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Year in Review: Airport

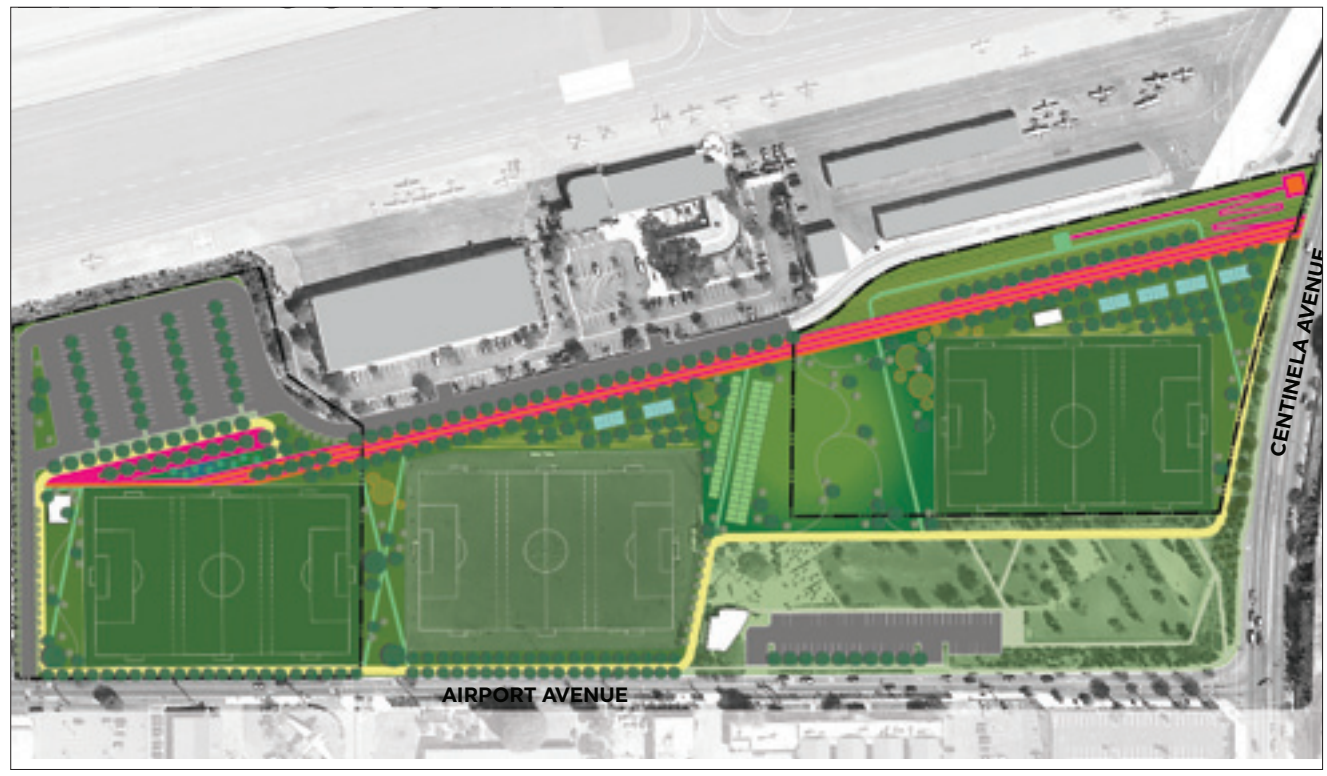
The Daily Press will publish a series of articles in the coming week summarizing the year's news. Summaries have been loosely grouped by topic and our annual roundup of the year's most read stories will appear this Friday/Saturday.

The City of Santa Monica eliminated 73 aircraft tie-downs in a six-acre parcel of the Santa Monica airport as one of the first concrete actions in advance of expanding park space at the airport. A 1984 agreement between the City and the FAA had mandated that parcel of land be used to accommodate aircraft; but with the expiration of the agreement, City Hall was able to repurpose the site along with a separate six-acre lot opposite the current Museum of Flying.

Council approved $211,200 (plus a 10- percent contingency) to pay for a feasibility study and concept design by landscape design firm Rios Clementi Hale Studios (RCH) to help design the park expansion. While tie-downs were only eliminated from one of the parcels, the study will cover a potential 12-acre park expansion into both lots.

Staff have held several public workshops on the future of the park and residents were presented with three designs that

SEE **REVIEW** PAGE 5



Courtesy image

PARK PLANS: The Santa Monica Airport generated its share of news in 2016. The city's ongoing efforts to close SMO created several legal disputes and the City also moved forward with its post-airport plans for a park. Aircraft were cleared from a section of the airport and plans were approved for a 12 acre expansion of the existing park facilities.

Books old and new in 2016 got boost from Trump

BY HILLEL ITALIE
AP National Writer

Donald Trump's rise from celebrity candidate to improbable nominee and winner of an historic upset brought heightened attention to several books.

Here are five notable releases that received a Trump Bump:

J.D. Vance, "The Hillbilly Elegy": Liberals befuddled by Trump's victory turned to Vance's memoir about his relatives in rural Kentucky and Ohio's rust belt. Interviewed last summer by The Associated Press, Vance spoke of Trump's appeal to the white working class: "He communicates in a way that is very relatable to a lot of people; it's one of the things that both parties frankly have been increasingly bad at, which is connecting to voters in an emotional and kind of visceral way."

Megyn Kelly, "Settle for More": This book was announced early in 2016, or what now seems like distant history when

SEE **BOOKS** PAGE 7

AP's top 10 movies led by 'Moonlight,' 'La La Land'

BY JAKE COYLE AND LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writers

Associated Press Film Writers Jake Coyle and Lindsey Bahr name their choices for the best films of 2016.

JAKE COYLE:

1. "Moonlight." The life of Chiron, the young man who grows up in three distinct chapters in Barry Jenkins' masterpiece, is hard and full of pain. And yet "Moonlight" is so abundant with transcendent moments of grace and lyrical splendor. In the film's blue-tinged darkness shines a tortured soul, one of the most intimately and fully realized ones I can remember encountering in a movie.

2. "Cameraperson." In Kirsten Johnson's memoir-like montage of film, momentary intimacies from a lifetime of making documentaries accrue a staggering poetry. From war zones abroad to her family at home, her camera is a force of connection that binds us, fleetingly.

SEE **MOVIE** PAGE 4

AP's top albums of 2016: Beyonce, Rihanna, Solange, Bruno

BY MESFIN FEKADU
AP Music Writer

A list of the year's top 10 albums from Associated Press Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu.

1. "Lemonade," Beyonce: Just when you think Beyonce has topped herself — she tops herself. She followed the surprise release of 2014's "Beyonce" with another epic album — "Lemonade" — singing lyrics about a troubled relationship, family life and black pride over songs that were R&B, rap, rock, pop, country and more. The album — a work of art, really — goes from emotional and passionate to playful and upbeat, showcasing Queen Bey's growth and stamina. She continues her run as the leader in pop music and pop culture.

2. "Anti," Rihanna: And close behind Bey is Rih. "Anti" comes four years after Rihanna's last album — her longest

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 6

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Movie: Finding Dory (2016)

In this sequel to Pixar's smash hit Finding Nemo, lovable amnesiac Dory (Ellen Degeneres) decides to venture off in search of her lost parents. (103 min.) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 – 4:45 p.m.

Drum and Dance

Everyone can drum along in this energetic workshop! Ages 4 and up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 – 11:45 a.m.

Farmer's Market

The Wednesday Farmers Market is widely recognized as one of the largest and most diverse grower-only CFM's in the nation. 2nd @ Arizona Avenue, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 29

The Secret Life of Pets

Ever wonder what your pets do when you're not home? This animated comedy, from the humans behind Despicable Me, reveals the lives pets lead after their owners leave. (87 min.) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 – 4:30 p.m.

LEGOS and Games at Main

They provide the Legos, you provide the fun! New for December, easy family board games! Ages 4 and Up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 – 4 p.m.

Friday, December 30

Kubo and the Two Strings

A young boy named Kubo must locate a magical suit of armor worn by his late father in order to defeat a vengeful spirit from the past. Featuring the voices of Charlize Theron and Matthew McConaughey. (101 min) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 – 4:45 p.m.

Make it Noisy!

Make crafts to help ring in the new year! Ages 3 and up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 – 3 p.m.

Saturday, December 31

Farmers Market

With the passage of the California Organic Foods Act of 1990, consumers were eager for more organic produce and another market for weekend shopping. The Organic Market boasts the largest percentage of Certified Organic growers of the markets. 2nd @ Arizona Avenue, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, December 31

Beach and Guest House Closed

Guest House Closed Today for the Holiday. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

Sunday, January 1

Library Closed

All Library locations are closed today.

Monday, January 2

Library Closed

All Library locations are closed today.

Tuesday, January 3

Ocean Park Film Series

Film title: "Top Hat" (1935) Film historian Elaina Archer screens and discusses this film about an American dancer who comes to Britain and falls for a model whom he initially annoyed, but she mistakes him for his goofy producer. (Film runtime: 121 min.) Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Movie Screening: New Year's Eve (2011)

A stellar ensemble cast celebrates love, hope, forgiveness, second

SEE **LIST** PAGE 6

For help submitting an event, contact us at
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Governor Brown Appoints Six to Los Angeles County Superior Court

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. announced the appointment of Firdaus F. Dordi, Mark H. Epstein, Ruben N. Garcia, Gary I. Micon, Kevin S. Rosenberg and P. Tamu Usher to judgeships in the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

Dordi, 46, of Los Angeles, has been a partner, co-founder and attorney at Dordi, Williams, Cohen LLP since 2014. He served as a deputy federal public defender at the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California from 2000 to 2014 and as a law clerk for the Honorable Robert M. Takasugi at the U.S. District Court, Central District of California from 1998 to 2000. He was a research attorney for the Honorable Thomas I. McKnew, Jr. at the Los Angeles County Superior Court from 1997 to 1998 and a contract attorney at the Law Offices of Feldman and Levy from 1996 to 1997. Dordi earned a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Allan J. Goodman. Dordi is a Democrat.

Epstein, 57, of Los Angeles, has been a partner at Munger, Tolles and Olson LLP since 1993, where he was an associate from 1988 to 1992. He served as law clerk for the Honorable William J. Brennan, Jr. at the U.S. Supreme Court from 1987 to 1988, for the Honorable Edward A. Panelli at the California Supreme Court from 1986 to 1987 and for the Honorable Stanley A. Weigel at the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California from 1985 to 1986. Epstein earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Thomas I. McKnew. Epstein is a Democrat.

Garcia, 48, of Monrovia, has served as a deputy public defender at the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office since 1995. He was an associate at Rushfeldt, Shelley and Drake LLP in 1994 and at Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O'Keefe and Nichols from 1993 to 1994. Garcia earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Richard A. Stone. Garcia is a Democrat.

Micon, 59, of Simi Valley, has served as a lead appellate attorney at the Second District Court of Appeal since 2014, where he was a senior judicial attorney from 1993 to 2014. He was an associate at Morris and Spencer in 1992 and a sole practitioner from 1990 to 1992. Micon was senior litigation associate at Finkle, Hersh and Stoll from 1988 to 1990 and an associate at Ball, Hunt, Hart, Brown and Baerwitz from 1985 to 1988. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Northridge. Micon fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Elia Weinbach. He is a Democrat.

Rosenberg, 47, of Los Angeles, has been of counsel at Lowenstein and Weatherwax LLP since 2014. He served as a supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California from 2010 to 2014, where he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney from 2000 to 2007. Rosenberg served as appellate government counsel in the Navy-Marine Corps Appellate Review Activity for the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps from 1998 to 2000, where he also served as legal assistance attorney and defense counsel in the Trial Service Office and Naval Legal Service Office Pacific from 1995 to 1997. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from San Diego State University. He fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Reva G. Goetz. Rosenberg is a Democrat.

Usher, 47, of Altadena, has served as a deputy district attorney at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office since 1999. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Howard University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach. Usher fills the vacancy created by the death of Judge Ellen C. DeShazer. She is a Democrat.

The compensation for each of these positions is $191,612.

– SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

SMC

SMC Artist reception on Januay 14 for "An Invitation to Rome"

The Santa Monica College Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery is pleased to present "An Invitation to Rome." The exhibition will be open to the public from Tuesday, January 10, to Saturday, January 28, with a gallery reception on Saturday, January 14, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"An Invitation to Rome" is an exciting exhibition of art created by a selection of Rome Art Workshops participants. The eye-catching show features works by sculptor Brian Booth Craig, figurative painter Sean Cheetham, painter Hollis Dunlap, sculptor David Simon, and painter Marc Trujillo. Curated by Trujillo, the exhibition is literally an invitation to join the artists next summer in Rome.

The exhibition's artists and curator will also discuss the sculptures, paintings, and other creative works on exhibit at a gallery talk on Saturday, January 14, at 5 p.m. Seating is strictly on a first-arrival basis.

The Rome Art Workshops were founded in 2012 by Craig and Simon to provide an immersive experience in Rome while studying the "immortal art of the past" and "creating great art for the future."

SMC's Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery is located at the SMC Performing Arts Center on Santa Monica Boulevard at 11th Street, Santa Monica. Due to construction in progress, please enter from 11th Street. Gallery exhibits, receptions, and art lectures and talks are free.

Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, please call Gallery Director, (310) 434-3434

-SUBMITTED BY MARIAN WINSRYG



Curious City

Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Kiss all the spines

WHAT'S A POOR COLUMNIST TO DO?

Agonize over the heavy burden of trying to make sense of a year like no other, without knocking down Christmas trees and menorahs-ful of lingering holiday cheer?

Or take the easy way out. Why reinvent the wheel? I have two friends whose posts on Facebook today struck me as real, and true.

The first is from poet Ellyn Maybe, my favorite living poet. She's ventured into applying music to her verse and has a new recording out, "Skywriting with Glitter" (ellynandrobbie.com).

2016: The Year The 20th Century Finally Died
The year so many musicians died and the year
Freedom seemed to be moving underground
Caskets filled the air.
We live in times of turmoil, clocks beating quicker and quicker.
Middle age seems old.
Seniors seem timeless.
There's a lethargy in the way people move .
There's a liturgy on the tip of our tongues.
There's something in the morning cereal.
It looks like newsprint.
There's something in the evening news.
It seems like farce.
As though this couldn't be real.
This over the top peek into tragedy's eyelid.
This shiver that lives in our psyche like snow.
We ski into another winter.
The world is on a ski lift.
Cocoa is leaving its face around a cup.
We stir and it's January.
We stir and it's the 20th Century.
We stir and it looks like it's black and white newsreels.
History tries to repeat itself as the people in power like sequels.
People wear the hero mask, the death mask, the face, and the heart.
People make choices. The stores sell everything.

SEE CITY PAGE 10

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MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

3. "La La Land." It's not like we're so overrun with blissfulness and charm that we couldn't use Damien Chazelle's light-footed celebration of classic musicals, Los Angeles, dreams, keytars and Emma Stone. It's not a revolutionary work. It's a knowing and full-hearted resurrection. It's a conversation with nostalgia, held at golden hour between lampposts and tap shoes.

4. "I Am Not Your Negro." Does anyone's voice sound more urgent today than James Baldwin's? Raoul Peck's documentary, narrated by Samuel L. Jackson, is culled largely from an unfinished manuscript of the writer, intellectual and social critic. Baldwin's words wash over you, at once inspiring in their passion and alarming in their frightful insight into America. But Peck doesn't need to mix in more recent footage to connect Baldwin's thoughts with today. Amid the shards of 2016, Baldwin's relevance is apparent enough.

5. "Sunset Song." Rare is the combination of formal beauty and deep inner-life that's found in Terence Davies's adaptation of the 1932 novel by Lewis Grassic Gibbon. It was one of two films by the chronically underappreciated Davies this year, the other being his less sublime Emily Dickinson biopic with Cynthia Nixon, "A Quiet Passion." But "Sunset Song," about a young woman growing up in rural Scotland in the years before World War I, is one of the more exquisite and wrenching portraits of lives shaped and ripped apart by history.

6. "American Honey." Nothing was more thrillingly alive this year than Andrea Arnold's bass-thumping plunge into the American heartland. Arnold, the British director of "Fish Tank," has both a keenly critical eye to what she sees around her and a deeply affectionate one for her young characters. Rihanna (played in a scene set in a Walmart) supplies Arnold's anthem: She finds love in a hopeless place.

7. "Manchester by the Sea." It might be my third favorite of playwright Kenneth Lonergan's three films (the others are "Margaret" and "You Can Count on Me"), but it's still one of the year's best. Scenes this natural just don't come along. Seemingly quotidian moments flicker with the past, with pain, with humor, with glimpses of insight. Lonergan's way with words is trumped only by the great reaches of his empathy.

8. "O.J.: Made in America." It's an L.A. story. Ezra Edelman's 467-minute documentary, released both as one long film and a five-part television series, has an almost Dickensian scope. Edelman uses the case as a prism through which to make a grand portrait of Los Angeles and of America.

9. "Hell or High Water." David Mackenzie's West Texas heist tale is a genre movie firing on all cylinders. There's the fine acting of Chris Pine, Ben Foster, Jeff Bridges and Gil Birmingham. There's the economical but loose direction of Mackenzie ("Starred Up"). And there's the flavorful, comic dialogue of Taylor Sheridan ("Sicario"). Add it all up and you get a hell of a movie.

10. "The Edge of Seventeen." The pleasures are similar in Kelly Fremon Craig's spectacular debut: a genre movie (this time a teen coming-of-age comedy in the John Hughes mold) made with uncommon authenticity and wit. And I'm not sure I enjoyed any performance this year more than Hailee Steinfeld's beset high-schooler who curses her generation as "mouth breathers."

LINDSEY BAHR:

1. "La La Land." Damien Chazelle's film has more edge than many seem to give it credit for. Like those of its spiritual predecessor Jacques Demy, "La La Land" might be soaked in lavender skies, bright costumes and bouncy songs, but under the surface lingers a gnawing uncertainty about art and ambition and love and sacrifice. And it'll leave you singing "Another Day of Sun," even if it is through wistful tears.

2. "Manchester by the Sea." The script! The performances! The atmosphere! The score! It's all uncomfortably perfect. "Manchester by the Sea" is a fully realized and affecting American epic about all-consuming grief and the inconvenient, often funny and sometimes impossible life that remains. It's a career-defining role for Casey Affleck.

3. "Jackie." Moody and unsettling, "Jackie" might not explain the former first lady, but Pablo Larrain's unconventional biopic illuminates her hand in crafting that indelible Camelot legacy for her family, with a pitch perfect performance from Natalie Portman.

4. "Moonlight." What is really left to be said about "Moonlight"? It's a triumph of storytelling and image about a man's life in Miami told in three stages. Barry Jenkins' film could easily be among the best of any year. Mahershala Ali is rightfully being singled out for his supporting performance as a drug dealer with a conscience, but he is just one part of an extraordinary cast of actors whose names you'll want to know.

5. "The Red Turtle." A gorgeous, hand-drawn, wordless fable co-produced by Studio Ghibli, "The Red Turtle" is an elegant gem about a shipwrecked man, whose impact will sneak up on you in the most devastating way. Take a pause from all the noise and give it a chance.

6. "20th Century Women." Mike Mills is better than anyone at creating those transformative environments that look and feel and seem like real life, but better. Here, he transports you to sun-soaked and anxiety-ridden Santa Barbara in 1979 where three women, a wild teen (Elle Fanning), an angry 20-something (Greta Gerwig), and a 50-something mother (Annette Bening) rally around the emotional education of a teenage boy.

7. "I Am Not Your Negro." There were a few great documentaries about the black experience in America this year, including Ava DuVernay's look at mass incarceration in "The 13th" and the overwhelmingly powerful "O.J.: Made in America," but Raoul Peck's rendering of James Baldwin's words about the lives and assassinations of Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. stands out among the others for its artful poignancy.

8. "Hail, Caesar!" "Would that it t'were so simple." No single line this year has echoed in my mind as much as Alden Ehrenreich's earnest rube Hobie Doyle trying so, so hard to please the refined Laurence Lauretnz (Ralph Fiennes, also a standout in "The Big Splash"). The Coen brothers' "Hail, Caesar!" came and went with little fanfare, but this is a slapstick lark that just gets more dizzyingly delightful with every viewing.

9. "Certain Women." Quiet and calming, "Certain Women" is a slow-cooked meditative poem about the lives of the modern frontierswoman whose beauty will leave your heart aching and warmed thanks to Laura Dern, Kristen Stewart, Michelle Williams, Lily Gladstone and the strong supporting cast. It's the best Kelly Reichardt has ever made.

10. "Sausage Party." Who knew some of the year's smartest comedy and most rebellious ideas would come from the mouth of a horny hot dog? Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg's irreverent fever dream about food and religion and culture will make you blush, laugh, wince and think. It's not for everyone, but it wouldn't be great if it was.

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REVIEW

FROM PAGE 1

maximized different priorities for the land including additional playfields, other active uses and natural park space. Officials eventually settled on a conceptual design that will be the foundation for future planning. The plans call for a 12-acre park expansion that will expand the number of fields, increase community garden plots and provide non-sport uses near the existing Airport park.

Legal disputes continued over airport operations. A group of airport users and businesses filed a complaint alleging financial misconduct by the City. The group argues City Hall is illegally diverting airport revenues away from airport uses, that leases are being unfairly enforced in a way that inappropriately favors non-aviation tenants and that pilots are subject to unreasonably high fines/fees. City Hall said the complaint was fueled by corporate greed and was an attempt to undermine residential control of the Santa Monica Airport.

Council approved a new leasing policy for the airport that uses six principles for evaluating leases, including harmony with airport neighbors, contributing to a sustainable airport fund, being in compliance with the city's legal rights and legal obligations, opportunities for arts/education/culture, providing procedures for administration/evaluation, and environmental sensitivity. The new policy follows a move by the city to provide long term leases to non-aviation businesses but offer only month-to-month leases to aviation clients. The city's leasing policy resulted in Gunnell Properties leaving Santa Monica Airport.

The leasing policy resulted in another new complaint being filed against the City as Atlantic Aviation opened a new case alleging the city is in violation of its federal mandates due to ongoing attempts to close the airport and specifically a decision to deny long-term leases to aviation tenants.

Spitfire Grill, located at the Santa Monica Airport, celebrated its 25-year anniversary. The business celebrated its longevity and dedicated customer base but expressed concern over its future given the protracted disputes over the airport at large.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) denied an appeal of an earlier decision regarding the possible closure of the airport and maintained the City is required to keep the airport open through 2023 due to the acceptance of federal grant money. National aviation associations and individuals had accused the City of violating of its agreement with the FAA by stating its obligations to the Federal Government expired in 2014.

Council passed a resolution reiterating their desire to close the airport on or before July 1, 2018. The vote made clear Council's intentions but did not address the ongoing disputes over the city's authority to implement those desires. The resolution also called for a municipal takeover of some aviation services currently provided by private businesses.

The FAA continued to argue Santa Monica is obligated to operate the airport and criticized the city for attempts to restrict use by aviation interests. The agency sent a letter outlining specific concerns over recent City actions and warning of legal action if airport operations are restricted. The FAA followed up by opening an investigation into the City's actions. In addition to citing the leasing policy and closure resolution, the FAA said the City's goal of phasing out leaded fuel sales as part of a takeover of aviation services could be discriminatory and therefore illegal.

City Hall filed its own legal action to force two companies to vacate the airport. The companies provide services to pilots that Santa Monica wants to bring in-house. The two companies had filed legal documents to prevent the city from forcing their removal but after the businesses lost in court, the city filed Unlawful Detainer actions. The FAA stepped into the dispute towards the end of the year issuing a Cease and Desist order to the City over its attempts to evict the businesses.

Another court date was set to determine who has overall authority over the airport land. A federal judge ruled against the city in a 2013 suit the City had filed against the federal government claiming federal authorities had no claim to the land. The city appealed their initial loss and a hearing was set for March of 2017.

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA INVITATION TO BID
BID # SP1973

Civil Engineering Division

1437 4th Street, Suite #300
Santa Monica, CA 90401

BID DESCRIPTION: The City of Santa Monica is inviting proposals from qualified persons or firms interested in supplying and delivering filter media to the Santa Monica Water Treatment Plant located at 1228 S. Bundy Drive, Los Angeles, California 90025.

BID DEADLINES

VENDOR QUESTIONS DUE by **January 5, 2017**

Questions regarding this bid are due to curtis.castle@smgov.net no later than 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

BIDS DUE by **January 19**, 2017

Bid closing time is 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time.

BID SUBMISSION SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES

When submitting documents to the City of Santa Monica, vendors are required to comply with the following guidelines:

- All submittals and copies shall be printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled content or tree free paper. The minimum requirements for recycled content are as follows:
  - 20 lb paper – 100% post-consumer recycled content.
  - Paper for color copier – 100% post-consumer recycled content.
  - Color bond paper, cover stock, and other miscellaneous paper – minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content.
  - Glossy paper – minimum 15% post-consumer recycled content.
- All copies shall be double sided.
- Report covers or binders shall be recyclable, made from recycled materials and easily removable to allow for recycling of the report pages.
- The use of plastic covers or dividers should be avoided.

These guidelines were developed as part of Santa Monica's Sustainable City Program to promote waste reduction and resource conservation within the community. Thank you for your cooperation.

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

break between projects — and the time was used wisely: She's a firecracker throughout the album, delivering her swag on songs that range from fun ("Work") to sultry ("Kiss It Better") to kinky ("Sex With Me.")

3. "A Seat at the Table," Solange: I want a seat at Solange's table, just to tell her thank you: Her new album — and guys, she's been making grand music for ages — is a cohesive, deep and raw look into the soul of an artistic woman navigating in life. She brings interludes back to the album format — something absent for a while — to tell stories that push you to think.

4. "24K Magic," Bruno Mars: Bruno Mars is easily the most unique and talented pop star on Earth: His new album, a '90s-inspired R&B adventure, proves that while he was a party boy on "Uptown Funk," he is THE party boy on "24K Magic."

5. "Illuminate," Shawn Mendes: It's good that Shawn Mendes is a teen heartthrob, because young girls are finally falling in love with a real musician. The 18-year-old takes it to a new level on his second album, coming off as a bona fide rock star. His guitar playing has advanced, his songwriting has matured and his vocals are crisp: This kid's the real deal.

6. "Coloring Book," Chance the Rapper: Kudos to Chance the Rapper, 23, for not signing with a major label and releasing his brilliant music independently and finding success as a major force in music. While labels are helpful, Chance has everything he needs: He's a talented rapper who marches to the beat of his whole drum, with the youth right behind him.

7. "Hero," Maren Morris: Maren Morris is a spectacular country singer who blends multiple genres on her major debut album, offering a fresh sound with songs as layered as "My Church," as playful as "Rich" and as soft as "I Could Use a Love Song." There's not a bad tune on "Hero."

8. "Malibu," Anderson .Paak: Anderson .Paak's "Malibu" is full of mellow, hip-hop soul songs that can put you in a relaxed mood.

9. "Joanne," Lady Gaga: Can you please let Lady Gaga live? While she is one of the decade's most successful pop stars, at times, she is underrated. But on "Joanne," she ditches the sound that made her famous and further proves she's not basic. She's a boss.

10. "Mind of Mine," Zayn: In One Direction, Zayn was a boy; on his solo album, he's a grown man — brilliantly weaving R&B, soul, pop and other genres together to make one of the year's best.

AP'S TOP SONGS OF 2016: SOLANGE, REMY MA, RAE SREMMURD

1. "Cranes In the Sky," Solange: On a song about trying to move on, Solange tries a few things to get on with life: drinking, having sex, shopping and running away. It's an honest tune over a mid-tempo beat produced with the help of a musical genius named Raphael Saadiq. And Solange's vocals glide nicely over the track, ending it with memorable coos, and making it the year's best.

2. "Mercy," Shawn Mendes: In 2014, there was Ed Sheeran's "Thinking Out Loud." Last year, we had James Bay's slow burner "Let It Go." This year, it's all about Shawn Mendes' "Mercy," the aching, heartfelt and emotional rock track.

3. "All the Way Up," Fat Joe and Remy Ma featuring French Montana and Infared: Everyone wants Remy Ma to win after she returned to music following her 2014 release from prison. And she's definitely winning with the year's best club track.

4. "Hold Up," Beyonce: Don't we all want to Beyonce in the yellow dress, swinging her bat in the music video for "Hold Up"?

5. "Love on the Brain," Rihanna: Rihanna's live performance of old-school R&B track "Love on the Brain" reminds you that HOMEGIRL CAN SING.

6. "My Church," Maren Morris: Maren Morris is refreshing beyond words. Period.

7. "Breathe," India.Arie: This songbird's soft and acoustic song about the current troubles of the world makes the hard times just a little easier to deal with, thanks to India.Arie's voice and that guitar.

8. "Black Beatles," Rae Sremmurd featuring Gucci Mane: OK, what's not to love about this track?

9. "Chantaje," Shakira featuring Maluma: We all know Shakira's hips don't lie, but neither does her voice: "Chantaje," which means "Blackmail," is a sexy, beat-laden Spanish track that features rising singer Maluma and has us anticipating the Colombian queen's new album.

10. "#1 Spice," Young Cardamom and HAB: While Disney's "Queen of Katwe" is worth watching because of acting by Lupita Nyong'o, David Oyelowo and newcomer Madina Nalwanga, the real star of the film is the fun and upbeat song "#1 Spice," by performers Young Cardamom and HAB.

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LIST

FROM PAGE 2

chances and fresh starts, in intertwining stories told amidst the pulse and promise of New York City on the most dazzling night of the year. (113min). Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 – 8 p.m.

Tech & U: Build Your Digital Armor at Main

Computer gamers will learn how to make smart decisions that keep you safe and protect your privacy. Ages 6-10. Registration begins December 5, 2016. Call the Youth Services department at (310) 458-8261 or come by! Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 – 3 p.m.

Wednesday, January 4

Planning Commission Meeting

Meeting of the Santa Monica Planning Commission. City Hall 1685 Main St., 7 p.m.

Tech & U: Create Your Best Digital Self at Main

Create your own avatar and explore your online identity, including ways to be totally awesome with yourself and others online. Ages 6-10. Register by calling the Youth Services department at (310) 458-8261 or stop by. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 – 3 p.m.

Ocean Park Preschool Explorers: Dinosaurs

Explore a new science topic each month with stories and hands-on activities. Best for ages 3-5. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 10 – 10:45 a.m.

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BOOKS

FROM PAGE 1

Trump was a longshot for the White House, despite early leads in the polls against his GOP primary rivals, and Roger Ailes was the enduring leader of Fox News. By the time the book was released in mid-November, Ailes had been forced out amid numerous allegations of sexual harassment and Trump was the president-elect. Kelly had plenty of news about both. She alleged that Ailes had made unwanted sexual advances on her early in her career and that Trump, who consulted with Ailes during his campaign, had tried to intimidate her even before she confronted him during a Republican debate in 2015 about his comments about women. Kelly was subjected to prolonged and highly personal attacks from Trump and wrote that she received death threats from his supporters.

Sinclair Lewis, "It Can't Happen Here," and Philip Roth, "The Plot Against America": Trump's campaign inspired some readers to seek answers in the past, not just from history, but from dystopian fiction.

Lewis' warning about the fragility of democracy was written in the mid-1930s, when Nazis were on the rise in Europe and populist demagogues such as Huey Long of Louisiana were seen as challengers to the re-election of President Franklin Roosevelt. In "It Can't Happen Here," Lewis imagined the frightening rise of Sen. Berzelius "Buzz" Windrip, whose defense of "The Forgotten Man" and attacks on Mexicans and the media gave the novel renewed relevance in 2016.

Roth's book, published in 2004, was set in the author's native Newark, New Jersey, in the early 1940s. The premise: An authoritarian government under President Charles Lindbergh, the aviator hero who later became an open anti-Semite and an "America First" advocate, who believed the country should stay out of World War II and not fight the Nazis. Wrote Roth: "Americans everywhere went about declaiming, No war, no young men fighting and dying ever again! Lindbergh can deal with Hitler, they said, Hitler respects him because he's Lindbergh."

The United States Constitution: For the book world at least, the most eventful speech at the Democratic National Convention was not given by the nominee, Hillary Rodham Clinton, but by the father of an American soldier killed in 2004 during the Iraq War. An emotional Khizr Khan denounced Trump's negative comments about Muslims, held up a copy of the Constitution and questioned whether Trump had read it. The candidate responded with a wave of angry tweets, while readers made an 18th century, public domain text a best-seller. Ironically, the edition topping the lists on Amazon.com and elsewhere was not the one used by Khan, but a pocket-sized publication from the right-wing National Center for Constitutional Studies.

Donald Trump, "The Art of the Deal": Published in 1987, it's the first book by Trump, the one that helped make him a national celebrity and the one the candidate never tires of mentioning. His repeated boasts that "Art of the Deal" is the all-time business best-seller have been widely disputed, but the book is a million seller and it spent a good deal of the year high on the charts of Amazon. "Art of the Deal" reached new readers despite a notable disclaimer from ghostwriter Tony Schwartz, who renounced the work and said if he were writing it now he would call it "The Sociopath."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Now is a good time to wake up

Editor:

Not long ago, a truck drove into a Christmas market in Berlin, killing 12 people. It was all over the news. Then, on Christmas Day, an attack at a market in Cameroon, Africa killed 2 people. No one heard about it. So what makes an attack in Berlin more news worthy than the attack in Cameroon? I certainly don't have the answer to that and you probably don't either. But, it does makes me think about the global poverty crisis; about the people suffering in the developing world who have fallen off the radar too.

Everyone knows that Carrie Fisher just had a heart-attack while traveling over the holidays. We even know how many times the D-list celebrities on the United flight next to her tweeted about the incident. But how many people know about the global poverty crisis? How many people know that over 2.5 billion people, almost half the world's population, currently live on less than $2.50 per day? How many people know that in Pakistan, only 17.8 per cent of the population can use the internet? Or that 3.5 million refugee children do not have the option to attend a school.

I used to care more about the "Carrie Fishers" of the world too. Way more than about the 795 million people living without enough food. But then, I woke up.

I first learned about the Borgen Project when I applied to be an intern, a writer for their online magazine. But within weeks of starting my internship I became much more. I became a supporter. A few weeks later and I became even more than that. I became an advocate.

Now, I'm urging others to do the same. To acknowledge the terrifying statistics and make a commitment to help those in need.

The Borgen Project promotes innovations in poverty reduction by building awareness to the facts, and to some of the ways we've already seen succeed. Essentially, they are an ally for the world's poor.

You see, there's nothing too complicated about improving living conditions for the billions suffering world-wide. The Borgen Project understands this, and beyond spreading awareness, they work with U.S. Congress to foster more permanent change.

Listen, I love Star Wars too, and Princess Leia is super cool. But it's sickening that 47,000 people take the time to re-tweet about Carrie Fisher's health, and ignore the billions of people living in poverty in our world today. Please help those suffering not get lost in the crowd. Cultivate some compassion and take the time to make a difference. Who knows, you might even make yourself stand out a little during the process. At the very least, follow @borgenproject and @borgenmagazine and re-tweet their posts along with your essential celebrity news of the day. And while you're at it, google "Cameroon Christmas Market," and take a moment to remember the lives we lost there too.

Ashley Henyan
West Los Angeles Resident





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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **69.3°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Minor WNW swell continues. Deep AM high tide. .

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** knee to thigh high
Modest WNW swell mix. Deep AM high tide.

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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 25 AT ABOUT 8:58 A.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at the Living Torah Center – 1130 Wilshire Blvd regarding a vandalism. Officers responded and discovered feces and food smeared about a window and front door of the location. There was no evidence indicating the incident was anti-semitic in nature.

At this point there is no suspect information and officers are uncertain of the motives of the suspect. Officers will be conducting periodic checks of the location and working closely with the synagogue.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 276 calls for service on Dec. 26.

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

Periodic check 1400 block of 2nd 12:33 a.m.
Theft of recyclables 1400 block of 17th 2:26 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 1600 block of Wilshire 3:02 a.m.
Pedestrian stop 11th/ Wilshire 4:15 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 600 block of 25th 4:16 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1400 block of Santa Monica 5:04 a.m.
Loitering 600 block of Wilshire 6:27 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 7:40 a.m.
Fight 4th/ Colorado 8:42 a.m.
Encampment 400 block of Colorado 9:01 a.m.
Auto burglary Lincoln/ Arizona 10:32 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 1500 block of 26th 10:41 a.m.
Drinking in public 300 block of Pico 11:40 a.m.
Traffic stop 2500 block of Pico 11:44 a.m.
Critical missing person 500 block of Santa Monica Pier 12:42 p.m.
Medical emergency 400 block of Santa Monica Pier 12:46 p.m.
Traffic collision Ocean/ Broadway 1:08 p.m.
Traffic miscellaneous report 200 block of San Vicente 1:13 p.m.
Fire Cloverfield/ Olympic 2:18 p.m.
Battery 4th/ Santa Monica 2:37 p.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 1900 block of Euclid 2:37 p.m.
Mark and tag abandoned vehicle 1800 block of Euclid 2:56 p.m.
Death investigation 1400 block of PCH 3:08 p.m.
Traffic hazard 300 block of Santa Monica 3:15 p.m.
Traffic stop 1400 block of 2nd 4:42 p.m.
Public intoxication 2500 block of Main 5:45 p.m.
Audible burglar alarm 3000 block of 16th 6:08 p.m.
Fight 1600 block of Ocean 6:09 p.m.
Traffic collision 1300 block of Princeton 6:11 p.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln/ California 6:24 p.m.
Fight 1000 block of 6th 6:28 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 1600 block of Montana 6:34 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 2200 block of Colorado 6:43 p.m.
Trespassing 1300 block of 6th 7:22 p.m.
Traffic collision 9th/ Wilshire 8:18 p.m.
Critical missing person 2700 block of Washington 8:27 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block of 4th 8:52 p.m.
Public intoxication 2900 block of Pico 9:01 p.m.
Trespassing 1400 block of 5th 9:22 p.m.
Traffic stop 12th/ Wilshire 9:23 p.m.
Disturbance at a business 800 block of Wilshire 10:08 p.m.
Status check 23rd/ Pico 10:36 p.m.
Suspicious person 400 block of Ocean 11:24 p.m.
Burglary report 100 block of Colorado 11:36 p.m.
Petty theft 1900 block of Pico 11:38 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 34 calls for service on Dec.26.

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

EMS 1100 block of 19th 2:31 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of Ocean 3:45 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Cedar 9:45 a.m.
EMS 400 block of 14th 10:27 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1700 block of Euclid 10:53 a.m.
EMS 800 block of Ocean 10:56 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 6th 10:57 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Pico 11:10 a.m.
Elevator rescue 1400 block of 2nd 11:34 a.m.
EMS 1800 block of Cloverfield 11:48 a.m.
EMS 700 block of Raymond 11:49 a.m.
Odor of natural gas 900 block of Idaho 1:40 p.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire Cloverfield/ Delaware 2:18 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of PCH 3:20 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 3rd 4:22 p.m.
EMS 600 block of Santa Monica 4:30 p.m.
EMS 900 block of 17th 4:35 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Ocean 5:04 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block of Montana 6:06 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 6:10 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of Princeton 6:13 p.m.
EMS Lincoln/ California 6:25 p.m.
EMS 5th/ Colorado 7:04 p.m.
EMS 2600 block of 33rd 7:56 p.m.
EMS 9th/ Wilshire 8:19 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Arizona 8:35 p.m.
EMS 2900 block of Pico 8:51 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 9:20 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 14th 9:53 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 9:55 p.m.
EMS 2900 block of Exposition 9:56 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Euclid 10:36 p.m.



WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Medical History

■ This week in 2001, the first person in the world to receive a fully self-contained artificial heart, died in Louisville, Ky. Fifty-nine-year-old Robert Tools had received an AbioCor heart implant 151 days earlier at Jewish Hospital in Louisville, KY. Doctors said Tools' death was not caused by problems with the AbioCor heart device, but severe abdominal bleeding caused by long-standing health problems.

Self-Exam

■ True or False: Your thumb is roughly the same length as your nose.

ANSWER: TRUE.

(GO AHEAD AND CHECK.)

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

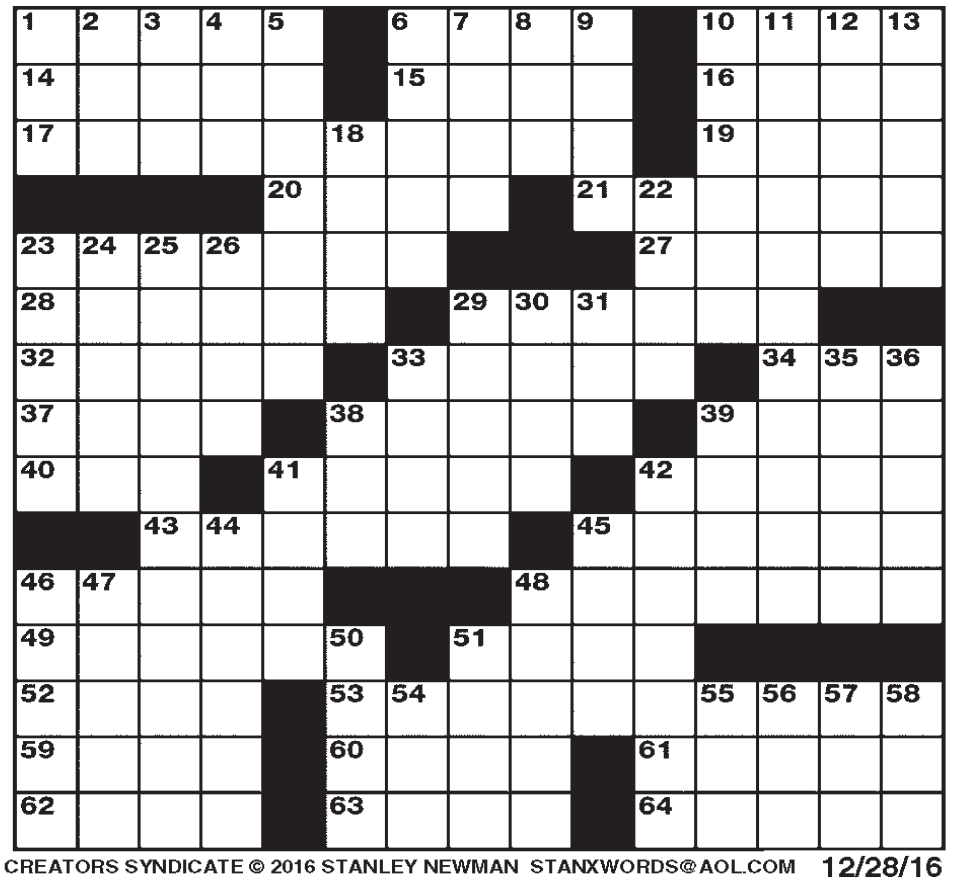
ROUNDUP by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Part of Miss Muffet's meal
6 Faces the pitcher
10 Sausage ingredient
14 Ahead by a point
15 Cannonballs, for short
16 Actor Alda
17 Drive briefly
19 Starch in sushi
20 Currier's partner
21 Sandbox scooper
23 Placed in a schedule
27 On one's toes
28 More fashionable
29 Rip to shreds
32 Blissful places
33 The Louvre's locale
34 Alphabetizer's omission
37 Quiche-like
38 Old saying
39 Graceful waterbird
40 Zodiac feline
41 Made public
42 Circus clown's prop
43 Made the first bet
45 Muss, as hair
46 Guys, so to speak
48 Noisy piglet
49 Fancy home
51 Hit with a palm
52 See 58 Down
53 Weightlifter's exercise
59 Folklore fiend
60 Auth. unknown
61 Certain navel
62 See after
63 Betray boredom
64 Can't do without

DOWN

1 Gear tooth
2 Numero __ (first-rate)
3 Penalty caller
4 Small singing group
5 Elves and pixies
6 Headquartered
7 Rock guitarists' plug-ins
8 Texter's "I've heard enough!"
9 Steinway & __ (piano company)
10 Conditional release
11 Dickens lad
12 Indy participant
13 Prepared to be knighted
18 Assert as fact
22 Fezzes and fedoras
23 Girder material
24 Elks' meeting place
25 Initial favor, in a saying
26 With 31 Down, Dickens lad
29 Placed a levy on
30 Dry as dust
31 See 26 Down
33 Remove the peel from
35 Oscar actress Berry
36 Step inside
38 Guy
39 Bowl over
41 Top-ranked
42 "Time to eat!"
44 Rang loudly
45 Melodrama predicament
46 Bus station
47 Common practice
48 First American in orbit
50 Online bidding center
51 Trash hauler
54 __ manner of speaking
55 Stage signal
56 Beehive State collegian
57 Get __ of (discard)
58 With 52 Across, electric-guitar pioneer



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2016 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/28/16

CITY
FROM PAGE 3

One of the strongest songs from Rodgers and Hammerstein,

You've Got to Be Taught,

Prejudging is the name of the game so many household's play.

Play rummi kub instead.

Play solitaire, don't be influenced by peers.

One minute to midnight but people don't know if the year

will leave us dangling from some threshold .

History said, look at me with your eyes aflame.

Burn my pain in your memory.

Walk into the libraries and kiss all the spines.

The Earth is spinning whether people stay on it or not.

What if Earth falls in the forest and nobody is there to hear it.

The last person on Earth will carry a pencil.

That is why Earth has survived this long.

My friend Hook Herrera is one helluva harp master, blues thank you, and a man harboring righteous anger who speaks his truth without compromise.

His DNA prints out Mexican,Tarahumara, Ohione and Sicilian. I consider this poetry.

my brown skinned answer to the poor privileged posting about alt right and nazis and antisemitism.....

shit. we been under siege since before i was born. only difference now is the internet. nazis cowboys rednecks nuns priests politicians cops. if you're surprised it just shows you been in a privilege bubble all your life. good luck and carry a big stick. -- c/s

OOPS

Rarely do I have to make a correction. I think this may be the first time. In my life. (Ha! Ask my family.) But in writing about Judith Owen and Harry Shearer's Christmas show recently, I got a name wrong.

"Amy Heckerling went [15 minutes] with a dark, comedically precarious obsession with the movie 'Castaway,' and I think that was my favorite of all the great acts."

It was, rather, comedian-writer-actor Rebecca Corry. I'd love to see her full act, if that bit was any indication. The introductions that night went by quickly and I only recognized some by face. I looked up photos of Heckerling and thought, yeah, that must be her only with shorter hair. Wrong. Sorry, Rebecca, and Amy.

I also mentioned the killer musical act of the night, piano pounding blues shouter Doña Oxford. Turns out she played in Burbank a few days later, opening for the amazing guitar master Dick Dale. What a performer, and he's six months shy of 80. (Looks just like a heavier, older version of local architect and writer Bob Taylor, but Bob doesn't lecture a captive audience with his natural cures miracles, patriotism and his wife's native American heritage. On the other hand, Bob can't play a lick of guitar.) Oxford rocked the room for more than an hour, and has a new live CD out.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: When are citizens speaking before our City Council going to be always given even-handed treatment and respect?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Th newspaper does ivrything f'r us. It … comforts th' afflicted, afflicts th' comfortable…" -- philosophical barkeep Mr. Dooley, creation of humorist Finley Peter Dunne

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 28)

Your cosmic gift is confidence. Your voice gets stronger, your movements sharper; you know yourself better than ever. Your self-assurance will make others certain about you, too. You'll seal a deal through an educational or familial network. April and September will be your best financial months. Scorpio and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 20, 8, 45 and 12.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You're becoming more intentional in these last days of the year. You'll measure the things that matter to you. Time is your greatest resource. A little self-discipline is all that's needed to work the clock in your favor.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Come from a place of curiosity. You can afford it. Relax and think of a different question you could be asking. If nothing comes to you, escape to new environs and see if that doesn't inspire a new mindset.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
What was a chore to learn is becoming increasingly exciting to know, now that you understand it better. Keep seeking knowledge. You'll soon meet people who share your enthusiasm for the subject.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You can't control other people, so you focus on you. This will be positive as long as you realize that there's really nothing to fix about yourself, just something to accept.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You'll have some fun as you take on a challenge with a small team. New people in the group will highlight different characteristics of your loved ones, giving you a new angle to appreciate them from.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Whatever happened before, leave it in the land of before. Future-you is still to be determined. You're the determiner. You will be what you make of yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Everyone has felt the sting of exclusion and rejection -- hard but a kind of rite of passage for humans. If you can soften it for someone you will. Laughing about the past, or holding hands in the present -- that's you now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Do you ever go on social media and find yourself being quite mean about it? You wouldn't leave bad comments, but you might think them. There's something cathartic in the thought process, and as long as you don't act on it, you're golden.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
How well should they understand you? This is the question of the day. You have surprises and mysteries inside you. How much do you really want to communicate now?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Is this person difficult to get to know? You'll have to work harder to crack the code, that's all. Only you can determine if it's really worthwhile, although the challenge in and of itself will probably be enough for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Because you are such a fantastic listener you will understand even those who have difficulty communicating. You will find a way to help them and perhaps make an accidental profit, too.

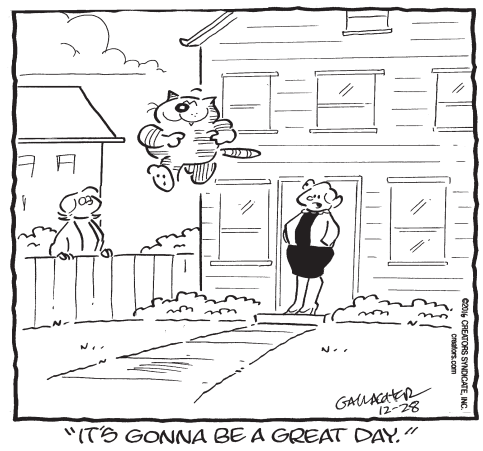
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your affection toward those you love cannot be masked. Others are secretly envious of the attention you lavish on your nearest and dearest, and today they may make a play for your interest.

Capricorn New Moon

The new moon in Capricorn is an opportunity to begin a rise to power. Capricorn is the sign of structures, authority, building and leadership. On this dark night, decide which part of your life needs greater control and discipline, and commit to working on it for the next four weeks. Resolve to cross into the new year already in motion to your goals.

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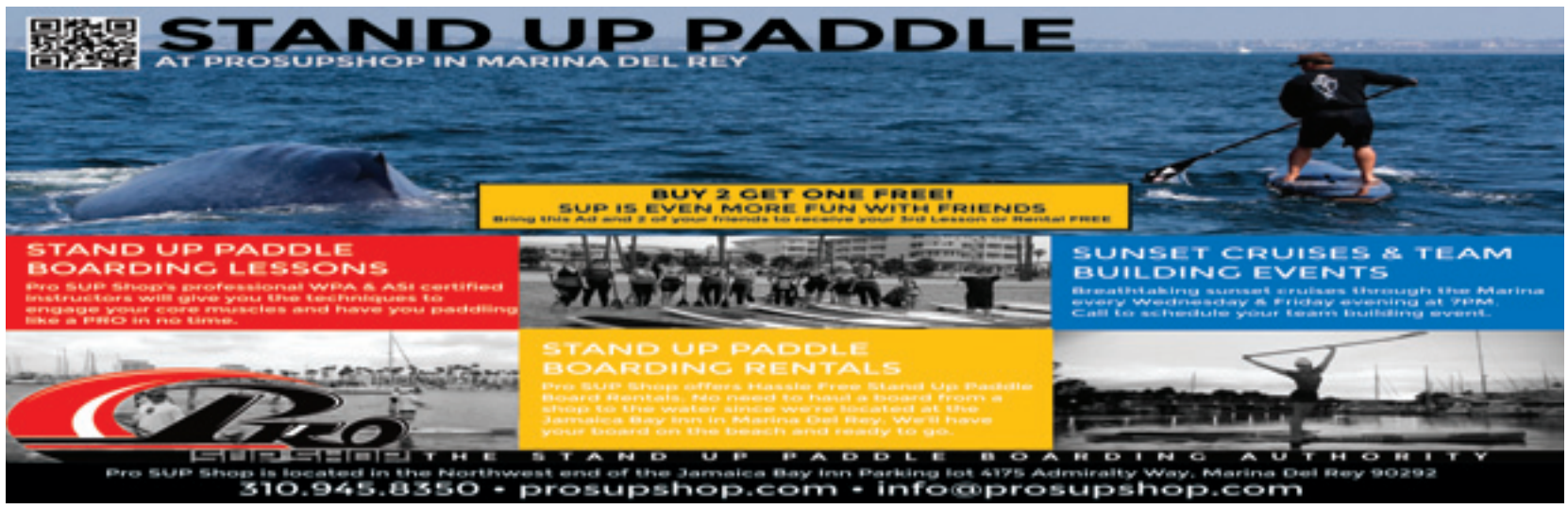
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