YOUR DAY

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GETTY IMAGES

This week in NYC: No taxes

From today through Feb. 6, purchases of clothing and footwear costing less than $110 will be exempt from New York's regular 8.625-percent sales tax.

METRO

Blog of the day

Satan's Laundromat (http://www.satanslaundromat.com/sl/) is a photolog of New York in all of its glorious, decaying, strangeness.

METRO

HOROSCOPE

If today's your birthday: There could be a lot of lucky rewards in the offing for you in the year ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You have good reason to be hopeful.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Aim for lofty targets. Lady Luck is on your side.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Whether you seek it out or not, others will compel you to take a leadership role.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If someone wants to repay you for a past favor, don't be too proud to accept it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Something beneficial will be put together that will include you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Whether you are buying or selling, strive to be fair in all your negotiations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your popularity with your peers will be very much in evidence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Ventures in which you get involved should turn out to be exceptionally successful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Seek out listeners who are known for making positive contributions if you need to sound out some new plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You could be exceptionally lucky in situations that affect your earnings and financial security.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If you're looking for a break in handling an important matter, today may be the day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Two unrelated forces could converge in a unique way that may prove to be unusually lucky and lucrative. These happenings may not be of your doing.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

NYC OUTSIDE | BUST OF SYLVETTE

A LARGELY OVERLOOKED ARTISTIC GEM, the 60-ton "Bust of Sylvette" resides among three I.M. Pei-designed residential towers in NYU's Bleeker Street courtyard. Owned by the school's Grey Art Gallery, "Sylvette" is a 36-foot block of Norwegian black stone; the concrete exterior is carefully carved to expose the dark aggregate stone underneath. When adapting Picasso's work to the massive medium, Carl Nesjar used a grinding technique to recreate the cubist profile, retaining the lines of Picasso's original 24-inch sheet-metal sculpture. Recently, NYU has threatened to mar the generous space in which the sculpture stands by adding a new science building on the plot where Morton Williams Supermarket now stands; local residents protested the proposed development.

ANGELA LEROUX LINDSEY

TRANSIT STORY

LAST MONTH I started a new job in Jersey City. I take the Pascack Valley Line into Hoboken where I hop onto the PATH. The Pascack Valley line is known as a single-track rail. If you ever miss your home station, there is no way for you to go back by train.

After a long day at work and being pushed around for 10 minutes on the PATH, I managed to rest my legs on the Pascack Valley train to Spring Valley. I fell asleep almost instantly; I had my pass out for the ticket checker. Suddenly, I heard, "Pearl River, we are approaching Pearl River." The train came to a halt, and I looked outside. It was dark, and in the freezing rain I could barely see the station name "Pearl River." I jumped in my seat — this was a nightmare. I had gotten onto the express train, and my car was parked at North Hackensack. The ticket handler said I could try my luck from the last station for a cab or bus.

I have lived in the United States for six years, but Spring Valley was foreign to me. The railway station had closed for the day, and I had to stand outside in the freezing rain.

The guy who was the ticket checker on the train came around in his minivan as I was looking for a cab. He dropped me to the mall where my husband came to pick me up. Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, he saved the day.

NATASHA

E-mail your transit stories to dorothy.robinson@metro.us

NYC: DID YOU KNOW?

Ford Foundation Building

Year built: 1967
Architects: Roche, Dinkeloo & Associates

GETTY IMAGES

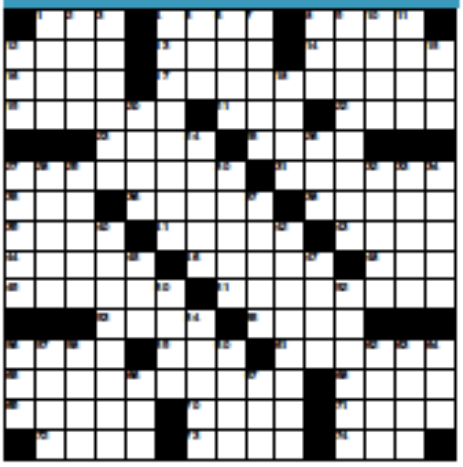
THE FORD FOUNDATION BUILDING is home to a 12-story atrium.

A DISTINCT DEPARTURE from traditional Manhattan office space, the Ford Foundation Building is a spectacularly executed modern structure. From the outside, dominating brick pillars form a protective cube around sheer glass walls, complementary to its surroundings in each direction: large in scale facing 42nd Street where the area is corporate and diminutive facing the more residential 43rd Street side.

In total contrast to this fortress-like exterior, within the building a striking 12-story atrium with windows facing every floor is a breathtaking testament to the foundation's practice of encouraging each employee and visitor to interact and identify with the whole. At once romantic and minimalist, the atrium is a wonder that has since inspired the line of Hyatt hotels with full-height conservatories.

ANGELA LEROUX LINDSEY

THE METRO CROSSWORD



Answers to previous puzzle

Across
1 crunch targets
4 romantic island
8 diner sign
12 sanitary jar
13 army no-show
14 alley 20 chins
16 pay the bill
17 very slow (hyph.)
19 tomorrow
21 Leaders refusal
22 dairy feed
23 easy victory
25 name in fashion
27 kitchen gadgets
31 sell short
35 wildcat strike
36 rite of pique
38 like an old joke
39 bullfight shouts
41 were back
43 crib-giving time
44 solar cycle
46 challenges
48 danger color
49 sacred beetle
51 sci-fi invaders
53 cereal stock —
55 unskilled laborer
56 the other guys
59 dilly
61 cavalry weapons
65 russia type
66 very funny person
69 more wise
70 oscs. score-even
71 geologic time divisions
72 vestibule deposits
73 coals
74 cozy place

Down
1 baseball family name
2 ink stain
3 planet after Jupiter
4 collar
5 circus beard
6 type of shark
7 women's sale
8 mystic power
9 willingness
10 kind of salad
11 citizen: abbr.
12 curvy
15 mag. staffers
18 vineland explorer
20 fishing gear
24 used a crowbar
26 w. hemisphere pact
27 cross-cons
28 fragrant shrub
29 valley, in spanish
30 kind of engine
32 carne: the key movie
33 wn. sunkin of films
34 heroic exploits
37 seat-belt feature
40 vamoosed
42 unorthodox opinions
45 smokehouse hanger
47 rentico
50 juicy pear
52 creep-eyed
54 scary cells —
56 vcr hookups
57 recover
58 consequently
60 "somewhere" group
62 stormy scene locale
63 horse color
64 city rim.
66 sage
67 rain degree

GETTING AROUND: TODAY'S TRANSIT

Subways

4 train Bronx-bound trains run express from 149th Street to Burnside Avenue, weekdays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

6 train Manhattan-bound trains run express from Parkchester to Hunts Point Avenue, weekdays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., through Friday.

7 train Manhattan-bound trains skip 111th, 103rd, 90th, Bond, 34th, and 69th streets, all week, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

C/A/V train A: Extensive delays between Manhattan and Brooklyn. Replaces C, weekends; C: Suspended; V: Replaces C between Jay Street and Euclid Avenue, weekdays.

E train Queens-bound trains run express from Queens Plaza to Roosevelt Avenue from 12:01 to 5 a.m., through Friday.

L train Avoid transfers to the A at Broadway Junction.

N train Downtown trains run express from 34th Street to Canal Street from 12:01 a.m. to 5 a.m., through Friday.

Go to www.mta.nyc.ny.us for a full list of train changes.

ACCU WEATHER | 5-DAY FORECAST FOR NEW YORK CITY

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mostly sunny, brisk and chilly	Clear and cold	Sunny to partly cloudy	Partly sunny	Partly sunny and pleasant	Times of clouds and sun
33°	22°	35° / 25°	37° / 28°	40° / 30°	42° / 30°