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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
12.14.19 - 12.15.19
Volume 19 Issue 27
@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

One car, two suspects, 10 ID's
Two people were arrested for false identification charges.
Page 3

Drought reduction
Recent rain reduces state-wide drought.
Page 4



Courtesy photo

DONATION: **Approximately 7,300 pounds of non-perishable food and hundreds of items of business clothing were donated to local charities last week. See Page 5 for more information.**

Spitfire Grill to close after three decades of service



Brennon Dixson

CLOSING: **The Spitfire Grill location has been a restaurant for 60 years and a new owner will take over in 2020.**

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

After almost 30 years of providing a place for hungry locals to land, the Spitfire Grill will be wheels up next year as the popular restaurant has been sold to a new owner.

Spitfire will remain open for a few months while the new owners finalize their paperwork and current owner John Clarizio said he will miss the place, but he's ready to move on.

"I've been here a long time and I need a break," he said.

Clarizio, who was born in Santa Monica, has been in the local restaurant business for 33 years. He operated a successful business on the Promenade before buying the airport eatery 29 years ago. He said he'll miss the people he sees every day, both employees and customers.

"In this type of restaurant, it's like family with customers and employees," he said. "Half the family you work with and half comes and visits and having those kind of locations in Santa Monica, they are becoming fewer and those are the ones we have to protect."

He said passing the torch to a new owner who is equally committed to the community was important to him, particularly as the space needs a remodel.

"I decided it was better for me and for the location that it was somebody fresh and starting over with energy," he said.

Irish entrepreneur Sean Martin will pilot the new venture, dubbed The Cloverfield.

Martin is a life-long restaurateur having grown up in the hotel owned by his parents. He parlayed two successful London pubs into a pair

SEE **SPITFIRE GRILL** PAGE 6

Travel app helps tourists store luggage at local businesses

TONY MCGINN
SMDP Intern

Travelers who find themselves in need of a place to store their luggage are in luck. A new service in Santa Monica offers travelers a luggage storage option at local businesses through a mobile app called LuggageHero.

LuggageHero has paired with 10 businesses in Santa Monica to offer space for 150 pieces of luggage, including King Baby Jewelry Studio, Native American World, and The Bike Shop. For tourists, visitors, or others who would prefer not to carry around large suitcases, LuggageHero can offer a place to safely store suitcases for a few hours.

"Our entry into the Santa Monica is a natural extension/expansion of the L.A. market," said Jannick Lawaetz, found and CEO.

"Santa Monica is certainly a lively and popular place, with a lot of foot traffic, so that's the perfect place for us to set up partnerships."

Currently, there are four active sites in Santa Monica. One minor setback to launching the service at all 10 sites simultaneously was the back order of the tamper-proof security seals for the luggage. Six businesses have been delayed from using LuggageHero because they have not yet received the luggage tags. However, all 10 sites are expected to be operational in time for holiday travelers.

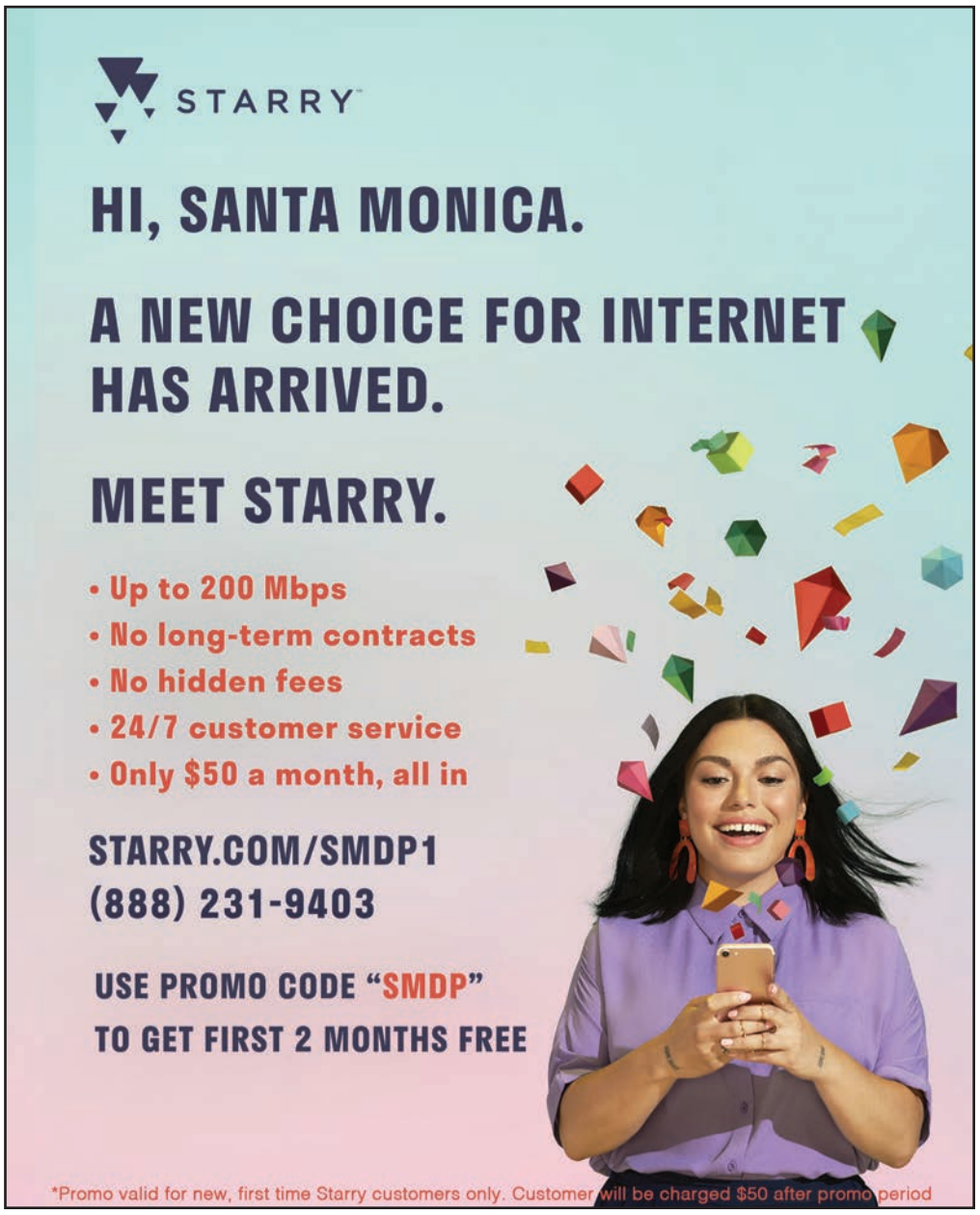
LuggageHero costs users $1 an hour to store bags, with an initial $2 bag handling fee and a cap of $8 a day

SEE **LUGGAGE** PAGE 11

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Dec. 14

Documentary Screening & Discussion: The Biggest Little Farm (2018)

This film follows dreamers John and Molly Chester on an eight-year journey filled with successes and failures as they work to develop a sustainable farm on 200 acres outside of Los Angeles. A panel discussion with John Chester follows the screening. (Film runtime: 91 min.) Main Library, Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Frau Fiber's Sewing Rebellion and Craft Lounge

Catch Frau Fiber's regiment of Faux Fraus leading sewing, altering and repurposing projects each month. Sewing machines and sewing tips included. As always, participants are welcome to bring their own projects and mending, or work on collage and other crafts. The featured Sewing Rebellion project for September - December is 'Motifs, Migrations and Misappropriations,' a thoughtful dive into how fast fashion exploits traditional motifs and patterns, and how those patterns cross borders while the people who created them cannot. The project guides participants in transforming T-shirts into caftan shirts based on a Syrian caftan from the textile museum in Washington, D.C. Palisades Park, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Preschool Explorers: Human Body

Learn about the human body with stories, and then craft a stomach or heart simulator. Ages 3 - 6. Main Library, Children's Activity Room, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Classics Book Group at Fairview

This long-running book discussion group discusses literary classics from around the world. December 2019's book: Bel-Ami by Guy de Maupassant. Fairview Branch Library, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15

Snowy Plover Beach Walk

Revel in this guided walk exploring the habitat and life cycle of the small, white snowy plovers that make this stretch of beach their winter home. Binoculars will be provided, or bring your own!
The Snowy Plover Beach Walk with the Santa Monica & LA Audubon Societies is a free event. Reservations are requested. Recommended for adults. Annenberg Community Beach House, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

Open Gallery

Exhibit "Memories of Diaspora: Immigration Narratives of Los Angeles." Annenberg Community Beach House, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Open Guest House

Visit anytime for a self-guided or docent tour. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Santa Monica Certified Farmers' Market

The Sunday Main Street Farmers Market is a well-balanced blend of Certified California Farmers, tasty prepared and packaged foods, entertainment and children's activities as well as local retail. Attended by over 5000 customers each weekend this "ultimate community gathering" has become an integral and cherished part of life for many local residents. The Main Street market hosts a variety of 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. 2640 Main St, Ocean Park, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 16

Task Force on the Environment Meeting

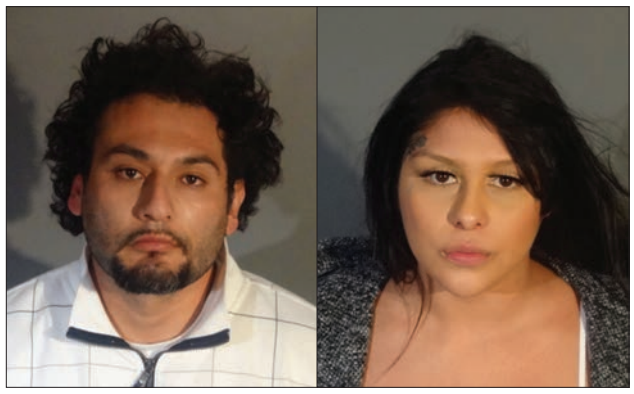
Mission statement: "To advise City staff and leadership (decision makers) on determining and setting environmental policy and decisions, in accordance with the guiding principles, goals and objectives of the Sustainable City Program. To be a limited advocate, in a manner consistent with City policy, for Task Force recommendations to the community. The Task Force role is both pro-active and reactive." 2200 Virginia Ave. Park, Patio Room, 7 - 10 p.m.

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

CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON NOV. 26, AT 6 P.M.



File photo

ISABELLA JUNIPER GONZALEZ AND JOHN MONTANO

Downtown Service Officers observed a vehicle with expired registration and a broken brake light. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and discovered the driver did not have any form of identification or driver's license and was on probation for petty theft. The passenger did not have any identification. When the passenger was asked to exit the vehicle, he dropped a black wallet and slid it with his foot under the car. The driver could not provide any information on the car other than it belonged to a friend of hers. A search of the vehicle was conducted and multiple driver's licenses, passports and checks belonging to others were found. Officers were able to make contact with potential victims who informed their identification and or mail was stolen. Both driver and passenger were arrested for Identity theft and Possession of narcotics.

Isabella Juniper Gonzalez, 19, from South Gate was arrested for identity theft (possession of more than 10 identifications), driving without a valid license, expired registration and failing to maintain lights in working order. Bail was set at $50,000.

John Montano, 33, from Inglewood was arrested for identity theft (possession of more than 10 identifications), possession of methamphetamine. Bail was set at $50,000.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

SMC Debate Team Wins Several Awards at PSCFA Tournament

The Santa Monica College (SMC) student Speech and Debate Team competed at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association (PSCFA) Fall Champs Tournament at Moorpark College on Dec. 6-7, and won several awards in two different debate events. These wins cap off what has been the team's most successful semester in its history. Over three fall tournaments, SMC students have won 10 Gold, 9 Silver, and 12 Bronze awards.

Thirty-five colleges and universities from California, Arizona, Utah, and Virginia competed at the PSCFA Fall Champs, including University of Utah, Cal State Northridge, San Diego State University, and Grand Canyon University. In addition to one Gold award for a two-person team, the SMC debaters won two individual Gold, two Silver, and three Bronze awards. The team also took home two 1st place Sweepstakes trophies, including 1st Place for Limited Entry, and 1st Place for Novice Entry.

On Friday, Dec. 6, three pairs of students competed in the team event of National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA). SMC students Ariyana Tavakoli and Dexter Cypress advanced to the final elimination round and won against Pasadena City College on the topic, "The Democratic Party has shifted too far to the left."

"Fall Champs was the tournament that made me realize how proud I am to be a part of such an encouraging and amazing team," Tavakoli said. "It gave not only me, but the entire team the chance to show who we really are and I can't wait to see what the future holds!"

On Saturday, Dec. 7, seven SMC students advanced to the elimination rounds of IPDA debate (International Public Debate Association). Andrew Gamboa, Gabby Montgomery, and Ariyana Tavakoli took Bronze awards. Jules Shinbrot and Kelsey Molle took Silver awards.

Rachel Sun and Dexter Cypress won their final rounds, taking Gold awards, both against debaters from Maricopa Community College. In her final round, Sun debated on the topic, "Courts are for the law; not justice," while Cypress debated on the topic, "The US should lower the minimum legal drinking age to 18."

Sun said that she was "very grateful for such an enriching and fulfilling debate experience this semester." "I am forever thankful for all the encouragement and guidance I've received from my team members and our coach, Nate Brown," she added.

Andrew Gamboa–whose Bronze award was his first trophy, at the fifth tournament of the semester–said, "Personally, my time in Communication Studies 22 (Introduction to Competitive Speech & Debate) felt like being with family. A class of ambitious individuals who care about one goal: winning and being better debaters. Because of this similarity, we became friends with each other; these friendships became a major supporting role for the vast majority of us winning awards. A family supports and cares for each other–there is no other class at Santa Monica College that embodies this value more than the Speech and Debate Team!"

The Associated Students of Santa Monica College sponsored the SMC Speech and Debate Team's presence at the competition. For more information on the team, contact Nate Brown at brown_nate@smc.edu or 310-434-8781.

Submitted by Grace Smith

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
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Santa Monica Pier Corporation:
One seat available for a partial term ending December 31, 2021.
Applicant must reside, work, or do business in Santa Monica.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, January 14, 2020.
Appointment to be made by City Council, Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAN FRANCISCO

Storms nudge most of California out of dry category

Recent heavy storms in California have wiped out much of the state's abnormally dry conditions.

Two months ago, the U.S. Drought Monitor categorized more 81% of the state as abnormally dry because of above-normal temperatures and a lack of precipitation six weeks into the water year that started Oct. 1. The percentage climbed to 85% as recently as last week.

But heavy rains throughout the state have shrunk the percentage to a sliver along the Oregon-California border.

This was the 10th straight year the state was considered abnormally dry since record-keeping began in 1895, said David Simeral, a research scientist at the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno.

The category put most of the state one step above moderate drought level and indicates the soil is dry, snow pack is minimal and fire danger is high.

"It's a warning to say 'Hey, things are dry here,' " Simeral said. "We had virtually no snow except at the highest elevations."

The U.S. Drought Monitor is a product of federal agencies and the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It makes assessments but does not declare drought in affected areas; individual states and regions use the information from the monitor to declare drought.

California had seven years of drought that ended March 2019.

California's Department of Water Resources reported earlier in December that Lake Oroville was at 54% of capacity and Shasta Lake was at 71% of capacity.

Karla Nemeth, the water agency's director, said in a Dec. 2 statement that they are grateful for recent rains and the above-average reservoir storage.

"But the dry start in October and November reminds us that California's weather is extremely variable and we must prepare for various conditions," she said. "The wet weather can stop from one day to the next."

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles police officer charged with fondling corpse

A Los Angeles police officer who allegedly fondled a dead woman's breast was charged Thursday with a felony, authorities said.

David Rojas, 27, was charged with having sexual contact with human remains without authority, according to a statement from the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. He could face up to three years in state prison if convicted.

Rojas and his partner had responded to a report of a woman having died at a home on Oct. 20. Rojas is accused of touching the woman's breast while he was alone in the room with the corpse, the DA's office said.

Police officials conducting a random inspection of the officer's body camera videos found the incriminating footage, according to a person briefed on the incident. The person wasn't authorized to publicly discuss the case and spoke to The Associated Press last week on condition of anonymity.

The officer had disabled the body camera but the act was caught on video when he turned it back on, the person said, because the devices have two-minute buffering periods to capture what happens right before they are activated.

The Los Angeles Times first reported the incident.

Rojas was released from jail on a $20,000 bond Thursday, according to a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department inmate locator website.

It was not immediately clear whether Rojas had an attorney who could speak on his behalf. The Los Angeles Police Protective League, the union that usually provides legal counsel for its members, said it won't defend Rojas.

"We hope that District Attorney Jackie Lacey charging Mr. Rojas for his vile alleged crime will bring some solace to the deceased woman's family during their time of grieving,"the union's board said in a statement. "His alleged behavior is abhorrent and an affront to every law enforcement professional working for the LAPD."

Associated Press

OS ANGELES

LA deputies plead not guilty to lying on police reports

Two Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies have pleaded not guilty to lying on police reports after they stopped other law enforcement officers for speeding.

Michael Berk and Justin Fisk entered pleas Thursday to filing a false report and perjury, the Los Angeles County district attorney's office said in a statement.

The deputies stopped drivers for speeding while working at the Santa Clarita Valley station north of Los Angeles between September and November of 2016, prosecutors said.

"The drivers happened to be other law enforcement officers," the DA's office statement said.

Instead of issuing speeding tickets, the deputies allegedly only cited the drivers for failing to have proof of insurance, even though the drivers had such proof, the statement said.

The two could face several years in prison each if convicted.

Associated Press

Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Donations gathered at Meet Me Under the Fig Tree

The holiday season officially kicked-off in Santa Monica this past Sunday, December 8 at Meet Me Under the Fig Tree, the free annual event hosted by Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows and MSD Partners, L.P. underneath the historic Moreton Bay Fig Tree.

Over a thousand Santa Monicans gathered to celebrate the holiday season with live performances by Grammy-winning jazz artist Bill Cunliffe, the Santa Monica High School Chamber Orchestra and the Santa Monica Playhouse. The event was once again hosted by KTLA personalities Wendy Burch and Eric Spillman. Guests young and old enjoyed playing in the snow, holiday cookie decorating, two bounce houses, animal adoption by SPCALA, arts & crafts and a whimsical ginger bread house display, as well as a meet and greet with members of Santa Monica Police Department Mounted Police and the Santa Monica Fire Department, who brought a Fire Engine for children to explore.

Attendees were asked to bring non-perishable food to be donated to The Westside Food Bank. In total, over 7,300 pounds of food was collected, all of which will be distributed to those families in the community most in need.

In addition to the food drive for The Westside Food Bank, Meet Me Under the Fig Tree was proud to once again be partnering with Santa MoniCARES for a business clothing donation drive to help provide ready-to-wear interview clothing and accessories to Chrysalis, an organization which helps low-income and

homeless individuals with employment opportunities.

"Giving back at Meet Me Under the Fig Tree is my favorite part of the holiday season", said Matthew Lehman, General Manager of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows. "There is nothing like welcoming over a thousand Santa Monicans to celebrate the season under the majestic Moreton Bay Fig Tree."

Ellis O'Connor of MSD Partners added, "Santa Monicans went above and beyond in their generosity this year. We are proud to continue this unique Santa Monica holiday tradition and help those most in need in our community."

"We are always grateful to be part of this wonderful event," said Genevieve Riutort, Chief Development Officer of The Westside Food Bank. "Thousands of individuals and families will be directly helped by those who generously decided to give. Thank you to the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows and MSD Partners for hosting this amazing annual holiday event which collected over 7,300 pounds of non-perishable food."

"Santa Monica truly comes together for Meet Me Under the Fig Tree," said Misti Kerns, President/CEO of Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, the organization that launched Santa MoniCARES "We are excited that we could once again be a part of this annual cherished event. The Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows and MSD Partners hosted a beautiful afternoon of music and fun for everyone and most importantly provided an opportunity for our community to give back."

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER BENNETT

Venice

Venice Family Clinic Hosted Children's Holiday Movie For Its Young Patients

The holiday gift-giving season came early for some 1,200 children who are patients of Venice Family Clinic when the nonprofit community health center hosted its annual Children's Holiday Movie Dec. 7 at Cinemark's Century 18 and XD Theatre at HHLA (formerly The Promenade at Howard Hughes Center).

The annual event raised funds for the community clinic's programs for children, which provide educational, preventive and health care services through the clinic's pediatric medicine programs and its Children First Early Head Start program. Patients and their families enjoyed treats, received gifts from Santa Claus and saw free showings of the movie, "Dora and the Lost City of Gold."

"Venice Family Clinic's pediatric programs provide comprehensive care to children living in poverty, starting with their mothers' pregnancies and continuing through their teen and into their adult years," said Elizabeth Benson Forer, Venice Family Clinic CEO. "Children's Holiday Movie offers our youngest patients and their families a festive holiday party and confirms the Clinic's commitment to strengthening families to improve their overall health and well-being."

Children's Holiday Movie was made possible this year thanks to many generous supporters and sponsors. As a longtime partner, the Cinemark Century 18 and XD Theatre donated multiple auditoriums, staffing and concession treats for the children and their families. Anthem Blue Cross also celebrated its sixth year as the event's presenting sponsor.

"Anthem Blue Cross is dedicated to improving lives and communities and making healthcare simpler," said Dr. Barsam Kasravi, Chief Medical Officer for Anthem Blue Cross Medi-Cal Health Plan. "We are proud to support Venice Family Clinic's pediatric programs and the more than 7,300 children they serve by sponsoring this wonderful holiday tradition for children and their families."

For the media, photos of the event are available to download for use in publications, broadcasts and online outlets. Please view and download photos from a Google drive by clicking here.

SUBMITTED BY LAURA MECOY

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Boat safety law proposed after California fire killed 34

A group of California congressional members have proposed tighter safety standards for small boats after a diving charter vessel burned and sank in September, killing 34 people.

Only five people – the captain and four crew members – managed to escape after the 75-foot Conception caught fire on Sept. 2 off the Santa Barbara coast, northwest of Los Angeles. The boat burned to the waterline. One crew member was among the dead.

On Thursday, Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein announced a proposed measure called the Small Passenger Vessel Safety Act that would, among other things, require two escape routes for people below decks, leading to different parts of the boat.

The Conception had stairs leading onto the deck and a small emergency hatch. However, a preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board said passengers who were asleep in bunks were trapped by flames that kept them from escaping or crew members on deck from reaching them. They died of smoke inhalation.

"The Conception boat fire was a tragedy that could have been prevented had stronger safety measures been in place," Feinstein said in a statement. "We can't allow this to happen again."

The bill also would add stricter requirements for fire alarms and fire suppression equipment and would set safety standards for handling devices such as cameras and laptop computers that are powered by lithium-ion batteries, which can overheat and spark fires.

After the blaze, the U.S. Coast Guard issued a safety bulletin that suggested boaters limit charging of such batteries.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation. However, a lawsuit filed by the widow of a victim indicates that there were electrical cables charging phones, strobe lights and other battery-powered equipment in the galley above the guest quarters.

Authorities also have indicated that all crew members on the boat were asleep when the predawn blaze erupted. Coast Guard regulations require passenger vessels to have a crew member on watch at all times.

The Conception was built in 1981. It was among more than 300 small vessels exempted from safety rules that required new vessels to have larger escape hatches with illuminated exit signs, the Los Angeles Times reported last month.

It was unclear whether such measures would have made a difference on the Conception but the safety bill would extend its new requirements to older boats. California Democratic Reps. Salud Carbajal and Julia Brownley co-authored the bill with Feinstein and introduced the companion measure in the House.

"If we are to save lives and make necessary reforms in the wake of the Conception tragedy, we must no longer allow older vessels to operate under antiquated regulations at the expense of our public safety," Carbajal said in a statement.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 42 CALLS ON DEC. 12

EMS 400blk Ocean Ave 12:03 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 12:34 a.m.
EMS 100blk Broadway 12:56 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 1:29 a.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:14 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:17 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Michigan Ave 3:03 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1500blk 5th St 3:28 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:04 a.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 7:04 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 19th St 8:43 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 8:46 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 20th St / Delaware Ave 9:45 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 9:47 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 10:16 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:18 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:27 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 6th St 10:32 a.m.
EMS 2000blk 20th St 10:56 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:59 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Pico Blvd 11:10 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 10th St / Colorado Ave 2:28 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 2:57 p.m.
EMS 23rd St / Pico Blvd 3:15 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 3:31 p.m.
EMS 11th St / Olympic Blvd E 3:42 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk California Ave 4:18 p.m.
EMS 400blk Expo Line 4:37 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Colorado Ave 5:10 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 5:27 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 2nd St 5:29 p.m.
EMS 100blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:31 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Neilson Way 7:10 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Broadway 7:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:47 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Yale St 7:52 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:54 p.m.
EMS 3300blk Barnard Way 9:07 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 9:23 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 10:35 p.m.
EMS 6th St / Colorado Ave 11:28 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:50 p.m.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

SPITFIRE GRILL

FROM PAGE 1

of critically acclaimed restaurants that he sold for one million pounds. He currently owns London's Pregnant Man but he moved to Santa Monica in 2017 with his wife and child.

"In the two years since we arrived I have searched for a location in LA to start a bar and restaurant and believe in The Cloverfield I have found the perfect opportunity," he said in his business plan. "I have been very lucky over the years to pull together a great team and after almost ten years working together, I envisage using their skills, in the kitchen and front of house, to help open The Cloverfield."

He said the Italian inspired menu will have entrees starting at $10 and he wants the restaurant to be accessible at all price points.

"I see the revamped patio areas being a huge draw to the site, we want customers to feel as comfortable having a coffee as having a three-course dinner, creating an easy relaxed and accessible atmosphere is our objective."

He said the revised restaurant will have elements of a classic London Bistro with Southern California elements.

Martin said he sees the revamped location as a place for everyone, including families with children.

"We want to cater to families slightly more," he said, "We hope to have a play area in the outdoor area and a more kid friendly organic menu. A lot of restaurants' kids menu feels ignored a little bit."

He also wants to partner with schools and clubs to encourage the use of the adjacent athletic fields.

editor@smdp.com

Democrats threaten to boycott next debate over labor dispute

WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

All the Democratic presidential candidates slated to participate in next week's debate threatened Friday to skip the event if an ongoing labor dispute forces them to cross picket lines on the campus hosting it.

A labor union called UNITE HERE Local 11 says it will picket as Loyola Marymount University hosts Thursday's sixth Democratic debate of the cycle, and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders responded by tweeting they wouldn't participate if that meant crossing it. Former Vice President Joe Biden, Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Indiana, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, environmental activist Tom Steyer and businessman Andrew Yang followed suit.

"The DNC should find a solution that lives up to our party's commitment to fight for working people. I will not cross the union's picket line even if it means missing the debate," Warren tweeted.

Sanders tweeted, "I will not be crossing their picket line," while Biden tweeted: "We've got to stand together with @UNITEHERE11 for affordable health care and fair wages. A job is about more than just a paycheck. It's about dignity." The other candidates used Twitter to post similar sentiments.

UNITE HERE Local 11 says it represents 150 cooks, dishwashers, cashiers, and servers working on the Loyola Marymount campus. It says it has been in negotiations with a food service company since March for a collective bargaining agreement without reaching a resolution and "workers and students began picketing on campus in November to voice their concern for a fair agreement. The company abruptly canceled scheduled contract negotiations last week."

"We had hoped that workers would have a contract with wages and affordable health insurance before the debate next week. Instead, workers will be picketing when the candidates come to campus," Susan Minato, Co-President of UNITE HERE Local 11, said in the statement.

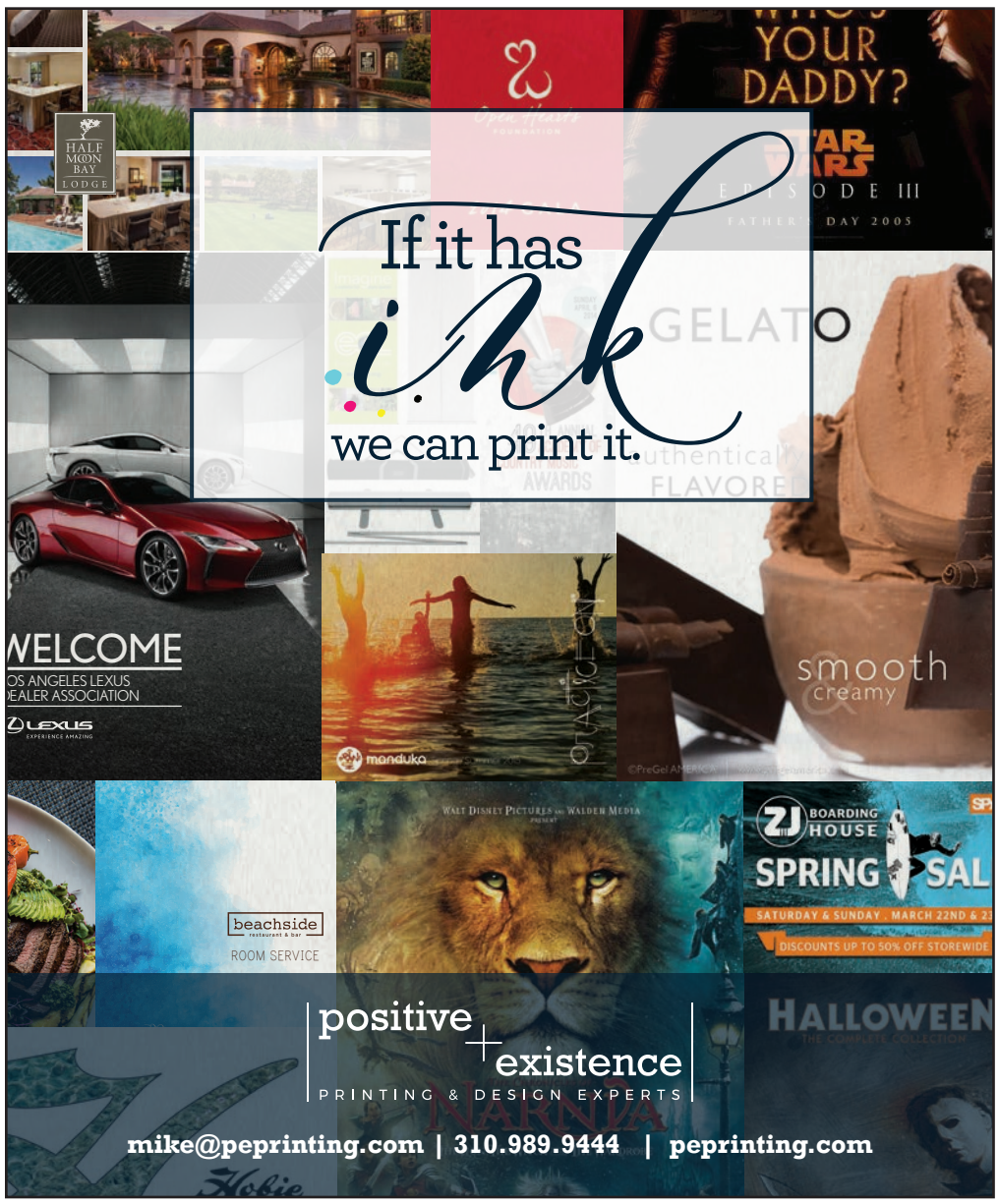
The Democratic National Committee, which organizes its party's presidential debates, said it and school officials weren't made aware of the issue until the union's statement and was looking into the matter.

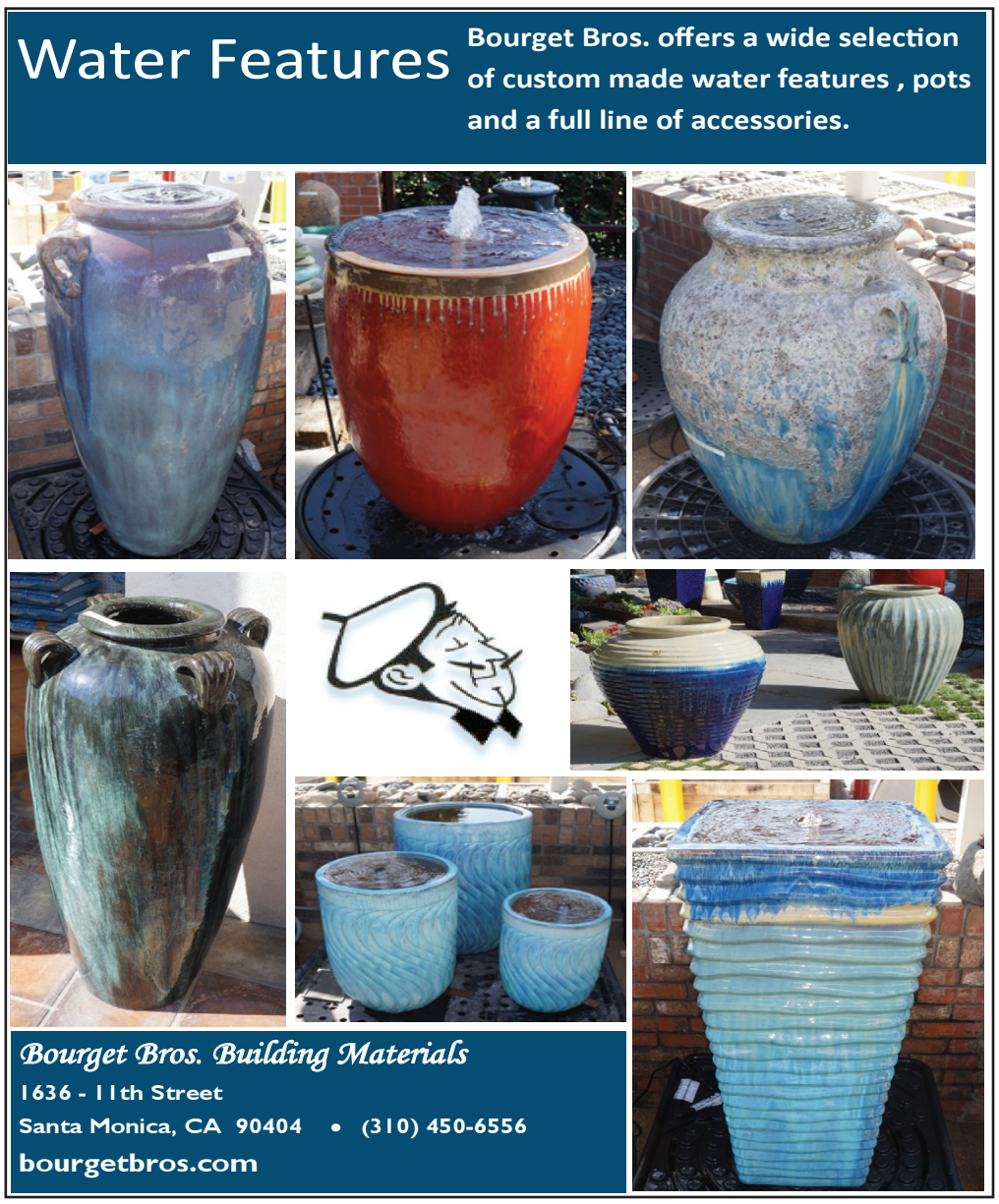
Loyola Marymount said that it is not a party to the contract negotiations but that it had contacted the food services company involved, Sodexo, and encouraged it "to resolve the issues raised by Local 11."

"Earlier today, LMU asked Sodexo to meet with Local 11 next week to advance negotiations and solutions. LMU is not an agent nor a joint employer of Sodexo, nor of the Sodexo employees assigned to our campus," the university said in a statement. "LMU is proud to host the DNC presidential debate and is committed to ensuring that the university is a rewarding place to learn, live, and work."

This is the second location site set to host the December debate. In October, the DNC announced it wouldn't be holding a debate at the University of California, Los Angeles because of "concerns raised by the local organized labor community" and was moving the event to Loyola Marymount.

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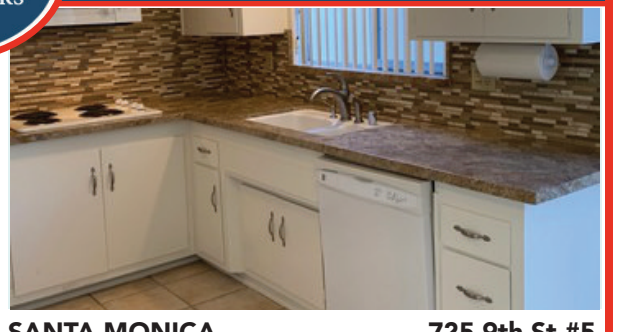


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LUGGAGE

FROM PAGE 1

(including the handling fee). Luggage is insured up to $3,000.

Lawaetz, describes his experience staying at an Airbnb in Barcelona and discovering he had nowhere to store his bags after checking out. LuggageHero was founded in 2016 after raising $1.1 million, and has rolled out to 38 cities this year. As of this November, there were 25 independent businesses or franchises in Los Angeles county partnered with LuggageHero.

LuggageHero tries to select shops near tourist destinations, major transportation hubs, and areas with high foot traffic. Shop owners who offer LuggageHero services had observed a market ready to be tapped.

"We get people come by with their luggage often. They have a few hours to kill before they go to LAX," said Andrew Smith, owner of The Bike Shop.

For retailers like The Bike Shop, LuggageHero can be a way to draw in business from people who are stopping by to store their luggage. It can also be an additional source of revenue. Shops are given half of the revenue from the storage of luggage through the app. Lawaetz describes it as a great economy-sharing model.

"The partnerships we form with small shops are the backbone of our business. Working with local entrepreneurs who, like myself, put so much time and energy into what they do, is super inspiring to me and my team," he said.

American Motel on Lincoln Blvd. has stored a few pieces of luggage through the app, most for a period of two to four hours. The majority of businesses are making use of storage room space to store luggage, but others have more creative solutions. Plaza Dry Cleaners, for example, uses floor space under hanging clothes for luggage storage.

Lawaetz says expansion of the service depends on demand, which is tracked via online searches by customers. Currently, he is keeping an eye on the Pier as a potential site for more luggage storage options.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 341 CALLS ON DEC. 12

Drunk Driving Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 1:07 a.m.
Battery 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:15 a.m.
Hit And Run Felony 1500blk 5th St 3:26 a.m.
Encampment Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 4:45 a.m.
Wanted Vehicle 5th St / Colorado Ave 5:16 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900blk 4th St 5:29 a.m.
Of Shots Fired Pico / Bundy 5:34 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:17 a.m.
Construction Noise 16th St / Sunset Ave 7:18 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 7:18 a.m.
Fight Centinela Ave / Pico Blvd 7:24 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1500blk 11th St 7:25 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1500blk 11th St 7:26 a.m.
Auto Burglary 2900blk Urban Ave 7:28 a.m.
Drunk Driving 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:28 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1000blk 23rd St 7:51 a.m.
Burglary 2000blk Main St 8:00 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 9th St 8:06 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1600blk 26th St 8:42 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk 4th St 8:47 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 800blk 4th St 8:47 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 700blk Grant St 8:48 a.m.
Fraud 2300blk Oak St 8:50 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 1100blk 20th St 9:08 a.m.
Identity Theft 1000blk 23rd St 9:32 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Delaware Ave 9:45 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 700blk Grant St 9:49 a.m.
Petty Theft 500blk Ocean Ave 10:03 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1500blk Franklin St 10:06 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1300blk 20th St 10:16 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 10:20 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1100blk 12th St 10:22 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unkn Injuries 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:27 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 10:27 a.m.
Battery 2000blk 20th St 10:54 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1900blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:01 a.m.
Missing Person 1200blk Harvard St 11:02 a.m.
Petty Theft 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 11:11 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 11:59 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 800blk 4th St 12:04 p.m.
Fight 1900blk Pico Blvd 12:05 p.m.
Encampment 2600blk The Beach 12:25 p.m.
Grand Theft 1400blk 4th St 1:10 p.m.
Found Senile Person 1100blk 20th St 1:19 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk Centinela Ave 1:28 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1800blk Michigan Ave 1:34 p.m.
Grand Theft 2400blk Virginia Ave 1:40 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2000blk Main St 2:19 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 2:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 6th St 2:33 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk Idaho Ave 2:39 p.m.
Fraud 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 2:49 p.m.
Petty Theft Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 2:52 p.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:06 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2200blk Virginia Ave 3:15 p.m.
Petty Theft 2800blk Colorado Ave 3:18 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3200blk Donald Douglas Loop S 3:19 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3200blk Donald Douglas Loop S 3:19 p.m.
Hit And Run 21st St / Pico Blvd 3:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 11th St / Olympic Blvd E 3:42 p.m.
Petty Theft 300blk Santa Monica Pl 3:48 p.m.
Identity Theft 1400blk 9th St 3:50 p.m.
Prowler Just Left 400blk 22nd St 4:11 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 3rd St / Ashland Ave 4:24 p.m.
Petty Theft 2600blk 2nd St 4:28 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 4:57 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 5:23 p.m.
Burglary 2000blk Main St 5:53 p.m.
Petty Theft 600blk Pico Blvd 6:15 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2000blk Main St 6:32 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:33 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 6:35 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 600blk 21st St 7:19 p.m.
Petty Theft 400blk Pico Blvd 7:34 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:47 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 1200blk 4th St 8:11 p.m.
Hit And Run 2000blk 20th St 8:14 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1100blk 20th St 8:33 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2600blk 33rd St 8:59 p.m.
Assault 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 9:06 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1400blk 4th St 10:04 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 2600blk 31st St 11:26 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 11:30 p.m.

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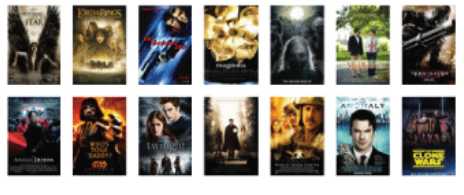
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 14)

This solar year represents the growth of a new season of life in which restriction turns into expansion. Whatever held you back will set you free. Following the call of intuition and imagination, you'll create boldly. The relationships between you and fellow builders will be as precious as the project itself. Aquarius and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 23, 20, 18, 45 and 3.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't underestimate the power of lights and music to set the mood of interactions. Movies have soundtracks; why shouldn't your relationships? And it's a joy to assemble the playlist.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). To pay attention once is never enough. You want to take in the whole of a person, but that is always changing. And so, you must keep tending to matter. Love grows.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Sometimes it's easier for you to accept people who are very different from you than it is to accept people who are very similar. You project your wishes or regrets on the latter category, perhaps unconsciously until today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This problem you are working on seems like it should be a little easier. The reason it's not is a matter of positioning. You are an integral part of the mystery you are trying to solve.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The ones who succeed aren't necessarily smarter, more talented or better looking. They're not even the ones with the most money. The ones who succeed are the ones who never quit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your contentment depends on recognizing where people are in their development and setting your expectations along those lines instead of other invented and unrealistic realms.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Take the time to ramble, wander or stroll because that knotty bit of psychology that's had you so distracted will get all worked out in the rush of fresh air you're moving through.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The best jobs will be the thankless ones. It is when you're pretty sure no one cares or notices that you will do the most important work of your soul – the work that's validated purely by your higher self.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't care as much as the others do about being right or sounding like you know what you're talking about. Maybe that's why you're the one everyone wants to sit next to.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your respect for your elders and mentors has been cultivated over time and is now at a high you may wish you had years ago. Well, no one is born with manners. And now it's your turn to teach them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Subconscious tendencies can take years to form and won't change overnight. It is unloving to require miraculous leaps of yourself. Love yourself as you are, and coax yourself each step along improvement's path.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're a giver, but it's OK to make people trade you something, too. In fact, that's when it will become clear how close or far apart you are on the value assessment.

The Star Ratings of Stars

Mars and Neptune focus on feelings while Venus and Pluto judge quantitative matters like cost and value. Keep in mind that the minutia of star-rankings is a uniquely human habit. You won't see raccoons and alligators leaving a review, as they are too busy snatching up the opportunity at hand. Perhaps they have something to teach us.

HALLOWEEN PANTHEON

"I'm a Virgo woman, married for the second time to a Cancer man. We're wonderful together in every way except for our communication styles. I'm honest and open and passionate, and he is cold and secretive. Our arguments sometimes turn ugly. How can we get past this?" Cancer is the first water sign of the zodiac. The strange thing about the element of water is that one cannot see it unless it is contained – in a glass, in a swimming pool, in a riverbed, etc. It is the same with Cancer's emotions. Cancer feels things strongly and will sometimes go to great lengths to keep emotions bottled. Your openness makes your Cancer feel threatened. When this happens, he may lash out unfairly. Holding Cancer to your standards of communication (being ruled by Mercury, Virgo is one of the most adept communicators of the zodiac) just isn't working for you. To break the impasse, you each need to be willing to find a different style of communication – one that works for both of you. Enlist a third party who is versed in the study of nonviolent communication.

CELEBRITY PROFILE

The poet and mystic Nostradamus was born over half millennia ago in the south of France. Some say he predicted the French Revolution, events of World War II and the birth of bar codes. Others claim his coded quatrains are too dependent on interpretation to have genuine predictive power. Then there are those who say Nostradamus was merely retelling ancient history, which always repeats. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Festal

Adjective

Pertaining to or befitting a feast, festival, holiday, or gala occasion.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I'M NOT SURE IF HE'S A HERO OR VILLAIN."

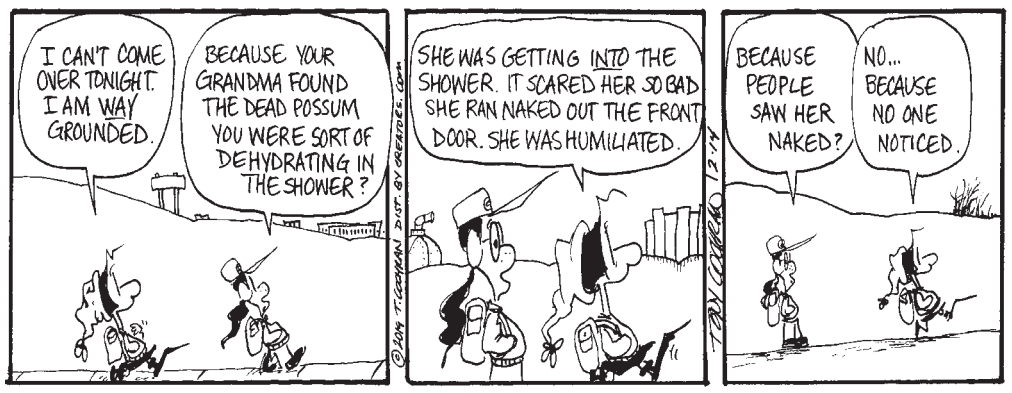
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



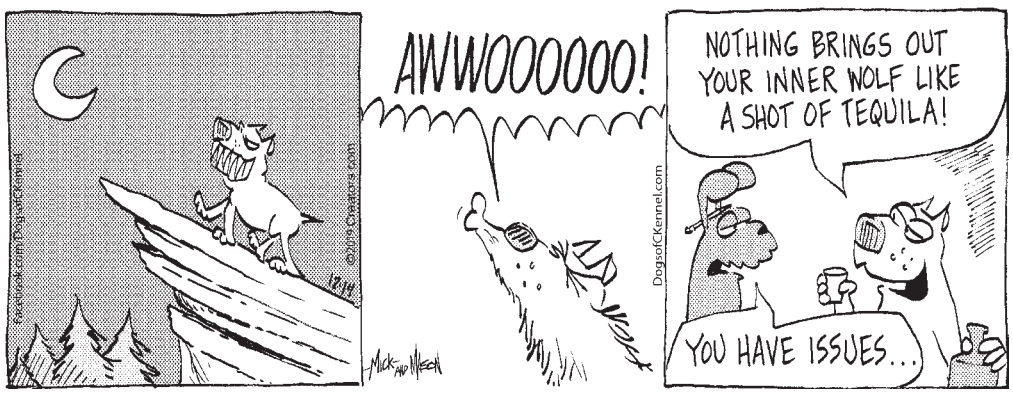
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Power#: 10
Jackpot: 150 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/06
18 31 46 54 61
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 340 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/11
2 3 6 9 11
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/12
5 16 18 27 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/13
Midday: 9 8 0
Draw Date: 12/12
Evening: 6 5 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/12
1st: 04 - BIG BEN
2nd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 07 - EUREKA
RACE TIME: 1:44.56

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 62.1°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-5ft+ waist to head high occ. 6 ft
Topped out WNW swell holds through the morning before easing. Winds/conditions looking best early. NW wind protected breaks best for the afternoon.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft waist to chest high
Easing WNW swell.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

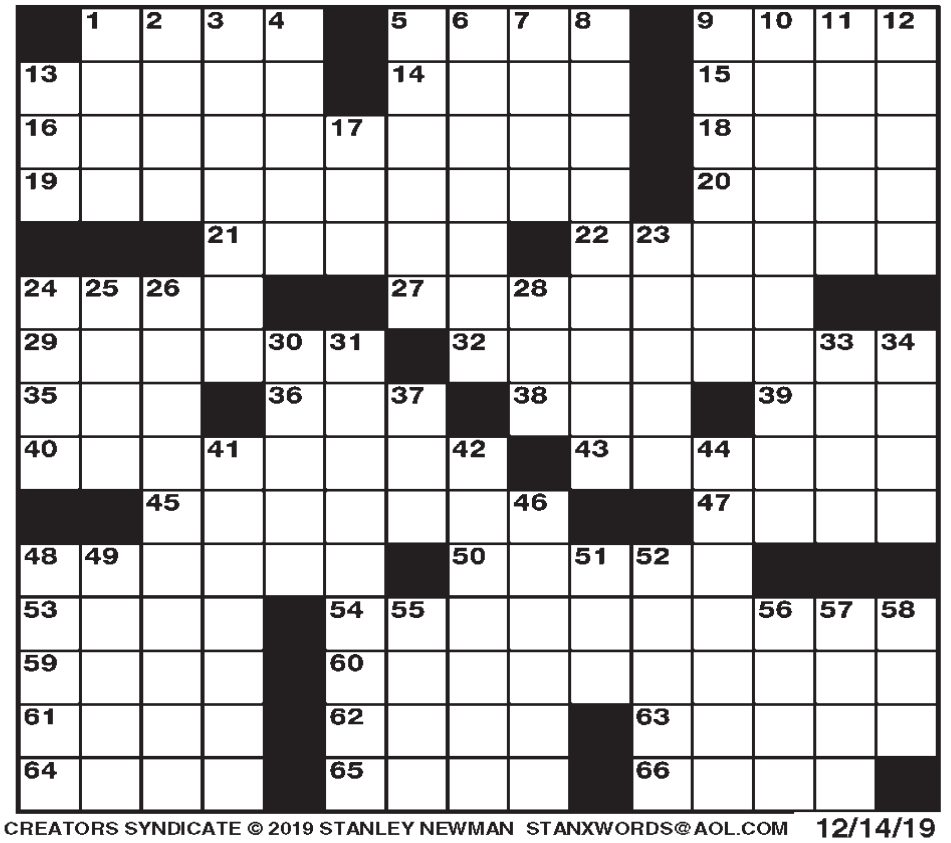
	7				5		6	
6			4				1	
		3			6	8		5
		8		6		5		3
				5				
5		4		1		7		
7		6	9			1		
	2				3			4
	3		6				5	

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Lester Ruff
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 What's for dinner
5 Bungled task
9 Idiomatic sticking point
13 Served and gone
14 One with an ID
15 Coors former carbonated brand
16 Overposter's affliction
18 From
19 Capital southwest of Timbuktu
20 Puffed product
21 Got happy
22 F's cousin
24 Mint family member
27 Resting (on)
29 F-worthy
32 Fallen from favor
35 ALW team, before 2005
36 Something set to keep things in line
38 Coffee table material
39 Floppy topper
40 Didn't charge
43 Capulet cousin
45 Champagne descriptor
47 Makes weary
48 Revolutionary War-era religious leader
50 What damage control might repair
53 Be agitated
54 Hypoallergenic designer dogs
59 It's south of Mason City on I-35
60 "Epic!"
61 ___ truck
62 Not beyond
63 Locker made of metal
64 "A river watering the garden flowed from ___"
65 Petrol rival of BP
66 Unfavorably affected

DOWN
1 Statue at the FDR Memorial
2 Iota
3 Lavish host
4 Korean pancake stuffing
5 Complain confidentially
6 How some pillows are made
7 Vague impression
8 Chicken
9 Mrs. Ivan
10 Comer
11 Gas brand of BP
12 Layer of some snacks
13 Word from Old Norse for "place where water backs up"
17 Malarkey
23 Gemstone descriptor
24 Only Oscar winner/Nobelist before Dylan
25 Superb
26 Second Susan B. Anthony, to the first
28 Bossy type, supposedly
30 Arrival announcement
31 Dreamlike and distorted
33 "Miracle worker" of 1955
34 LAPD staffers
37 MA hub
41 Rats out
42 E-tailer's count
44 WHO concern
46 Insistent assertion
48 Deintensify
49 Land rover
51 Any kid's mother
52 Simmer or steal
55 Egg ___
56 Inventor who named a daughter Shanda
57 Where Lady Liberty looks
58 Oil Stabilizer maker



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