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Volume 17 Issue 24

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City Council punts consideration of controversial preschool

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Neighbors fighting plans for a 20-student preschool near Gandara Park scored their first political victory Tuesday, when four City Council members voted to postpone the debate over a Conditional Use Permit needed to open the school.

The dozens of residents who are fighting the City over the proposed school at 2953 Delaware Avenue still need to convince four out of seven councilmembers to deny the CUP. However, with only five elected leaders present for Tuesday's meeting, they were facing an uphill battle. The debate is rescheduled for Jan. 23.

"We were thankful but we didn't know why," said Christine Parra, an 18-year resident of the neighborhood where a former McKinnley Elementary School teacher has purchased a home to convert into a school.

Councilmember Kevin McKeown's motion to delay the discussion is now giving neighbors time to strategize and regroup, though the councilman says it had nothing to do with his decision.

"Based on information I received this afternoon from counsel, I believe it may be legally

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 7

California opens online system to license new pot industry

Associated Press

California on Friday began accepting applications from businesses that want to operate in the state's legal marijuana industry next year, a milestone for the emerging market.

After months in development, an online system launched and will allow retailers, distributors and testing labs to seek state licenses, which are required to conduct business.

Recreational pot sales kick off in California on Jan. 1, joining the long-running medical cannabis industry.

"Now that applications are coming in, we can officially move one step closer to issuing California's first state licenses for commercial cannabis activity," Lori Ajax, who heads the state Bureau of Cannabis Control, said in a statement.

When issued, the temporary licenses will not be effective until Jan. 1, and businesses need a local permit before applying for state licenses.

Along with a valid local permit, those who apply will need to disclose owners in the business, its location, provide a diagram of the establishment and produce documents that show a cannabis business can be operated at the site.

The state and cities have been hustling to establish rules to govern the projected $7 billion industry that range from where plants can be grown to determining the location of pot businesses.

The Los Angeles City Council this week endorsed regulations under which residential neighborhoods would be largely off-limits to pot businesses, and buffer zones would be set up around schools, libraries and parks.

In a state with a vast illegal pot market, it has been a long-running question how many businesses will come forward to seek licenses for the new legal market.

The state projects it will collect $1 billion in new taxes from pot sales and other activity within several years.

California is among 29 states where pot is legal, either for medical or recreational use.

Air quality concerns persist as fire containment grows

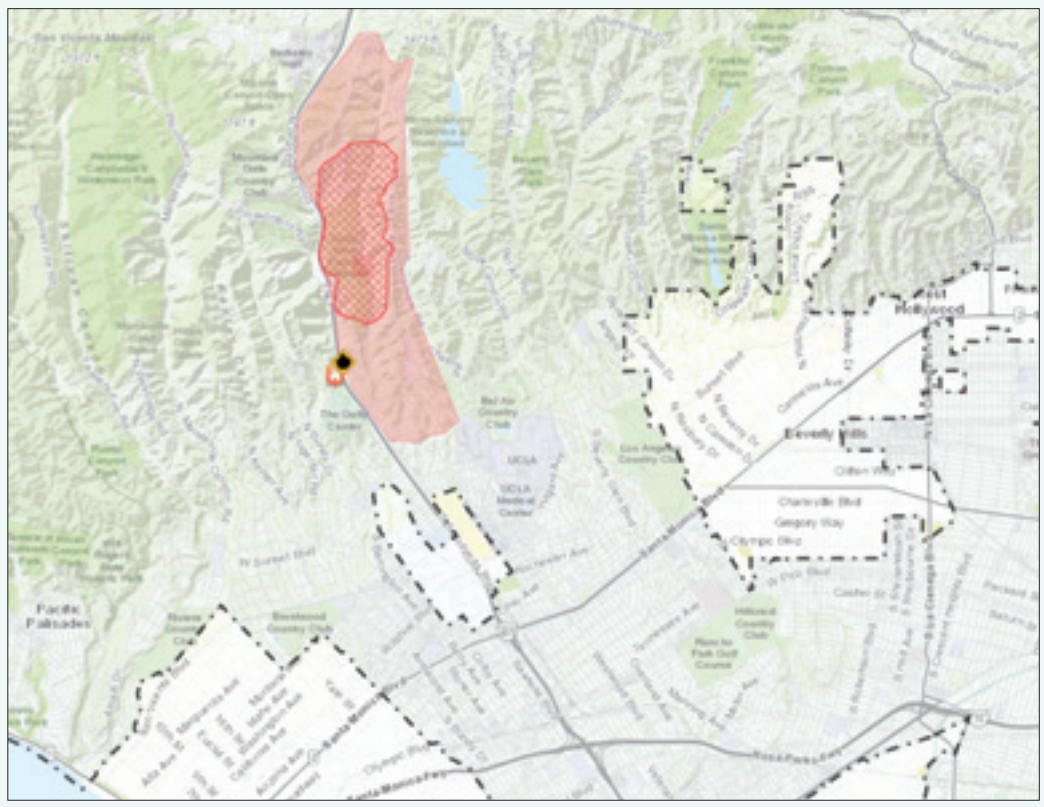

Image courtesy of Calfire

SKIRBALL FIRE: Several fires, including the one closest to Santa Monica continue to create smoke.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Staff Writer

According to CalFire, firefighters are beginning to contain some of the fires burning in Southern California but air quality remains questionable near the fires as changing weather conditions push clouds of smoke in different directions.

In the Statewide Fire Summary for Dec. 8, Calfire said the Skirball Fire burning North of Brentwood has consumed 475 acres and is now 30% contained. Evacuations and road closures remained in effect for some nearby residents.

"As nearly 8,700 firefighters made progress the large fires in southern California, two new fires erupted and spread rapidly, pushed by fierce Santa Ana winds. In total, the six fires have burned more than 141,000 acres and driven more than 212,000 residents to from their homes.," said the report.

Weather conditions were not ideal for firefighting, but were not as bad as feared in the last few days. Winds were between 15 – 20 mph with gusts up to 40 mph in some areas. Rising temperatures pushed the thermometer into the mid 80's in some areas and strong offshore winds were expected into the weekend.

Those winds are also responsible for a roulette wheel of air quality as smoke can be pushed in any direction. For most of Friday, Santa Monica's air quality was considered "moderate" one step below the best ranking of "good." However, winds shifted later in the day bringing slightly more smoke towards the city.

The Southern Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), the government agency

SEE AIR PAGE 6


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, December 9

Santa Gets A Ride From Fire And Police

Santa Claus is coming to town with Santa Monica's police officers & fire-fighters leading the way as he makes his way around town. Santa and his public safety helpers will be distributing good cheer and thousands of candy canes as part of the 25th Annual "Candy Cane Drive." Everyone is invited to join in the annual Candy Cane Drive. 10:30 -11:15 a.m. Douglas Park - 2400 California Avenue. 11:30-12 p.m. Christine Reed Park- 1133 7th Street, 1:30- 2:15 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park - 2200 Virginia Avenue, 2:30 -3:00 p.m. Marine Park – 1406 Marine Street, 3:15- 3:45 p.m. Clover Park – 2600 Ocean Park Blvd. For more information, call the Santa Monica Police Department's Community Affairs Unit at (310) 458-8474.

Writer in Residence Office Hours

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

Pico Holiday Celebration

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Chanukah, Christmas & Kwanzaa celebration in Virginia Avenue Park. Holiday Walk on Pico Blvd. from 1 - 4 p.m. Visit www.picopassport.com for more information.

Design in 3D: Open Lab

Explore 3D printing possibilities at the Library. Prepare your own three-dimensional plastic objects for 3D printing. Staff will be available to help with basic troubleshooting. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Second Saturday Open Craft Lounge

Free. Open to all adults, reservations appreciated. Come to the Camera Obscura Art Lab on the second Saturday of every month to work on your projects, take in a mini-workshop, and stretch your craft-legs. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search

Sunday, December 10

Santa Monica Certified Farmers Market

The Main Street market hosts a variety activities including bands, a bi-weekly cooking demonstrations, arts and crafts, a face painter, a balloon animal designer as well as seasonal California grown fruits, vegetables, nuts, meats and cheeses. 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. 2640 Main St. @ Ocean Park

Monday, December 11

Landmarks Commission Meeting

Special Meeting of the City Landmarks Commission. SMI Training Room, Civic Center Parking Structure, 4th Street & Olympic Drive, 7 p.m.

Star Wars Story Time

Celebrate the upcoming movie with an hour of Star Wars themed fun! Ages 4-7. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Preschool Explorers: Snow

Explore a new science topic each month with stories and hands-on activities. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 2:30 – 3:15 p.m.

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

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SHOT PUT (4 THROW MEN FOLLOWED BY WOMEN) POLE VAULT (6-00 START, RAISE BY 6")
(OR FOLLOWING SHOT PUT/ LONG JUMP) TRIPLE JUMP (3 JUMPS)
INFORMATION: SAMOTRACK.COM or TFISCHER@SMMUSD.ORG
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REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Consultants to complete and submit proposals for:

Site and Utility Design Services for the Beach Maintenance Yards Replacement Trailer SP2521

Proposals shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Architecture Services, 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, California, 90401, no later than 2:30 p.m. on **January 24, 2018**, to be publicly opened and read aloud at 3:00 p.m. on said date in the Conference Room at 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, California 90401. Each proposal shall be in accordance with the Request for Proposals.

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website athttp://www.smgov.net/planetbids. Consultants wishing to be considered must submit Proposals containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Proposals.

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Film Review

By Kathryn Whitney Boole — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

WONDER WHEEL

Rated PG-13
101 Minutes
Released December 1

I SAW WONDER WHEEL AT A SCREENING that featured a live Q&A with the lead actors afterwards, and I got to thinking (often a dangerous development). Why is it that Woody Allen's films seem a bit lacking in thrills and chills, very cerebral, yet the greatest actors in the world are ecstatic to be offered a role by this writer/director? Allen's unique cinematic language is born in an erudite writer's head – intellectual rather than realistic. He puts words in play with the actors as if to throw them a ball. The success of his communication lies completely with the actors, who are charged with making the dialogue work as if it's endemic to their characters. In the case of Wonder Wheel, the cast makes it work on a high level. The dialogue alone drives the story, not the visuals, certainly not music – Allen does not hire a composer. His dialogue serves as music. Allen is that rare director who can take what seems to be a theatre piece and make it work on screen. He seems to think of the set as a theatre stage…or the bedcover on which he moves his toy soldiers. Allen hires the best in the business to bring his concepts to reality. His cinematographer, Vittorio Storaro, has won three Oscars. The colors, the angles, the lighting, all make a rich potpourri of imagination within a setting that familiar to many: Coney Island of the 1950's.

Wonder Wheel is a window into the interactions of some self-absorbed, flawed, yet likeable characters, each with their own sphere of yearnings, dreams and reality. Kate Winslet knew she had to have Allen's intricate dialogue completely embedded in her memory, to be repeated on instinct. She knew she would be the center of the ensemble. She spent three months constantly focused on memorization and succeeded in creating the role of "Ginny" beautifully. I believe it's no accident that the character's first name is the same as the iconic "Virginia Woolf."

Justin Timberlake as the ubiquitous "Woody Allen" central character, has to choose between a relationship with a mother or with her stepdaughter…the irony is not lost. Jim Belushi felt privileged to work with Allen. He said that Allen would set up the scene and give them the reins to just play with it, an improvisation with set dialogue. The director would know if a scene lost its rhythm or dialogue wasn't working. He would be the first to say, "I need to rewrite that!"

If you expect this will be a movie in a traditional cinematic style, you may be bored and disappointed. It's not a film that leaves you mesmerized. It is fun to watch and the acting is some of the best you will ever see. Woody Allen as a director is a kid playing with his toys – this I mean in a good way. If you see his movies with that in mind, you will discover that life is a fascinating Wonder Wheel.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Caterpillar subsidiary says it cheated customers, pays $20M

A subsidiary of Caterpillar Inc. will pay $20 million after acknowledging it charged customers for unnecessary repairs to railroad cars and tossed parts into the ocean off Los Angeles to hide the scam.

Prosecutors say United Industries entered a plea Thursday to a federal water pollution charge. It was fined $5 million and ordered to pay $20 million to three companies that owned railcars.

United Industries had a repair facility at LA's Terminal Island. In a plea agreement, the company acknowledged workers replaced functioning parts, including brake shoes, and tossed them into Long Beach harbor to hide evidence of the fraud.

Prosecutors say the scheme came to light when Long Beach port authorities got a tip about illegal dumping and divers found the parts.

United Industries no longer repairs railcars.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON CITY

126 Nevada inmates bound for California to fight fires

More than 100 minimum security inmates at prison camps in Nevada are being deployed to Southern California to help fight a series of raging wildfires.

Nevada Department of Corrections Director James Dzurenda says the camp officers and inmate firefighters are trained and prepared to do the job.

The six crews made up of 126 inmates will be working the Thomas fire in Ventura, California.

Dzurenda said Thursday they were en route from prison camps in Carson City, Pioche, Ely, Jean and the Three Lakes Valley Camp about 30 miles north of Las Vegas.

He says only those inmates who pose the least security risk are allowed to work on the crews.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DRAGONS WIN

Courtesy photos

The women of the Santa Monica Dragons, a 501 c(3) non-profit lacrosse club, achieved significant success this month. The Fire 2018/19 team won the Oceanside Hustle Elite division, making it the top girls HS team on the West Coast.



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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit proposals for the:

Citywide General Contractor Pre-qualification List
SP2524

Statements of Qualifications shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Architecture Services, Suite 300, 1437 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **Monday, January 8, 2018**, with submitting Contractor names to be read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in the **Architecture Services Conference Room**. Each Statement of Qualifications shall be in accordance with the Request for Qualifications.

Request for Qualifications Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a Class A or B license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Statement of Qualifications containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Qualifications.



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AIR

FROM PAGE 1

charged with monitoring air quality, said winds coming from the northeast could bring smoke into the Los Angeles area over the weekend.

The AQMD said the Creek Fire burning near Sylmar and the Skirball fire near the Getty Center could both send smoke into western Los Angeles.

"Strong northeast winds are expected to continue through at least Saturday afternoon bringing smoke into the western portion of Los Angeles County," said their smoke advisory. "Air quality may reach Unhealthy levels or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke."

The agency said Santa Monica and its surrounding area could be directly impacted by unhealthy smoke depending on wind conditions.

"In any area impacted by smoke: Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, pregnant women, older adults, and children should remain indoors. Keep windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Run your air conditioner if you have one and keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. Avoid using a swamp cooler or whole-house fan to prevent bringing additional smoke inside," said the AQMD. "To avoid worsening the health effects of smoke, don't use indoor or outdoor wood-burning appliances, including fireplaces."

The fires prompted Governor Brown to issue emergency proclamations for San Diego, Los Angeles, Ventura and San Diego Counties. President Trump also declared a state of emergency for the Southern California fires.

Fire status as of Dec. 8

LILAC FIRE, SAN DIEGO COUNTY
Bonsall
4,100 acres, 0% contained
Evacuations and road closures in effect

THOMAS FIRE, VENTURA COUNTY
Santa Paula
132,000 acres, 10% contained
Evacuations and road closures in effect
15,000 homes threatened, over 88,000 residents evacuated

CREEK FIRE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Kagel Canyon
15,323 acres, 40% contained
Evacuations and road closures in effect

RYE FIRE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Santa Clarita
6,049 acres, 35% contained
Evacuations and road closures in effect
5,460 homes threatened, 2,000 residents evacuated

LIBERTY FIRE, RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Murrieta
300 acres, 59% contained

SKIRBALL FIRE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY
North of Brentwood
475 acres, 30% contained
Evacuations and road closures in effect

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COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

prudent for us to continue item 6A," Councilmember Kevin McKeown announced about an hour before Delaware Avenue neighbors were prepared to plead their case. McKeown told the Daily Press he decided to make the motion because the neighbors may not have received some requested information "in a timely manner," citing his commitment to transparency.

"I want to stress that the reason of my motion is not the number of council members on the dais," McKeown said. Longstanding policy limits postponements over the number of members present in order to prevent applicants from gaming the schedule. Appellants can only request a continuance if there are just four members.

Both sides of the issue were caught off guard by the last-minute motion. The preschool's founder, Laila Taslimi was in the lobby helping her supporters file requests to speak when she heard the motion and rushed into council chambers.

"I was surprised and didn't expect it," Taslimi said. "I had absolutely no idea why or how it happened."

Instead of moving forward with her preschool, Taslimi found herself back at home pouring over nearly 200 pages of letters submitted to the Council concerning the item. She was surprised to see several other neighborhood groups had written to fight her school, which she deems badly needed in the 90404 zip code.

"It feels like a runaway train in a way," Taslimi said, who is also rethinking her strategy in the wake of the postponement.

One of those letters came from Zina Josephs, another former elementary school teacher who is also president of the Friends of Sunset Park neighborhood association. Josephs says she questions the wisdom of placing 20 children in a former single family residence

"To have 20 kids next door is not like having a family next door," Josephs said. "Nobody has a family of 20 kids."

The Council opened R1 Zoned Districts, like Delaware, to preschools in 2015, requiring a CUP to address potential conflicts like parking, noise and remodeling needed to turn a house into a school. This is the first application to go before the Council.

"The CUP conditions should protect neighborhood residents while ensuring that the facility is able to operate its educational and developmental program to provide high quality childcare and early education that meet the needs of working families," reads a City report on the preschool.

The zoning change was controversial at the time. Other neighborhood groups are closely watching this issue and, with several Councilmembers facing reelection in 2018, active residents are watching as well.

"It's just a microcosm of what's going on in the city," Josephs said. "Someone has a grand idea and then it gets imposed on the residents whether it's a good idea or not."

Councilmember Sue Himmelrich voted to delay the debate, saying there were legal issues concerning whether the appellants had received all the documents they requested. She agreed it will be better if the full Council is seated for the vote.

"It's better to err on the side of caution," Himmelrich said.

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON NOVEMBER 30, AT ABOUT 6:31 P.M.

Officers responded to the Apple Store regarding a theft suspect in custody. A plain clothes loss prevention agent observed the suspect grab two DJI Spark drones and a pair of Beats 3 wireless headphones from the displays. The suspect proceeded to walk past numerous sales associates and exit the store without attempting to pay for the three items. Loss prevention detained the suspect outside of the store and was escorted him back inside the store. He was detained until the police arrived. Xavier Russell Walton, 32, from Los Angeles, was booked for grand theft.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 346 Calls For Service On Dec. 7.

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

Encampment 1500 block Palisades Park 4:30 a.m.
Battery 1500 block 2nd 5:35 a.m.
Auto burglary 2000 block 14th 5:52 a.m.
Battery 4th / Colorado 7:00 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block 11th 7:34 a.m.
Trespassing 1400 block 15th 7:52 a.m.
Battery 600 block Santa Monica 7:59 a.m.
Found property 200 block 15th 8:30 a.m.
Encampment 3000 block the beach 8:33 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 200 block Strand 8:38 a.m.
Burglary 2500 block Euclid 9:13 a.m.
Sexual assault 1600 block the beach 9:42 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2800 block Wilshire 9:56 a.m.
Burglary 1200 block Ocean Park 10:06 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 3000 block Glenn 10:13 a.m.
Burglary 2500 block Euclid 10:17 a.m.
Death 1000 block 9th 10:21 a.m.
Petty theft 2900 block Glenn 10:31 a.m.
Fraud 2000 block Wilshire 11:04 a.m.
Battery 1700 block Main 11:24 a.m.
Hit and run 800 block 2nd 11:52 a.m.
Fight 700 block Ozone 12:08 p.m.
Loitering 1800 block 9th 12:32 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block 7th 12:32 p.m.
Harassing phone 1700 block Ocean 12:47 p.m.
Auto burglary 5th / California 1:05 p.m.
Grand theft 2000 block 14th 1:27 p.m.
Encampment 2600 block 34th 1:29 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 900 block 10th 1:48 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 12th 1:56 p.m.
Vehicle blocking 2500 block Ocean Park 2:16 p.m.
Identity theft 600 block Strand 2:24 p.m.
Critical missing 2900 block Glenn 2:29 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 12th 2:47 p.m.
Attempt armed 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 3:06 p.m.
Battery Main / Pico 3:30 p.m.
Lewd activity Yale / Montana 5:05 p.m.
Harassing phone calls 2700 block Neilson Way 5:23 p.m.
Battery 1300 block 3rd street Prom 5:34 p.m.
Traffic collision 1200 block 22nd 6:13 p.m.
Fraud 2000 block Wilshire 6:36 p.m.
Living in a vehicle 2200 block Broadway 7:08 p.m.
Battery 900 block Broadway 7:08 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1300 block Lincoln 7:09 p.m.
Panhandling 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 7:13 p.m.
Identity theft 600 block Strand 7:38 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 31 Calls For Service On Dec. 7.

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

Emergency 2800 block Pico 12:26 a.m.
Emergency 1400 block Santa Monica 2:05 a.m.
Emergency 500 block 25th 4:48 a.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire Princeton / Wilshire 5:29 a.m.
Emergency 1100 block 7th 7:32 a.m.
Emergency 2100 block Ocean 7:31 a.m.
Emergency 1100 block Arizona 7:02 a.m.
Automatic alarm 3100 block 4th 8:01 a.m.
Emergency 1300 block 15th 8:03 a.m.
Emergency 800 block Santa Monica 8:36 a.m.
Emergency 1500 block 2nd 9:31 a.m.
Emergency 1000 block 9th 9:49 a.m.
Emergency 2800 block Pico 9:56 a.m.
Emergency 1100 block 7th 10:09 a.m.
Emergency Barnard / Hollister 10:51 a.m.
Emergency 700 block Broadway 11:33 a.m.
Emergency 700 block Montana 12:31 p.m.
Emergency 2000 block Santa Monica 12:36 p.m.
Emergency 1200 block 20th 1:23 p.m.
Emergency 1100 block Colorado 1:39 p.m.
Emergency 5th / Colorado 2:02 p.m.
Emergency 600 block Palisades 3:11 p.m.
Emergency 1100 block Arizona 5:30 p.m.
Emergency 1400 block Ocean 6:12 p.m.
Emergency 1200 block 16th 6:44 p.m.
Emergency 1300 block Oak 7:58 p.m.
Emergency 1200 block 16th 10:26 p.m.

9TH ANNUAL
SANTA MONICA
PUB CRAWL
Saturday, December 16, 2017
FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 5PM
FEATURING THE CITY'S BEST BARS & RESTAURANTS
1. Sign Up, Choose A Route & Download Official Mobile App
2. Dress Up In Your Favorite Holiday Garb
3. Go To Your Official Starting Location
4. Get Your Wristband
5. Eat, Drink, Be Merry & Help Those In Need
BENEFITING WESTSIDE FOOD BANK
www.santamonicapubcrawl.com

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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/6
19 20 50 55 62
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 212M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/5
14 15 37 42 67
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 176M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 12/6
1 2 7 12 24
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 38M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/7
3 11 19 24 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/7
MIDDAY: 2 1 1
Draw Date: 12/7
EVENING: 7 4 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/7
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:44.85

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

dundrearies

1. long, full sideburns or muttonchop whiskers.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Self Exam

■ Q: If you extracted all of the iron in your body and fashioned it into a nail, how long would the nail be?
■ A: Three inches

Final Words

■ "Nothing, but death."
■ —English author Jane Austen, when asked by her sister, Cassandra, if there was anything she wanted. The 42-year-old Austen died after a long, debilitating illness.

Doc Talk

■ Aphonia: the inability to speak

Phobia of the Week

■ Dishabiliophobia: undressing in front of someone

MYSTERY REVEALED

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



Michele Villarreal correctly identified the photo as part of the Marco Polo mural on the former home of Marco Polo Imports, 716 Colorado Blvd. (next to Fisher Lumber).

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

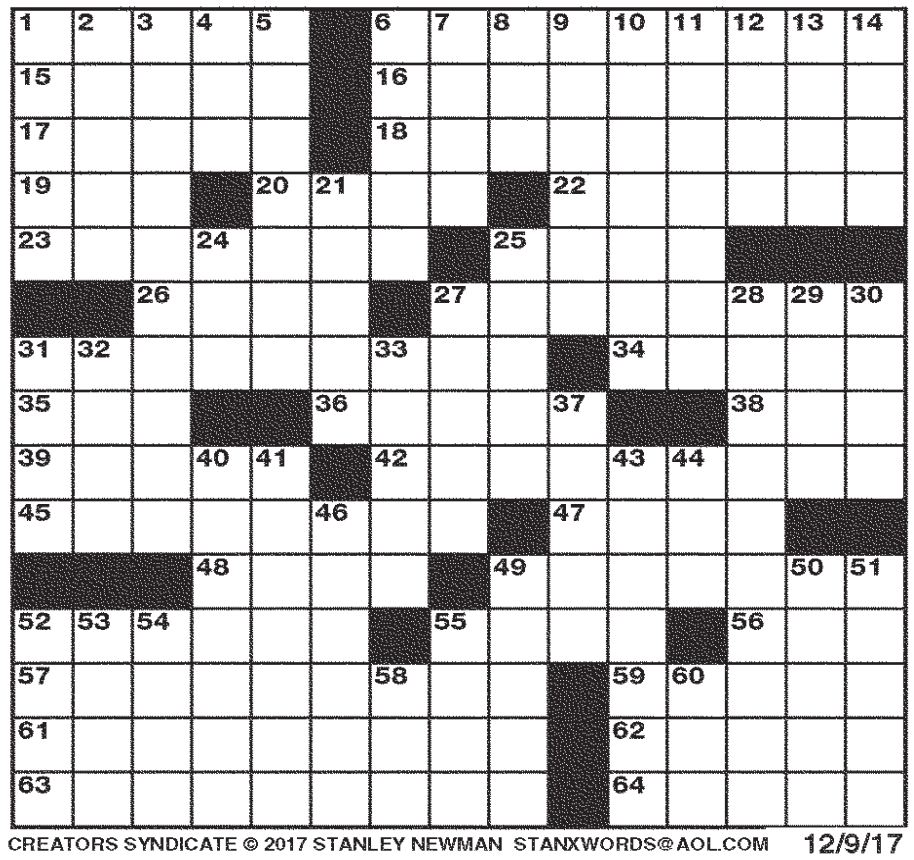
7		3				5		6
		9			4	3		
	5		3					4
	6			8			1	
			2		3			
	8			9			5	
5					1		3	
		4	8			7		
8		1				6		5

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Frank Longo
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Ancient Mecca, e.g.
6 Shams may be against them
15 Chevy Celebrity cousin
16 It sounds like "Who cooks for you"
17 Sank, in a sport
18 Potential big winner
19 Crackle, e.g.
20 Irritable
22 Worthy of many stars
23 German mathematician who inspired Einstein
25 Novel creation
26 Small party
27 Ear attachment
31 Shabby
34 Flower bud's protector
35 What rings may indicate
36 Sichuan native
38 How Juliet said "speed"
39 Lowest level
42 It can illuminate the senses
45 First step in some discoveries
47 U.S. occupation target in 2014's *RoboCop*
48 Word from Old English for "lightly boiled"
49 Forum's combative crew
52 Get a fresh take on
55 Helmeted hawk
56 Cracking indication
57 With no delay
59 Galvanize
61 How everyone arrives?
62 Home of cinema's "Kallywood"
63 Eleventh-hour
64 Prone to circumlocution

DOWN
1 Cave art medium
2 Suspension in a kitchen
3 What barbs can damage
4 Oath elicitor
5 Down-state sign
6 Daisy offering
7 *King Lear* figure
8 50 Cent mentor
9 D.A. portrayer in *Crash*
10 Money back
11 Opposite of "lean"
12 Manifestation
13 America's Cup, for one
14 Much more than a morsel
21 Ready when you are
24 Hardly thrilling
25 World's largest motorcycle maker
27 Make sweet-smelling, in a way
28 Many small-screen programs
29 *Yaourt*, essentially
30 Duchamp called him "incomparable"
31 Advocate of seat-belt law enforcement
32 One who's hardly hospitable
33 Chocolate alternative
37 Tripping
40 Work out
41 Stuck on a shoulder, say
43 Teacher's activity
44 Where Ali wouldn't fight
46 *Collezioni* retailer
49 1990s FBI head
50 Source for Argentine dusters
51 Witty outburst
52 Let out all one's gripes
53 World Heritage Site with snow
54 "The Skinny on __" (heart.org page)
55 Power letters
58 __ butter
60 *Pronomen Latine*



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Support Westside Food Bank at Upcoming Holiday Events





BY GENEVIEVE RIUTORT
Westside Food Bank

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH 11AM-3PM
- THE SANTA MONICA SERVICE CLUB ALLIANCE COMMUNITY BOUTIQUE
- SANTA MONICA BAY WOMEN'S CLUB
1210 4TH STREET SANTA MONICA 90401

Buy Local and Give Local while getting to know 25 local nonprofits including Westside Food Bank, Heal the Bay, KCRW, Westside Coalition and more. The Santa Monica High School Orchestra Quintet will play holiday favorites while you shop for year-end gifts, sip hot apple cider and mimosas and enjoy some holiday cheer at this 2nd Annual event supporting our non-profit community.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH 5PM
- THE 9TH ANNUAL
SANTA MONICA PUB CRAWL

Don your best holiday costume to "crawl" along one of 4 routes on Main Street, Ocean Avenue, The 3rd Street Promenade or Wilshire Blvd., and enjoy food and drink specials while supporting Westside Food Bank. Contests, prizes and a Santa's Secret Hideaway After-Party add to the fun. Join over 5,000 revelers dressed up as Santas, Elves, Reindeers, Christmas Trees, Grinches and more to take over the streets of Santa Monica for this festive event that helps provide food for about 100,000 holiday meals each year. Visit www.santamonica-pubcrawl.com for tickets.

Visit wsfb.org to make a holiday donation, schedule a food drive, or learn more about our work.

WESTSIDE FOOD BANK

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 9)

Maybe it's because you teach and you give. Or maybe it's because you rarely complain and find it quite natural to inspire others. Whichever it is, you'll enjoy a solar return that includes you being very well-liked and well-compensated in all the ways that matter to you. Exciting news comes in May. Travel comes in October. Capricorn and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 22, 20, 3 and 33.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
The first rule of professionalism is not to ask others to do your work. The second rule is to adhere to the training manual. If you weren't trained, it's not your fault, but the true professional finds a way to get trained nonetheless.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You agreed. You checked the box. That box included limitations that you will definitely outgrow and push against in time — as well as limitations that you are better off respecting. Knowing the difference, that's the thing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
As you mix into the crowd, you'll be with all manner and types of people, most melding with your goodwill and positive intention; some, not so much. Just remember that all rudeness is essentially weakness or ignorance.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You're not looking to blame anyone, though neither would you mind if someone else would step in and take responsibility for what's going on. It could actually happen... miracle of miracles!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Avoid matters of religion and politics in polite company. Extend the taboo-topics list to finance, health, fashion, taste preferences in general and basically anything that highlights differences of opinion, ideology or belief.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You've trepidation about tackling the events of the day, but that won't stop you. The upside of being afraid is an adrenaline rush — just what you need to take courage in the face of fear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You'll use the past to reference where you are. That's the proper use of it, after all. To use it as a refuge would make you smaller. To use it as your glory would deny the excitement that is to come.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Some say it isn't right to change the goal. Some say it signals weakness or failure. But not all goals are worthy. A worthy goal is the water that raises all ships.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Your success today will depend on your ability to compartmentalize and manage your emotions, including the very subtle, almost non-emotion of boredom.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
It's not that everyone wants or needs to be included in the shenanigans; it's just that everyone wants to feel invited. Handle the invites in a highly inclusive manner and you'll be a social success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
There's something new on the horizon that will not fully rise if not for your input. You can't imagine how important you are to this right now, but hopefully you won't doubt it, either.

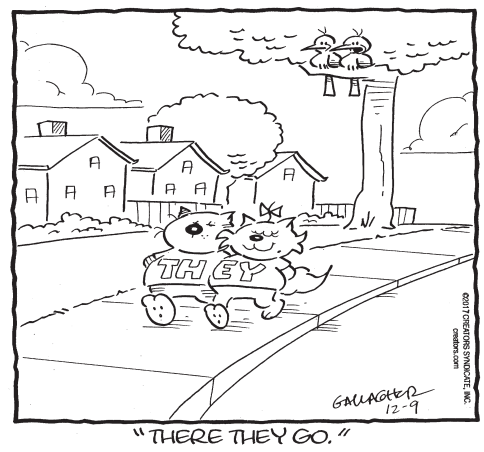
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Shakespeare suggested, "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late." In his time, three hours (without a cellphone!) must have been excruciating. However, he has a point. And you'll earn many points for a timely arrival.

Mars Enters Scorpio

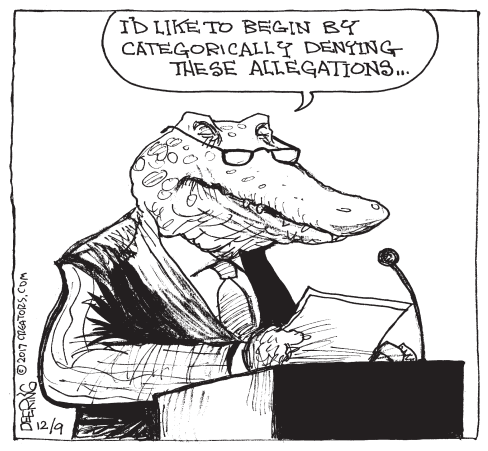
Mars enters Scorpio, raising eyebrows everywhere. But are we really so shocked at what we see, or are we just pretending because it makes us look innocent? Complicated behaviors arise out of complicated situations. Before pointing at offenders, check to make sure you yourself haven't offended in some some similar way.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

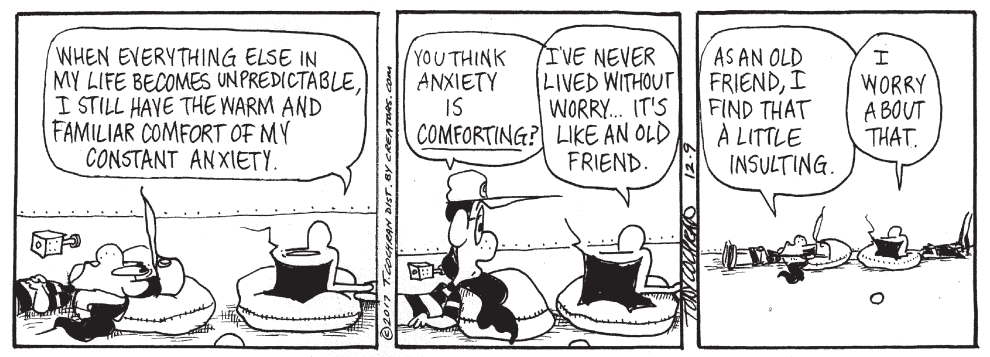
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



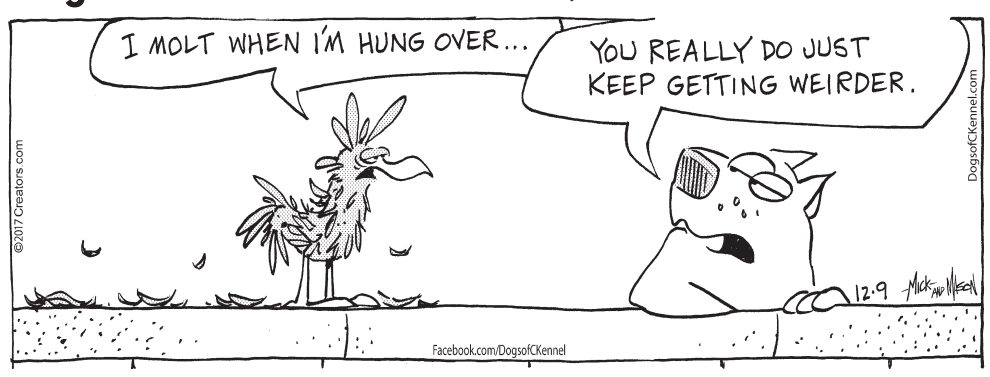
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



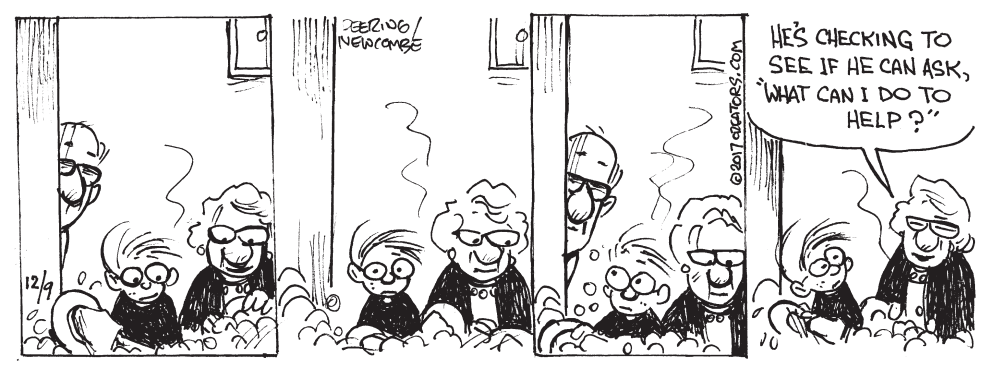
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



THE MOMENT YOU HELP PULL A REFUGEE TO SAFETY



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Make this your moment.

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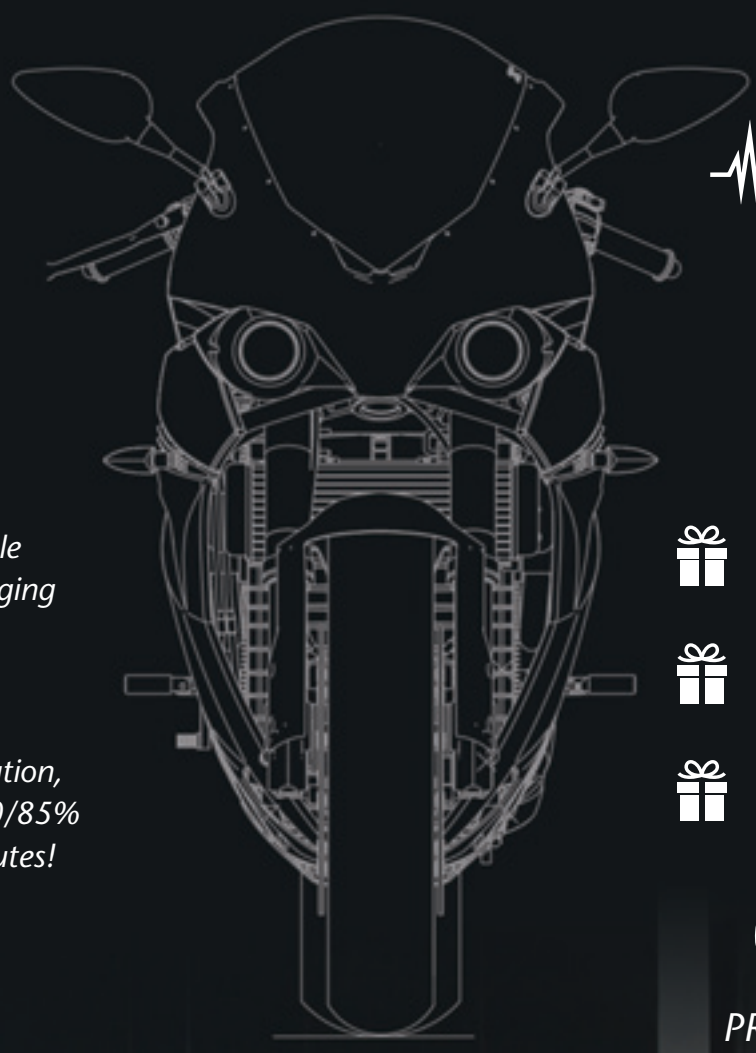
MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

0-60 in 2.8 SECONDS!!



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