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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
12.21.19 - 12.22.19
Volume 19 Issue 33

Rise of the Skywalker
Meet SMDP's new movie reviewer.
Page 4

Rotary gives back
Hear the summary of Rotary's good deeds.
Page 9

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Van donation supports Boys & Girls Club







Brennon Dixson

VEHICLE: **Bridgestone and Firestone donated a vehicle to help students at the Mar Vista Boys and Girls Club.**

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Transportation is one of the biggest challenges for low-income families in Santa Monica, and often times the absence of a car causes young people to miss out on life skills that are developed during after-school activities.

But thanks to a recent donation from Bridgestone and Firestone Complete Auto Care stores, children at the Boys & Girls Club of Mar Vista Gardens now have even more opportunities to enjoy the college road trips and off-campus activities thanks to a passenger van that was gifted to the clubhouse.

Staff said during a surprise celebration this week that the donation doubles the amount of students who will be able to access off-campus experiences and learning opportunities.

brennon@smdp.com

Businesses adapt to wave of ADA lawsuits

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Sean Daly never saw the man who threatened his business with a lawsuit.

But a few weeks after Lloyd Mosley visited The Activity Center, a children's event facility on Santa Monica Boulevard, Daly was served with a complaint that alleged Mosley could not access the facility in his wheelchair.

Daly was confused. The building had previously been a nursing home and is compliant with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires public and commercial facilities to be accessible to people with disabilities. Wheelchair users can enter the building from the parking lot through a set of double doors.

After searching L.A. Superior Court records, Daly found that Mosely had initiated litigation against at least 20 other local businesses since July. Many of them are near The Activity Center, including Bay Street Boards, Willow Spa and Express Financial & Insurances Services.

Allan Jeffries Framing, a few blocks away on Santa Monica Boulevard, had also been served with a complaint alleging that Mosley was unable to access the business. It wasn't the first time owner Allan Marion had faced an ADA lawsuit.

Mosley's attorney, Dayton Magallanes, served Marion's outlet store in downtown Los Angeles with an ADA lawsuit a few years ago, Marion said. Another attorney had sued Allan Jeffries Framing 15 years ago, after which he added a wheelchair ramp to the store's side entrance.

"When I told his attorney we already had a ramp, they dropped the complaint," Marion said.

ADA lawsuits typically do not proceed to court. In both cases, Marion settled for $4,000, the statutory minimum for discrimination lawsuits under the state's 1959 Unruh Civil Rights Act. He said he thinks Mosley was trying to get him to settle for the same amount.

SEE **ADA** PAGE 14









Photos by Simi Singer

SANTA VISIT: **Santa, Captain James Altman and firefighters from the Santa Monica Fire Department stopped by the Mattel Children's Unit at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica to deliver presents to young patients. The firefighters buy and wrap their own gifts - and the kids were happy to open them! Captain Altman and his crew have been bringing holiday cheer to the hospital for more than a dozen years..**

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

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! 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.

Sunday, December 22

Santa Monica Certified Farmers' Market

The Sunday Main Street Farmers Market is a well-balanced blend of Certified California Farmers, tasty prepared and packaged foods, entertainment and children's activities as well as local retail. 2640 Main St, Ocean Park, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Chanukah

The first night of Chanukah at 4:30 p.m. Join organizers as they light their eco-friendly, pedi-Menorah at the Pier as the sun sets. Menorah lighting ceremony. Chanukah treats and celebration. At the west end of the pier.

Monday, Dec. 23

Tea & Canvas Painting

Get together with your friends for a wintertime celebration of painting fun and a hot tea treat! Learn a Step-by-Step method for creating your very own piece of artwork. Limited Space. Please call 310-548–8684 to register.6:30 - 8 p.m. Pico Branch Library

Guest House Open

Visit anytime between 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. for a self-guided or docent tour. No reservations need-ed. Schedule subject to change, call Guest Services to confirm dates and hours. Annenberg Community Beach House.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve closure

City sites closed at noon for Christmas eve.

Wednesday, Dec. 25

Christmas closure

City sites closed at noon for Christmas.

4th night of Chanukah.

5-8 p.m. Grand Menorah lighting ceremony (6 p.m.) and celebration at Third Street Promenade Center Court. Music by Eighth Day Band. Crafts for the kids. Hot cocoa and Latkas while supplies last.

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AWARD WINNER

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Movie Review

By Lael Loewenstein Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Review of Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker

Neither the best nor the worst episode of the series, Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker is like visiting an all-you-can eat buffet at one of those gigantic Vegas hotels on the Strip that's teeming with tourists: It leaves your body overstuffed, your senses overstimulated and your patience on edge. It will also quite possibly make you yearn for the simpler meals of your youth.

As the long-awaited ninth and final chapter in the saga that began, at least in this galaxy, over four decades ago, Rise of Skywalker has a nearly impossible task: to conclude a franchise that has grossed over $9 billion worldwide and whose symbolic worth, to legions of fans, is incalculable. (See the fine documentary The People vs. George Lucas.)

As director Rian Johnson discovered with The Last Jedi, you can't please all of the people all of the time. While that 2017 film added to the series some intriguing metaphysical underpinnings and more nuanced narrative, despite satisfying many critics, it divided fans. In contrast, J.J. Abrams opted for a safer approach with that film's predecessor, The Force Awakens, by successfully (if not terribly imaginatively) resurrecting familiar tropes and themes from the Star Wars O.G.,1977's A New Hope. After the palpable bitter taste left by the thoroughly unwatchable prequels, Abrams' decision to shift Force Awakens to familiar territory was a safe and ultimately sound one.

Back to helm the final installment, Abrams appears to have followed an expansive mandate to include references to virtually everything from the Star Wars universe, and to omit nothing, thereby mitigating the inevitable objections of diehard fans. But not unlike a repackaged greatest hits album, this installment wants to be all things to all manner of fans. That's practically asking for trouble, almost as if Abrams had made his way into Jabba the Hutt's lair dressed as a paddy frog.

Because Disney has explicitly requested that critics not reveal major plot points (albeit in a time of swirling social media plot debates), this review will only briefly touch on those elements. Of course, the sequels' plucky, camera-friendly young leads are all back, still fighting the monolithic First Order. Alongside former imperial army deserter turned earnest freedom fighter Finn (John Boyega), there are quick-thinking pilot Poe (Oscar Isaac) and scrappy orphan turned ultimate Jedi, Rey (Daisy Ridley). Also back is the villainous Kylo Ren (Adam Driver, having one hell of a year).

Ren, once Ben Solo, is Han and Leia's wayward son who, you may recall, jettisoned his Jedi training and his parents for a walk on the dark side. His choice to embrace the legacy of his grandfather Darth Vader upended his parents' marriage and prompted his uncle Luke to withdraw from civilization. During his years of self-imposed exile on a tiny windswept island accompanied only by the irritatingly cute, made-for-merchandising puffin-like Porgs, Luke was forced to contemplate just how he had gotten into that mess.

With Luke's fate having been settled in Last Jedi, and Han's in Force Awakens, General Leia Organa remains on hand to rally the Resistance. Although Carrie Fisher herself passed away in 2017, she appears in this installment (with her family's support) via a combination of unused footage from The Force Awakens, digital enhancement, and the stand-in presence of her daughter Billie Lourd. (Lourd also plays a small supporting role.)

Other beloved characters also make a return — as noted, pretty much nothing is omitted — but to say much more would be to risk giving away some of the movie's better surprises. Still fundamentally a battle of good against evil, the series has always been most entertaining when it balances the lofty mythological implications of George Lucas' vision of the Force with a welcome, grounding dose of humor and the innovative special effects wizardry of Industrial Light & Magic.

As for the latest episode's story beats, an object of mythical importance must be found, planets of varying topography are visited, and, advancing confrontations from the last two installments, Kylo Ren and Rey engage in multiple, spectacular battles. With discernible chemistry between Driver and Ridley, these fights, intricately choreographed and accompanied by John Williams' expressive score, are among the very best in the franchise. Rise of Skywalker also features elaborate action sequences, a host of weird looking creatures, some — but not enough — humor, and at least one noble sacrifice. Oh, and Rey's origins? Yep, they're finally revealed.

Certainly, Rise of Skywalker is a massive technical achievement by any measure, yet one wishes Abrams had opted for simplicity of character and plot over the kitchen-sink approach. The editing, too often, is frenetic, as if to create a diversion from extraneous story elements that threaten to weigh down the action. And the sound mix at the screening I attended was intermittently muddy, rendering large swatches of dialogue essentially incomprehensible.

Still, this is a Star Wars movie, and it does offer some deeply satisfying moments that feel justifiably earned, occasionally edging toward sheer exhilaration. As with any storied movie franchise that sparks passion and eventual nostalgia, so much of our collective attachment has to do with wanting to relive the electrifying thrill of experiencing it for the first time. That may be an impossibility, but one way or another, the Force will be with us for a long time to come.

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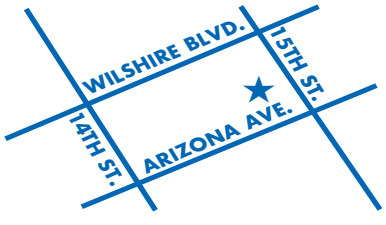
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Poll: Americans grateful at holidays and a bit stressed

AMY FORLITI
Associated Press

Wade Holcomb has a lot to be grateful for this year. In addition to graduating college and getting a job, he also has a beautiful 4-month-old girl — who will be celebrating her first Christmas with her dad clearly wrapped around her tiny fingers.

"It's different, having a baby. It's something to be really grateful for and she just makes me the happiest person in the world," said Holcomb, 22, of Swainsboro, Georgia. "She's literally the best thing ever."

Holcomb is among the 7 of 10 Americans who say "grateful" describes them extremely well or very well over the holidays, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Roughly another 2 in 10 said it describes them moderately well.

While positive feelings are dominant, feelings of festivity and gratitude are accompanied by stress or sadness for many Americans. About 3 in 10 say "stressed" describes them extremely well or very well in December, and about another 4 in 10 say it describes them moderately well.

About 2 in 10 say they feel very lonely or sad during the holidays, with about another 2 in 10 saying they feel moderately lonely or sad.

For those who feel grateful, being in good health and being surrounded by loving family members are top of mind. While Holcomb is thankful for the new life in his family, 76-year-old Steve Tutunjian of San Diego is grateful to be alive at all.

Tutunjian has been hospitalized three times in recent months for breathing issues, including an emergency trip to intensive care in recent weeks. That's where he was when he responded to the AP-NORC poll.

"For some godly reason, I am still here," he said. "Just recognizing you are alive, healthy and on the mend as I am — you can't help but be grateful."

Tutunjian also described himself as moderately stressed — because he's fallen behind in holiday planning — and sad. Like others who spoke to the AP, he's missing a loved one around the holidays. Tutunjian, a retired Naval commander, lost a son in 2009 to a combination of a prescription overdose and a bad reaction to multiple medications after outpatient eye surgery.

"You never forget that loss and emptiness in your heart, particularly during those times you previously celebrated with your loved ones. So it adds some sadness to it," he said of his son, who was also in the Navy. "On the other side, we reflect on the many good times we've had together ... It doesn't destroy the holiday spirit for us. It brings it home."

The poll also found that about 6 in 10 Americans say they have family traditions they are looking forward to this year, while just about 1 in 10 say they have some they are dreading.

Rocio Acosta, 31, of Lincoln, Nebraska, doesn't celebrate Christmas because she is a Seventh Day Adventist. But she still feels festive this time of year, because "everyone just seems to be a little bit nicer." Because she doesn't rush around buying gifts, she said she's able to just enjoy the atmosphere, pretty decorations and festivities.

She also has her own December traditions. Acosta, who is Mexican-American, gets together with her mother and two sisters to make tamales — a daylong process involving cleaning the corn husks, then filling them with masa dough, chili peppers and shredded chicken. They also make Mexican cookies with almonds and powdered sugar and a non-alcoholic version of "ponche" — a punch she described as similar to a warm sangria or tea. Sometimes her dad even pitches in.

"To me it's not a religious holiday. It's more of just, since everyone has the time off, we are able to get together," she said. "Everyone helps out and everyone is around the house. That's the kind of tradition that I'm looking forward to."

Melvin Ramsaran, 35, of Brooklyn, said there is one family tradition he dreads every year — that post-dinner period when everyone is overstuffed, tired and has to sit around and listen to excruciatingly long family speeches as they fight to stay awake.

Ramsaran said nearly 60 people from his extended Indian family come to New York and gather in one house a couple days before Christmas. While Ramsaran said he feels grateful and festive, he also has mixed feelings — his father died last December, and the family drama surrounding his dad's estate has left him depressed and stressed out.

So this year, he said, he's going to stay home on his couch, even if it means missing out on days of Indian leftovers.

"It's KFC, wrestling and soda for me," he said.

The AP-NORC poll of 1,053 adults was conducted Dec. 5-9 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4 percentage points. Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods and later were interviewed online or by phone.

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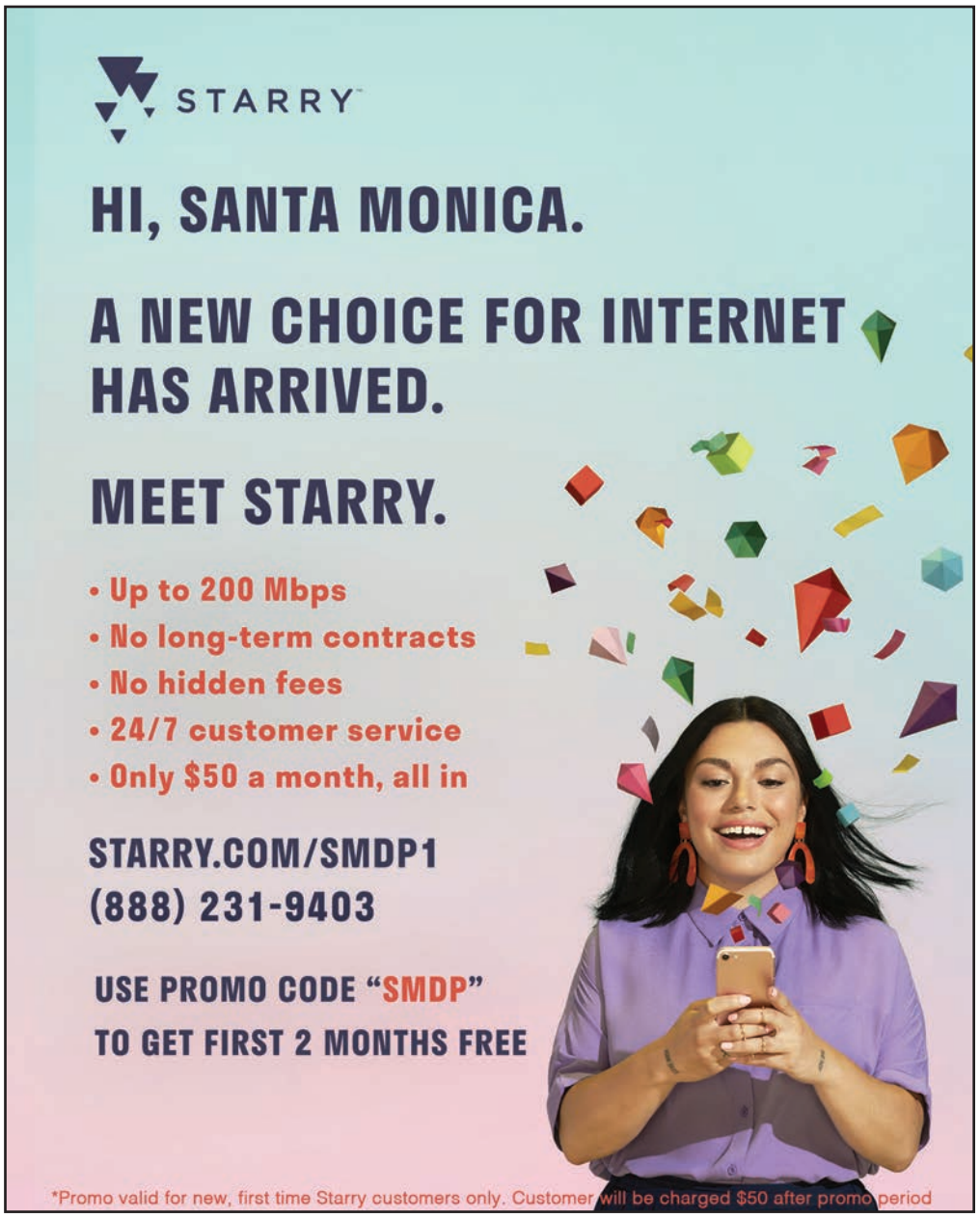
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Buttigieg-Warren clash on campaign trail spills into debate

STEVE PEOPLES, KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

The long-festering feud between Elizabeth Warren and Pete Buttigieg erupted Thursday night in a high-stakes debate that tested the strength of the Democratic Party's shrinking pool of presidential contenders just six weeks before primary voting begins.

Buttigieg, the 37-year-old mayor of South Bend, Indiana, has emerged as an unlikely presidential power player, gaining ground with a centrist message. Warren, the Massachusetts senator who has become his progressive foil, attacked Buttigieg's fundraising practices. And Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who is competing with Buttigieg for moderate voters, challenged his limited governing experience.

The debate came a day after a highly contentious vote to impeach President Donald Trump, which showed in dramatic relief how polarized the nation is over his presidency. With the Republican-controlled Senate likely to acquit him, the stakes are high for Democrats to select a challenger who can defeat Trump in November.

The forum highlighted the choice Democrats will have to make between progressive and moderate, older and younger, men and women and the issues that will sway the small but critical segment of voters who will determine the election. The candidates sharply disagreed about the role of money in politics, the value and meaning of experience and the direction of the American health care system.

In the most pointed exchange, Warren zeroed in on Buttigieg's recent private meeting with wealthy donors inside a California "wine cave," the details of which were recounted in a recent Associated Press story.

"Billionaires in wine caves should not pick the next president of the United States," she charged.

Buttigieg, who has surged into the top tier of the Democratic Party's 2020 primary in part because of his fundraising success, did not back down.

"We need to defeat Donald Trump," he responded, noting that Trump's reelection campaign has already accumulated hundreds of millions of dollars. "We shouldn't try to do it with one hand tied behind our back."

The focus on Buttigieg at the Los Angeles debate highlighted his strength in the Democratic Party's turbulent primary contest just 46 days before voting begins, with polls showing him at or near the lead in Iowa's kickoff caucus. But the confrontation also raised broader concerns about the direction of the race: Democrats are not close to unifying behind a message or messenger in their quest to deny Trump a second term.

In fact, as the debate revealed, the party is still consumed by a high-stakes tug-of-war between feuding factions that must ultimately come together in order to beat Trump. One side, led by Warren and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, is demanding transformational change to the U.S. economy and political system. The other, led by former Vice President Joe Biden, Buttigieg and Klobuchar, prefers a more cautious return to normalcy after Trump's turbulent reign.

Klobuchar repeatedly dinged Buttigieg as "mayor," noting that he lost his only statewide campaign in Indiana as well as his bid to become the Democratic National Committee chairman.

"I have not denigrated your experience as a local official. I have been one," Klobuchar said. "I just think you should respect our experience when you look at how you evaluate someone who can get things done."

Buttigieg responded: "You actually did denigrate my experience, senator."'

Biden, having seemingly regained his footing as the establishment favorite in the crowded contest, sidestepped any missteps or damaging attacks. But in the debate's final moments, he engaged in a heated exchange with Sanders over health care.

Sanders has proposed a "Medicare for All" single-payer system, which Biden dismissed as "unrealistic." Biden pushed a plan that he says would build on "Obamacare," but Sanders argued that Biden would just be keeping the status quo.

The focus of attention throughout the night, however, was Buttigieg.

The small-city mayor, who would be the first openly gay president, has grappled with questions about his ties to Wall Street and wealthy donors for several weeks. In recent days, he hosted wealthy donors at a California wine cave, disclosed consulting work for a big insurance company that preceded layoffs and released a list of wealthy bundlers.

His challenges with black voters are well documented, but suddenly, Buttigieg's corporate connections are beginning to alienate the party's progressive activists.

"I do not sell access to my time," Warren said of Buttigieg's aggressive fundraising schedule.

"As of when, Senator?" Buttigieg fired back, referring to Warren's reliance on wealthy donors before becoming a presidential candidate.

The feud softened by the time moderators posed their final question: Is there another candidate onstage whom you would like to ask forgiveness from or give a gift to?

Buttigieg said it would be a gift for anyone on stage to become president "compared to what we've got." And he called for unity once Democrats pick their nominee.

"Let's make sure there's not too much to ask forgiveness for by the time that day comes," he said.

When it was her turn, Warren's voice briefly quivered when she said she'd ask for forgiveness. Sometimes, she said, she gets "a little worked up" and "a little hot." But "I don't really mean to."

Democrats faced a silent challenge Thursday. For the first time this primary season, no black or Latino candidate appeared onstage. The omission was embarrassing, at best — and politically dangerous, at worst — as Democrats fight to convince people of color that they're not taking their vote for granted.

Asked what message the lack of diversity on

SEE **DEBATE** PAGE 14

Rotary News

By Alanna Shepard

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Rotary Club of Santa Monica Gives Back to the Community



Courtesy photo

ROTARY: Rotarians are giving away $20,000 to numerous organizations.

This holiday season, the Rotary Club of Santa Monica is focused on giving back to the community. With grants, donations and volunteer hours, the Rotarians are committed to making this community the best it can be.

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica provides grants for numerous organizations around the greater Santa Monica area, and this year's total adds up to over $20,000! Here are some of the organizations that received grants from the Santa Monica Rotary Club: Elemental Music, a Global Peace Grant, John Adams Middle School, the Coalition for Engaged Education, the Santa Monica Chamber Foundation to purchase new office furniture and equipment, Pico Youth and Family Center to purchase film equipment to expand their documentary film program, the Santa Monica Education Foundation, SMMUSD to replace books at the John Muir/SMASH library that had been destroyed by vandalism last Spring and to WISE & Healthy Aging for the purchase of patio furniture.

The Santa Monica Rotarians also organize and participate in numerous charity events. Recently, members of the Santa Monica Rotary Club fed the police on Thanksgiving, organized their annual blood drive in collaboration with the Red Cross, hosted a toy drive and later helped wrap and distribute gifts for families who are clients of the Connections for Children program and they could also be seen ringing the bell on Red Kettle Day to benefit the Salvation Army. Coming up, Rotarians will be volunteering at One Voice Food Packing, a program that provides food baskets, toys and books to 2,500 families (12,500 people) living in poverty in the Los Angeles area and sorting food at the Westside Food Bank.

In Rotary news, The Club recently elected their board for the coming year. The new board will be sworn in June 2020. The newly elected board members are: President: Lisa Alexander; Vice-Presidents: Nora Bohn, Tammy Andrews; Treasurer: Grace Cheng Braun; Secretary: Brian Linnekens; 2-year Directors: Timur Berberoglu, Bill Chillingworth; 1-years Director: Mike Cates, Kera Snell, Sara Colon and (holdover) Vicky Curtis. President-Elect: Bill Powell. Congratulations!



Members have also enjoyed presentations from interesting speakers and prominent members of the community. They learned about the difficulties veterans face transitioning back into society after experiencing the horrors of war and how important it is for everyone to support them from Shad Meshad and the "Battle Coming Home for Today's Vets". It was a fun day during the traditional UCLA/USC Rivalry week meeting, the Rotarians were joined by Pete Arbogast (the voice of USC) and Geof Strand (UCLA alumni cheerleader). Both men gave fun and interesting talks. Beth Pratt (the Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation's California Regional Center) gave an interesting and informative presentation about "How a Lonely LA Cougar Changed Conservation". She spoke about the P22 cougar and described plans by transportation officials and conservationists to build a wildlife crossing over the 101 freeway that will provide big cats, coyotes, deer, lizards, snakes and other creatures a safe route to open space and better access to food and potential mates.

Make sure to look for more fun and exciting news about the Rotary Club of Santa Monica in the new year! Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season and a happy, prosperous 2020!

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2019

LESSONS & CAROLS
SUN • DECEMBER 22, 10 a.m.
Sunday worship service of music and word



simple church
BLUE CHRISTMAS
SUN • DECEMBER 22, 5 p.m.
A contemplative service for those experiencing grief



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE
TUES • DECEMBER 24, 4 p.m.
A "No Muss, No Fuss" Christmas Pageant for all ages
Costumes will be available at the door for all children to participate



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
TUES • DECEMBER 24, 11 p.m.
Choir, Organ, Harp & Candlelight



Come celebrate the season!

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With glowing hearts, by His cradle we stand.

Christmas Eve Mass - Dec. 24
4 p.m. **Gymnasium** (Children's Mass)
4 p.m. **Church** & **Grand Pavilion**

Church
6 p.m. · 8 p.m. · 10 p.m. · Midnight

Christmas Day Mass - Dec. 25
7:30 a.m. · 9:30 a.m. · 11:30 a.m. · 1:15 p.m. · **Church**

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Organic Russet Potatoes



$6.99 12 oz *reg. $7.99*
Organic Dates



$3.99 per pound *reg. $4.49*
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$6.99 16 oz *reg. $7.99*
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10% off 750 ml
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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 324 CALLS ON DEC. 19

Grand Theft 1700blk Ocean Ave 2:28 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 5:06 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 800blk Wilshire Blvd 7:33 a.m.
Fraud 1600blk Main St 8:06 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 8:10 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk Oak St 8:12 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 8:54 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 9:33 a.m.
Missing Person 1400blk 16th St 10:45 a.m.
Encampment Dorchester Ave / Virginia Ave 10:46 a.m.
Elder Abuse 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:53 a.m.
Identity Theft 2200blk 28th St 10:56 a.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:56 a.m.
Hit And Run 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 11:37 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700blk Ashland Ave 11:39 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 10th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:42 a.m.
Grand Theft 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:45 a.m.
Hit And Run 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 12:03 p.m.
Hit And Run 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:19 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1100blk 20th St 12:37 p.m.
Prowler 100blk Hollister Ave 12:38 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 600blk Pacific St 12:49 p.m.
Grand Theft 1100blk 10th St 1:14 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1400blk Oak St 1:39 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 1:49 p.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:15 p.m.
Grand Theft Unknown 2:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 2:30 p.m.
Hit And Run 1400blk 4th St 2:35 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 2:56 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:02 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk Pier Ave 3:18 p.m.
Sexual Assault 1400blk 16th St 3:26 p.m.
Petty Theft 1700blk Ocean Ave 4:12 p.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Santa Monica Pl 4:29 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 17th St / Montana Ave 4:51 p.m.
Hit And Run 2800blk Pico Blvd 4:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 700blk Pacific St 4:58 p.m.
Battery Now 2500blk Michigan Ave 5:39 p.m.
Encampment 500blk Wilshire Blvd 5:53 p.m.
Fight 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:30 p.m.
Petty Theft 800blk 9th St 6:42 p.m.
Lost Property 1500blk The Beach 6:50 p.m.
Battery 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 6:52 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 10th St / Michigan Ave 7:08 p.m.
Threats 800blk Montana Ave 7:53 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1000blk 10th St 8:17 p.m.
Petty Theft 900blk Montana Ave 8:52 p.m.
Drunk Driving 1300blk Pico Blvd 8:53 p.m.
Encampment 1200blk Ocean Front Walk 9:12 p.m.
Found Senile Person 2nd St / Idaho Ave 10:28 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1000blk 9th St 10:31 p.m.
Petty Theft 300blk Santa Monica Pier 10:32 p.m.
Petty Theft 700blk Broadway 10:55 p.m.

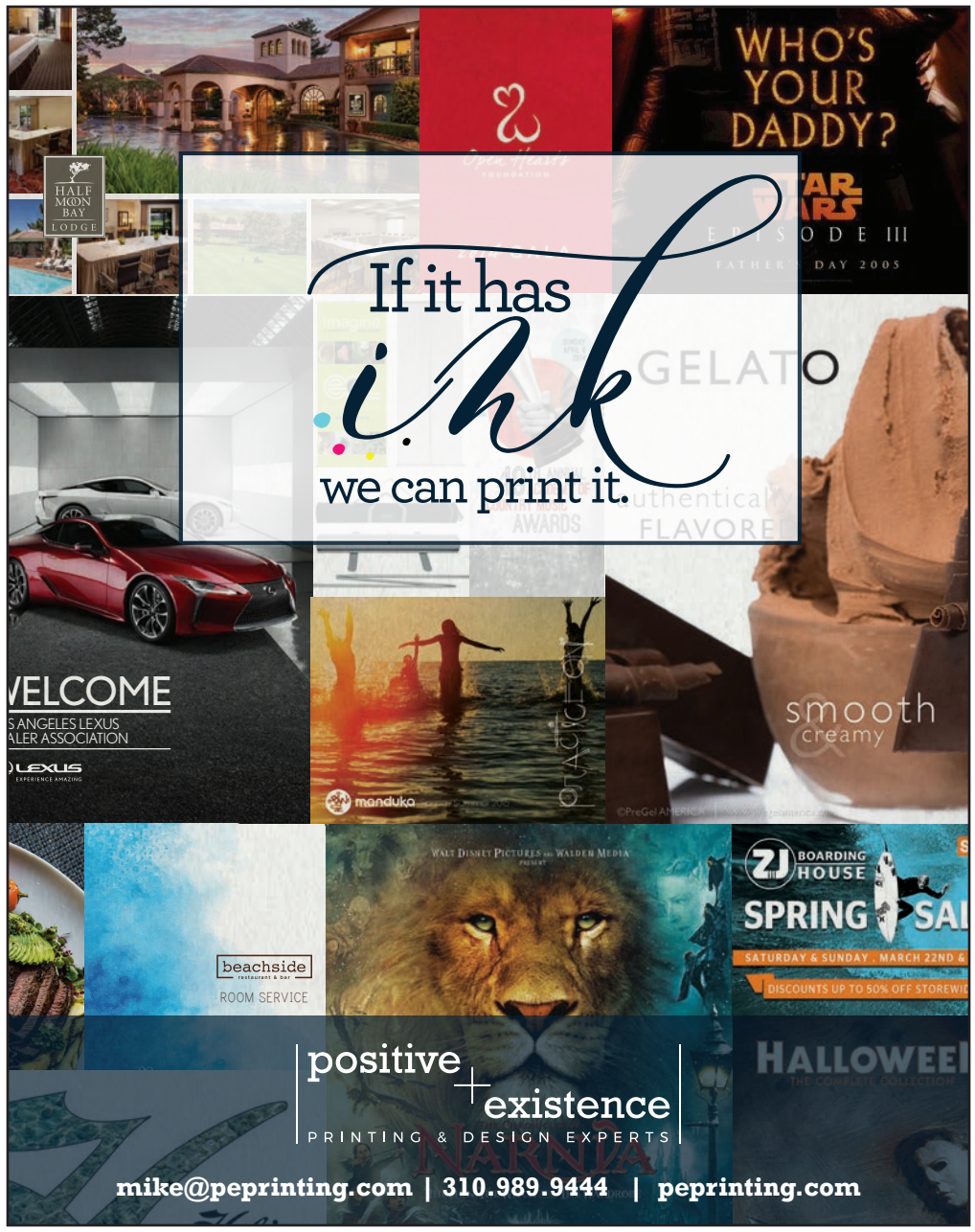
DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON DEC. 19

Carbon Monoxide Alarm 800blk 10th St 2:37 a.m.
Emergency Medical Service 1300blk 15th St 2:37 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 100blk Wilshire Blvd 3:58 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 5:18 a.m.
Flooded Condition 1700blk California Ave 5:26 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 400blk Raymond Ave 6:19 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Washington Ave 7:10 a.m.
EMS 2500blk 3rd St 7:33 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 10:57 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100blk Stewart St 11:00 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100blk Stewart St 11:24 a.m.
EMS 00blk Pico Blvd 12:22 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 15th St 12:39 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk 26th St 12:58 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 2:30 p.m.
EMS 600blk Navy St 3:00 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1400blk 9th St 3:15 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:32 p.m.
EMS 800blk Broadway 4:03 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 5:13 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 6th St 5:20 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 11th St 5:45 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk 5th St 6:41 p.m.
Electrical Fire - No Fire Visible 1600blk Montana Ave 6:51 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 6:59 p.m.
EMS 2200blk 29th St 7:44 p.m.
EMS 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:48 p.m.
Vehicle Fire 1800blk 12th St 8:34 p.m.
EMS 400blk Broadway 9:56 p.m.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com





TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 21)

You're a genius in the way you use your time this year, taking advantage of natural rhythms and using efficient plans to maximize efforts. Your family grows and with it your connections to the world. You'll take part in culture and community and meet like-minded people at glamorous events and down-to-earth happenings. Aquarius and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 38, 11 and 2.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Yes, you want someone to listen to you, but that's only the baseline in relationships. What do they do afterward? How do they follow through? This is what matters.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Some people are so self-absorbed they can't pay attention to anything that doesn't produce immediate validation or reward. Maybe you're looking for an improvement project, but this one won't get better. Move on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't have to deliberately put your mind and heart into everything you do, because it will already be there. That's how action works. For better or worse, every act bears the imprint of its executer.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Emotional neediness and immaturity are, of course, repellent. They are also a part of being human. Everyone you know has bouts with this, which is why you have a soft reaction to today's lovable mistakes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You don't need super vitamins or caffeine drinks to power through the day because an inspiring to-do list and the partnership of someone you admire will fuel you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). An aura of mystery is your best accessory. Of course, you can take it off and change it out at will. It's hard to be mysterious all of the time, especially tonight when you'll be in the mood to spill the tea.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Setting pure intentions and coming from the right heart space is essential to good work. Check in frequently on your attitude, which affects even your smallest move.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's not that you can't trust people; it's just that people change. "Never" has a way of becoming "just this once." Also, "not in a million years" comes a lot sooner than expected.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your generosity is beautiful and brings much happiness to yourself and others as long as you direct it well. Overgiving where it's neither asked for nor needed helps no one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your activities will seem to happen on the dance floor of the world where each dancer's moves are subtly influenced by the movement of the others. You're in sync and influential.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Not surprisingly, people are open to opinions they agree with. You have a lot of respect for one who entertains other points of view. Real communication resolves conflicts. Everything else is just preaching to the choir.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're on a mission, thus the serious mood. Once that mission is accomplished, and it will be, you'll lighten up considerably. Yes, you have a pause button, but you'll only push it for special people.

Happy Solstice!

The celestial event of the winter solstice has long inspired humankind, the proof of which shows up in the poetry of mystics, the architecture of ancient monuments and the stories and traditions of countless generations. The sun's entrance in Capricorn recalls the hope of light returning, and long, cold nights made bearable by the faith that every season has its turning.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"When will my life start happening?" – Scorpio. You don't have to go out and find your life. It's already happening to you. It (SET ITAL)is(END ITAL) you. Stick with your story as it's unfolding in real time instead of believing that it's all out there for you in Somedayland. Here is good. What can you use here? What can you love here? You are afraid that if you connect too fully to the way things are that you won't be able to make a different life, but you're thinking of it all wrong. The way you are now will be the same way you are in the other realms. Connect, practice, love right here. It won't hold you back. Paying attention to now is what allows you to move forward. Remember the book about the "Very Hungry Caterpillar"? He ate a hole through leaves and fruits and cakes and then he transformed into a butterfly. What he didn't do was sit on a leaf and then walk to a watermelon to sit there a while. He was hungry, and his body knew he was going to have to consume things and keep processing life until it was time for him to change. That's how you need to think of your circumstances. Use them, eat them up and live them fully to move through them and become who you want to be.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

Kiefer Sutherland is currently filming the new television drama "The Fugitive" out in the spring of 2020. With over 100 major acting credits in film and television, this second-generation movie star embodies the ambition and work ethic of his natal Venus in Capricorn. With both the sun and Mercury in independent, worldly Sagittarius at his time of birth, Sutherland is driven by a passionate love of adventure. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Effervescent
Adjective
Vivacious; merry; lively; sparkling.

Heathcliff

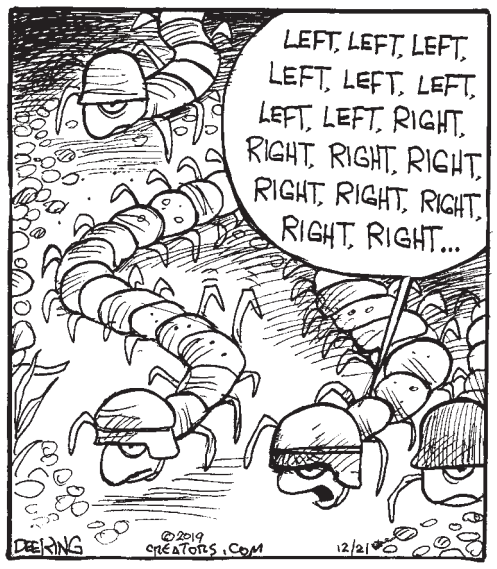
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE SEEMS TO LIKE THE QUEEN-SIZE."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



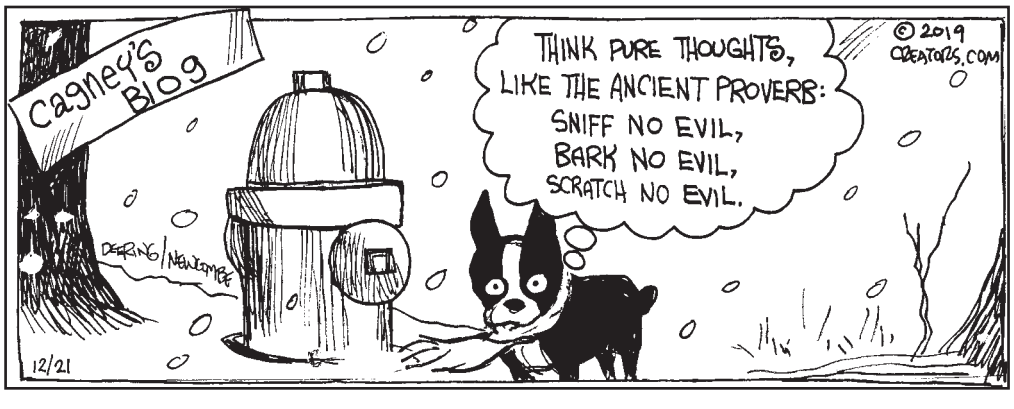
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:12/18
14 18 26 39 68
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 171 M

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

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 12/18
1 4 11 23 36
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/19
23 31 34 35 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/19
Evening: 1 4 8

Draw Date: 12/19
Midday: 6 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/19
1st: 4 - BIG BEN
2nd: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
3rd: 9 - WINNING SPIRIT
RACE TIME: 1:48.76

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 REPORT

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ waist to shoulder high
Fresh, long period NW swell to build in. Winds look favorable for the AM. Most size at well exposed spots.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ waist to shoulder high
Long period NW/WNW swell continues. Winds may be manageable early.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

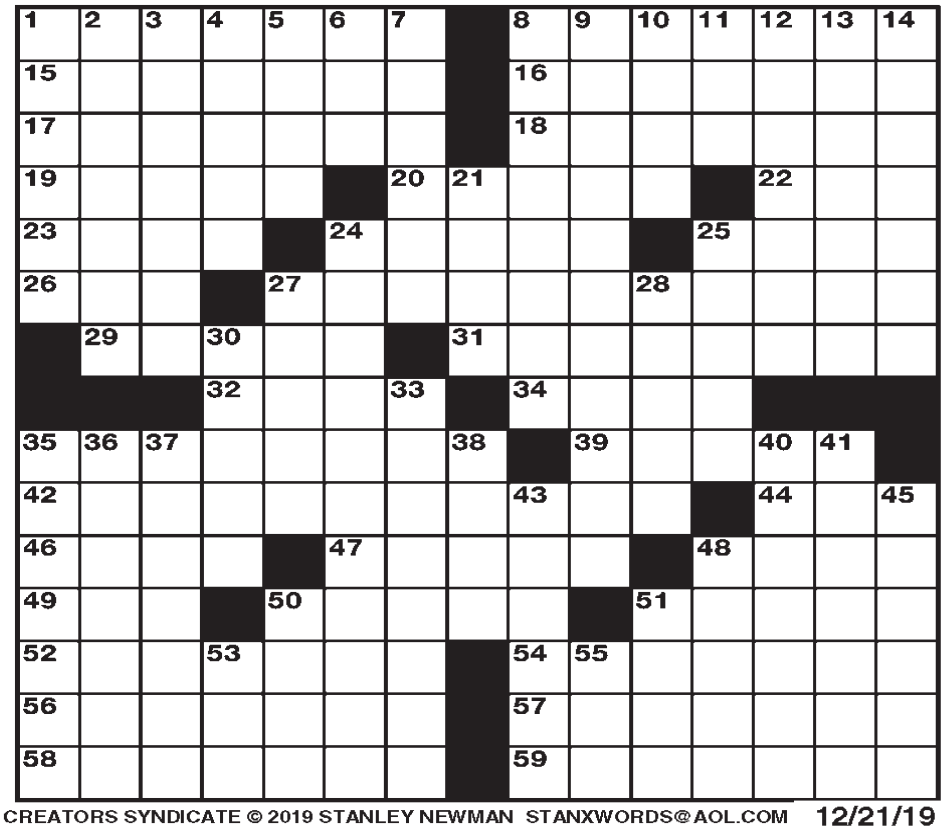
		5					6	
8		6	7			3		
					2		8	9
		8				1	3	
1			3		8			5
	5	3				7		
9	3		5					
		1			9	2		4
	4					9		

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Loofah alternative
8 Preparing to steal, perhaps
15 Alleghenies' "Railroad City"
16 Hybrid that runs on grass
17 Press passes?
18 __ weather
19 Type of hair dryer
20 Confined
22 Curl, at times
23 "Gotcha"
24 Do a balancing act?
25 It's poured from *tokkuri*
26 Less than nothing, for short
27 Less
29 HR might pay for them
31 Airport-closing visibility
32 "You are not an __ less than they": Whitman
34 Taj Mahal distinctive feature
35 Backstage staff
39 Whom Aristotle mentions in *On the Parts of Animals*
42 Fog machine user of yore
44 Comparable level
46 Curved shape of some mirrors
47 Rest (on)
48 Common Parisian prename
49 12 preceder
50 Excessive interest
51 Abdicates responsibility
52 Tender since 2009
54 Brag about
56 "Daughter of the wind" plant
57 Melodrama focus
58 Source of many stings
59 Put forth

DOWN
1 Serve
2 *Extreme Weather* author (2017)
3 Room on a ship
4 Dear relative
5 Get to
6 Name of a doll in the Toy Hall of Fame
7 First Amendment restriction
8 Out of sight
9 Change of plans
10 Be affected by
11 "__ law is unjust . . .": Jefferson
12 Mad-dash metaphor
13 Less lumbering
14 New Yorker's hero
21 Court order
24 Kid's art supply
25 Haberdashery array
27 Undisciplined
28 To whom ". . . sweet sorrow . . ." is said
30 What's in many a glove
33 Battle of the Bulge forest
35 Bike's low handle
36 Folcare and Pilogro, generically
37 Went for
38 Voice of 'Puter in *The Lego Batman Movie*
40 Mining by-product
41 Head & Shoulders sister brand
43 Word from Old English for "malefactor"
45 Fresh again
48 Inedible spreadable
50 Venerable synchronous orbiter
51 Out-and-out
53 __ Fest (annual Nashville bash)
55 *Regina* counterpart



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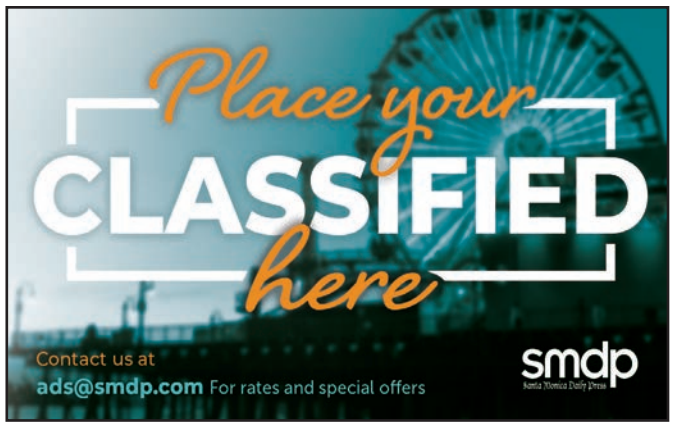
CLASSIFICATIONS	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Lost and Found
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For Sale	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring
Furniture	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success	

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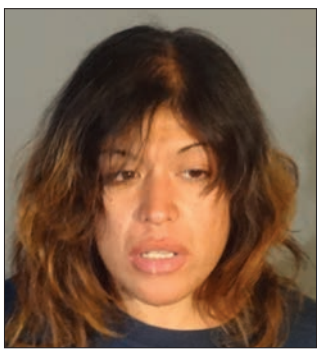
HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
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CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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 5:50 P.M.

Officers responded to the area of 500 block of Broadway to investigate a call of a woman hiding between a trash can and gas meter using narcotics. Officers arrived in the area and found a woman matching the description of the suspect crouching down underneath gas meters in the alley. She had a glass pipe in her mouth commonly used to inject narcotics. Officers observed her inhaling from the glass pipe. The suspect stopped smoking and then urinated where she was standing. Officers took the woman into custody without incident. Crystal Alexandra Carera, 29, homeless, was arrested for possession of smoking paraphernalia and urinating in public. Bail was set at $500.



File photo
CRYSTAL ALEXANDRA CARERA

ADA

FROM PAGE 1

"It's a total shakedown," Marion said. "They never actually check that you've put in the accommodations."

Because the statutory minimum in California is $3,000 higher than the federal minimum and requires the court to pay plaintiffs' legal fees, the state has become a magnet for ADA lawsuits.

An estimated 36% of all cases nationwide are filed in California, many of them by the same plaintiffs. The California Commission on Disability Access found that 14 plaintiffs filed 46% of lawsuits between 2012 and 2014.

State and federal lawmakers started to reform rules around ADA cases in recent years. A state bill enacted in 2017 gave small businesses some time to fix minor ADA violations, and a 2018 congressional bill required potential plaintiffs to notify businesses of alleged ADA violations and an opportunity to remedy them before filing a lawsuit.

After Daly provided proof of The Activity Center's compliance with ADA standards, Magallanes agreed to drop the lawsuit. Daly said he is unsure how many other businesses have done the same or agreed to settle, and multiple businesses did not reply to The Daily Press' requests for comment.

Daly said he thinks Mosley is exploiting a well-intended law at the expense of small businesses. Settling or fighting the lawsuit would have jeopardized his family business' ability to remain open, he said.

"I don't know how anyone could draw a conclusion other than that, based on the number of lawsuits filed and the nature of the complaints," he said. "He could have called us and said, "this is a problem, can you fix it?" Instead, he chose to bypass that step and file dozens of lawsuits."

Magallanes did not reply to The Daily Press' request for comment.

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DEBATE

FROM PAGE 8

the debate stage sends, Sanders tried to shift the conversation back to a discussion about climate change. Admonished by one of the moderators to stick to the question, Sanders countered that people of color will suffer "the most if we do not deal with climate change."

The only nonwhite candidate on stage, Andrew Yang, called it "both an honor and a disappointment" to be the only candidate of color on the debate stage. He said he missed California Sen. Kamala Harris, who folded her campaign this month, and New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, who failed to qualify for the debate. "I think Cory will be back," Yang predicted.

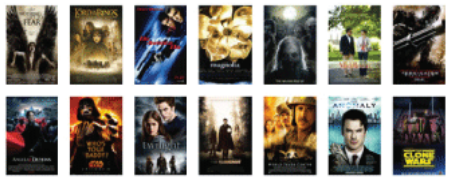
For most of the political world, Thursday's debate marks the informal conclusion of the first year of the 2020 presidential campaign.

It has been a turbulent season that began with more than 20 candidates and ends with just seven on stage. The infighting on display, however, and the relatively large number of candidates, could lead to a long, expensive and painful nomination fight ahead.

The next debate is scheduled for Jan. 14, just 20 days before voting begins in Iowa.

Peoples and Superville reported from Washington. Associated Press writer Michael R. Blood contributed to this report from Los Angeles.

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