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Ho Ho Ho, Go Go Go
T'is the season for great music.
Page 4

2 ID's, 4 phones, 1 arrest
Man arrested for using fake ID to purchase iPhones.
Page 10

Sanders, Bloomberg test different paths to a California win

MICHAEL R. BLOOD AND KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

One is spending millions of dollars flooding the airwaves from Los Angeles to Sacramento, highlighting his tenure as mayor of the nation's largest city and commitment to key Democratic causes. The other has hired 80 staff members to knock on doors, organize volunteers and promote his message of political revolution in at least seven languages.

No two Democratic presidential candidates are putting as many resources into the fight for California as Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire businessman and former New York mayor, and Bernie Sanders, the Vermont senator. Sanders is marshaling his passionate volunteers to win the biggest prize of the presidential primary season, while Bloomberg arrives with a virtually unlimited checkbook after a late entry in the race.

For now, they're deploying different strategies. Bloomberg is focused on television advertising, long viewed as the best way to reach voters in the state that is home to 40 million people, while Sanders is focused on door-to-door campaigning on the ground. But they each have the resources and plans to do both, and earlier than most of their rivals.

As Bloomberg spokesman Jason Schechter put it: "California is extremely important to Mike."

Bloomberg, who entered the race last month, is bypassing the first four voting states and anchoring his strategy to California and other Super Tuesday states, hoping a strong showing will carry him to the top of the field. Sanders, meanwhile, has a grassroots infrastructure in place from four years ago and is treating California as importantly as earlier contests like Iowa and New Hampshire. He's vowing to win the race.

Bloomberg, though, will not be one of the seven candidates who will gather Thursday in Los Angeles for the sixth and final debate of 2019. He is unable to qualify for the contests because he is not accepting campaign donations. Sanders will be onstage alongside former Vice President Joe Biden, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Kloubchar, businessman Andrew Yang and billionaire philanthropist Tom Steyer. Steyer will be the only Californian on stage after Sen. Kamala Harris suspended her campaign, opening a scramble for her home-state donors and support.

California moved its primary up to March in 2020, from June in 2016, in an effort to have more sway over the nominating process. However, it's possible that no candidate emerges from California with a decisive win because of the maze of rules used to divvy up the state's haul of 494 delegates, far more than any other state.

Still, the trajectory of the race in California, where roughly 14 million voters will be eligible to participate in the Democratic primary, largely

SEE **BLOOMBERG** PAGE 10

City seeks to streamline advisory groups

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

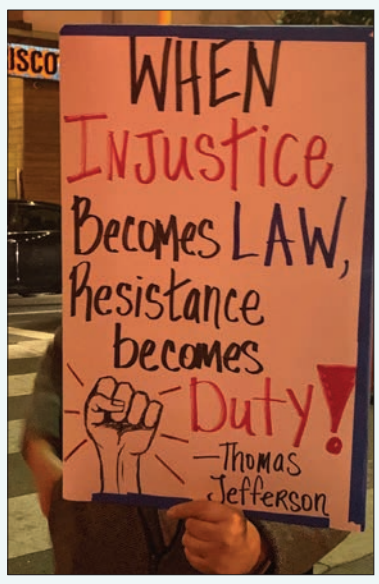
The city will review and may consolidate its boards and commissions, which advise the City Council on matters such as urban planning, social services and sustainability.

The City Council voted Tuesday to adopt a swathe of recommendations from city staff that would change the rules governing boards, commissions and task forces and form an ad hoc group to review the bodies. The council also voted to convert the Task Force on the Environment to a formal commission named the Commission on Sustainability and the Environment.

The council appoints the Architectural Review, Personnel and Santa Monica Library boards; the Airport, Planning, Recreation and Parks, Arts, Building and Fire-Life Safety, Status of Women, Disabilities, Housing, Landmarks, Social Services commissions; the Audit and Clean Beaches & Ocean Parcel Tax Citizens' Oversight committees; and the Environment and Urban Forest

SEE **GROUPS** PAGE 3









Courtesy photos

TRUMP: Protesters gathered downtown this week to support impeachment.

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What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, December 19

The Recreation & Parks Commission Regular Meeting
The Recreation & Parks Commission advises City Council and City staff on matters related to recreation and use of public open space. City Hall Council Chamber, 7:30 p.m.

Finals Study Hall for High School Students
Grab some coffee and snacks, and take advantage of a quiet study area in the Activity Room, or check out a private study room with a library card. Please note: private study rooms are first-come, first-served, with limited availability. Presented by the Santa Monica Public Library Teen Advisory Council. Main Library, Activity Room, 2 - 7 p.m.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now
One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Pico Branch Library, 3:30 - 6 p.m.

Friday, December 20

Music and Movement at the Library
A musical story time that will have little ones singing and dancing along as they learn important early literacy skills. For ages 18 months to five years old. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 4 p.m.

Main Library Docent Tours
Docent led tours are offered the third Friday of each month. Docent led tours of the Main Library cover the library's gold LEED rating of sustainability, its art, architecture and even the library's collection! Docents are able to adapt the tour to fit your interest and time. Main Library, Central Courtyard, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 21

Master Gardeners at the Market
Helping others to grow more of their own food, even in an urban setting! 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. Virginia Avenue Park, 9:30 a.m. - noon.

Ocean Park Fiction Winners Book Group
This book group reads and discusses prize-winning fiction. The group meets the 3rd Saturday of the month. December's title: 'Euphoria' by Lily King. Ocean Park Branch Library, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Certified Farmers' Market (downtown)
Located on Arizona Avenue between 4th and 2nd Streets, the Saturday Downtown Farmers Market featured only California Farmers and one bakery. Find a plentiful variety of fruit, veggies, nuts, animal proteins, flowers, plants. Free 90 minute parking is located in the adjacent City parking structures on 4th and 2nd Streets. 2nd @ Arizona Avenue, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Santa Monica Certified Farmers' Market (Virginia Ave. Park)
Fresh seasonal produce sold direct by California's farmers! The Saturday Pico Farmers Market was established in March 1992. It is a family market in the heart of the Pico neighborhood and adjacent to the Pico Library. This market offers a variety of organic and conventionally-grown produce, in addition to several prepared food options, coffee and musical entertainment. This market also partners with Hunger Action LA to offer Market Match incentives for WIC, CalFresh, SDI and SSI customers. Parking for the market is available in the lot along Pico Blvd., at meters along Pico Blvd. or adjacent to Virginia Park in the parking lot on north/east corner of Pico and Cloverfield. Virginia Ave. Park, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

2020 Democrats prepare to debate in shadow of impeachment

KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

A winnowed field of Democratic presidential contenders takes the debate stage Thursday for a sixth and final time in 2019, as candidates seek to convince anxious voters that they are the party's best hope to deny President Donald Trump a second term next year.

The televised contest ahead of Christmas will bring seven rivals to heavily Democratic California, the biggest prize in the primary season and home to 1-in-8 Americans. And, coming a day after a politically divided U.S. House is expected to impeach the Republican president, the debate will underscore the paramount concern for Democratic voters: Who can beat Trump in November?

With voters distracted by the holidays and the impeachment proceedings in Washington, the debate in Los Angeles could turn out to be the least watched so far. Viewership has declined in each round though five debates, and even campaigns have grumbled that candidates would rather be on the ground in early voting states than again taking the debate stage.

The lack of a clear front-runner reflects the uncertainty gripping many voters. Would Trump be more vulnerable to a challenge from the party's liberal wing or a candidate tethered to the centrist establishment? Should the pick be a man or a woman, or a person of color? The Democratic field is also marked by wide differences in age, geography and wealth, and the party remains divided over issues including health care and the influence of big-dollar fundraising.

There will be a notable lack of diversity onstage compared to earlier debates. For the first time this cycle, the debate won't feature a black or Latino candidate.

The race in California has largely mirrored national trends, with former Vice President Joe Biden, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren clustered at the top of the field, followed by South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, businessman Andrew Yang and billionaire philanthropist Tom Steyer.

Conspicuously missing from the lineup at Loyola Marymount University on Thursday will be former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a billionaire who is unable to qualify for the contests because he is not accepting campaign donations. But even if he's not on the podium, Bloomberg has been felt in the state: He's running a deluge of TV advertising in California to introduce himself to voters who probably know little, if anything, about him.

Bloomberg's late entry into the contest last month highlighted the overriding issue in the contest, electability, a sign of the unease within the Democratic Party about its crop of candidates and whether any is strong enough to unseat an incumbent president. The eventual nominee will be tasked with splicing together the party's disparate factions — a job Hillary Clinton struggled with after defeating Sanders in a long and bitter primary fight in 2016.

Biden adviser Symone Sanders said to expect another robust exchange on health care. "This is an issue that is not going away and for good reason, because it is an issue that in 2018 Democrats ran on and won," she said.

Jess O'Connell with Buttigieg's campaign said the candidate will "be fully prepared to have an open and honest conversation about where there are contrast between us and the other candidates. This is a really important time to start to do that. Voters need time to understand the distinctions between these candidates." The key issues: health care and higher education.

The unsettled race has seen surges at various points by Biden, Warren, Sanders and Buttigieg, though it's become defined by that cluster of shifting leaders, with others struggling for momentum. California Sen. Kamala Harris, once seen as among the top tier of candidates, shelved her campaign this month, citing a lack of money. And Warren has become more aggressive, especially toward Buttigieg, as she tries to recover from shifting explanations of how she'd pay for "Medicare for All" without raising taxes.

In a replay of 2016, the shifting race for the Democratic nomination has showcased the rift between the party's liberal wing, represented in Sanders and Warren, and candidates parked in or near the political center, including Biden, Buttigieg and Bloomberg.

Associated Press writer Michelle L. Price contributed to this report from Las Vegas.

GROUPS

FROM PAGE 1

task forces.

City Commissions advise the Council on their respective topics and have some administrative responsibility but most of their decisions can be appealed and overturned by the Council.

The council also appoints some members of the Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. and Santa Monica Pier Corporation boards, as well as the L.A. County West Vector Control District and the Metropolitan Water District.

City staff recommended creating a community working group to review all boards and commissions and potentially consolidate them if they share similar responsibilities.

"Because there has not been a comprehensive review or oversight of the boards and commissions, a significant amount of overlap has developed in the roles, goals, and purviews of several of these bodies," staff wrote in a report. "This overlap has caused some bodies to lack specific goals, therefore potentially reducing their effectiveness as formal advisory bodies to the City Council."

Staff also recommended that board and commission members be required to complete state ethics training and be prohibited from serving on more than one body at a time. The city plans to put a measure on the ballot in the next general election to modify the city charter to move the authorizations for boards and commissions whose authorizations currently are in the city charter to the city code, which is easier to amend.

After members of the Social Services Commission told the council Tuesday that the commission has not produced an annual report of the city's social programs in decades, as required by city code, several council members said the city needs to redefine the role of boards and commissions. Local homeless advocates have criticized the commission for failing to produce the review and circulated a petition this week asking for greater accountability.

"We don't have enough resources to do an annual report," said Bill Parent, a member of the commission.

Mayor Pro Tempore Terry O'Day said the input from the commission showed that its mission had been overlooked and needed to be rethought.

"The real purpose of the commission and what legal changes need to be put in place is a really tall task for this community working group, but a really important and valuable mission," he said.

Councilmember Sue Himmelrich said the city should make the boards and commissions more effective as advisory bodies. Himmelrich added that the boards and commissions are not representative of the Santa Monica community and the city should work to make them more diverse.

"I think we need to give them more respect," she said. "We need to make it a more significant job."

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

HO HO HO! GO GO GO!



Courtesy photo

SHOW: X is the best show you can see today in Los Angeles.

I KNOW IT'S THE HOLIDAYS

And it's getting very busy but don't forget to treat yourself. Still lots going on. Be your own Santa.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — X, LOS STRAITJACKETS (X is, IS, LA rock, going into their fifth decade with the original lineup and most of their energy intact, I always tell people you ain't lived until you've seen X playing a hometown gig, Los Straitjackets have also been around forever and are my favorite instrumental band and favorite surf rock band because not only have they absorbed the style into their very DNA, they also elevate the genre, still performing anonymously in their Mexican wrestling masks), Thurs, Fri 9 p.m., Teragram Ballroom, DTLA, $38-$100 (listed as sold out, but, you know, you'll have to go there and beg, which you should for this show).

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — BENJAMIN SHEPHERD TRIO (can the dude who slapped bass for Soundgarden for 30 years jump to jazz? — well, if he can't, he sure pulled a fast one recruiting pianist John Beasley and drummer Joe LaBarbera to his trio, two very bright lights in the jazz world, if they do "Black Hole Sun" in this hip jazz club near LAX, it could be nirvana), Thurs 8, 9:30 p.m., Sam First, $15-$20.

BAD HABITS (haven't seen it yet but when does the Ruskin Group do anything less than terrific and this is a family affair starring Orson Bean and wife Alley Mills of The Wonder Years and The Bold & the Beautiful, written by master Steve Mazur who gave us the unforgettable Sneaky Ole Time there, and it's full of nuns, I just don't think you can go wrong), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SMO, $20-$35.

BILL CUNLIFFE (X-mas CD Release Party, I don't care about that but I do care that Cunliffe, Grammy winner and a master of the keys, pianist and arranger with the Buddy Rich Big Band and worked with Sinatra, Joe Henderson, Freddie Hubbard, Benny Golson, has a drop-dead crew behind him in the great Ralph Moore on sax, bassist Dave Robaire and Marvin "Smitty" Smith on drums, they could be playing nursery rhymes, it would be inspired), Fri, Sat 8, 930 p.m., Sam First, LAX, $15-$20.

KIRK FLETCHER Birthday Bash (the man can play guitar, specifically blues guitar, you don't get asked to join the Fabulous Thunderbirds and stick for four years unless… you're fabulous), Sat 9 p.m., Harvelle's, DTSM, $12.

JAZZ BAKERY presents GRETCHEN PARLATO QUARTET (look, I get around pretty good but I can't have already heard everyone who rolls through town so I've developed some tricks for judging and one is the past record of the venue or booking agent, and as Jazz Bakery founder and longtime stellar jazz vocalist Ruth Price reminded the audience beginning to file out after last week's great performance by the Four Hands group, "I've got a great vocalist coming in tomorrow night, Tessa Souter, who you've probably never heard of but by now you should have learned to trust me, she's great!" and I didn't recommend that show and I didn't go but I realize now, again, that Ruth's right, so you'd better go catch this one, with her interesting guitar-cello-percussion backup, also listening to Herbie Hancock who called her "a singer with a deep, almost magical connection to the music," and to Wayne Shorter who boldly declared, "In an inconspicuous way, Gretchen Parlato knows how to play the same instrument that Frank Sinatra played. There's no one out there like Gretchen."), Sat 8 p.m., The Jazz Bakery, Moss Theater, New Roads School, SM, $25-$35.

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE sings HANDEL'S MESSIAH (I know, you've been waiting all year for this — pretty much, you have to, and what better pipes to handle it than these — there, now you're in the Christmas spirit, yes?), Sat 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $39-$169.

HOT CLUB OF LA (if Django was still alive, he would sit in with these guys, and have to hustle to keep up, they really are good, they're there at the tiny funky cool Cinema Bar every Monday night for years and there's

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fia Restaurant - Part 1

I'm not really ready to review this restaurant yet, for reasons listed below. But I can use it as a backdrop for something I've been meaning to write about for some time: "Restaurant Service."

I categorize restaurant service into four tiers: Excellent, Good, Not good, and Idiosyncratic. Here are a few examples from recent dinners:

Excellent: That would describe the service at Boa Steakhouse Santa Monica. When I was there last, the staff was so attentive, that one of the managers came to our table to make sure the tableside service of the Caesar salad was properly prepared.

Good: There are a lot of restaurants in Santa Monica with good service. Two that I frequent often are the Water Grill – Santa Monica and Enterprise Fish Co. The waiters seem to know the menu, make good suggestions, and know who gets which plates. The recent addition of the revamped Golden Bull in Santa Monica Canyon is surprisingly good considering it's new.

Idiosyncratic: The staff training at Hillstone Restaurant is excellent and they seem to favor attractive young women, who stick around until they get an acting role. But, if a man enters wearing a hat, they won't serve him unless he removes his hat. And pointing out that there is a woman wearing a hat doesn't seem to modify the rule that applies to men. Someday I'm going to go the restaurant with my yarmulke and when I'm asked to take it, off I'm going to say I'm an Orthodox Jew and, like the Pope, I always wear a head covering. We'll see how that works.

Not Good. Now, that's where the Fia Restaurant comes in. Soon after it opened, I went in with my two sons. We entered through the uncomfortable alley they now use as the entrance, instead of the comfortable one off the parking lot. I approached the greeter and expected her to say something like "Welcome to Fia." What she actually said was, "Do you have a reservation?" Not much of a warm greeting. Worse yet, I didn't have a reservation and admitted it. Her response was "I'm sorry we're fully booked" and she walked away.

That was not a good response. What she should have said was "I'm sorry we don't have a table free for you, but you are welcome to sit at the bar and order from the regular menu." But she didn't.

Fortunately, I've been eating in that space for about 40 years, beginning back when it was a German restaurant that served wonderful roast duck and red cabbage. Later, a young doctor that used to live in my guesthouse bought it and re-named it "Wilshire." So, knowing my way around, I ignored the rude greeter and we walked over the bar. The bar was empty so the two bartenders were glad to see us. After all, you can't get any tips if there are no customers. We were promptly given menus and a wine list. We ordered a bottle of Rhone wine that was reasonably priced and very delicious, and before we were done eating, we ordered a second bottle of the same wine.

I love the wines from the Tain-l'Hermitage Commune in Drôme, France. It also brought back memories of chocolate tasting at the Valhrona Tasting Room where you can sample chocolates from around the world at no charge. Anyway, we loved Fia's menu as there were lots of dishes too complex for me to make at home. That is one reason I go to restaurants. I loved the idea of appetizer size dishes, small plates, and dinner plates. I worked with the Chef Brendan Collins at Anisette and I know him to be extremely competent and capable of executing wonderful and unusual dishes. And the three or four small plates we ordered were, in fact, wonderful. Furthermore, the outside patio at Fia is one of the most outstanding patios in Santa Monica, second, perhaps, only to Michaels.

Before I can review a menu this extensive and complex, I need to spend three or four evenings at the restaurant making notes. So, I'll go another two or three times, and then I'll write Part 2- The Food. Stay tuned.

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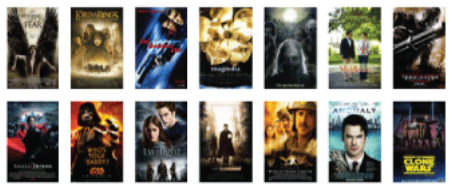
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Merv Hecht, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com.

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RosemaryJo Harper

December 14, 1940 / November 24, 2019



RosemaryJo Harper, known affectionally to her family and friends as "MaryJo", was born in Washington D. C. on December 14,1940 as the only child of William Henry Jaynes and Alberta Mae Hayes Jaynes. She passed away on November 24, 2019 in Westwood, California following heart surgery and an earlier head injury. She was surrounded by family and friends at the time of her passing.

MaryJo's childhood years were spent at Lake Arrowhead where she developed a lifelong love of the mountains and horses. Later the family moved to Santa Monica. In 1954 MaryJo attended and then graduated from Mayfield Senior High in Pasadena, California, a Catholic all girls high school where she met her dear friend Fay Chonette. After graduation, MaryJo attended Occidental College where she obtained a teaching credential. Following her college years she married Harry Harper and the two of them traveled throughout the United States and Western Europe. Upon returning to California, MaryJo and Harry commenced raising their two sons, Joseph William Harper and Charles Edward Harper.

MaryJo also then commenced her role as an active school teacher, teaching for many years for the Los Angeles City School District. She interrupted her service for a time when she went to Santa Cruz, California to work for Skyways Freight Company as an administrative officer. While there, her two sons attended and graduated from Aptos High School. She then returned to Los Angels and resumed teaching, retiring in 2010.

The absolute love of her life was her two sons Joseph William Harper of Santa Monica, California and Charles Edward Harper of Hermosa Beach, California and her two grandchildren Cole Jackson Harper and Ellie Paige Harper of Palos Verdes Estates, California . MaryJo was a free spirit who accepted and liked all people. She had a positive attitude and a very hearty infectious laugh. She was unselfish to a fault, always supported her sons and had many lifelong friends. While too many to mention here, special note is made of Margaret Knowlton of Santa Monica, Fay and Doug Houston, Donna Billinsky (who taught with MaryJo at Ramona Elementary School), Shane, Linda Nuckolls, Robert Duggan and Family and Joe Fusco and Mike Wesson, She was also accepted and loved by the extended Harper Family. She will be missed by all.

In her later years she was able to make a number of trips to Hawaii. She loved the ocean and the islands and her friends Dave and Patty Nuckolls who made her welcome on her visits. It was her request that her ashes be spread in Hawaii that she loved so much. She requested no funeral or large memorial but an honoring event will be held. So until we all meet again may God hold MaryJo in the palm of his hands.

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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

From Dust to ... Compost?



Olson Kundig.

DEATH: Rendering of what the main ceremony space at Recompose could look like when the human composting facility opens in Seattle.

It's a subject some are too squeamish to discuss, but death does come to us all. And when it does, there are options: cremation, crypts, embalming, coffin or shroud burials. An Italian company is designing an egg-shaped, biodegradable pod to be planted like a seed with a body inside and a tree planted above it (https://www.capsulamundi.it/en/project/). There's even a "mushroom burial suit" on the market that will let mycelia and fungi do what they do best, decompose organic material. https://www.ted.com/talks/jae_rhim_lee_my_mushroom_burial_suit

The funeral industry has faced growing concerns about the environmental impact of traditional burials, such as embalming with formaldehyde, a carcinogen that can leach into soil and the water table, and mercury and particulate emissions from crematoriums.

But Katrina Spade and her Washington State-based public benefit corporation called Recompose may have invented the ideal solution: human composting. It's both a new technology and ancient as Earth itself. "There's something incredibly beautiful about the practicalities of nature," she told me in a recent interview. "The way that nature creates new life by creating new soil is a process that all lives on this planet depend on. It's the regeneration of life through death in nature."

THE RECOMPOSE PROCESS

The state of Washington legalized "the contained, accelerated conversion of human remains to soil." Partnering with Washington State University, Recompose facilitated a successful research trial using human remains (all volunteers) that helped convince legislators to create the state law, which goes into effect in May 2020. And Colorado has just announced it will propose a similar bill.

Spade says their process is "based on a form of composting that farmers have used for decades called livestock mortality composting. It's about finding the right ratio of carbon and nitrogen that makes microbes the happiest. We're creating a similar environment to the forest floor, where you've got different materials, dead organic materials, leaves, and sticks and your occasional chipmunk, all of it being broken down by microbial and bacterial activity to create soil."

Recompose's month-long thermophyllic process happens at temperatures from 120 to 150 degrees Fahrenheit. The micro-organisms that create the heat are already in the carbon-nitrogen material mix and our bodies, with no chemicals added.

"Inside our vessels we lay a mixture of wood chips, alfalfa, and straw," she continued. "We put the body on top of a bed of these materials then fill the vessel with more of it. The microbial and bacterial activity end up creating soil." Non-organic material such as dental fillings, stents or titanium joints are screened out after the compost is finished.

Spade explains that, "For the first week, everything inside the vessel is still, the body lies there, and the microbial activity starts right away on its own. At certain times during the month-long process, we rotate the vessel but very slowly. So imagine a four-foot diameter cylinder lying on its side rotating; it takes 15 minutes for one rotation to happen, every few days."

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE COMPOST

What started as an architectural grad school design exercise led to Spade's plan for Recompose. "It really got me thinking about what humans crave when it comes to the end of life and what is lacking in the funeral industry today. One of the things we believe is, especially as Americans, we've lost touch with the rituals, the beauty and meaning inherent in the end of one's life, and we don't always do a good job of marking that moment."

Recompose aims to change that. With a peaceful, almost spa-like interior design, Spade says, "We expect to be a place people will be curious about and want to visit, so we've designed it thinking a lot about ritual and ceremony and making the space welcoming and comforting. The (76) vessels themselves are pretty straightforward design-wise on purpose, they make up the heart of the space and just by virtue of being there make for an impressive space."

Like a traditional funeral home, Recompose will offer a $5500 package price, to "pick up the body at the time of death, hold it in refrigerated storage until the day of

SEE **CULTURE WATCH** PAGE 11

BRIEFS

Citywide

Travel & Tourism Launches Visitor Guide Cover Contest

As Santa Monica residents, we have the inside scoop on what makes our beachside city such a world-class place to live, work and play. From the bounty of our four weekly Farmers Markets and artistry of local street murals to the energy of yoga and fitness studios alongside the soothing ambiance of favorite coffee shops, spas and boutiques, there's just so many details that make Santa Monica a beloved hometown.

And you know what they say – a picture is worth a thousand words! Santa Monica Travel & Tourism invites you to share the beauty of our city through your eyes. We are searching for a picture that the Santa Monica story – an unforgettable beach city experience filled with eye-catching people, cutting-edge culture, and bold innovations and the essence of the California lifestyle.

The winning photograph will be featured on the front cover of the 2020/21 Santa Monica Official Visitors Guide and Santa Monica Official Visitors Map. Each year these valuable resources are published to help visitors and our residents better celebrate and discover our destination.

The winning photographer will receive photographer credit, be featured in a blog post on santamonica.com, and receive a two-night stay at a Santa Monica hotel to further explore all that our beach city has to offer.

The contest runs through January 31, 2019. The winner will be announced the week of February 3, 2020. For details on how to enter and full contest rules, visit https://www.santamonica.com/terms-and-conditions-cover-contest/

SUBMITTED BY MISTI KERNS

Citywide

Opportunity to Win Tickets to the Independent Spirit Awards

The winter months are a great time to cozy up with some delicious popcorn and watch the year's most heralded. Lucky for us, there's no shortage of venues including five major movie theaters in our 8.3 square miles, to view nominated flicks on the big screen as awards-season descends upon tinsel town.

Santa Monica residents can join in the movie magic with a chance to win exclusive access to the Film Independent Spirit Awards – dedicated to independent filmmakers – that have called Santa Monica home for over 30 years.

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) in partnership with ISA is giving away a highly-coveted pair of tickets to the Film Independent Spirit Awards, held at Santa Monica Beach on Saturday, February 8, 2020. To enter the contest, simply post a photo on social media now through January 27, 2020 from your favorite Santa Monica Pier business using #SMPierWinter and #SpiritAwards showing how you spend the not-so-warm months beachside in Santa Monica. For complete terms and conditions, visit santamonica.com/contest.

For the second year in a row, popular actress Aubrey Plaza returns to Santa Monica to host the Film Independent Spirit Awards show, celebrating its 35th year. This year's best feature nominees include A Hidden Life, Clemency, The Farewell, Marriage Story and Uncut Gems. Enter today at santamonica.com/contest for your chance to rub elbows with Hollywood's elite.

SUBMITTED BY MISTI KERNS

San Francisco

Uber to pay $4.4 million to end federal sex harassment probe

Uber Technologies Inc. will establish a $4.4 million fund to settle a federal investigation into allegations that the San Francisco company allowed a rampant culture of sexual harassment, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission announced Wednesday.

The agreement ends an investigation launched in 2017 in which the commission found reasonable cause to believe the ride-hailing tech company "permitted a culture of sexual harassment and retaliation against individuals who complained about such harassment."

A claims administrator will send notices to women who worked at Uber between Jan. 1, 2014, and June 30, 2019. The commission will determine which claimants may be eligible for money from the $4.4 million fund.

The company has also agreed to create a system to identify serial offenders and managers who fail to respond to concerns about sexual harassment in a timely manner.

The commission initiated the investigation after a former Uber engineer wrote a widely circulated blog post exposing sexual harassment at the company, including propositions from her boss. Susan Fowler said her complaints to human resources were ignored.

The company fired 20 people, including some managers, after an investigation by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's law firm.

The commission's district director in San Francisco, William Tamayo, applauded Uber's commitment to accountability, and said the "tech industry, among others, has often ignored allegations of sexual harassment when an accused harasser is seen as more valuable to the company than the accuser."

Uber's Chief Legal Officer Tony West said he was pleased to work with the commission on the settlement.

As part of its bid to increase transparency, Uber revealed earlier this month that more than 3,000 sexual assaults were reported during its U.S. rides in 2018. Drivers and riders were both attacked in the reported assaults, and some of the assaults occurred between riders.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Warren G. Harding: The Reluctant President

If David Hunt Stafford were running for president, you might want to vote for him. But not for the man he portrays in "Fifteen Men in a Smoke-Filled Room": Warren G. Harding.

According to playwright Colin Speer Crowley, Harding apparently didn't want to run at all, "I'm strolling for office, not running," he said. But after a deadlock among the candidates and four days of voting he was chosen on the tenth ballot to be the Republican candidate and was then elected to become the 29th president of the United States.

Initially popular at first, he and his administration, rife with corruption and scandals, served to earn Harding the historical ranking as "one of the worst presidents" — at least until the election of our current head of state.

Paramount among the scandals was Teapot Dome, in which the Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, was charged with leasing Navy petroleum reserves in Wyoming to private oil companies and was convicted of accepting bribes from them. Fall then became the first member of Harding's Cabinet to go to jail.

Another "scandal" was Harding's ongoing adulterous affair with a young woman named Nan Britton (Sarah Walker) which was considered unacceptable in the 1920s. Britton confessed to having had a crush on Harding since she first saw his face on a campaign poster, but she was cautious about the relationship because she didn't want to interfere with his role as president or his marriage to a harridan named Florence Kling Harding (Roslyn Cohn). "I don't want to ruin your destiny," Britton said. Nevertheless, she bore him a daughter, a girl named Elizabeth Anne.

Harding apparently sincerely loved his mistress, and David Hunt Stafford played the role with all the yearning and passion that an older man might feel for a lively younger woman. He desired nothing more than to give up the presidency and spend the remainder of his life with her. Which would seem reasonable, considering that Florence, his wife, was a sharp-tongued woman who treated him with contempt and perpetually harangued him.

The other major influence upon him (in addition to his wife) was Harry Daugherty (John Combs), his campaign manager, who also harangued him. Daugherty was adamant in insisting that Harding run for a second term, perhaps because Harding had appointed him Attorney General in his Cabinet.

Florence, however, believed in astrology and often consulted a clairvoyant who told her that her husband was "inclined to melancholy" and would die before he finished his first term. Which caused Florence, who wanted her husband to "pull out" of the presidency, to confront Daugherty at the top her lungs and admit that "People don't like me" and "Warren is all I have." "Desolation is my home town," she concluded.

All this activity takes place in The Florentine Room of Chicago's posh Congress Hotel, in an opulent maroon and velvet set designed by Jeff G. Rack. The room is serviced by a busybody waiter (Kevin Dulude) and the activity is periodically interrupted by a radio broadcaster (Roger K. Weiss) situated behind a screen onstage who reports "another day, another scandal! It seems like nothing can prevent further improprieties from staining President Harding and his administration... Congressmen from both parties can only wonder if there will be an end to the widespread corruption sweeping the nation's capital."

And in the end, Florence's clairvoyant was right! Warren G. Harding died of a heart attack in 1923, in the middle of his first term as president. He was 58 years old.

This gripping and timely political tale was boldly directed by the multi-award-winning Jules Aaron and was seen until mid-December at Theatre 40 in Beverly Hills.

Cynthia Citron has lived and worked on every continent except Antarctica as a journalist, award-winning magazine editor, public relations director, and screenwriter. She can be reached at ccitron66@gmail.com



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 19)

Because your heart is open going into this solar return, you'll learn from everyone, even the ones who irk you. You'll show up strong in January and be offered new positions and roles. Feel your way through this, as the one that looks good on paper won't bring you as much happiness as the ones that fit your tone. Pisces and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 47, 22, 28, 13 and 6.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Change can be hard. So when you go through the trouble, you want the change to be for the better, not just for the different. For this reason, you'll deliberate longer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). To form a new habit, you must first put your mind to it. Then, you must get your mind out of it. It's not a mysterious process and doesn't need a lot of overthinking. Habits are forged in the alchemy of daily practice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The highway to success, like typical highways, has many exits. You don't want to get off before you reach yours, but detours happen. Don't worry too much. Do what you have to do, and then find the entrance and merge right back on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's not a person walking the earth who is truly heartless, but many hearts seem to be pumping ice water instead of joy. Don't let that damper your mood. Show them what is possible.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's a day of interesting choices. Luckily, you're in a decisive mode. It's easy because you know your purpose, and you trust your feelings as well as your ability to find something good in anything you get.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You prefer the truth in the same way a chef prefers sharp knives. They just work better. But they also cut deeper and are more dangerous. With knives and honesty, take a cautious, mindful approach.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Freedom of expression is an overarching umbrella of liberty essential to the evolution of humankind. Exercise yours. No one will know what's in you (not even you) until it's out in an expressed form.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are plenty of people doing the popular thing and wearing that with varying degrees of success. Leave that to them while you do what only you can do. Answer the specific, strange, quiet call of your heart.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). One relationship has been taking up more of your time lately, and there may be some jealousy among loved ones over your attention. Handle it now before it blows up into a big deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Typically, the early stages of an endeavor tend to be rough. That's why it's prudent to keep going and, when you've hit your stride, return to the earlier work to update and improve it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'd rather go through a hard time than see a loved one there. All the same, you wouldn't trade your difficulties, as they've made you better. Remember this as you watch your loved ones overcome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Unmotivated? Blame your environment, specifically the lighting and soundscape. What can you change about this? How can you arrange your space to maximize its potential to inspire you?

Venus Fogs Over

Brain scientists suggest that the hypothalamus cannot distinguish the difference between our happiness and our sadness, causing us to cry in both circumstances. The Venus changeover represents a fog lowering over the emotional realm. When it comes to determining the nature of emotions, many will be as unsure as a lump of limbic system.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"How does the hyperdimensional physics model change the way traditional astrology views the effects of celestial bodies on each other and our lives?" I often wonder if there really is life on, say, Venus or Jupiter that goes undetected by us because we don't share the same perception of dimensionality. Many components of the hyperdimensional physics narrative capture my curiosity; however, much of it is beyond my comprehension. I can only integrate the information in a poetic sense, humbled by those with more scientific talents. Though I just can't get behind the traditional astrological idea that the planets exert physical influence on our activities and DNA, I also can't let go of the idea that there is something, an agreement we made with destiny somewhere outside of time. I feel the celestial bodies dancing out there, angling, conjoining, spinning, connecting us in multiple dimensions and reminding us constantly of the secret promises of our soul. There is, to me, a communication system and a relationship, though how it's all laced together remains mysterious. I plunge into that racing river of sky with a questing spirit and a receptive imagination. What do you think?

CELEBRITY PROFILES

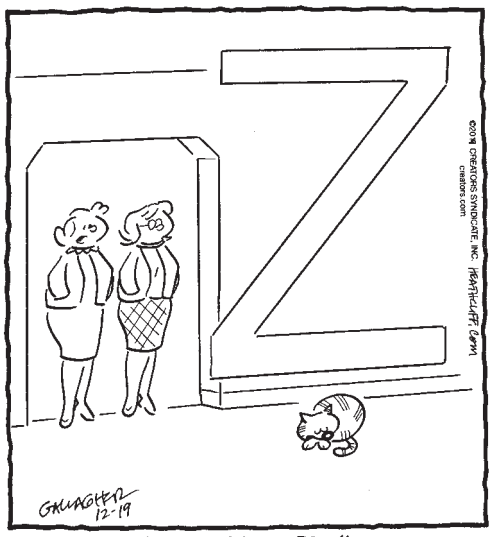
Children of a director and a screenwriter, Jake Gyllenhaal and his sister, Maggie, turned their childhood talents toward the big screen and never looked back. With four luminaries in the high energy sign of Sagittarius, confidence, charisma and luck are constant companions for Jake, who carries those qualities into every role, most recently Mysterio in "Spider-Man: Far from Home." **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Deipnosophist
Noun
A person who is an adept conversationalist at a meal.

Heathcliff

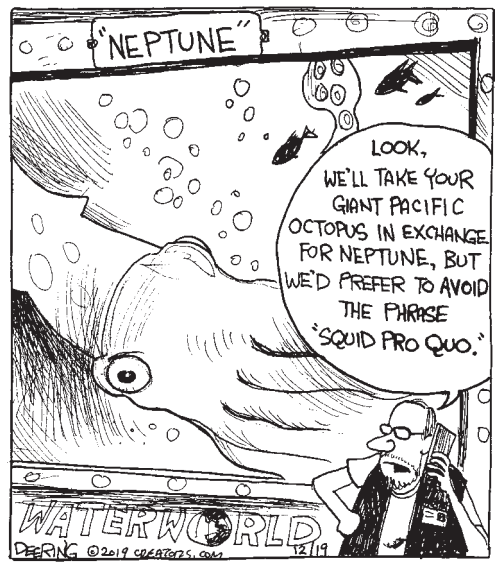
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE NAPS HARD."

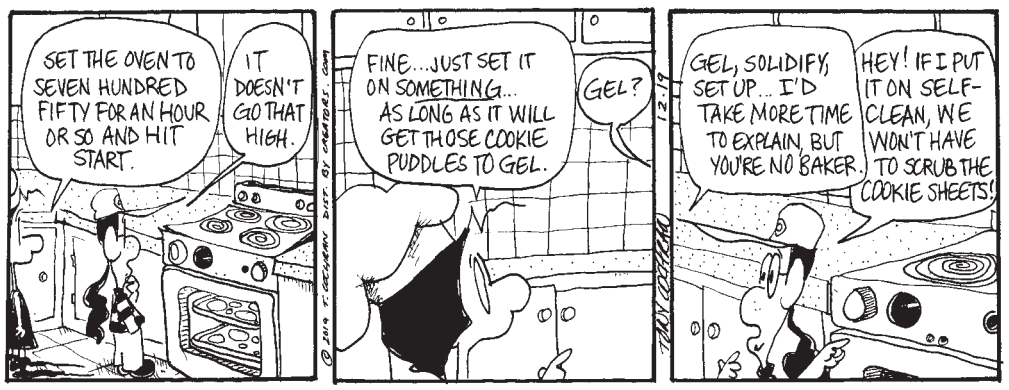
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



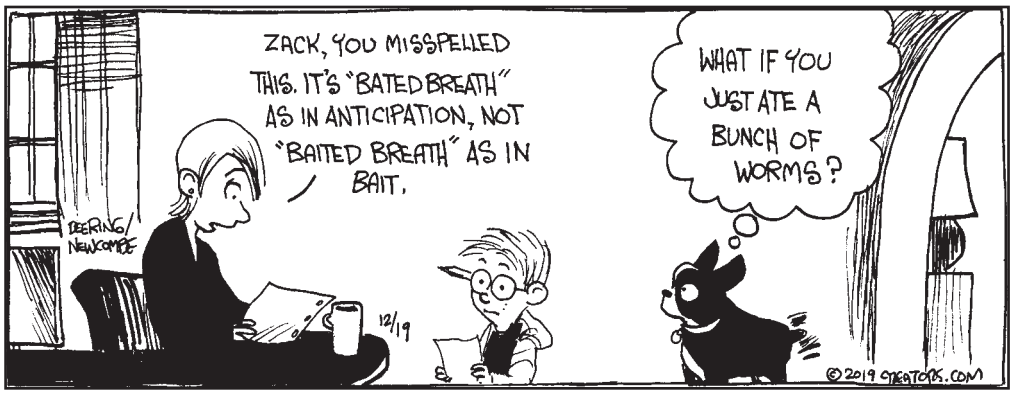
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date:12/14
3 6 12 32 64
Power#: 19
Jackpot: 160 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 12/17
22 30 53 55 56
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 40 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/14
8 9 22 42 43
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/17
2 12 17 24 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/17
Evening: 5 2 8

Draw Date: 12/17
Midday: 3 8 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/17
1st: 06 - WHIRL WIN
2nd: 07 - EUREKA
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:40.95

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



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high
Fading NW swell-mix. Favorable winds. Offshore Santa Ana winds, strongest out west.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft knee to waist high
Leftover NW swell-mix. New WNW swell due late. Favorable winds.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

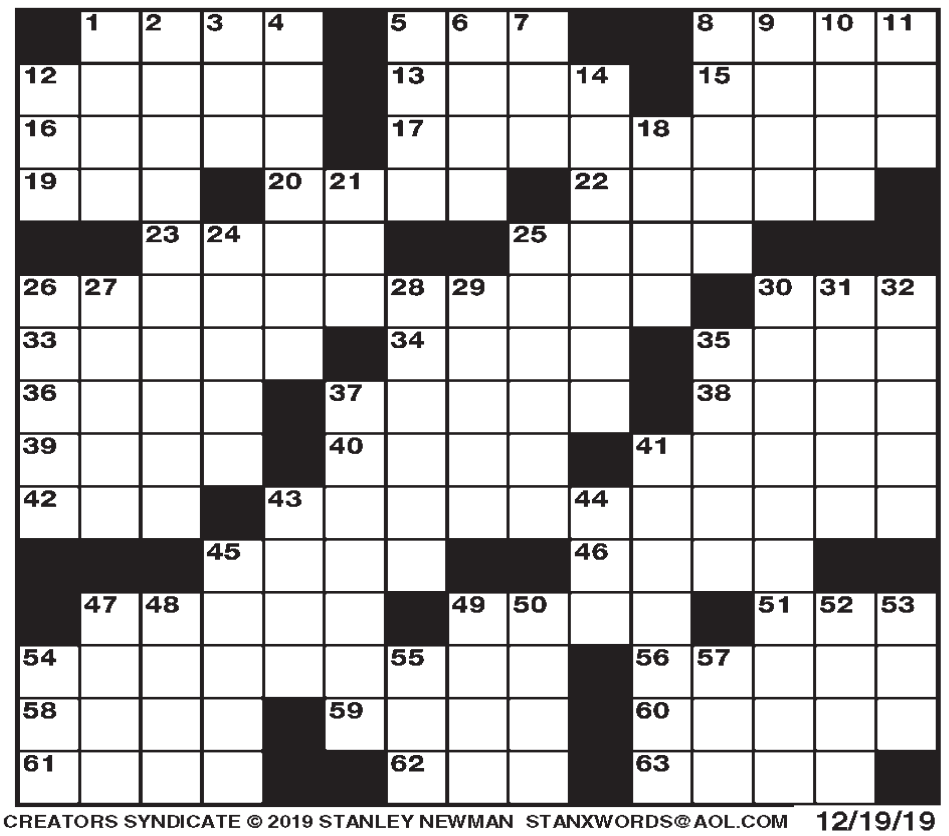
4	9	3		6		7		
	2		1				8	6
		6	7				9	
		2		5		1		4
	4		2		6		7	
6		1		8		2		
	7				1	3		
2	3				4		1	
		5		7		9	4	2

Newsday Crossword

BURNING BRIDGES by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 This-for-that deal
5 "America" contraction
8 Figures in sports betting
12 Brahms played it
13 It means "everything"
15 Golden bear of kiddie lit
16 Sticker in a patch
17 Action or comedy
19 Family nickname
20 Knock for a loop
22 Scene of some crashes
23 Certain food truck specialty
25 Scintilla
26 Wealth, cynically
30 Calico, for one
33 Pull together
34 Still contending
35 Swanky
36 A large number of
37 Range through the equator
38 One chip, often
39 Dairy animals
40 Pantheon VIP
41 What pothooks look like
42 Word on the state capital list
43 Quality of luxurious fabric
45 Edinburgh souvenirs
46 Neeson in movies
47 Costar of Sandra in *Speed*
49 Knock out
51 Deg. for a curator
54 Retailer near a pier
56 "Repeating . . ."
58 Purina alternative
59 Vista blocker
60 Our, to Renoir
61 Muscle quality
62 Stroller filler
63 Great joy

DOWN
1 Voice of iPhone
2 Tailor's measurements
3 Santa __, CA
4 Auto made in Stuttgart
5 Stir-fry staple
6 "Let's do that!"
7 45-season NBC series
8 Puccini production
9 Word of caution
10 Small rowboat
11 That niece
12 *NewsHour* network
14 Goods from abroad
18 Boarding pass datum
21 Dog show category
24 ABA members
25 Least welcoming
26 Stayed steamed
27 Knocked for a loop
28 What fills some closets
29 Immoderate
30 As good as it gets
31 Daisy cousin
32 "We hold __ truths . . ."
35 Ribbons or bow ties
37 Cannoneer's angle
41 Walking off
43 Season ticket holders
44 Inventor Whitney
45 Sierra Nevada lake
47 Metric prefix
48 Part of Disney's media empire
49 Ricelike 35 Down
50 Swimming event
52 What "bridges" four Across answers
53 Sports drink suffix
54 Budgetary excess
55 Cereal grain
57 Star closest to us



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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 39 CALLS ON DEC. 17

EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:23 a.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 1:40 a.m.
EMS 500blk Washington Ave 4:24 a.m.
EMS 700blk 9th St 4:27 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 4:32 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 18th St / Wilshire Blvd 4:33 a.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:42 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300blk Arizona Ave 6:17 a.m.
EMS 900blk California Ave 6:44 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800blk 11th St 6:51 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 7:12 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 7:52 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 9:47 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Virginia Ave 9:55 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 21st St 10:10 a.m.
EMS 400blk Ocean Ave 10:43 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 3rd St 10:59 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2800blk 2nd St 11:29 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2400blk Colorado Ave 11:35 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:40 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 12:01 p.m.
EMS Main St / Bicknell Ave 12:07 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1400blk Ocean Ave 12:13 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 12:42 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk Franklin St 1:27 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:42 p.m.
EMS 3300blk Airport Ave 3:47 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:08 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 5:33 p.m.
EMS 300blk Bay St 5:46 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 5th St 7:00 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 6th St 8:06 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 8:18 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Main St 8:47 p.m.
EMS 16th St / Colorado Ave 9:19 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Ocean Ave 10:00 p.m.
EMS 600blk Pier Ave 10:31 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 21st St 11:30 p.m.
EMS 900blk 2nd St 11:34 p.m.

BLOOMBERG

FROM PAGE 1

mirrors what's happening nationally. Polls from the Public Policy Institute of California and CNN in November and December, respectively, show Biden, Warren and Sanders ahead of the rest of the field.

Buttigieg, who has reached front-runner status in Iowa and New Hampshire, remains in single digits.

Although California sends out mail-in ballots for early voting on Feb. 3, the same day as the Iowa caucuses, millions of voters will not cast ballots immediately and may be heavily influenced by what happens in earlier voting contests.

"I would not underestimate the ability of somebody breaking out in Iowa or New Hampshire," said John Emerson, who headed Bill Clinton's 1992 California campaign.

Whoever leads the pack in the early states "will look like a winner," said Emerson.

That was echoed by longtime Democratic National Committee member Bob Mulholland. "By the end of February, it could be Michael Bloomberg and two others standing," Mulholland said.

To win, Sanders, a self-described democratic socialist, and Bloomberg, a moderate, are largely appealing to different slices of the electorate. Sanders' campaign sees its major fight not with Bloomberg but with Biden, as they both target older, white working-class voters and people of color.

Former U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer of California said she doesn't think Bloomberg's big spending will pay off. There's a history of wealthy, big-spending candidates falling short in California, including former eBay CEO Meg Whitman, who spent a record $178 million in her failed bid to become governor in 2010, much of it from her personal fortune.

"I don't think Californians in general support someone trying to buy their way in," she said, though she added Bloomberg and Steyer are "fine on the issues."

Beyond Sanders and Bloomberg, the top national candidates are the only ones putting significant investments into California. Lower polling candidates such as Klobuchar and Yang have no paid staff on the ground, though they are working to mobilize volunteers. New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, who didn't qualify for the debate, has fundraising staff in California and plans to hire organizers in January, a campaign spokeswoman said.

Buttigieg has traveled to California regularly to attend high-dollar fundraisers with stars of Hollywood and the tech industry, but has only more recently been coupling that with public events. His campaign sees an opportunity for him to do well in the state's Central Valley, an agricultural region that they believe will respond to Buttigieg's Midwestern roots.

Still, Buttigieg's troubles with nonwhite voters could hurt him in California, a majority-minority state.

Warren's campaign has opened several offices in California and has four dozen staff members on the ground, and Biden plans to open offices soon. But none of the other campaigns has announced plans to begin advertising on television.

Sanders, meanwhile, has been drawing on the well of support he built in 2016 to fuel his campaign the second time around. He has won the endorsement of prominent unions, including the powerful National Nurses United, and is fighting to ensure that Latino voters and young people cast ballots.

Bloomberg's advertising blitz is intended to tell the mayor's story to West Coast voters who might not know much about him — and before any rivals have a chance to define him. It's an early step in a campaign that will also blend in traditional retail campaigning by the candidate and a vast effort to identify and contact voters and get them to the polls, an investment the campaign predicts will be the largest in the state's history.

Bloomberg also intends to mine for votes in areas outside the big, heavily Democratic urban centers that are often overlooked in presidential contests, including the Central Valley and the one-time Republican stronghold of Orange County.

There will be multiple field offices and a mix of paid staff and volunteers "doing everything from phone banking to knocking on doors," Schechter, the spokesman, said.

Last week, Bloomberg made his first candidate visit to California, where he highlighted one of his centerpiece issues at a talk on climate change in San Francisco with former Gov. Jerry Brown. He also received the endorsement of 29-year-old Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs, who had planned to support Harris.

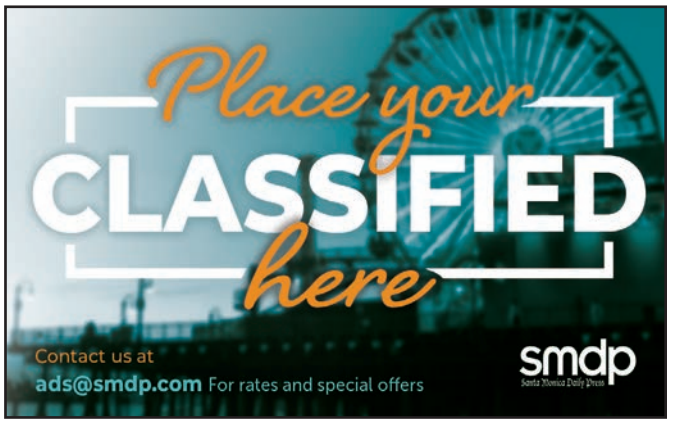
Both Bloomberg, a former Republican and former independent, and Sanders, an independent senator, could benefit from votes among the state's 5.4 million independent voters, who are permitted to vote in the state's Democratic presidential primary.

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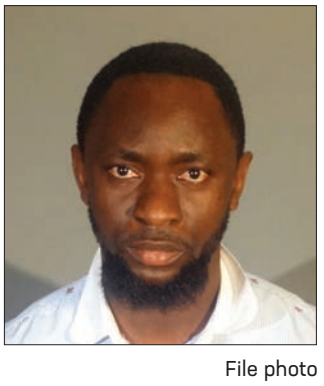
CRIME WATCH

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 3, AT 1:30 P.M.

A male subject came into the Apple store located in the 1400 block of the 3rd Street Promenade and was making a purchase of (2) iPhone 11 Pros using a fake identification and fraudulent credit card. The Apple employee shared the subject had been in the store in November and made a purchase of (2) iPhone 11 Pros using a different name. Officers were able to detain the subject outside of the store where he was found to be in possession of the fraudulent credit card and multiple identification cards with other's names. Roland Otega, 36, from Los Angeles was arrested for identity theft. Bail was set at $50,000.



File photo

ROLAND OTEGA

CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 6

the memorial, lay the body in the space for friends and family to visit, help them create a meaningful ceremony or memorial, and if they wish, they can return to visit during the month-long process. We want families to know they and their loved one will be cared for and respected.

"Then, once the soil is created, the families may choose to take it home or we'll donate it to our conservation partner, with a gorgeous 700-acre forest in Washington that's excited to have this material to nourish the land."

SUSTAINABLE MODEL

Recompose is a public benefit corporation, which means they align their mission with their values. Washington is an environmentally active and eco-conscious state. Sustainability matters to them both.

In line with that, Spade says, "There are no major construction inputs because we're using an existing warehouse and adapting it to our needs, including office space for 17 employees, and a lobby with educational information. Arborists can provide wood chips, and we're looking to source straw and alfalfa as locally as possible from existing farms. The motor that rotates the vessels has low electricity needs and we're looking at going solar down the road."

FUNDING THE FUTURE

Recompose is moving along at a pretty good clip. "In 2017 we raised a seed round of $700,000 to engineer the system, pilot the university-based study and legalize the process. Now we're raising $6.75 million from heart-aligned investors who understand our mission, impact and values. We're not an app or a tech company, but we do have a big vision and we're looking for 'patient' capital and more heart-aligned investors to join us as we take the next steps."

Recompose hopes to open in Seattle in Spring 2021, and seeks to expand in other communities. For more information, visit https://www.recompose.life

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, now retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

no cover so... get going!), Mon 9 p.m., The Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

FAMILY JAZZ SERVICE (Sunset Park's Mt. Olive Lutheran Church has a musical soul, with jazz concerts every second Sunday of the month, the LA Metropolitan Opera has performed there, so if you want to jazz up your holiday music this Christmas Eve, you know where to go, good God!, and they also have a First Friday Music and Lunch-In), Tues 5:30 p.m., Mt. Olive, Sunset Park, SM, free.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: LOS LOBOS, 12/27 The Canyon Agoura Hills, 12/28 The Canyon Santa Clarita, 12/29 The Rose, Pasadena, 12/31 The Canyon Montclair; ENGLISH BEAT, 12/27, 29 Saint Rocke, Hermosa Beach, 12/31 The Coach House, San Juan Capistrano; YOUNG DUBLINERS, 12/28. Harvelles, DTSM; THE WORLD IS MY HOME – THE LIFE OF PAUL ROBESON, 12/29, Santa Monica Playhouse; MEHTA'S MAHLER, #2, "Resurrection," 1/3, 4, 5 - 2020, M. conducts WAGNER, SCHOENBERG, WEBERN, 1/10, 11, 12 - 2020, JASON ISBELL acoustic, 1/10 - 2020, LAURIE ANDERSON & CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE, 1/21 - 2020, BEETHOVEN with EMANUEL AX, 1/24, 25, 26 - 2020, Disney Hall, DTLA; BARBARA MORRISON, 1/7, 14, 21, 28 - 2020, Pip's on La Brea; LIBRARY GIRL - Tribute to BILLIE HOLIDAY, 1/12 - 2020, Ruskin Group Theatre, SMO; JOACHIM COODER, 1/12 - 2020, DAVE ALVIN & FRIENDS: A Tribute to Chris Gaffney, 1/18 - 2020, ERIC ANDERSEN, SCARLET RIVERA, 1/25 - 2020, McCabe's, SM; LED ZEPAGAIN, 1/11 - 2020, Harvelle's; STANLEY CLARKE BAND and LYRIS QUARTET, 1/18 - 2020, Broad Stage, SM; LA OPERA - EURYDICE, 2/1-23 - 2020, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA; JACARANDA - PAX AMERICANA I & II, 2/2 - 2020, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica, DTSM; MAVIS STAPLES, 2/13 - 2020, The Soraya, CSUN.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAYS: ÉDITH PIAF [E Giovanna Gassion] - The Little Sparrow, IS Paris (1915, d. 1963); PROFESSOR LONGHAIR [Henry Roeland Byrd] - revered New Orleans singer-pianist, there's a statue of him reigning over Tipitina's (1918, d. 1980); PHIL OCHS - anti-war folk singer (Joe Hill, War is Over), his brother Michael lives in Venice, accumulated the most extensive collection of musician photos ever, I believe sold to The Getty a few years ago (1940, d. 1976); ALVIN LEE - 10 Years After guitar slinger extraordinaire, this one's for you, William Black, HB (1944, d. 2013); and two Irishmen named Andrews, chemist-physicist Thomas (1813) and television presenter Eamonn (1922), both fine fellows, no doubt.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

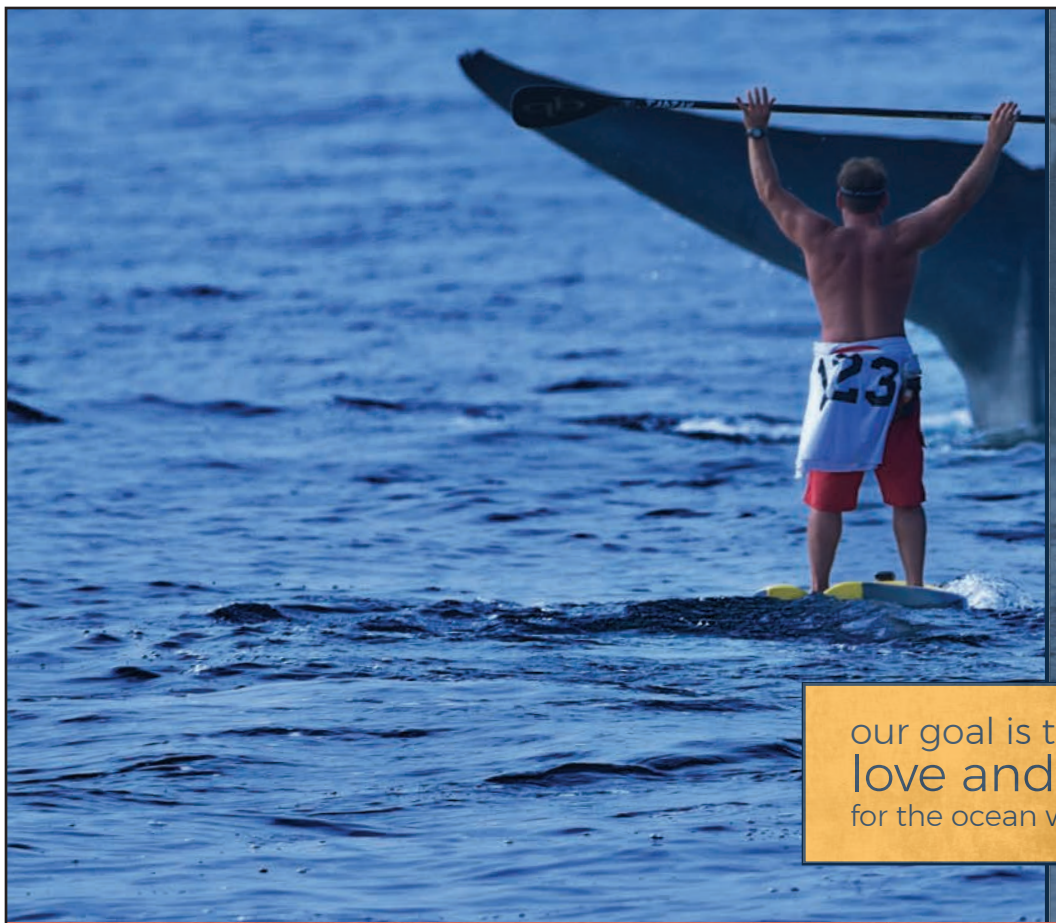
DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 391 CALLS ON DEC. 17

Encampment 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 12:28 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1000blk 3rd St 1:05 a.m.
Encampment 800blk The Beach 1:12 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1100blk 18th St 4:33 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 7:03 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 700blk 9th St 7:10 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1900blk Frank St 7:19 a.m.
Petty Theft 800blk Pico Blvd 7:24 a.m.
Construction Noise 2800blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:40 a.m.
Encampment 1500blk The Beach 7:41 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:04 a.m.
Vandalism 2400blk Main St 8:05 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800blk 18th St 8:33 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2300blk Pier Ave 8:35 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 500blk Raymond Ave 8:37 a.m.
Petty Theft 800blk Pearl St 8:50 a.m.
Grand Theft 2700blk Main St 9:00 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk 24th St 9:19 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk 9th St 9:28 a.m.
Encampment 2800blk The Beach 9:49 a.m.
Encampment 2600blk The Beach 10:20 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 900blk Yale St 10:30 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Centinela Ave / Wilshire Blvd 10:31 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk The Beach 10:44 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1400blk 6th St 10:56 a.m.
Burglary 800blk 14th St 10:57 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 400blk Raymond Ave 11:02 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2800blk 3rd St 11:11 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 200blk Alta Ave 12:06 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 6th St / Pico Blvd 12:08 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 7th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:10 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unkn Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 12:22 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Ocean Ave / Broadway 12:25 p.m.
Petty Theft 300blk Colorado Ave 12:35 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1400blk 2nd St 1:36 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 3400blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:38 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 2300blk Pearl St 1:44 p.m.
Death 500blk Colorado Ave 2:03 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 1100blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:09 p.m.
Battery 100blk Colorado Ave 2:13 p.m.
Elder Abuse 400blk Ocean Ave 2:15 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 700blk Euclid St 2:23 p.m.
Petty Theft 300blk Olympic Dr 2:37 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unkn Injuries 15th St / Arizona Ave 3:01 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 3:40 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 1400blk 25th St 3:40 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100blk 12th St 3:48 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100blk 17th St 4:09 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1100blk 12th St 4:35 p.m.
Burglary 1200blk 24th St 4:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unkn Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 4:51 p.m.
Burglary 1200blk 24th St 5:00 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 5:08 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 5:13 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 300blk Santa Monica Pier 5:18 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 23rd St / Navy St 6:29 p.m.
Petty Theft 2700blk 6th St 7:01 p.m.
Identity Theft Unkn 7:19 p.m.
Drunk Driving 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:32 p.m.
Vandalism 1400blk 23rd St 7:47 p.m.
Drunk Driving 500blk Colorado Ave 7:59 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 200blk 18th St 8:02 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:15 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk Ocean Ave 8:16 p.m.
Rape 300blk Olympic Dr 8:45 p.m.
Attempt Burglary 500blk Broadway 9:04 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900blk 31st St 10:23 p.m.
Encampment Cloverfield Blvd / Kansas Ave 11:13 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 1400blk 25th St 11:15 p.m.
Battery 4th St / Broadway 11:43 p.m.

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