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Breathing New Life into an Old Classic

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Two concert grand pianos bookend the keyboard console of the 1925 Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ on stage at Old Town Music Hall. Photos by: DonHoltz.com

Inset: Advisory Board: (Left to Right) Lara Scott, Kimberly Lee, Bill Field (seated), James Moll, Amanda Toney, Rich Botto, Tracey La Monica, Robert Chambers Pullman (Lily Craig not pictured)

A South Bay Gem: Old Town Music Hall

By Brian Simon

A group of devotees have banded together to inject some new life into Old Town Music Hall, located in El Segundo, and increase patronage in the process. Open since 1968 on Richmond Street, the theater recently suffered through some down years thanks to a sluggish economy and continued lack of awareness about the cultural landmark that remains the only Southland venue featuring regularly scheduled silent film classics with live organ accompaniment as well as piano and full band concerts showcasing popular American music from the early decades of the 20th Century.

But a turnaround may be in the works for the venerable hall, thanks to the efforts of an eight-member advisory board formed this past January that has launched a social media campaign, revamped the theater's website, and coordinated several cosmetic upgrades to the building. Though business is not quite booming yet, there are already noticeable improvements. "Every week, there are some new faces coming in and quite a few younger people," said advisory board member and founder James Moll. "We are doing outreach through Facebook, Twitter and the new website to reach a whole new generation of people...and it's working."

Moll, who grew up in Hawthorne, is an Oscar, Grammy and Emmy award-winning filmmaker with a long personal history at Old Town Music Hall. His mother and stepfather met there in the early '70s and after marrying began to take the then-12-year-old to the venue on a regular basis. Already studying piano at the time, the young Moll learned how to play ragtime from the theater's late co-founder Bill Coffman. "I worked there on and off throughout high school and college, but wasn't able to get over there much in

recent years because of my career," said Moll. "Then last December, my stepfather said it would be nice to visit [co-founder] Bill Field, as attendance was down and he [stepfather] wondered how long the place would survive."

Field has run the theater mostly by himself since Coffman's death in 2001, playing the renowned Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ week after week while also choosing and arranging the film showings and putting out the schedules. Though still in decent condition, the place definitely needed a few fixes. "There were things that weren't operating properly—the drapes weren't working for many months," said Moll, who offered his assistance as a volunteer after the visit last year. The advisory board then came about through happenstance. "Strangely enough over those first few months, I met a group of people all in completely coincidental ways who are now part of our advisory board. For instance, a few months back, a young woman was frantically knocking on the front door because she had her parents with her who were visiting for just a few hours and really wanted to see the theater. So I brought them in and played piano for them. I mentioned we were working on the drapes and the woman said she worked for a drapery company!"

In addition to the new drapes, the board is garnering donations for new signage and lighting, seat recovering and an updated projection system, with plans to improve the audio as well. Remarkably, the theater's cornerstone—the Wurlitzer—is still in tip-top shape and sounds as it did when it was built in 1925. Field and Coffman acquired the instrument in 1959, eventually housing permanently it in its current location nine years later.

The theater's now higher profile has begun to pay dividends, with area media outlets suddenly taking notice of the venue. A blurb last month on CBSLA.com about inexpensive options in Los Angeles mentions the offering of "three hours of entertainment, fun and a trip down memory lane—all for \$10." CBS News is also reportedly planning a feature story on Old Town Music Hall to air during the May sweeps, according to advisory board member and long-time Chevron employee Lily Craig. "While I was there the other weekend to see the movie *Gilda*, I noticed a young man and a very distinguished gentleman shooting footage," she said. "Turns out it was a CBS News producer who was there to shoot 'a few things to do' kind of feature. However, he fell so in love with the place, he told Bill [Field] he now plans on making it more of a feature story. I can't wait to see it!"

Craig is the only El Segundo resident on the advisory board and noted she was honored to join after being approached by Moll. "This group of folks have a lot of energy and passion about our little El Segundo gem and have come together to help Bill give the theater some new life," she said. "I can't even begin to describe the feeling one has sitting in that theater singing along to some cool old tunes, watching a silent movie while Bill plays the Wurlitzer organ—actually forgetting that you are watching a silent movie—and then watching a classic movie. I was smiling the whole time, sitting there imagining what it must have been like back in the day. One of the surprises for me personally was that I did not realize that there were concerts taking place there as well as movies *with* sound! That's how little I knew. I felt bad about that, having lived and worked here for so many years, but I just did not know--or

See Music Hall, page 4

Weekend Forecast

Friday

AM Clouds/
PM Sun
68°/62°



Saturday

Mostly
Cloudy
70°/64°



Sunday

Mostly
Cloudy
71°/64°



Police Reports

MAY 23-28

Residential Burglary: 2400 Block of Elm Ave. Unknown suspect(s) forced open the kitchen window to enter the residence. The suspect(s) ransacked the location and took a television, alcohol and a laptop.

MAY 26-27

Theft: 700 Block of 33rd St. Unknown suspect(s) removed a portion of a copper gutter, which was located along the wall at the rear of the residence.

MAY 25-27

Vehicle Burglary: 1000 Block of N. Highland Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered a vehicle, which was parked in the carport of an apartment building. The vehicle was ransacked and a laptop and thumb drive were taken. No signs of forced entry.

MAY 25

Disturbing the Peace: 1800 Block of Rosecrans Ave. During an altercation over parking, a subject stopped his car very close to the victim's vehicle and got out. The subject walked over to the driver's side and hit the door with his fist, causing a dent. The subject was arrested for vandalism.

Burglary: 1500 Block of N. Redondo Ave. Unknown suspect(s) smashed the rear driver's side window to enter the vehicle and took a purse that was left in the back seat.

MAY 24-26

Burglary: 2700 Block of Elm Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unattached garage and stole a laptop and printer. No signs of forced entry.

MAY 24

Battery: 200 Block of 3rd St. A couple was observed arguing in a vehicle on Highland Ave. at 3rd St. It was discovered the male subject had struck his girlfriend on the cheek. He was subsequently arrested for battery.

MAY 22-23

Vandalism: 2900 Block of N. Ardmore Ave. Unknown suspect(s) scratched the rear passenger side door with a sharp object.

MAY 22

Vandalism: 2900 Block of N. Ardmore Ave. Unknown suspect(s) scratched the rear passenger side door with a sharp object.

MAY 17-22

Residential Burglary: 400 Block of N. Meadows Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered the residence through a sliding glass window and ransacked the master bedroom. No loss reported at this time. No signs of forced entry.

Residential Burglary: 500 Block of

N. Poinsettia Ave. Unknown suspect(s) smashed the rear second level door to enter the residence. The location was unoccupied and empty at the time of the crime. No loss reported.

MAY 20-21

Vehicle Burglary: 500 Block of Rosecrans Ave. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the rear door lock to gain entry to the van and stole multiple tools.

MAY 20

Residential Burglary: 1100 Block of Magnolia Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered the attached garage through an unlocked door and stole household appliances.

MAY 18

Theft: 100 Block of 33rd St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway and stole a wallet, credit cards, DL, Blackberry, and a bag of quarters (\$90).

MAY 16-17

Theft: 2800 Block of N. Poinsettia Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle and took a cardboard box containing various items.

Stolen Vehicle: Ardmore Ave. / Manhattan Beach Blvd. Unknown suspect(s) stole a black, 2004, BMW 530i, 4-D, which was parked on the street.

Stolen Vehicle: 2200 Block of Agnes. Unknown suspect(s) stole a silver, 2003, Toyota Matrix, 4-D, which was parked in front of the residence.

MAY 16

Attempted Residential Burglary: 1700 Block of Voorhees Ave. A former roommate of the victim attempted to gain entry into the residence by force and fear. After several failed attempts to enter via the front door, the suspect went to the backyard and punched the glass window. The subject was arrested for criminal threats, trespassing, and attempted residential burglary.

MAY 14

Theft: 800 Block of 9th St. Unknown suspect stole a catalytic converter from a vehicle, which was parked on the street.

MAY 13-14

Stolen Vehicle: 1200 Block of Lyngrove. Unknown suspect(s) stole a 1998 Infiniti I30, white, 4-D, which was parked on the street.

MAY 12-13

Theft: 1700 Block of 23rd St. Unknown suspect(s) removed the tailgate from a

See Police Reports, page 6

Calendar

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

• Bach's Lunch Recital: Guillaume Sutare violin, Kyung-Hee Kim-Sutare harp, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1340 Eleventh St.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

• Free symposium- "Beginning the Conversation" Planning for the Care of an Older Loved One, 1-2:30 p.m. (doors open at 12:30 p.m.), Journey of Faith Church, 1243 Artesia Blvd. For more information call (310) 370-0555.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

• Ceora Winds, 2 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1340 Eleventh St.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

• Father's Day Beach Volleyball

Tournament, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Manhattan Beach Pier - South Side, 100 Manhattan Beach Blvd. For more information call (310) 802-5448.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

• Concerts in the Park: Hyperion Outfall Serenaders, 5-7 p.m., Polliwog Park Amphitheater, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd.

UPCOMING

• Free Shakespeare by the Sea: King John, July 12, 7 p.m., Polliwog Park Amphitheater, 1601 Manhattan Beach Boulevard

ONGOING

• Art Exhibition; Light Knots, May 23-June 29, Manhattan Beach Art Center, 1560 Manhattan Beach Blvd. For more information call (310) 798-4904.

Seniors

Boomers Turning 65 Face Complex Healthcare Choices

(BPT) - Every day, about 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 and become eligible for Medicare. Not everyone will sign up, but it's important to understand the importance of early choices when enrolling in Medicare for the first time.

You can enroll in Medicare three months before turning 65, the month you turn 65 or up to three months afterward.

"Turning 65 opens the door to Medicare eligibility, but it brings with it some complex choices," says Paula Muschler, manager of the Allsup Medicare Advisor, a personalized Medicare plan selection service.

"Choices seniors make at this time can impact their healthcare costs over the long term and their entire family."

Muschler offers the following key steps for Medicare first-timers.

1. Take a look at your existing group health plan coverage and think about how it will coordinate with Medicare. Many people work past age 65. As a result, Medicare-eligible individuals who have health coverage through their employer or their spouse's employer may be able to wait to enroll in Medicare Part B, which covers outpatient medical care. This is not true in every case, however. This option depends on other factors, such as the size of the employer and how soon you expect to retire after reaching 65. You may want to consider enrolling in Medicare Part A, which includes hospital coverage, even if you defer Part B.

2. Consider the options for first-time enrollment, keeping in mind your current health needs and financial resources. If you choose traditional Medicare, you have an average of 31 Medicare Part D prescription drug plans from which to choose. You can also choose from 10 standard Medigap policies for supplemental coverage, ranging from basic to comprehensive coverage. The price for these plans also can differ from one company to the next.

Adding to the complexity, Medigap plans are not required to accept you after your initial enrollment period. This is one reason first-time choices are crucial. Seniors evaluating Medicare Advantage plans over traditional Medicare also have an array of options - an average of 20 plans, depending on where you live.

3. Follow Medicare enrollment rules to avoid costly mistakes. Penalties are in place

for decisions related to Part B and Part D coverage. The late-enrollment penalty is 10 percent for each full 12-month period you could have been enrolled in Part B. Likewise, Part D imposes a penalty if you go for more than 63

days without coverage after enrolling in Part B.

"Your first-time Medicare plan choices also are more complicated if you have retirement dates, COBRA coverage or dependent coverage to

consider," Muschler says. "These are good reasons to contact a Medicare specialist, who can help answer the right questions and provide guidance to seniors so they make choices that match their situations."

4. Understand how higher income and changes in your income affect Medicare costs. Higher-income beneficiaries pay higher premiums for Medicare Part B and prescription drug coverage. For Part B, the 2013 monthly premium is \$104.90 for joint filers with income of \$170,000 or below (\$85,000 for single filers). However, the premium increases to between \$146.90 and \$335.70 for those with incomes above these thresholds. Likewise, higher-income beneficiaries can expect to pay from \$11.60 to \$66.40 more each month in prescription drug premiums.

The Social Security Administration uses IRS records when determining premiums. Social Security may reduce an individual's income-related monthly premium with verification. "Social Security has specific requirements about how you can document changes in your income when you are requesting reduced Medicare premiums," Muschler explains.

5. Review healthcare coverage for your spouse and dependents to determine how your choices may affect their coverage. If you are nearing Medicare eligibility, you can find yourself at a crossroads when it comes to providing healthcare for your entire family.

Some employers may continue to provide coverage to a worker's family, or you may need to purchase COBRA coverage or private coverage for family members. "One early step is to talk with your benefits plan administrator to see what options you may have and then plan for your family," Muschler says.

Seniors turning 65 have seven months during their initial enrollment period to make critical decisions. But you can begin evaluating your options earlier to be better prepared. •



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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

We've reached a milestone! Thanks to the graciousness of *Herald Publications*, we've completed the first 200 episodes of that never-ending drama "The Reign of Obama." It's a story that never seems to end, but needs to be told over and over again because no one should lose track of the significance of his presidency.

Until his election, I had never written a column before and had quietly slumbered into my retirement from "real work." I had never suspected that a president could so disrespect the Constitution and the law. To this point, government had acted as a referee of private sector conduct because

"But one day in 2009, the President crossed a wide, bright, red line separating the public sector from the private sector."

greedy men might bend the law to suit their needs. But one day in 2009, the President crossed a wide, bright, red line separating the public sector from the private sector. The President of the United States had used his power to seize ownership of one of the iconic names in American business, General Motors! He used the bankruptcy courts to scrub out the interests of stockholders and bondholders; installed his own management team; dismissed hundreds of small businesses acting as GM dealerships; and handed 17 percent of the company ownership to its unions. The government, in a coup, moved from being a referee in the game to being a major player. Imagine if the NFL had bought the San Francisco 49ers and challenged the other teams in the league to compete against the league's own team! Silently, businesses observed and reduced domestic employment.

And so Obama woke me from my slumber and I began the first of now 200 columns. As time went on, each day brought a gasp that the country had never operated this way before. In the modern era, prior presidents had respected the Constitution role of Congress, issuing only 126 presidential edicts. By contrast, Obama, with no respect for Congress, bypassed that body 926 times!

Before the passage of the Affordable Care Act, 80 percent of Americans carried health insurance and 75 percent were satisfied with their plan. But Obama knew better than his constituents, so he had Democrats use the most distasteful tactics this side of Tammany Hall to pass Obamacare. This originally 2,700-page monster has morphed into a 15,000 page litany of rules, regulations, bureaucracies and confusions that will affect every American. Like anything that size, it has some good and some bad points, but no one knows how the bill will affect them. One bill sponsor

now calls implementation of the bill a "train wreck" and therefore vowed not to run for reelection. Another sponsor has called the bill "incomprehensible."

The bill has never received public support, so it is not surprising the latest Fox News poll shows people oppose the bill by 54-32- a whopping 22-point loser.

These were the major stories of the first Obama years, but throughout the theme has been irresponsible spending and debt growth. The national debt under Obama has exploded from \$10.6 trillion to \$16.8 trillion, but will grow to \$23 trillion by 2023 under his plan.

We are told this is an economy in recovery, but the economy is growing only at the rate

of inflation. As the "spreadin' the wealth around" president, he hasn't been so hot. The Pew Research Center, quoting statistics from the Census Bureau, says that since 2009, the net worth of the richest seven percent grew by 28 percent, but the worth of the remaining 93 percent fell by an average of four percent...and under Obama, wealth has been more densely concentrated than ever before. According to Pew, the wealth held by the top seven percent grew from 56 percent to 63 percent of the nation's wealth. What, is he a Republican?

It's going to be a sad day for writers three-and-a-half years from now when he steps down because the President's foolishness and foibles keep us all employed. His exploits include everything from the "Fast 'N Furious I" Mexican gun running to "Fast N Furious II" where we attempt to buy Stinger missiles back from our enemy Al Qaeda, only to have them assassinate four Americans...and from State Department denial of security for our ambassador to a fictional tale for public consumption.

From the IRS spying on Conservatives; to Department of Justice spying on ABC News and Fox News; to President Obama asking Attorney General Holder to investigate himself; to the incredible story of EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson creating a fake persona with which to send out emails so that if her records were subpoenaed, she would not have to release her fake person emails for public scrutiny. We expect Inspector Clousseau and the Keystone Kops to make an appearance any time now.

Writing about this President has given me column fodder for years and I hope beyond. Keep it up, Mr. President. We columnists need you. Sometimes you make us laugh and sometimes you make us cry. Sometimes, both at the same time... •

Another Man's Opinion

Gun Control is Public Safety Issue; Not an Attempt to Take Away Guns

By Cristian Vasquez

The gun control debate seems to not be going away and the issue is only becoming more and more contentious. Recently the State Assembly passed AB 500, introduced by Tom Ammiano (San Francisco), which requires gun owners to safely store their firearms when living with someone who is prohibited from owning a firearm due to mental illness or because of a prior criminal record. There are other elements to the bill, such as allowing for a seven-day extension on the current 10-day waiting period to purchase weapons if more time is needed for the background check. However, the storage element of the bill is of much interest because some people who oppose the bill label it an attack on the right to bear arms. Republican Assemblyman Tim Donnelly called the bill's intent un-American.

Looking past party rhetoric, the truth is there is absolutely nothing wrong with imposing rules and fines on gun owners who live with

There are rules that corporations must follow to stay in business. There are rules that citizens must obey in order to ensure public safety. This storage requirement is simply another step to make sure that firearms don't land in the hands of dangerous people. It is true that criminals will find ways to obtain weapons and ignore any type of gun restrictions. Yet, if you are a responsible gun owner, why not make access to a gun more difficult for someone who should not have one?

Having a law in place that dictates proper storage for a firearm is in no way a restriction on gun ownership and it will not lead to the government taking away your guns. Truth is, there is not a big government conspiracy to strip law-abiding Americans from their firearms. There is no organized effort by Democrats to confiscate every gun from every home in America. These are simply rules and guidelines set to ensure everyone's safety and to hold irresponsible gun owners accountable if they

"It is simply a rule to ensure that gun owners are being responsible with the storage of their weapons by setting guidelines that will restrict access of such weapons to people who have lost that right."

people who are not allowed to own guns. It is not a law to take away anybody's gun. It is simply a rule to ensure that gun owners are being responsible with the storage of their weapons by setting guidelines that will restrict access of such weapons to people who have lost that right. Furthermore, it is almost impossible to deny that law-abiding gun owners are very responsible and careful with their weapons. So why the outcry with a law that indicates what appropriate steps need to be taken to store a firearm? We have rules and guidelines for every aspect of our lives for many reasons and one of those reasons is to try to ensure that people are accountable for their actions.

fail to keep weapons away from the wrong hands. Unfortunately, the issue of access to guns is addressed by anti-gun control groups through rhetoric and they chose to ignore real-world situations. The right to own a gun is not absolute and the rules to gun ownership are not a detriment to one's ability to own a gun. We need a license to drive just like we must be 21 years of age to consume alcohol, yet we cannot combine these two activities without expecting to not get into trouble when caught. Gun laws are not taking away anyone's firearms. They are simply trying to eliminate the risk of the general population suffering because of somebody else's irresponsible behavior. •



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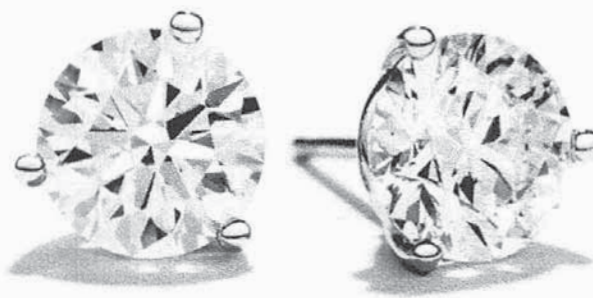
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Sports

Sports

Critical Off-Season in L.A.

By Adam Serrao

As all of Los Angeles looks on and watches the likes of LeBron James and Tim Duncan chase championships, the basketball buzz surrounding the city remains focused on the possibility of losing players rather than gaining them. With free agency in the NBA starting in less than one month, team owners everywhere are dreaming of ways to attract franchise players to their cities so that they too can chase championships come June. Two of the biggest names in this year's free agent class happen to reside right here in Los Angeles. Both Dwight Howard and Chris Paul have begun the process of deciding where they will play next year. While both players would receive more money if they signed max contracts with their current teams, there is ever-increasing speculation that the Staples Center might be void of some of the best talent in the league at the start of next season.

As the healing process continues for the Lakers and the team tries to put the pieces back together from what was an ultimately disastrous season, Howard's decision looms large on the minds of all front office personnel, Lakers players and fans alike. What was thought to have been the worst case scenario a year ago when the Lakers traded for Howard is now coming closer and closer to being a reality. What if Dwight Howard does walk away from the Lakers? No Andrew Bynum, no Howard and a team that will then be relying on only Pau Gasol to front some of the biggest bodies in the league on a night-in and night-out basis. "I know in my heart that this is a place where I think he should be," Lakers GM Mitch Kupchak said. "We have a great legacy, great history of great players in this city dating back to when the franchise came here in 1960, and he certainly fits the mold." Well, it's not 1960 anymore and if you can take one thing away from Howard's personality dating back to his time spent with the Orlando Magic, it's that he wants to create his own legacy--not be part of someone else's. For that reason alone, a city like Houston may just have the best chance of signing Howard.

If you were Dwight Howard, would you want to stay in Los Angeles? The ever-increasing pressure of a championship or bust. Playing alongside an aging and injured Kobe Bryant. A head coach (D'Antoni) that you don't like. The only thing good about his decision to stay here in L.A. would be that he could make more money than anywhere else over

the next five years. The Lakers would be able to offer Howard a five-year deal worth \$118 million while other teams will only have enough cap space to offer him four years at around \$85 million. Houston, however, is a city in a state that has no income tax, so Howard, in all actuality, won't be taking such a hard hit in the wallet if he winds up signing there for one fewer year. The expectations in Houston are far less than what they will be here in Los Angeles. That will make it much easier for Howard to come to work every day. Add in a head coach in Kevin McHale that Howard will likely respect and a roster filled with players like all-star James Harden, sharp-shooter Chandler Parsons, and young stars Jeremy Lin and Omer Asik, and it's clear to see that Houston is much more desirable than first perceived.

In less than one year's time, Chris Paul has made a name for himself here in Los Angeles and most NBA experts might say that it is difficult to envision him joining any other team but the Clippers. Not so fast, however. Paul has recently become upset about the widespread rumor running around the league that he got head coach Vinny Del Negro fired. Paul vehemently denies the accusation, but whether it was actually Paul's call or not, a source close to the situation was quoted as saying, "Chris is a man of principle and if he feels like you've gone against his principles, it will affect how he feels about you. He's very agitated that his name has been put out there as the reason for Vinny's firing." Could that agitation lead to him changing jerseys next season? Clipper fans certainly hope not, but one thing is for sure--there will be a variety of different suitors begging for his services. Mark Cuban is always ready to spend the money for another superstar in Dallas, while Atlanta--one of Paul's favorite cities in the country--will have the cap space to not only sign him, but Howard as well.

The bidding war for these two superstars won't begin until July 1 when free agency opens up. While it should certainly be entertaining to see where they land, imagining what the Los Angeles basketball scene would be like without them seems to be quite a lackluster picture. In the end, as we all know, both players are going to do what makes them happy and probably join the team that gives them the best opportunity at winning now. If Los Angeles is not that destination, this city will have a long way to go to rebuild its previously sparkling basketball town reputation. •

Sanctuary

Only Fools are Positive

By Rev. Eric Jay

"Only fools are positive." How fitting that this familiar proverb was originally spoken by Moe Howard, one of the Three Stooges. Unfortunately, this proverb is also fitting for how our culture today views anyone with a confidence in their convictions of what is right vs. wrong. It seems we are to be "tolerant", unless of course the other person believes in a right and wrong. That's intolerable.

Culture says unless your positivity in conviction also includes a healthy dose of relativism, you're a fool. The only thing positive about the wisdom of relativism is that it is positively contradictory. Truth is by definition exclusive. Something can only be true if the opposite is false. Right only exists if there is a wrong, and vice versa. If truth is relative, then the assertion that truth is relative is at best, relatively true, and cannot be trusted. Proverbs 1:7 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." Even our relativistic culture understands this. When terrorist attacks happen or when crimes are committed we want justice; we want a wrong to be righted. When tragic events like the tornado in Ohio happen, we don't want relatively true answers, we want experts in meteorology to tell us what is really happening and give instruction, and we want the experts to help make forecasting disasters more effective - human lives depend on it. As tragic as the disaster in Ohio is in the taking of physical life, there is a more violent storm and loss

of life happening each and every day; the loss of the human soul.

We all know. We know that this life is not all there is, but we're still tempted to foolishly live as if it was. People escape all kinds of tragedies each and every day, however, no one has ever escaped the the tragedy of death. We will all die, and that day is approaching all of us on the horizon. So where can we turn, to what expert can we rely on who has



the answers, the positively true answers, that can be trusted and who has the power to take action? Human lives depend on it.

The Good News is that we have an expert on life and death, One who lived perfectly and overcame death itself, Jesus Christ. No one else knows death as He does, and His expertise on this life and His power to save us from death has been given to us freely in His work and word. True Wisdom is not an idea, an opinion or an intellectual assent. Wisdom is a Person, and it is only through a relationship with that Person, that we are able to live this life positively. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 says it this way, "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. Remember God said, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.""

"Only fools are positive?" Then count me as the most foolish of them all! Nothing is more sure, and nothing more positive than faith in Jesus Christ.

Email Pastor Jay pastor@stjohnses.com •

Music Hall

from front page

completely appreciate--what the theater offers."

Moll pointed out that Old Town Music Hall boasts a mailing list of nearly 10,000 people with surprisingly very few from El Segundo. "I don't understand it--there's this cultural gem here and why aren't more people in El Segundo discovering it? One sure thing on our to-do list is outreach to residents of El Segundo."

Though the number of patrons could stand some improvement, the theater's rent situation is now stable after Coffman and Field came close to moving to Torrance in 2000 due to prohibitive increases proposed at the time that have since been resolved. Field, who has been playing the same Mighty Wurlitzer for the last 54 years and plans to continue doing so for as long as he can, hopes business will pick up a little bit. "Every presidential year is lousy for patronage—I can look at it all the way back to the beginning," he said. "We just had a Charlie Chaplin showing and his films had been unavailable to us for many years. With the Chaplin film, we had a very good weekend." Field added that he has noticed some upswing lately, as recent patrons have

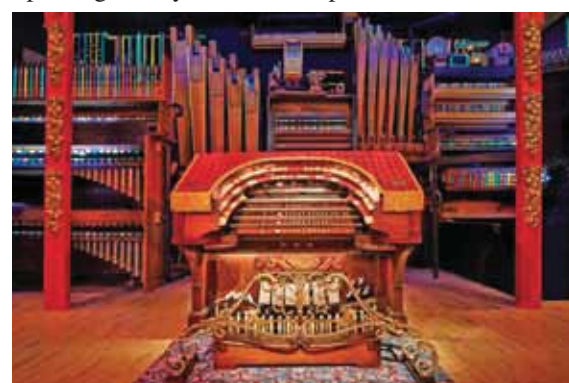


The lobby at Old Town Music Hall captures the spirit of the 1920s. Photos by: DonHoltz.com

mentioned seeing a feature on Channel 9 and finding out about the theater on the website for the first time. "I know they're working hard and I appreciate all their efforts," he said of the advisory board.

Realizing that ticket prices alone can't sustain the business, Moll and company are now looking for corporate sponsorships and have set up a donations link on the theater website. Several fundraisers are also in the works, including a 45th anniversary celebration at the end of the year. Most recently, a benefit concert for Old Town Music Hall took place there on May 4-5 featuring four pianists and acclaimed singer Janet Klein. "The support and change have to come from people who care about preserving classic American movies and music," said Moll. "Our goal is to introduce the theater to a whole new generation of filmgoers who may not have ever experienced silent classic films. And it's not just the films, but also the music of the '20s, '30s and '40s..."

Old Town Music Hall is located at 140 Richmond Street. For more information and upcoming calendar, call 310-322-2592, or go to <http://oldtownmusicall.org/> Movie and concert schedules are also available outside the theater. •



The Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ is the centerpiece of the theater, with more than 2,600 pipes and instruments colorfully on display.

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Illustrated by Jill Chin www.dogbehaviorings.net

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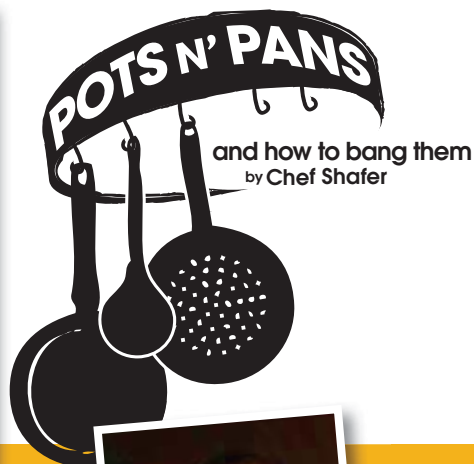
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Just got some eggplants in and decided to make some ratatouille. This dish is great both hot and cold and can be used so many different ways that it should be a staple in your arsenal of recipes. Just to list a few uses: Serve cold with assorted cheese, sliced sausages and some crusty bread; Use as a pasta sauce; seared Ahi tuna ratatouille and some feta for an appetizer or salad entrée; serve warm with scrambled eggs topped with mozzarella; goes great with grilled lamb, chicken or seafood; A topping for bruschetta; the sauce for a pizza; add a little chicken broth and some cream and it will make a wonderful roasted eggplant bisque, etc. Let your mind wonder.

The Chef




Ratatouille




- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 6 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 cup onions, diced
- 1 cup carrots, diced
- 3 cups eggplant, diced
- 1 15 oz. diced canned tomatoes
- 6 to 8 fresh basil leaves, chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon ground bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon ground fennel
- 1 teaspoon crushed chilies optional
- 1 to 2 cups chicken broth

In a hot sauce pan brown off the garlic and onions to a golden brown. Add the carrots and eggplant and cook for 3 minutes. Add all spices and herbs and tomatoes with juice and 1 cup broth. Then cook on low heat for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. If it gets to dry add more broth. Check your seasoning and serve. Have fun cooking and dining. •

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Finance

Trim Your Wedding Costs

By Jason Alderman

Weddings have always been big business, but I was shocked to see how expensive they've become in the 17 years since my wife and I got married. According to the annual Real Weddings Study, the average wedding in the U.S. now costs \$28,427, and that doesn't even count the honeymoon.



Wait, it gets worse.

Among the more than 17,500 surveyed brides who got married in 2012, the average amount paid for a wedding dress was \$1,211. On average they also spent \$204 per wedding guest and dropped \$12,905 for the reception venue.

There are many ways to rein in wedding-related costs while still having a memorable event. Here are a few suggestions:

Create a budget. Unless you're a professional wedding planner, you'll probably be floored by how many expenses weddings can amass, including: wedding and engagement rings, invitations, postage, marriage license, clergy and location fees, flowers, bridal gown and groom's tuxedo, rehearsal dinner and reception, photography, catering, DJ or band, limousine, parking attendants, tips, gifts for wedding participants and honeymoon expenses.

Shop around. Bridal expos are a good way to meet a lot of vendors and gather ideas. Just don't get caught up in the excitement and commit to anything before you've done follow-up research. Some tips:

Bring along someone from the wedding party as well as a trustworthy friend who isn't emotionally and financially connected to the wedding.

You may feel pressured by vendors to sign contracts or put down deposits, but it's probably wiser to take their contact information and research them first.

Create a separate email account for wedding vendor communications. Once you sign up for one offer or contest, believe me, your inbox will be swamped.

After you've settled on vendors, get signed contracts that specify dates, products, prices, deposit and payment terms, cancellation policies, liability insurance and whether tax and gratuities are included.

Here are a few suggestions for trimming costs:

Date flexibility. You'll get more bang for your buck offseason – a June wedding might cost 20 to 30 percent more than one in April or October.

Have your florist use in-season flowers.

Daytime weddings are often cheaper than evening events.

Instead of a hotel, consider less-costly alternative reception venues like community centers, museums, city park clubhouses or other public facilities looking to earn extra income. Ask whether they have their own tables, chairs, sound and lighting systems; if not, add equipment rental costs into the equation.

A buffet dinner reception could save you \$15 or more per guest compared to a plated dinner, because you're not paying for table service. Save even more by hosting an afternoon reception and serving lunch or hors d'oeuvres.

If you're hosting a large reception, have a smaller display cake for the cutting ceremony, with a sheet cake stored in the kitchen.

Serve wine, beer and one signature cocktail, instead of offering a full bar.

Consider renting or buying a second-hand wedding dress from a consignment shop, or an online specialty site. The same goes for grooms wear.

Hiring a disc jockey instead of a live band will save hundreds of dollars; plus you get a broader selection of music and a built-in emcee to move things along.

One last budgeting tip: Limit the number of guests to ensure you can have a meaningful interaction with each. Remember, spending just one minute apiece with 300 guests would take five hours.

Police Reports

from page 2

pickup truck and damaged the rear bumper and tail lamp.

MAY 11-12

Theft: 900 Block of 8th St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway. A briefcase and \$50 was taken.

MAY 11-12

Attempted Residential Burglary: 900 Block of 10th St. Unknown suspect(s) attempted to force entry into the residence via the rear French doors.

MAY 8-14

Stolen Vehicle: 1600 Block of Voorhees Ave. Unknown suspect(s) stole a 1996 Honda Civic, green, 4-D, which was parked on the street. The car had been left unlocked with the key stuck in the ignition.

MAY 9

Burglary: 200 Block of Shell St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an open garage and stole a wetsuit and sleeping bag. Two surfboards were also reported stolen from the backyard.

Mail Theft: 1600 Block of 23rd St. Unknown suspect(s) stole mail from in front of the residence.

MAY 8

Theft: 200 Block of Kuhn Dr. Unknown

suspect(s) removed two catalytic converters from a vehicle, which was parked on the street.

MAY 6-7

Residential Burglary: 200 Block of 17th Pl. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle, which was parked inside an open garage. The suspect(s) ransacked the front passenger compartment and stole a wallet, money and gift cards.

MAY 6

Residential Burglary: 1400 Block of Faymont Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered the residence through a rear bathroom window, which was left slightly open. The suspect(s) ransacked the master bedroom and took two pillowcases, most likely to haul the loot away. A watch, shoes, laptops, and gloves were reported stolen.

MAY 4-5

Theft: 400 Block of 30th St. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway and stole two packs of white tee shirts.

Theft: 2600 Block of N. Alma Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the driveway and stole coins, currency, and an Ipad.

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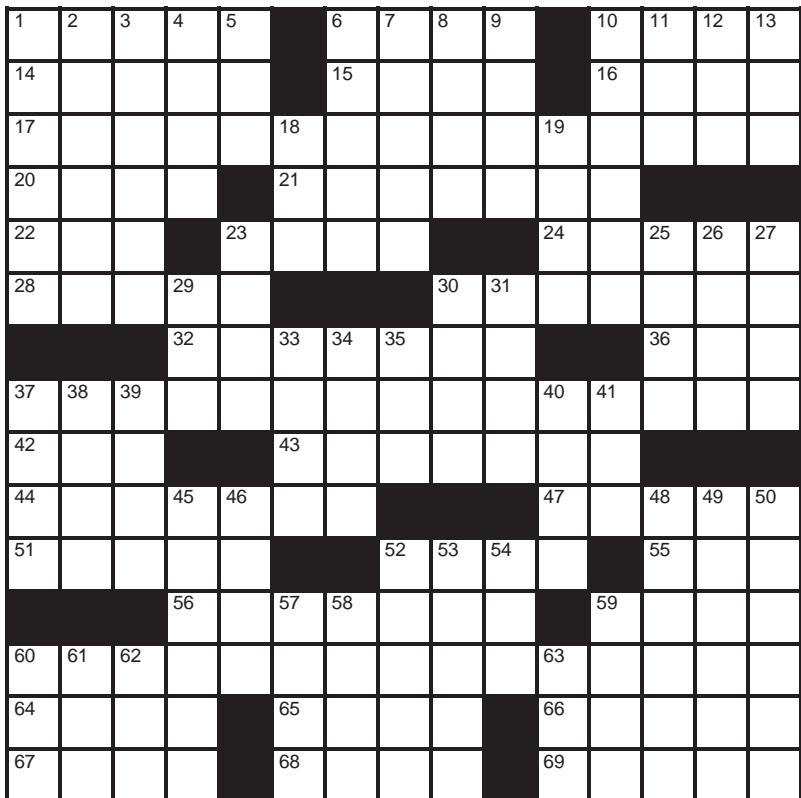
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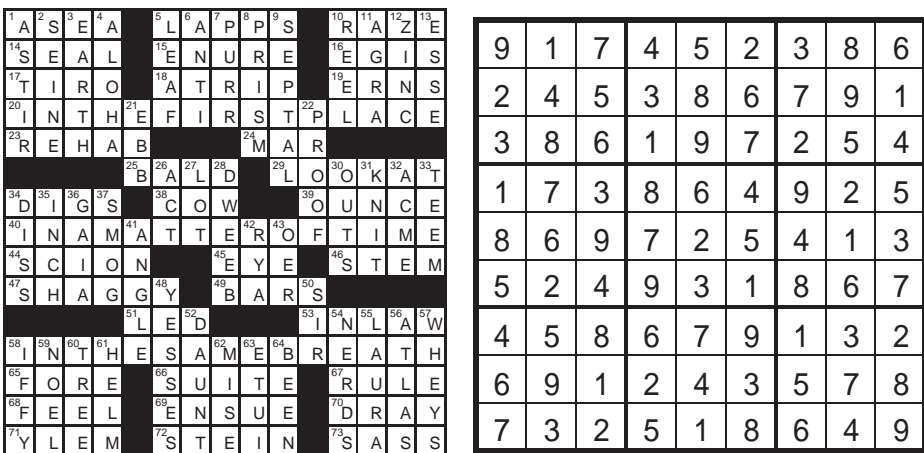
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD See Answers Next Week
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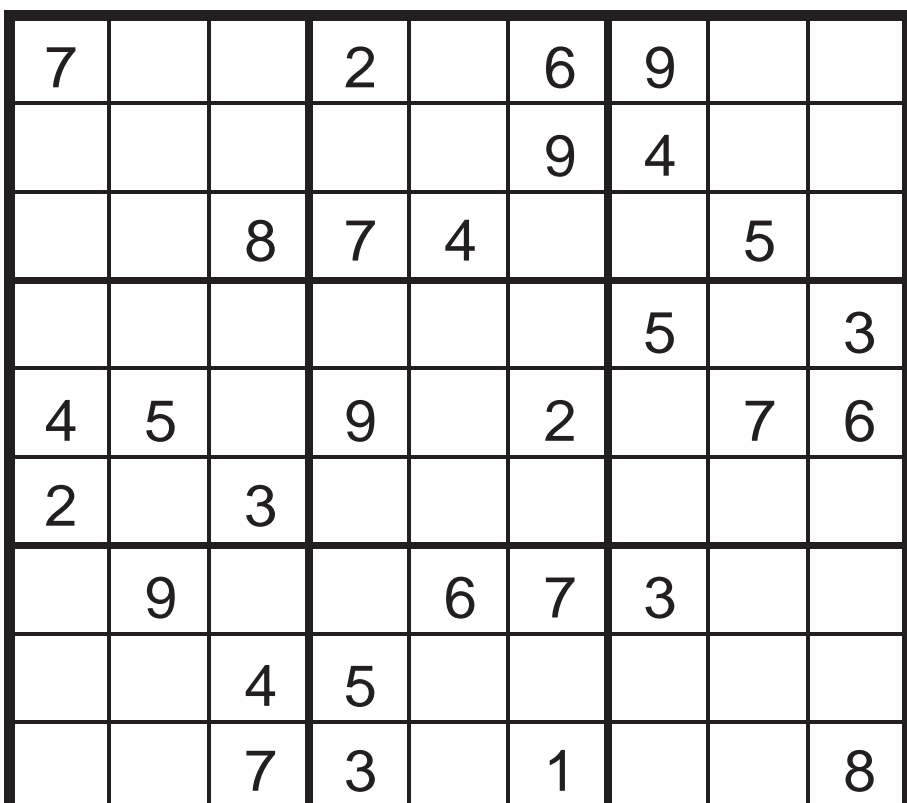


- Across**
- Approval
 - Clink
 - Shoot
 - Escalator feature
 - River in Italy
 - Yawl call
 - Aging devil dog?
 - Debut of March 3, 1923
 - It can be criminal
 - King topper
 - Kind of job
 - "Forget it!"
 - Hawaiian island
 - Garden-variety
 - Ancient Roman coins
 - ___ in (eat)
 - Took a break to work on furniture?
 - Theater sound
 - Some art
 - Baton wielder
 - Orbital point
 - Absolute
 - Dateless
 - Grp. concerned with defense
 - IRS employee
- Down**
- Pertaining to Ohio, e.g.
 - It's used to treat bruises
 - Servant
 - Circular announcement
 - Anomalous
 - Biblical Assyrian king
 - Saw
 - Tranquil scene
 - Weak
 - Tailor
 - Key letter
 - Long stretch
 - River in Wales
 - African grazer
 - Teen spots
 - Bank holding
 - Dry riverbed
59. Dish cooked in a pot
60. Pay-as-you-go college quarters?
64. ___ acid
65. "C'est la vie"
66. Romanian queen
67. Foe of the Iroquois
68. Cycle maker
69. Carmelite
26. Opposed to, in dialect
27. Safecracker
29. Bustle
30. "___ it the truth!"
31. II x IV
33. Literary adverb
34. Big top?
35. Earth Summit site
37. Schools of thought
38. Literally, "king"
39. Butter
40. Destroy disk data
41. Accident
45. Medium meeting?
46. Align
48. Zen enlightenment
49. Spain and Portugal
50. Tom of fiction
52. Brown ermine
53. They may have abs of stone
54. Elbow's site
57. Time to act
58. Like some rumors
59. Have the lead
60. Signal
61. Hart Trophy winner, 1970-72
62. "Rocky ___"

Last Week's Answers



SUDOKU Medium



Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

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2BD/1BA. Westchester Duplex, Front Unit. Appliances, W/D, immaculate, hardwood floors. \$1695/mo. 8401 Barnsley, Avail. 6/15. (310) 365-1481 or (310) 641-2148.

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ESTATE SALE

821 Lomita St. ES. Sat., 6/08, Sun.,

6/09, Starts at 8:00 a.m. Everything inside house must go. Furniture, washer/dryer, desks, couches, books and more.

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Mausoleum Inglewood Park Cemetery, Grace Gardens. Lower Level, double capacity. Value at \$10,750. Asking \$9,500. Call Roberto (310) 798-2562.

Upright Piano and bench - Ludwig of New York. Good condition \$300. Call (310) 322-7978.

GARAGE SALE

303 Center St. ES. Sat. 6/08, 8 a.m. Moving Sale! Large variety, household items, collectibles, depression glass, books, furniture, kitchen items.

903 Cedar St. ES. Sat., 6/08, 8 a.m. Household items, art, electronics, collectibles, garden items, furniture, jewelry, women's & men's clothing & accessories. Great prices!

780 West Palm Ave. ES. Sat., 6/08, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. No Early Birds. Moving Sale! Furniture, clothes, collectibles, DVD's, Pictures, linens, china & books.

711 W. Sycamore Ave. Sat., 6/08, 7 am - 11 am. Fashion women's clothes, furniture, twin bed, bedding, books, suitcases, Lots of great stuff!

111 Main Street. ES. Sat., 6/08, 8 am - 1 pm. Uniform company moving sale. New samples, shirts, pants, aprons, belts, sweaters, fabric, furniture.

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- PEOPLE ITEMS:** Prior Friday at noon.
- DISPLAY AD CHANGES:** Prior Thursday at noon.
- CLASSIFIEDS:** Tuesday at noon.
- LEGAL NOTICES:** Monday at noon.
- NEW DISPLAY ADS:** Prior Thursday at noon.
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Photographer: Shelly Kemp

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PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

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Adopt a “pet without a partner” and give a homeless pet a second chance in life.

Candee is a great little puppy who was born on April 11, 2013 and is growing like a



Candee

weed. Candee is a no-issue little puppy. She is super sweet and loves everyone she meets. She has a “Cindy Crawford” beauty mark on her face and will remind you of the RCA dog from back in the day. Candee will make a great addition into any home situation. She will be wonderful with kids and is great with all other dogs, too. Candee will be spayed when of age, is current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with children and other dogs, and cat-safe too.

Ruby is a Dogue de Bordeaux better known as a French Mastiff and is like the dog who was in the movie Turner and Hooch with Tom

Hanks. Ruby is about 13 months old and has been in foster care for the last three months. She currently lives with four other dogs in her home and all of them are smaller than she is. She loves the companionship of these other dogs in her home. She is friendly with people, likes women more than men and is housebroken. Ruby is very timid and very nervous in public, as she was abused as a puppy by her prior owner who was a man. She is not aggressive with people from this--just very timid and covers when she is unsure of herself. Ruby is a really sweet gal and loves routine, stability and praise for her good behavior. She has learned how to sit and is pretty good on leash. Ruby is not for apartment living, renters, or first-time dog owners. We are looking for experienced large breed dog owners. Ruby will be spayed soon, is current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, loves people, and is good with other dogs in her home.

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at www.animalsrule.org. If a dog is on our website, it's available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in need of donations for veterinarian bills and our senior dogs. Donations can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to: Animals Rule Placement Foundation at 305 North Harbor Blvd., San Pedro, CA 90731. All donations are tax-deductible. We are a registered 501©3 non-profit organization.

Saving one animal won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that animal. •



Ruby

Happy Tails

Perfectly adorable in every way, Scoobie found his forever home. He is one of the lucky ones to join the ranks of “pets without partners” who were given their second chance in life. Scoobie's family sent along photos and this note to encourage others to adopt and create their own “Happy Tail.”

“I wanted to let you know that Scoobie (now known as **Jax**) is doing very well.

Thank you again for everything--we absolutely adore Jax! He is getting to know Christine and me, and is now very familiar with his new home...”

– *Tom and Christine*

When you adopt a “pet without a partner,” you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. •



Scoobie with his cuddle buddies.

Purrrfect Companions

Add a little love with a new best friend when you adopt your purr-fect partner.

Betsy and Timmy were born shortly after their mother was rescued off the streets. **Betsy**

companion in his new home.

Of course Betsy and Timmy would absolutely adore being adopted together. Betsy helps Timmy to be extra confident and they



Timmy (left) and Betsy.

is a spectacularly-marked Tortoiseshell kitten with faint orange stripes running down her sides and forming rings on her legs and chest. This sweet three-month-old girl never stops purring and always wants to be on your lap or in your arms. Betsy is super easygoing and extremely confident with strangers. She is very floppy and malleable, much like a ragdoll. Betsy absolutely adores other cats as well as people. Because of her age and energy, Betsy cannot be an only kitty.

Timmy is a handsome boy who shares his mother's luxurious coat of silver-blue. His eyes are a soft green, always looking around and taking in everything around him. Timmy is a touch timid with new people but as soon as he gets to know you, this boy is one mega-snuggler! Timmy is a quiet presence at your side, purring like crazy while enjoying pets. He loves to romp and play and is always bouncing around with one kitty or another. Timmy would do well in any home, as he is very outgoing and friendly with other cats right from the start. He's very floppy and easy to hold, letting your scoop him up whenever you want. Due to his age and energy, Timmy needs a kitty

absolutely adore snuggling with each other. However, they both love all their foster buddies and would be happy in any home with another young kitty.

These kittens/cats are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, de-wormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see our other kitties, please check our website at www.kittenrescue.org, or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org. Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue, and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location.

Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue. •



Scoobie and his awesome family.