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California hit with rain, nearly 3 feet of mountain snow

BY JOHN ANTCZAK & KRISTIN J. BENDER
Associated Press

A late fall storm drenched California with rain and dumped nearly three feet of snow to help bolster the vital Sierra Nevada snowpack but also triggered mud flows, flooded roads and traffic snarls as it tapered off early Friday.

With thousands of acres of wildfire burn scars all over the state, authorities were warily monitoring barren slopes where

SEE **RAIN** PAGE 6

Volunteers provides holiday cheer to hospitalized youth

MARINA ANDALON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Last week on Dec. 9, Once Upon A Room gathered up volunteers to help decorate the children's hospital rooms at UCLA, Medical Center, Santa Monica.

Once Upon a Room gives the children in the hospital a room they can love, and feel like it part of them. Based on the child's like and special needs, they customize a

SEE **VOLUNTEERS** PAGE 7

Local football legend declares run for governor

BY KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

An aging Los Angeles football legend who has already tackled major obstacles in his storied career is gearing up to take on a new challenge: running for Governor of California in 2018.

Rosey Grier plans to enter the race that's already getting crowded with candidates like Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom, State Treasurer John Chiang, former L.A. mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and the former California superintendent of public instruction Delaine Eastin. This is the first time the 84-year-old Christian minister has run for public office.

Grier, who worked with Robert F. Kennedy and was present at his assassination, says he was recently inspired by his late friend and Martin Luther King Junior to run.

"I looked in the mirror and said 'what are you risking?' I should run for governor if I want to see a change in our communities," Grier said over the phone from his office on Wilshire Boulevard.

Grier is perhaps best known as a member of The Fearsome Foursome defensive line when he played for the L.A. Rams in the 1960s. Grier began his career at Penn State and moved on to play for the Giants in 1955 and then the Rams. After retiring from football, Grier worked as a bodyguard for Robert Kennedy's 1968 presidential campaign. Minutes after Kennedy's assassination, Grier took control of the gun and subdued the shooter, Sirhan Sirhan.

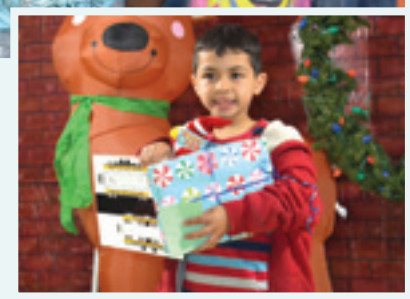
Recently, Grier has committed

SEE **GOVERNOR** PAGE 6









PAL PRESENTS

Marina Andalon

The Police Activities League held its annual Holiday Workshop on Dec. 15. The event allows local youth to visit with Santa, get a gift and interact with police officers and firefighters.


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, December 17

Raspberry Pi for Teens
Get started with Raspberry Pi and explore how the tiny computer can take your creativity to a new level. Limited space, registration starts on 12/5. Grades 6 & up. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Master Gardeners at the Market
Master Gardeners provide free gardening tips, solutions to gardening problems, seeds and seedlings as well as their technical expertise based on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program which provides intense gardening training emphasizing organic gardening and covers vegetables, fruits, flowers, shrubs, trees, soils, composting, pests and harvesting. The Master Gardeners of Los Angeles visit the Pico Farmers Market on the third Saturday of each month 9:30 a.m. - Noon. 2200 Virginia Ave

Ocean Park Fiction Winners Book Group
December Title: "Everyman" by Philip Roth. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

An Afternoon with Tippi Hedren
Classic Hollywood star Tippi Hedren discusses her new autobiography, including her breakout roles in Alfred Hitchcock's The Birds and Marnie and her continuing work as an animal rights advocate. A book sale and signing follows. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 18

SMPL at the Farmers Market
Join the library for their latest pop-up library. Check out books, participate in crafts for kids, and much more. Main Street Farmers Market 2604 Main Street, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Guest House Open
Free tours begin at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway.

Monday, December 19

Main Library Book Group: Trapped in the Mirror by Elan Golomb
This book group, which is open to all, features an eclectic selection of literary fiction and nonfiction. This month, the group discusses Elan Golomb's Trapped in the Mirror. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Architectural Review Board Meeting
The ARB generally meets on the first and third Mondays of each month unless there is a holiday. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall unless otherwise noted. City Hall, 1685 Main Street, 7 p.m.

Arts Commission Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Arts Commission. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 6:30 p.m.

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



LA'S BEST NEW BARS & RESTAURANTS

"The team behind Ox & Son have quickly flipped that Santa Monica spot into a hyper-seasonal California-inspired spot that pays homage to proprietor Mark Verge's mother Margo and his family's five-generation history in Santa Monica. Chef Greg A. Daniels, formerly of Salt Air, is firing up small plates and shareable like hamachi crudo with sprouted lentils, lamb saddle with navy beans and fried chicken with butternut squash. To drink, you'll find craft brews, California wines and classic cocktails courtesy of Jordan Delp, who previously helmed the bar at Tom Bergin's and Dominick's."

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4:00 p.m. Gymnasium (Children's Mass)
4:00 p.m. Church & Grand Pavilion
6:00 p.m. Church
9:00 p.m. Church
Midnight Church & Grand Pavilion

Christmas Day Mass - December 25

7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:15 p.m. in the Church

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: #98 WATER NEUTRALITY ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

- **Submission Deadline is January 13, 2017 at 2:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Courtesy Photo

SWORN IN: Jon Kean, Maria Leon-Vazquez and Ralph Mechur were sworn in to the school board this week.

Citywide

School Board picks officers

The annual election of new Board of Education officers took place this week with Laurie Lieberman re-elected to her third year as school board president, and Dr. Richard Tahvildarin-Jesswein as Vice President. Both were elected on a 7-0 vote.

Earlier in the evening, new school board member Jon Kean, along with re-elected members Maria Leon-Vazquez and Ralph Mechur took the Oath of Office for a four-year term.

The Board of Education recognized Co-interim Superintendents Dr. Chris King and Dr. Sylvia Rousseau for their work the past six months as SMMUSD transitions to a new permanent superintendent, Dr. Ben Drati, starting Jan. 1, 2017.

– SUBMITTED BY GAIL PINSKER, SMMUSD PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Culver City

Suspect who attacked a Metro Red Line patron arrested 48 hours later

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Transit Policing Division Detectives arrested James A. Hanson, a 32-year-old man from Culver City, for an assault that occurred at the Metro Hollywood/Vine Station platform. Transit deputies were made aware of the beating when a witness to the crime took a cell phone video and posted it to his Facebook page.

The Sheriff's Transit Policing Division had originally received a call on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 13, at approximately 1 a.m., reporting an assault at the Metro Station at the corner of Hollywood and Vine in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles. Deputies were quickly dispatched and arrived within minutes to the location. They did not find the victim, suspect, nor a witness that would speak to them. Believing that an assault had indeed occurred, LA City Fire Paramedics were also dispatched. They checked the area and were unable to locate anyone.

All of the first responders cleared the scene as they were unable to locate any involved parties. Later in the day a news media outlet advised deputies that a video had been posted to social media. Deputies were able to make contact with the man who posted the video to his Facebook page and were able to ascertain that he was a witness to the assault. Transit Deputies continued to work closely with Metro to apprehend the suspect in this incident.

Several media outlets have aired the news story, prompting the victim of the crime to come forward. Transit deputies were able to take his report and had him transported to a local hospital for treatment of his injuries that he sustained during the attack. The media coverage also led to many tips regarding the possible identity of the suspect in this assault. Detectives followed up on these leads, including the one that led them to Mister Hanson.

Hanson has admitted to his role in the assault and has been booked at the Sheriff's Century Regional Detention Facility for violation of 245(a)(4) PC, Assault with a Deadly Weapon likely to produce Great Bodily Injury (hands and feet). He is being held in lieu of $50,000. Bail.

Hanson is scheduled to be arraigned on Monday or possibly Tuesday of next week. Transit Policing Detectives are continuing the investigation. If you have information about this incident you are encouraged to call the LA County Sheriff's Department Transit Policing Division Detectives at (888) 950-SAFE.

If you want to report crime or a law enforcement issue while riding Metro or Metrolink, please call the LASD Transit Policing Division at (888) 950-SAFE (7233), or if you wish to remain anonymous, you can call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 MOBILE APP" on Google play or the App Store, or by using the website http://lacrimestoppers.org

– SUBMITTED BY RAMON MONTENEGRO, TRANSIT POLICING DIVISION PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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We Waited 20 Years for This?



Courtesy Image

DISTRESS?: **The Rams's return to Los Angeles has not been good news for their record.**

THE RECORD OF OUR ONCE-BELOVED L.A. Rams is 4-10, the 5th worst in the NFL. Frankly, I'm still unclear how they won those four games. Thursday, they lost to the Seattle Seahawks 24-3. And, trust me, it wasn't that close. They also lost their QB, Jared Goff, the number one player taken in the draft, to a possible concussion. The Rams have played five games in the Coliseum this year and they've scored a total of five touchdowns. Last Sunday, against the Rams, Atlanta scored six! Ouch.

Rams owner, Stan Kroenke, seemed oblivious to the team's dismal play. And why not? By moving from St. Louis he had probably doubled the value of his team. And, despite the terrible record, crowds of 90,000 were flocking to the games. (Paying up to $100 for parking!)

Kroenke's $2.6 billion stadium in Inglewood is due to open in 2019 and that means a Super Bowl is not far away. So Stan, whom Forbes lists as worth $8 billion and whose wife Ann is the daughter of Walmart co-founder James Walton, was much like Mad Magazine's Alfred E. Neuman, "What, me worry?"

But, during last Sunday's fiasco against the Falcons, deafening boos filled the Coliseum like an angry tidal wave. Suddenly, Stan was very worried. So much so he promptly fired head coach Jeff Fisher. Unfortunately, it's going to take a lot more than a new head coach to fix what ails the Rams. (And I'm only allowed 800 words.)

Personally, I'm disappointed in Fisher's firing. If he'd been at the helm to absorb the defeat to the Seahawks, he'd stand alone with the most losses by a head coach in NFL history. Now he's just tied for that Hall of Shame title.

Amazingly, Fisher earned $35 million in his 5 years as coach of the Rams and, yet, never had a winning season. Talk about smoke and mirrors, or better yet, the Emperor's clothes. Now he's reportedly getting a $14 million golden parachute due to an inexplicable 2-year extension.

Speaking of Fisher's extension, former Ram and Hall of Fame running back Eric Dickerson theorized, "He must have some naked pictures of somebody." Fisher didn't need naked pictures. It turns out, his agent, Marvin Demoff, is the father of Rams C.O.O. Kevin Demoff. Can you say "conflict of interest?" If you ask me, it's all like a bad soap opera... "As the Stomach Turns."

Other than coaching, where do the Rams problems begin? The worst offender might be the offensive line, despite many recent drafts devoted to it. They simply don't protect the quarterback. Goff took a beating against Atlanta and then again against the Seahawks.

With his first start not coming until game 9 of the season, Goff's record since is 0-5. Other than the 3 touchdowns he threw in a 49-21 shellacking by New Orleans, not terribly promising. Adding to the physical pounding, one worries about long term damage to Goff's confidence, only five games into his fledgling career.

The O-line also doesn't seem to provide holes for Todd Gurley, last year's star running back. After the Falcon game, Gurley angrily said the Rams have a "7th grade offense." Yikes! We can't have waited 20 years for this but apparently we have.

Granted it's very early, but the hunt for a new coach is struggling, too. Michigan Coach, Jim Harbaugh, not only dismissed the idea but seemed insulted. Or paranoid. "These lies are the words of our enemies."

Seahawks Coach Pete Carroll has also made it clear he's not interested. When the dust settles, however, a head coaching job with the Rams, given the upcoming new stadium and Kroenke's billions, will be a desirable one. You'd think.

The Rams came here in 1947 and were our first "major league" professional team. Other than Hollywood and the movie business, L.A. was considered a "hick town" at least when compared to New York, Philadelphia and Chicago.

In 1951, the Rams won an NFL Championship and in 1979, played in the Super Bowl in 1979. With names like Gabriel, Bass, Pardee, Snow, Ferragamo, the Fearsome Foursome and later Eric Dickerson (and dozens I'm leaving out) and coaches like Hall of Famer, George Allen, over the decades the Rams were often in the Championship hunt. Then, in 1995, they left unceremoniously. Frankly, as returning prodigal sons it's been nothing but "tsuris." (Yiddish for aggravation.)

It's so bad in Rams World, that the most uplifting rumor of late is that the Chargers (currently 5-8) will move here next year and somehow "save the NFL in L.A." (Under the theory that two losing teams are better than one?)

Over twenty years ago many heartbroken Ram fans said they could never forgive the team for leaving. Given this season, some are feeling the same way that they came back.

JACK also writes "Laughing Matters," which appears every Friday. He can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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Your column here

By Bill Worden

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Keeping the airport open

LAST TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, THE FAA exercised its authority under the Code of Federal Regulations to shield two business tenants and the flying public at Santa Monica Municipal Airport from the consequences of the most recent of the City's careless and reckless assaults on its own airport. This protection took the form of an interim cease and desist order which enjoins the City from further action until such time as the FAA can finish with its scrutiny of it City airport policies which began with a formal Notice of Investigation (NOI) two months ago.

The City action which precipitated this response from the Federal Government was its attempt to evict the two Fixed Base Operators (FBO's) who supply essential services to the aviation community that use the Airport (SMO) without making suitable arrangements to assume all of those duties themselves as is required under the Federal law.

In order to evict the present FBO's, the City would need to be able to assume all the activities currently carried out by those businesses. As the FAA points out in the C & D order, the City has made no credible attempts to put together the resources (some of which require considerable time and expenditure) to do that and, hence, if the FBO"S were forced out, the City could not provide the services and meet its obligations under the law-plain and simple.

Some folks believe that was the City's real plan all along based on its publically proclaimed intention to remove all aviation services from the airport to facilitate its closing by strangling it. The FAA is evidently taking this threat seriously and has moved to maintain the current state of affairs until such times as the truth can be ascertained. That is straight forward and to the point-a sober and deliberate act to protect those for whom it is responsible as a Federal Agency. It is foolish not to believe that the FAA is committed and serious about this, i.e. that they are 'bluffing'.

The thing that is peculiar is the City's response as articulated by the Mayor Mr. Vazquez and echoed by Mr. Hernandez. There appears to be a willful misinterpretation of the law and an attempt at misleading the public on their parts. The Mayor says with regard to the order: "We are disappointed, but not surprised..." This implies that they knew that they were acting in bad faith and would be brought to task for it but they don't like being caught. So why on earth did they choose to do it? It always hurts when you shoot yourself in the foot.

Mr. Hernandez also cites an ignorant and foolish blog by a one-time air traffic controller Jim Lewis: "You may find reading the link below interesting. It is the opinion of a former FAA official. No endorsement of his analysis by the City is implied," said the email, (but, of course, Lewis gets paid when you click on his blog). Note the disclaimer. The author in question is not a former FAA "official", but rather, just a guy who worked in a control tower (just because you work in a hospital doesn't make you a doctor). He is confused about the applicable law and his contention that the FAA is "bluffing" is merely ignorant bravado, yet he is one of Mr. Hernandez's many dubious "experts."

What the City chooses not to recognize is that their claim to the airport land comes with certain provisos, one of which is that it must remain a functioning airport. That is the contract the City signed with the Government of the United States decades ago. It is not an exception or particularly unusual-the City doesn't own the freeways within its boundaries, either. That is the crux of the matter.

The FAA is not pledged to protect private business or municipal interest. It is charged with protecting the public's access to our nation's greatest resource-our American airspace-our spacious and halcyon skies, and it is doing a good job. We commend them for their efforts.

Bill Worden
Venice

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GOVERNOR

FROM PAGE 1

most of his time to public speaking and helping various foundations. Grier is a member of the Milken Family Foundation board of trustees and program director of community affairs.

Despite his close ties to the Kennedy family, Grier is a Republican who endorsed president-elect Donald Trump days before the November election.

"He was the man who was a businessman," Grier said. "We need to look at our country as a business." So far, the ex-footballer says he supports Trump's controversial cabinet picks.

"I became a Republican when they took prayer out of schools and President Reagan was trying to get it back," Grier said. Grier added he believes children should learn the Ten Commandments and the 23rd Psalm.

In 2008, however, Grier says he cried as he watched Barack Obama receive the Democratic nomination for president. He felt honored to vote for the first black president, but he says he was disappointed in President Obama's leadership over the last eight years. Grier says he wrote Obama three separate times offering advice.

"I didn't hear anything back and I didn't see him in the community. The only time I saw that he was here, it (cost) like 100,000 dollars a plate and that was not in my budget."

Over the past decades, various presidents have honored Grier and he says he still has a close relationship with President H.W. Bush. When they recently talked on the phone Grier did not mention his plans to run for governor but said he "always feel encouraged when I talk to him." Grier says he hasn't spoken to state leaders with the Republican Party either.

Going forward, Grier says he's guided by his faith in God and his desire to help the community.

kate@smdp.com

RAIN

FROM PAGE 1

parched earth soaked with rain can cause life-threatening mudslides.

Mud from the San Gabriel Mountains flowed into the foothill city of Duarte east of Los Angeles before dawn, affecting 18 homes where residents were told to not to leave, KCBS-TV reported. Firefighters rescued two people stuck in cars.

Two people and seven puppies stuck in a possible homeless encampment on a small island in the swollen San Gabriel River had to be hoisted to safety by a Los Angeles County sheriff's helicopter.

Torrential rain fell on the coast between San Francisco and Los Angeles near the landmark Hearst Castle late Thursday and rockslides closed about 36 miles of Highway 1 in the region. Highway crews expected to have the scenic route reopened by midafternoon Friday. A weather station in the area recorded more than 5 inches of rain.

In the Sierra Nevada, the Tioga Pass entry point to Yosemite National Park received 35 inches of snow in 24 hours, the weather service said.

Building snowpack in the Sierra is critical for California's water supply after five years of drought.

Roads into Yosemite Valley were open again Friday after being closed overnight due to potential flooding. The Merced River crested below flood stage, resulting in no major damage to park roads or operations.

The storm entered the northern end of the state early Thursday and moved south, continuing to drop rain through the Friday morning rush hours across Southern California.

Downtown Los Angeles, in a part of the state that has been categorized as in the midst of "extreme drought," had collected 1.58 inches of rain from the storm by Friday morning.

In Hollywood, hundreds of people were pelted by rain for hours Thursday night as they stood outside trying to get into a rare Metallica concert at a small venue, the Henry Fonda Theater.

In Lancaster, north of Los Angeles, people out in the rain and wind were happy for the wintry holiday vibe.

"Just all of the sudden a little storm is kicking in," Kara McDonald told KTTV-TV as she shopped in an elf hat. "We can sit around the fire and drink some hot chocolate."

The storm caused worry in some spots like burn areas, where fire station were handing out sandbags.

"We're concerned about mudslides and flooding," Los Angeles fire spokeswoman Margaret Stewart said.

Get out quickly if "things go bad," she urged residents of foothill and burned areas. "Don't take the risk of being trapped in a mudslide."

Earlier Thursday, the San Francisco Bay Area was hit with one of its heaviest storms in an already wet season, with a small town in the North Bay receiving nearly 7 inches of rain in 24 hours.

More than 100 flights in and out of San Francisco International Airport were cancelled and about 360 were delayed for minutes to hours because of weather concerns, said Brian Horne, airport duty manager.

Venado, a remote former lumber town west of Healdsburg, was hit the hardest as the storm moved from the North Bay into San Francisco and the Central Coast.

Some creeks in those counties were over flood stages.

San Francisco recorded more than an inch of rain in 24 hours, with areas further north seeing 2 to 4 inches and 5 to nearly 7 inches recorded in some areas of the Sierra Nevadas, along with at least one wind gust of over 100 mph.

In Healdsburg in Sonoma County, antique dealer Greg Sheldon said driving conditions were difficult.

"Some of our streets are flooded here. I had two feet of water in one of my lanes," said Sheldon, who works at Antique Harvest. "There's just tons of water coming off, the ground is so saturated right now. Every field is a big lake."

Bender reported from San Francisco. Associated Press writer Andrew Dalton contributed from Los Angeles.



CHRISTMAS 2016

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE
A "No Muss, No Fuss" Christmas Pageant for all ages. Costumes will be available at the door for all children to participate.
Saturday, December 24 - 4 p.m. Children's Church & Youth

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Saturday, December 24 - 11 p.m. Choir, Organ, Harp & Candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY SERVICE
Sunday, December 25 - 10 a.m. Carols and the Christmas Story

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VOLUNTEERS

FROM PAGE 1

plan to decorate their hospital room with items they can take home with them as they continue to recover.

Once Upon a Room, Director, Jennifer Haull said, "It is such a great feeling to come and decorate the rooms for the children. I am thankful for the volunteers who come out and do this, and decorate their rooms with everything they like. The best part of all this is when their face lights up when they see their room, that's why I do this."

The goal is to provide patients and their families with moments of fun and an opportunity to temporarily forget their diagnosis, struggle and fight.

Whitney and Mike Schmit have been long time residents within the Ocean Park neighborhood. They were one of many parents whose child had their hospital room decorated.

The two have been together for years, living in their small, cozy home. Then in June of 2015 they had their first child Tatum Schmit, at St. Johns Hospital in Santa Monica.

Now 18 months later, Tatum is going through chemo as she has Sacrococcygeal teratoma (SCT) which can be described as a cancerous tumor.

"It was probably around two months ago where I had a weird feeling that Tatum was not okay, she wasn't acting like herself," said mother, Whitney Schmit.

At the time Tatum was not using the restroom or drinking water, and Mike found a lump near the base of her tailbone and decided to take her to the hospital.

On Sept. 26 Tatum was admitted into the hospital as they found the lump was a tumor. Within two days of being admitted she had already started the chemo process.

"She has been handling this very well, it is a bit surprising sometimes. Tatum has made this her second home, and its great that people would donate their time to decorate these children's rooms," said Mike.

The family decided the best thing to do was to leave Santa Monica, since Tatum needs to be in a sterile environment and she would also need to be at UCLA Hospital in Westwood.

Whitney and Mike decided to move to the Sawtelle neighborhood, making it the middle location between both hospitals, UCLA Santa Monica and UCLA Westwood.

"It was sad to leave Santa Monica, it was home and it's truly a great city. We knew this move is to help benefit Tatum and maybe one day we will be back in Santa Monica but for now we have to do what is best for Tatum," said Whitney.

Tatum is currently finishing her fourth round of chemo and hopefully the last and final round. Removing whatever is left from the tumor, because if not the 18-month little girl will go through her fifth round of chemo. For now, she will go in for MRI's and surgeries to removes the last of the tumor.

Now Tatum plays with her toys, watches her favorite movies like Beauty and the Beast and walks around the hospital while receiving treatment.

It can be a difficult to be sleeping and spending days in the hospital, especially around the holiday time. As for the Schmit family, it's another home.

"To be completely honest I forgot about the holidays, it slipped my mind because the only thing that is important is Tatum," said Mike. "We live day to day and we have learned how to live in the moment," said Whitney.

marina@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

John Adams Middle School Mock Trial Team Places 2nd in Los Angeles County

The John Adams Middle School (JAMS) mock trial team from Santa Monica finished in second place out of 56 competing teams from public and private middle schools across Los Angeles, marking the best results in the team's seven-year history.

In addition to reaching the finals for the first time in history, two teammates received prestigious awards by the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF), which runs the national mock trial program. Eighth grader Siddhart Wali received recognition for Best Defense Attorney and eighth grader Jesse Gonzalez for Best Prosecution Witness.

"Our entire team was extraordinary and had a dominating tournament! It is rare for a team to ever win one of these awards, and for our team to have two students receive an award is phenomenal," Joel Koury, mock trial coach, said. Koury is a Los Angeles defense attorney and parent of one of the participating JAMS students. Coach Stu Glovin added "this team is the top public school mock trial team in all of LA County and we couldn't be more proud!"

The team selection process begins each spring through an application process that is further vetted by the administration in the fall. Sixteen team members are ultimately chosen by the coaches. The JAMS mock trial team has finished in the top four finalists three times and regularly wins against private and parochial schools that have full-time teachers and coaches.

The case is chosen by the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF), and is heard in Los Angeles Superior Court downtown before a real judge.

Team roles include bailiff, court staff, testifying witnesses, prosecuting attorneys and defense attorneys. The competition inspires and teaches the students about constitutional rights, legal analysis, formulating an argument and public speaking. The competition is an amazing combination of moot court, debate and theater.

"I can't thank our coaches enough for their hard work," Steve Richardson, JAMS principal, said. "They have developed invaluable critical thinking skills in our kids and also provide a small glimpse into an exciting career option. And, of course, I am in awe of our students, their commitment to this demanding task and their ability to shine in a high-pressure situation. The mock trial program is a gift to our school and community."

Chaminade College Preparatory Middle School in Chatsworth earned first place in the junior competition.

– SUBMITTED BY GAIL PINSKER, SMMUSD PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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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 DECEMBER 9, 2016 AT ABOUT 3:26 P.M.

While patrolling the area of 1600 block of 5th Street, officers observed a male subject lying on the sidewalk and blocking access to pedestrians. Officers stopped to check on the subject. As they approached the subject, officers saw narcotics paraphernalia on the ground next to him. Officers awoke the suspect. The suspect tried to conceal the paraphernalia. Officers asked the suspect if he possessed any narcotics. The suspect said he did and handed officers a pill canister that contained cocaine. Also found on the suspect were several health access cards belonging to another person. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. Lynn Lee Davis, 36, homeless, was arrested for possession of cocaine, possession of narcotics paraphernalia add misappropriation of found property. Bail was set at $1,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 292 calls for service on Dec.15.

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

Drunk driving investigation 16th/ California 12:18 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 1900 block of Colorado 3:18 a.m.
Assault with deadly weapon 1400 block of Ocean 3:20 a.m.
Death investigation 2400 block of 5th 3:28 a.m.
Encampment 400 block of Santa Monica Pier 6:20 a.m.
Encampment 1100 block of Lincoln 7:03 a.m.
Trespassing 1400 block of 2nd 7:19 a.m.
Assault with deadly weapon 7th/ Santa Monica 7:53 a.m.
Traffic collision Ocean/ Wilshire 7:55 a.m.
Domestic violence 2400 block of Ocean Park 8:06 a.m.
Trespassing 1900 block of Cloverfield 8:18 a.m.
Encampment 800 block of Pico 8:38 a.m.
Traffic collision 14th/ Broadway 8:39 a.m.
Grand theft 2100 block of California 9:49 a.m.
Traffic collision 900 block of Montana 10:01 a.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 2600 block of 28th 10:40 a.m.
Person down 1100 block of Pico 11:09 a.m.
Trespassing 1700 block of Ocean 11:37 a.m.
Grand theft 2500 block of Pico 11:45 a.m.
Death investigation 1400 block of 2nd 11:50 a.m.
Assault with deadly weapon 400 block of Expo Line 1:30 p.m.
Person down 1600 block of Ocean 1:49 p.m.
Elder abuse 1600 block of Oak 1:58 p.m.
Auto burglary 2000 block of 5th 2:31 p.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 1900 block of Centinela 2:54 p.m.
Missing person 2500 block of Pico 3:14 p.m.
Encampment 2900 block of Ocean Front Walk 3:30 p.m.
Traffic collision 28th/ Pico 4:37 p.m.
Grand theft auto 2400 block of Ashland 4:37 p.m.
Fight 1800 block of Olympic 4:43 p.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 1100 block of Centinela 5:02 p.m.
Assault with deadly weapon 1800 block of Cloverfield 6:08 p.m.
Grand theft 1200 block of Princeton 6:10 p.m.
Traffic collision 3300 block of Exposition 6:34 p.m.
Trespassing 1600 block of Santa Monica 6:37 p.m.
Traffic collision 11th/ Wilshire 6:37 p.m.
Traffic collision Main/ Ocean Park 7:07 p.m.
Hit and run Neilson/ Pacific 7:38 p.m.
Trespassing 300 block of Bicknell 7:49 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 2200 block of Colorado 8:17 p.m.
Grand theft auto 900 block of Broadway 9 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block of 4th 10:00 p.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 2500 block of 30th 10:27 p.m.
Fight 2700 block of Main 10:58 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 51 calls for service on Dec. 15.

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

EMS 1400 block of Ashland 1:45 a.m.
EMS 100 block of Georgina 2:15 a.m.
EMS 2400 block of 5th 2:44 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of Ocean 3:22 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of 10th 5:40 a.m.
EMS 800 block of 4th 7:27 a.m.
EMS 400 block of Expo Line 7:43 a.m.
EMS 700 block of Santa Monica 7:55 a.m.
EMS Ocean/ Wilshire 7:56 a.m.
EMS 14th/ Broadway 8:39 a.m.
EMS 300 block of Olympic 8:43 a.m.
EMS 1600 block of Arizona 8:51 a.m.
EMS 2200 block of Virginia 9:19 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of Main 9:36 a.m.
Automatic alarm 400 block of California 9:38 a.m.
EMS 400 block of Ocean 9:41 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of Pico 11:09 a.m.
EMS 2400 block of Wilshire 11:11 a.m.
EMS 2100 block of Ocean 11:14 a.m.
EMS 2700 block of Neilson 11:38 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 2nd 11:47 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1600 block of 7th 12:15 p.m.
EMS 3300 block of Barnard 12:52 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 14th 12:54 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 1:00 p.m.
EMS 400 block of Expo Line 1:26 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Ocean 1:50 p.m.
EMS 400 block of Expo Line 2:07 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of 14th 2:12 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 19th 2:22 p.m.
Haz-Mat Level 1 900 block of 22nd 3:11 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pl 4:37 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1300 block of Wilshire 5:16 p.m.
EMS 800 block of Lincoln 5:29 p.m.
Lock In/ Out 2400 block of Wilshire 5:43 p.m.
Public assist 400 block of Wilshire 5:51 p.m.
EMS 2200 block of Pico 6:00 p.m.
EMS 700 block of Santa Monica 6:39 p.m.
EMS 2800 block of Neilson 6:52 p.m.
EMS Yale/ Colorado 7:10 p.m.
EMS 2100 block of Ocean 7:26 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 12/14
18 26 37 39 66
Power#: 15
Jackpot: 119M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 12/13
2 15 26 34 41
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 59M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 12/14
6 10 16 29 31
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 61M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/15
7 11 21 23 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/16
MIDDAY: 1 6 4
Draw Date: 12/15
EVENING: 0 0 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/15
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:47.06

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!

hotsy-totsy

1. Older Slang. about as right as can be; perfect: He always thinks everything is just hotsy-totsy.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Counts

■ 5: Number of months since the federal Centers for Disease Control began asking hospitals and physicians to look for infections caused by Candida auris. The often-fatal, antibiotic-resistant fungus had not been reported in the U.S., but it is easily misidentified with more common candida yeast infections

■ 13: Number C. auris cases reported since then

■ 4: Number of the first seven patients with C. auris infections who have died

SOURCE: CDC

Doc Talk

■ Claudication: cramping pain in the legs induced by exercise, typically caused by a reduction in blood supply

MYSTERY REVEALED

Marina Andalon *marina@smdp.com*



Shane Peters correctly identified the photo as part of the mural on the Leaf and Petal Company at the corner of 4th and Colorado. He wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

Newsday Crossword

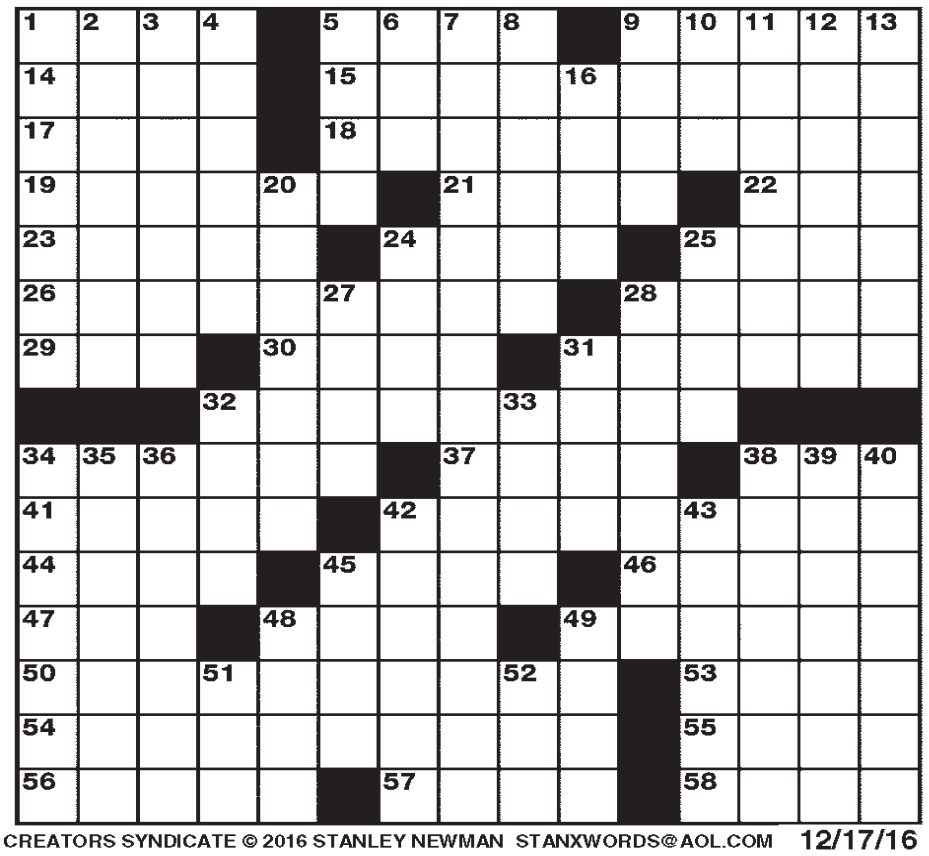
SATURDAY STUMPER by Matthew Sewell
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Ordered
5 Get ready to rage
9 Élysée Palace bride of 2008
14 __ *y Ahora* (Univision newsmagazine)
15 Amp jack
17 Would prefer to undo
18 Some punk-rock feminists
19 Succeeded in self-reflection?
21 Obsessive enthusiast
22 Bit of enthusiastic support
23 Take over
24 *". . . ne pas __, c'est là la question"*
25 First memory-foam user, for its seat cushions
26 Almond-paste pastries
28 Tests of audacity
29 22 of 26 letters, in DC
30 Molten chocolate, per some recipes
31 Highly apprehensive
32 Source of much orange juice
34 *Fitness* mag subject
37 Cranberry descriptor
38 GPS display
41 "If I pursue __ of light . . .": Einstein
42 Anchored oneself
44 Unwholesome
45 About .002% of dry air
46 Its banks were honored by UNESCO
47 Taunting singer of "Goodnight, Harvard"
48 Fail big-time
49 Explicitly set forth
50 Ice-show pioneer
53 Zinfandel center city
54 Spotlight
55 Title for Muhammad descendants
56 What fills some shells
57 Overcome, in a way
58 Topic in contract law

DOWN

1 Round sums
2 "The All Weather Hairspray"
3 Watchful Spanish ladies
4 Ultimate authority in the ABC acquisition
5 Minstrel of yore
6 Apt rhyme for *sí*
7 "Hold it right there!"
8 Certain liquid displays
9 What a tot might draw as an "m"
10 Break since WWII
11 Major turbulence
12 Empty math class
13 Encouraging words
16 Savage
20 Call out
24 Water repellent of a sort
25 36 Down to extremes
27 Bizet contemporary
28 Use for a swab
31 Unsubstantial
32 Feb. celebration
33 Hader's dad in the . . . *Meatballs* movies
34 Shuts in
35 Sushi bar selection
36 Prods, perhaps
38 Super model
39 All ears
40 Acknowledged one's errors
42 Westernmost nation of the Iroquois League
43 One with the goods
45 Offhand passes
48 Philodendron's edible cousin
49 Germ
51 __ fuel
52 Cause of a blowup



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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 17)

Your intensity will be appreciated by equally intense individuals. This is a bigger blessing than most people can understand. Your unique style and concerns -- the one who pays attention to this will be of particular interest. Weddings happen in July and October. Family expansion is an exciting boon of March. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 20, 33, 10 and 50.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You're more likely to keep a commitment to a friend than you are to honor your own private and personal wish. This is why, when you really want something for yourself, you absolutely must get other people involved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Existential angst can be alleviated through practical means. Environmental improvements will contribute. Maybe this has to do with getting more sunlight and fresh air. Perhaps there's a nutritional issue to be addressed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Once your internal parent decides what's good for you, your internal child will spend a good amount of time whining, complaining and trying to talk you out of it. Good parents stay true to their word.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
It will take many hours of research and development to make an effective presentation. The amount of time you get to actually present your ideas may be extremely short: Make it count. Relevant details go up front.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You may be interrupted. It's an opportunity to extend respect to the other person, even though he or she is being rude. When you make a mistake, it's an opportunity to show poise. Catastrophes are opportunities to touch your true grit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
A partnership that drains you is defeating the very purpose of partnership. Partnerships should contribute to your sense of well-being. Go get a partner who shares your goals and complements your skills.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
When you come to the roadblock, you don't automatically turn back. Instead, you move laterally until you find a way through. This is a day when sideways moves can be counted as progress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Your least-satisfying lunch would be the best thing a person in another part of the world has had in months. There may be little you can do about that, but a global view should help your mood, at least.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Believing differently from your friend can cause a rift. Well, it's not the believing exactly; it's the expression of that belief. Diplomacy, softness, warmth -- this is a dance, and you're a wonderful dancer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You know what you want to do, yet you're not doing it. Baffling! You may have to trick yourself to get going. Write down the "when" and "where" in your calendar. Once in motion, you'll figure out the "how."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Give and receive and receive and give. That's the way the day will go. Try not to pay too much attention to the math of it. Dollar amounts will be particularly deceiving. It's the care. Focus on the care.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Socializing with a friend or partner has its unique challenges. If only you could telepathically convey the message "stop talking" or "save me," it would smooth the way. Perhaps you could work out a signal.

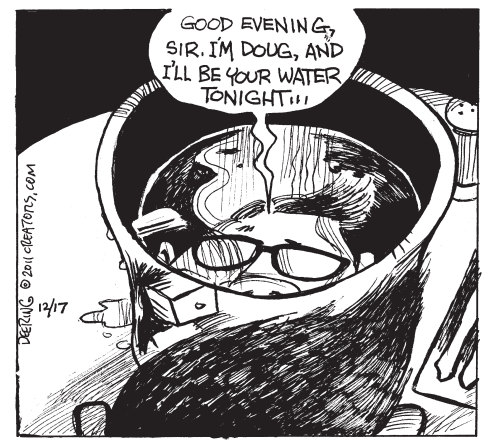
Wily Leo Moon
You may not be able to stop your brain from scanning the environment for threats, but you can definitely use the energy of this wily Leo moon to keep it from obsessing on unhelpful factors in the environment. When focused on threats, the human brain goes into "fight, flight or freeze" mode. It's not the best mode for getting things done today.

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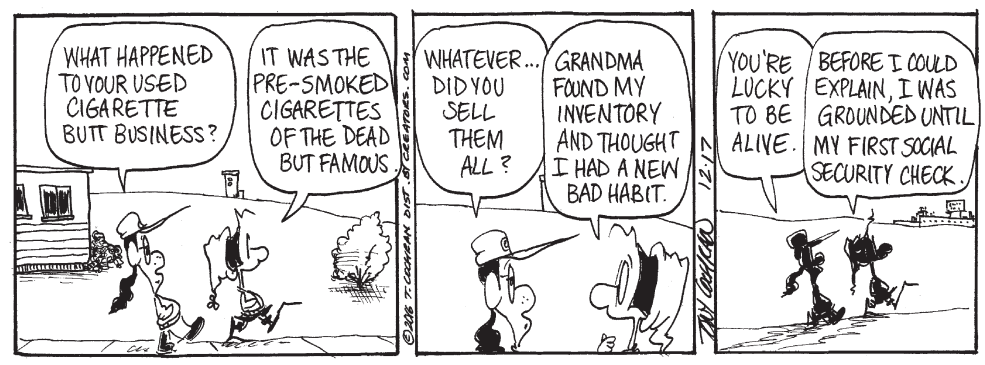
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



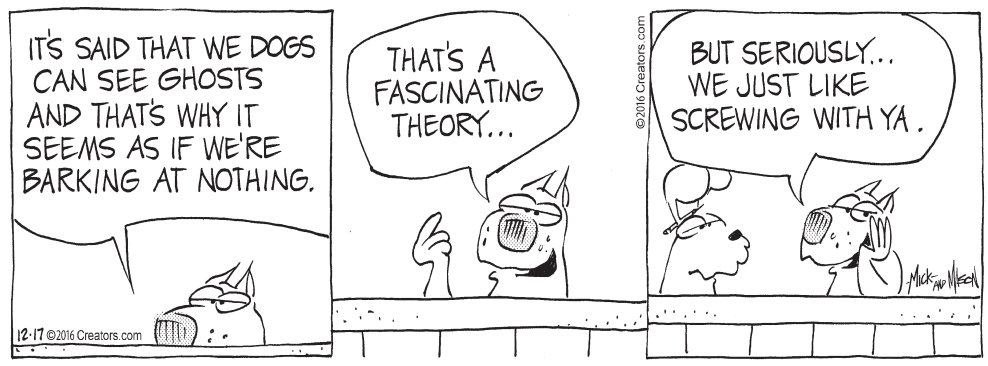
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2016280274 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/17/2016 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as PIERCE GARDNER DESIGN. 828 MALTMAN AVE , LOS ANGELES, CA 90026. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: SAVANNAH GARDNER 828 MALTMAN AVE LOS ANGELES, CA 90026. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/01/2016. /s/: SAVANNAH GARDNER. SAVANNAH GARDNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/17/2016. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/17/2016, 12/24/2016, 12/31/2016, 01/07/2017.

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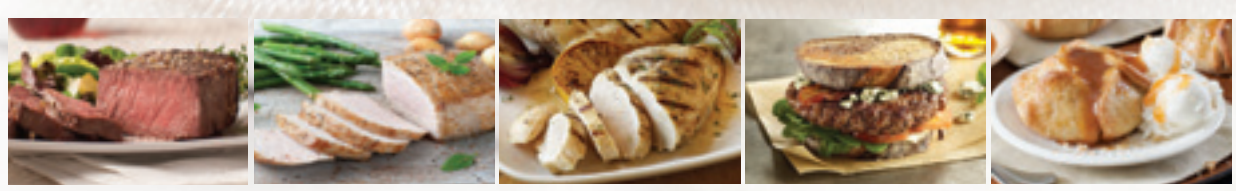
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