seen, heard and read Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," but you've never seen it

SEE **WATCH** PAGE 6

The Q Line

Cutting classes

In an effort to save money, Santa Monica College officials last week decided to cancel the winter session for the Emeritus College, meaning seniors will have to go without their exercise, performing arts and other classes for several weeks. The thing is though SMC will still pay to keep buildings open and staff employed, amounting to a savings that some say is only around $160,000.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

Is the savings worth cutting classes for seniors to help cover costs associated with the college at large? Should seniors have to start paying to help bring more classes online?



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WATCH
FROM PAGE 5

deconstructed quite as insanely as The Second City's version, "Twist Your Dickens," at The Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City.

It's partially scripted, partially improvised and turned into the kind of jolly madcap romp that comedy troupe Second City specializes in.

Ron West is a curmudgeounly Scrooge who could pass for the genuine article in any production of "A Christmas Carol" except, of course, for the curse words — and I don't mean "fie on thee" — used to describe exactly how much of a curmudgeon he really is.

This is a grown-up production of the timeless book, which is both skewed and skewered here. Dan Castellaneta (the voice of Homer Simpson) steals the show with his manic characters, including a spot-on impression of James Stewart as a deranged George Bailey from "It's A Wonderful Life." The show opens with a "spirited" barbershop quartet — the singers are ghosts. Even "every kiss begins with K" gets a shout-out here.

There's kind of a through-line, as we do see the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future haunt old Scrooge but there's always an irreverent breakthrough of theatre's "fourth wall." That includes slips of paper upon which audience members have written down their darkest secrets, which get used at strategic moments during the action on stage, even becoming running jokes throughout the production.

The parts of the script that are written are by two Second City alumni, both of whom have been or are now writers on "The Colbert Report," and a host of special drop-in guests add to the hilarity.

It's great to be able to find some humor in the holidays, and while this staged mayhem might not be as coherent as "A Coney Island Christmas," you'll laugh plenty. Second City's "A Twisted Dickens" runs at The Kirk Douglas Theatre through Dec. 30. For more information, visit www.centertheatregroup.org.

A NOVEL APPROACH

There's nothing quite as amazing as realizing that eight hours have passed and you're not only awake but fully engaged with a novel that you're not reading yourself but are watching, not as a movie but fully embodied, enacted and enlivened.

Experiencing New York theatre company Elevator Repair Service's production of "Gatz," a fully staged production of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby," is transformative.

This novel is about language and literature but also about theatre. This production does not attempt to interpret the book and turn it into a play but rather allows the prose itself to bring the book alive.

As you observe a dingy office and its 13 employees become the novel's characters, acting out their words, and witness the amazing feat of one man narrating an entire novel, you'll realize why this production has become such a theatrical phenomenon.

I can't speak highly enough about "Gatz." But you can only experience it yourself this Friday through Sunday, Dec. 9 at REDCAT in Downtown Los Angeles. Please give yourself this holiday gift. You'll remember it forever. More information can be found at www.redcat.org.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She reviews theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

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Tax measure gets things rolling for L.A. streetcars

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Downtown voters have approved a streetcar funding measure aimed at helping the city get people out of their cars.

In a special election, voters supported creation of a tax-assessment district to raise as much as $85 million of the $125 million needed to build a 4-mile trolley loop.

The tax would only be levied on property owners if the project passes an environmental review and receives matching federal funds.

If approved, it could be running by 2015 and would link the Civic Center and far-flung destinations such as Staples Center arena, Disney Hall and the fashion district.

It would run mainly along Broadway, Hill and Figueroa streets. Proponents believe it could see 10,000 riders a day.

The area is already served by buses, shuttles and light-rail lines, but residents say it's still hard to get around. Civic boosters see public transit as one key in restoring the luster of an area that was a thriving center decades ago for dining, theater and shopping.

Currently, without a car, moving around can be a struggle amid downtown high-rises.

Gerry Ruiz said it's an ordeal to cover the 1.2 miles from his apartment on the northern edge of downtown to the gym where he works as a trainer.

"My walk is 30 minutes or my drive is 30 minutes, when you've got to deal with the hassle of finding parking," he told the Los Angeles Times (http://lat.ms/TEushj).

The last streetcar trundled along downtown streets in 1963 before being supplanted in popularity by more flexible choices provided by cars and freeways.

These days, as gas prices and traffic congestion increase, many are hoping car-crazy Los Angeles will embrace the kind of cheap, easy rail transit that marks other cities.

"If you're in New York or San Francisco or Portland, you forget about your car," Scott Denham, vice president at Evoq Properties, a downtown developer, told the Times. "You walk, you take public transportation, and you get a much richer experience."

The city clerk said late Monday that 73 percent of about 2,000 mail-in ballots cast by downtown property owners favored the measure, with 67 percent required.

However, some people remained skeptical of such projects.

Downtown accounts for only 2 percent to 4 percent of the jobs in Los Angeles County, and the money would be better spent on regional bus service, said Jim Moore, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Southern California.

"No number of streetcars or connectors is going to cause jobs to re-centralize," Moore said. "The economic forces pulling us in the other direction are just too strong."

Also in the planning stages is a $1.3 billion 2nd Street subway line that would link several existing rail lines. It is scheduled for completion in 2019.

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HOOPS
FROM PAGE 3

Mariners give up a 10-point first-half advantage, ultimately leading just 18-16 at halftime. She also sat for the first few minutes of the second half before head coach John Skinner summoned his main scoring threat to right the Mariners' ship.

Making matters worse, senior forward Melissa Maragnes was also in foul trouble. She would eventually foul out leaving Harris and Co. to win the day.

St. Monica was down by as many as 5 points late in the third quarter, which is when Harris began her late game heroics.

She hit on a short jumper and a 3-pointer down by 5, tying the game at 28-28. After a jumper by Brentwood's Aminah Reid-Brydon, Harris struck again with a pair of buckets to give St. Monica a lead it wouldn't surrender.

Led by Cabral, Brentwood would show signs of getting back into the game, but Harris and a compliment of shooters grounded the Eagles.

"I'm proud of her tonight," Skinner said of Harris. "She doesn't only want to do well, she only wants to win. She doesn't like the taste of losing."

Along with Harris, Skinner pointed out the performance of freshman guard Elena Kostadinov, who hit key jump-shots en route to scoring 8 on the night. Fellow guard Llyah Lewis also contributed 8.

St. Monica's Winter Tournament will continue through Friday. St. Monica took on Paraclete on Wednesday, but results of the game were not available at presstime.

The Mariners wrap the tournament with games against Notre Dame Academy and El Segundo on Thursday and Friday, respectively.

Although being dubbed a tournament, the event is more of an invitational showcase with no teams advancing to a would-be championship.

daniela@smdp.com



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Hollywood


DANCER
FROM PAGE 1

This weekend, however, newspapers across Los Angeles are telling not of Womack's shining career in Russia, but of her return to her roots.

She and Erin Rivera-Brennand will alternate in the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy in the Westside Ballet of Santa Monica's production of "The Nutcracker," a classic Christmas story of a young girl named Clara who defeats a terrible monster and finds her prince.

The role was a last request of Yvonne Mounsey, one of the original founders of the school and Womack's mentor before she passed away earlier this year. The weekend run has been dedicated to her.

"I had to do it. Without her influence and example, I wouldn't be there today," Womack, 18, said.

Mounsey was a force of nature, a South African woman who was "a dancer in the time of greats," Womack said.

In her time, Mounsey was the New York City Ballet's principal dancer, known best for her role in the 1950s as the Siren in George Balanchine's ballet called "The Prodigal Son."

She carried from her experience a sense of artistry difficult to find, picking out the slightest details in a performance that turned a dancer from a skilled practitioner to a work of art.

"She was one of those very rare people who could see it. There are very few of those people in the world," Womack said.

Womack credits her early experience with Mounsey as a push that led her to her historic work with the Bolshoi Academy.

Mounsey herself had performed with a Russian troupe, and once told Womack to make sure she found a Russian teacher when she left Santa Monica for Austin, Texas, with her family when she was 12 years old.

"When I did see her, before she passed, we had this moment where we were completing the circle," Womack said. "She had come from this Russian dance troupe, and one of her students was going back."

Womack lives full-time in Moscow, a place that's steeped in culture and history but also hamstrung by corruption.

There are aspects to living in the United States that Womack appreciates now that she's returned for a visit, like the accessibility of relatively inexpensive organic food and medical care.

Still, Moscow is now home base, she said.

Womack dances between eight and 10 hours a day, Tuesday through Sunday. Mondays she has "off," which means she's often practicing anyway, or keeping up with her many social media accounts which she uses to connect with aspiring ballerinas all over the world.

Her reading, largely histories or historical fiction, gets done on public transportation and, as Womack puts it, she's one of the few people who loves international travel because it gives her a chance to get caught up on movies.

Taking time out of that pressing schedule to perform as the Sugar Plum Fairy may be challenging, but a promise is a promise. Womack travels to the Westside Ballet of Santa Monica each day by taxi — she cannot drive legally here — to take classes and, more often now, do interviews with local press.

As she follows her dream, she hopes to inspire young women all over the world to pursue theirs.

"I always wanted to be an example for younger students," she said.

Womack had her share of role models. When the Los Angeles Ballet first arrived on the scene in 2004, her family took three or four of their dancers in and let them live at their home in Santa Monica.

It created an artistic atmosphere in her backyard, and gave the young Womack an insight into the life of the professional ballerina.

Now, Womack has grown from the child that pestered all of the older girls with questions about the craft into the icon at the center of attention.

She's establishing an Internet presence to give "the look behind the curtain" of the profession, and working on a line of ballet shoes and possibly clothing.

By putting herself out there for the world to see, Womack hopes to teach an important lesson.

"It's possible to break barriers," she said.

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FESTIVAL
FROM PAGE 1

organizers have a little something special to whet the appetite for the films.

This year, filmmakers will not only have the opportunity to promote their work, but a chance to learn how to sell it at the Video on Demand Marketplace, a panel discussion and networking event to explore the new world of content distribution.

It will be an entity unto itself that will take place in conjunction with the festival, said David Katz, the executive director.

"We're really excited about what's going on with the festival," Katz said. "We're focusing on how the industry is changing, and how the power is being put in the place of the independent filmmaker to promote, sell, advertise and distribute their work."

Video on Demand, or VOD as they call it in the industry, may sound familiar, particularly if you happen to pay one of the large cable companies for their services.

Even those who have "cut the cord" with cable likely have experienced the phenomenon that is revolutionizing the independent world.

Netflix, iTunes, Amazon and Hulu are all popular places to find video either to purchase permanently (also called electronic sell-through) or to view at a whim through the consumer's computer or streaming device.

That gives filmmakers more places to sell their work, and the panel, largely composed of aggregators of that content, will be there to tell them how.

"We felt there's so much information out

SEE **FILMS** PAGE 11

BAYLES
FROM PAGE 1

This Saturday, at 3 p.m. Bayles will be at Lifeguard Tower 26 at the end of Ocean Park Boulevard for the final cleanup. So far she has collected over 1,300 pounds of cigarette butts, plastic wrappers and even hypodermic needles — all debris that would have found its way into the ocean and possibly the stomachs of sea turtles and other marine life. She is encouraging as many people as she can to grab some gloves, old bread bags or paper bags and join her.

"When I think about how many pounds I have collected just myself it's crazy," said Bayles, a former special effects makeup artist who now dedicates much of her time to promoting her blog and spreading awareness about the dangers of marine debris. She's writing a book about the experience and plans to visit schools to talk with students about the importance of recycling and cleaning up after themselves.

"Santa Monica takes really good care of our beach, but there are 15 million or so people in the greater Los Angeles area so the coastline will feel the effects of such a large metropolis no matter how many times we rake [the beach] or do cleanups. It comes down to a total lifestyle change."

Bayles has always been conscious of how her actions impacted the environment having grown up along the coast of Connecticut and New Jersey. She feels at home in and on the water, which explains why she went with her husband, a biology professor at Santa Monica College, on a journey to the South Pacific Ocean to study the impacts of plastics on the environment. That mission — part of the 5 Gyres Institute expedition — helped reinforce her belief that more needs to be done to protect the environment.

"We were floating along in very pristine, blue Pacific water and then an odd barrel or laundry basket would appear. It was very surreal," she said. "Most of what we saw came from land. After that I felt really inspired to do what I can to clean this place up. The best place to start is on the coastline."

One doesn't have to go to the extreme Bayles has. She recommends taking baby steps.

"Take it out of the sand, then take it out of my life," she said. "It can be as easy as saying, 'Please hold the [plastic] straw.' It may sound like a funny example, but it all adds up."

Bayles recommends using reusable bags as much as possible (the City Council has banned single-use plastic bags within Santa Monica); purchasing items that are not packaged in plastic, such as containers made from glass or aluminum; and recycling as much as possible.



BAYLES

The problem with plastic is that it breaks down and at the same time absorbs contaminants like DDT and other pesticides. Marine animals eat the particles and absorb the pollutants, which could then impact the rest of the food chain. Scientists are beginning to study the impacts and whether or not chemicals are entering human bodies when people eat seafood.

Many Santa Monicans are already helping to keep the beaches clean and may not realize it. Over two-thirds of voters in 2006 approved the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax to fund storm-water diversion projects that keep pollutants and debris from reaching the Santa Monica Bay.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is currently asking residents if they would be willing to pay another tax to keep beaches clean through a mail-only ballot this spring. If approved the tax would come out to roughly $54 for the average homeowner. About 90 percent of parcel owners would likely pay less than $100, though large commercial property owners could pay thousands of dollars.

Before the proposal can advance, the county will give residents until Jan. 15 to file an objection.

No matter what property owners decide, Bayles will continue to keep fighting for improved water quality.

"There's no way I can stop," she said. "There's definitely more to come."

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FILMS
FROM PAGE 10

there that it would be best if we could put everyone under one roof, if they could, for an hour and let the filmmakers network, meet one on one," Katz said.

Filmmakers no longer have to go to move studios with ideas, scripts or completed projects, hand them over and hope. With the ability for people to stream things directly to their televisions and mobile devices, it's possible to get that product to the consumer without going through the traditional, and often restrictive, routes.

"I think it's easier for them to get their films seen," said Jay Friedman, director of sales with Bitmax, a company that specializes in the technical end of preparing a movie for online distribution.

Not that the Video on Demand world is a path to immediate success, it just democratizes access, taking ultimate decisions out of the hands of the studio oligarchy.

"There are more gatekeepers, there are just also more gates," Friedman said.

It's a powerful gate. Video on Demand platforms reach 100 million homes in the United States, and relatively inexpensive marketing campaigns targeted at potential viewers can make films a success.

A famous, although not necessarily perfect, example is "Bachelorette," a 2012 dark comedy starring Kirsten Dunst and Isla Fischer. The movie was released in theaters, but did poorly compared to its exceptional reception in the Video on Demand format.

Movies like that can create false expectations, said Logan Mulvey, CEO of Go Digital, a Video on Demand distribution company.

"There are success stories for independent film in the VOD marketplace, and they think 'That should be my film,'" Mulvey said. "They look at 'Bachelorette' and say how come my film isn't doing that?"

Success comes when filmmakers treat their projects as if they were a business and stay involved, Mulvey said.

"Don't just hand over the film and hope people watch it," he said. "Be an evangelist. The days are completely gone where you hand your movie in and hope for the best."

Even panelists have something to learn.

Bitmax may be old hat when it comes to the technology, but content aggregation is a new piece of their business, Friedman said.

"We're kind of the new kid on the block," he said

The remainder of the film festival will be fairly standard from years past, but will only last a day.

It opens with the award-winning documentary "Without a Net," an hour-long film that follows a Brazilian circus as it performs in the somtimes-vicious slums of Rio de Janeiro.

Following that, festival organizers selected another 16 films in a variety of lengths and styles before the closer, a short documentary called "Pot Country" that chronicles the experience of a female marijuana cultivator from Northern California.

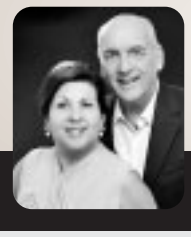
"It's only 26 minutes long, but it's powerful, educational and very timely," Katz said.

Tickets to the screenings cost $10 each, but an all-event pass costs $20. A portion of the sales will go to planting trees and another will go toward cancer research.

For more information, visit www.smff.org.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **61.5°**

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal mix of WNW swell and SSW swell; Light AM wind

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small short to mid period WNW-NW swell mix; Minimal SSW swell

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small short to mid period WNW-NW swell mix; New/small SW swell moves in

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small short to mid period WNW-NW swell mix; Small SW swell

Tides

Tidal swings are much less drastic the next few days, but with only modest lows bottoming out at 2'+ expect many areas to be swamped in the mornings due to the lack of significant swell.

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

BEACH REPORT CARD

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 28, 2012**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills — 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 0
Number of wet days — 4
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 28 / 30
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Educational Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SBAA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Winter Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIAW jetty).	A	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	B	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

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

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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

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

NBA

Nets' Gerald Wallace fined $5,000 for flopping

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Brooklyn Nets forward Gerald Wallace has been fined $5,000 by the NBA for flopping, joining teammate Reggie Evans as the only repeat offenders under the league's new penalty system.

The league also gave Clippers veteran Chauncey Billups a warning Wednesday for falling backward after launching a jumper against Utah with little or no contact.

Wallace was defending a driving LeBron James on Saturday in Miami when he went tumbling backward after James put his right hand on Wallace's body while dribbling with his left.

Wallace had previously been warned for a flop against New York on Nov. 26.

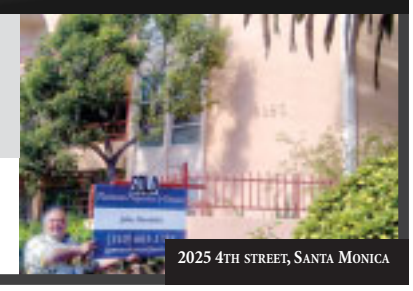
The league defines flopping as "any physical act that appears to have been intended to cause the referees to call a foul on another player."

Players are warned for a first offense, with fines beginning at $5,000 for the second flop up to $30,000 for a fifth.

Seven players have been determined to have flopped after review by NBA officials. Evans is the only other player to be caught twice.

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between Dec. 3rd and Dec. 31st, M-Th 8 a.m. – 5 p.m..
Friday Dec. 7th, Dec. 21st, Monday Dec. 24th and
Monday, Dec. 31st 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Closed Dec. 14; 25; and 28, EHO

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #4046 PROVIDE DRYWALL CONTRACTOR SERVICES, AS REQUIRED BY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE.
• Submission Deadline Is January 3, 2013 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

The bid packets can be downloaded at:
• http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15167

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Regina.Benavides@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

MOVIE TIMES

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

No screenings today.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Red Dawn (PG-13) 1hr 54min
2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 9:50pm

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm

Life of Pi (PG) 2hrs 06min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Anna Karenina (R) 2hrs 10min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:15am, 2:10pm, 5:05pm, 7:55pm, 10:45pm

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 10:40pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:20pm, 10:35pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
11:25am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
11:50am, 2:35pm, 5:25pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:50am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

Tarantino XX: Pulp Fiction Event (NR) 2hrs 50min
7:00pm

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

Royal Affair (En kongelig affaere) (R) 2hrs 13min
3:50pm

Chasing Ice (PG-13) 1hr 14min
5:40pm, 7:50pm

Middle of Nowhere (R) 1hr 39min
1:20pm, 7:00pm

Searching for Sugar Man (PG-13) 1hr 25min
4:40pm, 9:55pm

Sessions (R) 1hr 38min
9:30pm

Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) 1hr 42min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

Waiting For Lightning (PG-13) 1hr 27min
7:30pm, 9:55pm

Holy Motors (NR) 1hr 55min
9:45pm

Late Quartet (R) 1hr 45min
1:40pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:35am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm, 8:30pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:25am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:45pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
11:40am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Killing Them Softly (R) 1hr 40min
11:35am, 2:05pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Surround yourself with friends, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Pace yourself, and direct your high energy into a project or a discussion with someone you work with. Your energy could hit a home run. Use it well. Others naturally will follow your lead. Tonight: A must-show.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Your creativity surges, and your imagination wanders. You probably want to take off ASAP, so plan a vacation in the near future. Stay authentic when dealing with a snobby person; it just might rub off on him or her. Tonight: Feed your mind.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Stay centered. You might want to stay close to home. An associate might need some extra time and attention. You are extremely optimistic, which helps you visualize more of what you want. Know what you want. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer. Go for a lazy night.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might be pursuing the course you want to follow. Fortunately, it coincides with a partner's or a friend's idea. Otherwise, you would have experienced a lot of trouble with this person. Ask what you can do in order to relax more. Tonight: Hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Curb a tendency to overspend, even if you have quite a bit of shopping to do. You might want to adjust your budget some more. A roommate or a family member demonstrates his or her caring through action. Tension builds around a loved one. Tonight: Treat yourself, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Beam in more of what you want. You might feel as if no one can stop you. A boss notices your stamina when you are determined. You will need to use your creativity to handle everything on your plate. Tonight: Make yourself happy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Be a cynic, and listen to news carefully. You might want to understand what is happening with a family member or a roommate who is withdrawing. You know this person well. Think about what would be the most effective way to open him or her up. Tonight: Not to be found.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You are likely to verbalize what you're thinking. Someone might have a strong reaction to your words. You know when enough is enough. Consider distancing yourself from an awkward situation. Tonight: Out and about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You will decide to take a stand. Others listen and follow your lead. You put your energy -- and money, if need be -- behind your words. Someone you meet today could seem special, but ultimately could be a problem. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your detachment could cause quite a reaction. You might look at a situation differently, as a result. A brainstorming session might be the way an associate or loved one tries to draw you back in. Tonight: Whatever allows your mind to calm down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ A key person in your life enjoys relating directly to you. You both activate each other's imagination. Opportunities arise from your conversations. You know what you want, and you focus on those goals when trying to find the right path. Tonight: Dinner for two.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Listen to someone's suggestion. You might hear some news that surprises you. A friend is certain about what he or she wants, and will push and push to achieve those results. You might as well say "yes" if you can. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

Happy birthday

This year you could find that your high energy often turns into anger or frustration. The issue might be your high expectations of others, which could be unrealistic ... or perhaps others simply are not responsive. If you are single, be open and try not to project what you want onto someone else. Let this person reveal his or her authentic self. If you are attached, though you might have a quarrel or two, a newfound gentleness evolves between you. Respect each other's feelings. VIRGO can be bossy or demanding.

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

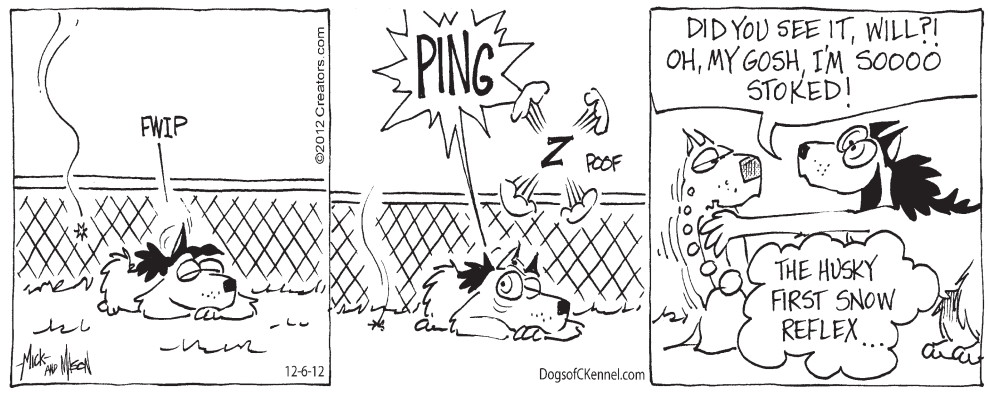
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



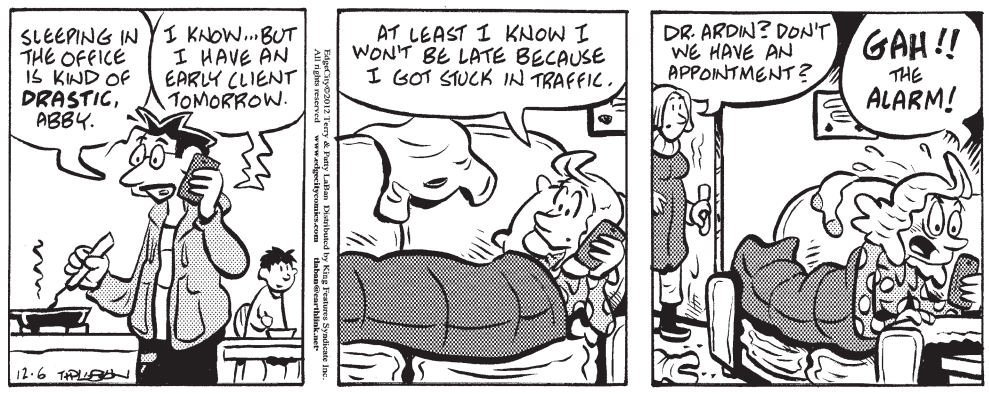
Strange Brew
By John Deering



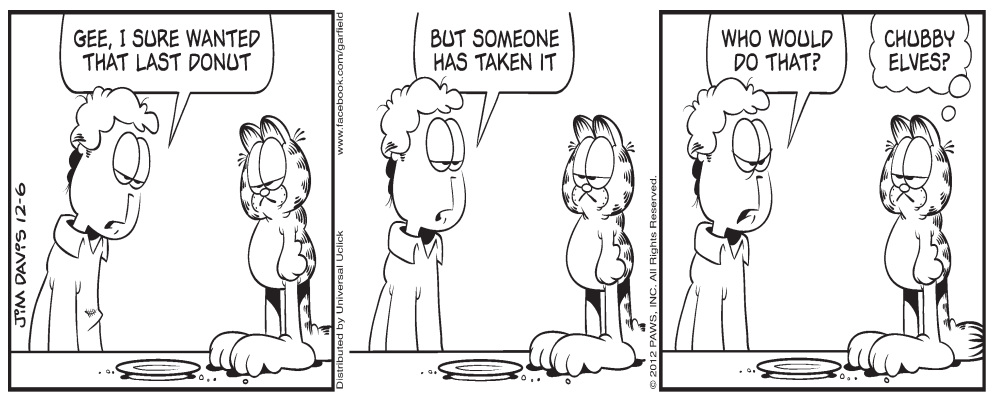
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



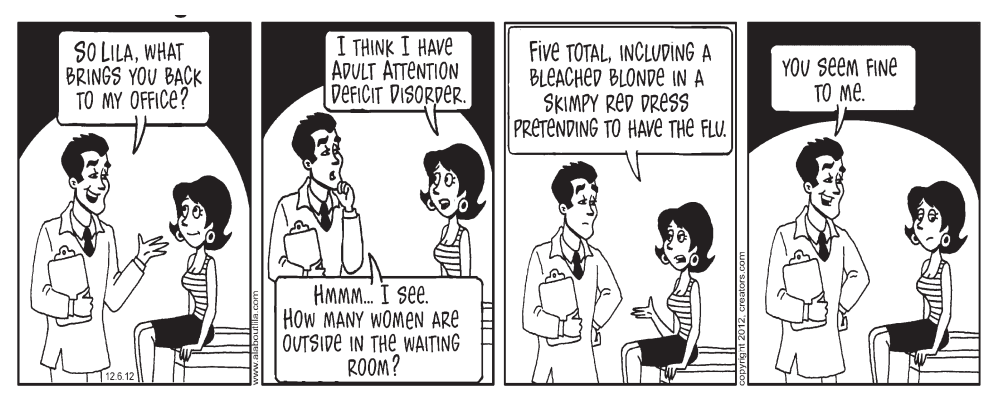
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY REVEALED!

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Reader Michael Kearney correctly identified this photo of the Professional Building located at the corner of Seventh Street and Wilshire Boulevard. He will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out Friday's paper for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

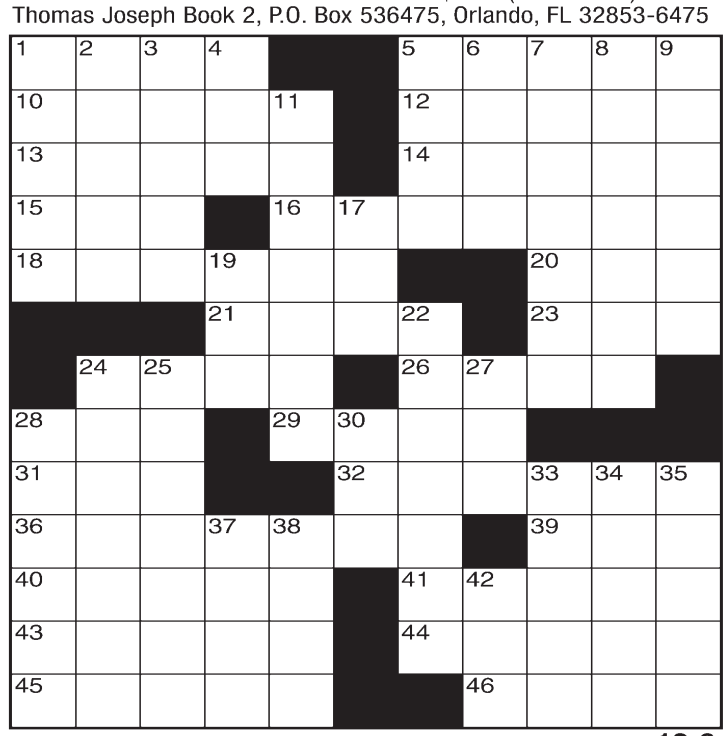
ACROSS
1 "Dog-gone!"
5 Tea party guest
10 Island greeting
12 Winter quaff
13 Comfort food source
14 Provinces
15 Play-wright Burrows
16 Play lightly with
18 Conun-drum
20 — Aviv
21 Wood-wind part
23 Hosp. sections
24 Declares
26 Sighed cry
28 Steaming
29 Rational
31 Gifted
32 Square dance instru-ment
36 Waffle-making need
39 Gun
40 Dwight's wife
41 Andean beast
43 "The end of —"
44 Playwright Neil
45 Was a snoop
46 Bad reviews

DOWN
1 Speed checker
2 Suspect's story
3 Muscu-larly fit
4 That lady
5 Superfruit berry
6 Christmas leaper
7 Summer quaff
8 Fuel transports
9 Studio stands
11 Naive
17 Petite
19 Like some martinis
22 Jeff of "The News-room"
24 Choir member
25 Occasion-ally
27 Was ahead
28 "Dallas" star
30 CIO's partner
33 Inge creation
34 Cleaner scent
35 Pianist Gil
37 Dreadful
38 Out of play
42 Gloss spot

M	O	N	A	M	I	■	P	R	A	M
A	D	O	R	E	D	■	L	E	I	A
D	E	N	I	A	L	■	A	C	M	E
■	■	■	S	N	E	E	Z	E	■	■
M	A	D	E	■	■	P	A	P	E	R
O	N	E	■	T	H	I	S	T	L	E
T	I	C	■	R	O	C	■	I	V	Y
O	M	E	L	E	T	S	■	V	E	E
R	E	P	A	Y	■	■	M	E	S	S
■	■	T	U	S	S	L	E	■	■	■
A	C	I	D	■	H	U	D	S	O	N
L	O	V	E	■	O	R	I	O	L	E
A	X	E	D	■	T	E	A	S	E	T

Yesterday's answer

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



12-6

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/4
3 19 24 32 43
Meganumber: 44
Jackpot: $20M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/1
4 17 18 32 46
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $17M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/5
3 16 17 33 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/5
MIDDAY: 8 9 1
EVENING: 4 2 4

SANTA ANITA
Draw Date: 12/5
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:48.19

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **The Will of God:** Devoted Catholic David Jimenez, 45, had been praying regularly to a large crucifix outside the Church of St. Patrick in Newburgh, N.Y., having become convinced that it was responsible for eradicating his wife's ovarian cancer. He even got permission from the church to spruce up the structure, as befit its power. Then, during a cleaning in May 2010, the 600-pound crucifix came loose and fell on Jimenez's leg, which had to be amputated. From a holy object of worship to precipitator of a lawsuit: Jimenez's $3 million litigation against the archdiocese goes to trial in January.

■ **Not Mine!** (1) James White, 30, was arrested in Grove City, Fla., after being stopped by police patrolling a high-burglary neighborhood, and in a consensual search of his pants, officers found a packet of Oxycodone pills for which White did not have a prescription. However, according to the police report, White suddenly exclaimed, "Oh, wait! These aren't my pants!" (2) Ms. Vida Golac, 18, was arrested in Naples, Fla., in October, and charged with possessing marijuana, which police discovered in her genitals as she was being strip-searched. According to the police report, Golac denied that the drugs were hers and explained that she was just hiding them there for friends.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1971 – Pakistan severs diplomatic relations with India following New Delhi's recognition of Bangladesh.

1975 – Balcombe Street Siege: An IRA Active Service Unit takes a couple hostage in Balcombe Street, London.

1977 – South Africa grants independence to Bophuthatswana, although it is not recognized by any other country.

WORD UP!

erinaceous
\ er-uh-NEY-shuhs \ , adjective;
1.
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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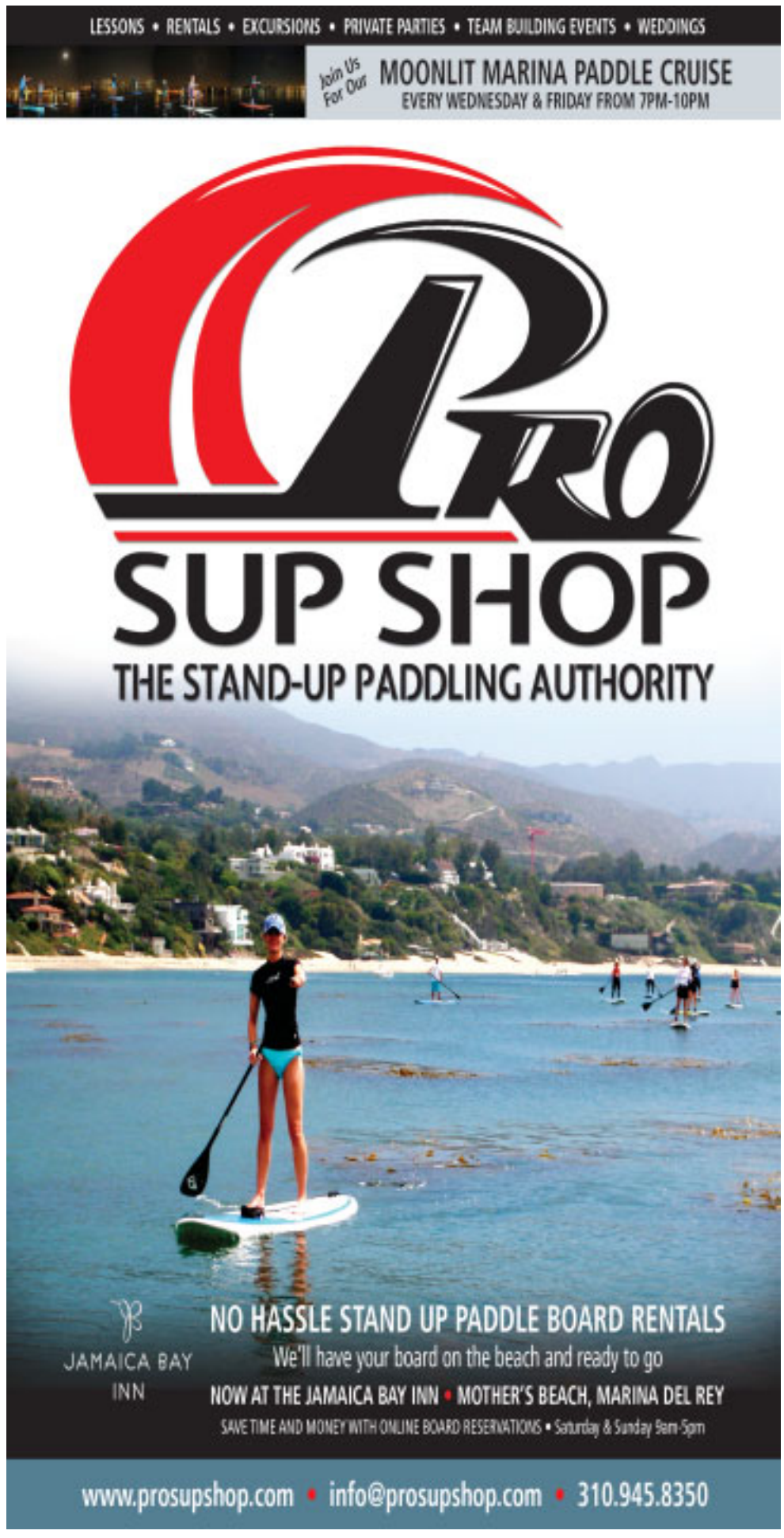
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December

Kate Bransfield

DRE # 01218699

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* Great Neighborhood



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Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,425,000
North of Montana	=	$4,230,929
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,436,625
South of Wilshire	=	$ 944,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,301,544
Ocean Park	=	$2,072,000
Statistics updated every Friday		

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