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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Fight in the fog: Vikings win a playoff classic

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

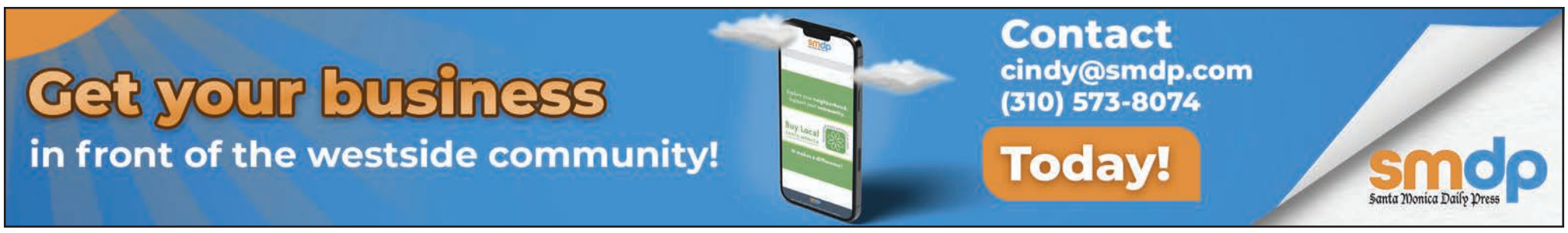
A remarkable turnaround season for the Samohi Vikings football squad hit yet another peak on Nov. 3, as the team was victorious in a back-and-forth overtime affair against Santa Ana. The 33-27 win was the first playoff victory for the Vikings since 2019, which was also the last winning season for the team until the 6-4 regular season record in 2023.

SEE **SAMOHI VIKINGS** PAGE 11

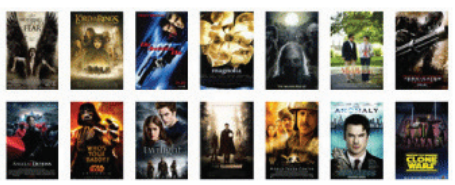


Photo Courtesy David E. Hunzicker Photography

PLAYOFF PUSH: Griffin Seals (#15) had a dominant performance despite the foggy conditions.



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Portraits showcase Pico passion



Photo by Sam Comen

PICO GALLERY: Two generations of the Rodriguez family; Estela 'Tata' Huerta, Patrick Rose, Andres Rodriguez, Fernando Rodriguez and Chavela Safron; were photographed at Gilbert's El Indio restaurant as part of the "Our Pico" portrait gallery.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's business success stories come from around the area, with one of the most hard-working local economies coming in the Pico district. The "working street" mentality of Pico Boulevard has long been rooted in the people behind the storefronts, a mentality further explored through the "Our Pico" portrait gallery.

A collaboration between the Pico Improvement Organization and renowned Los Angeles photographer Sam Comen, the gallery works to "reveal the humanity" behind Pico's numerous businesses. Comen and a small production team visited 12 different locations, setting up camera equipment and capturing the workers' world through engaging portraits. In all, 41 workers were photographed completing tasks like hands-on work, entrepreneurship and artisan crafting.

The Pico Improvement Organization was awarded a grant from the City of Santa Monica's Art of Recovery program, and was able to seek the aid of Comen on the project. The photographer has long used his home state of California for inspiration, and his work has long been praised for focus on immigrant experiences and the working class. He was exhibited twice at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, and his background had the organization knowing that "he would capture our workers with empathy and admiration," said Pico Improvement Organization Merchant Engagement Director Dana Moorehead.

"Sam specializes in shooting environmental portraits of everyday heroes as well as leaders, actors, musicians and artists," Moorehead said. "He has such an eye for capturing the essence of his subject, and their world. We put no constraints on Sam, rather trusted his innate interest and expertise to capture the world of the Pico worker. He accomplished that even more than we imagined."

For the project, Moorehead noted that she wanted other locals to gain "a deeper knowledge and affection for Pico's workers and businesses" as well as "a renewed knowledge of all the useful services on the boulevard." Business portraits were taken at locations like Adriana's Hair Studio, Paws & Effect Pet Spa, Gilbert's El Indio, McCabe's Guitar Shop and Rae's Restaurant; showcasing the diversity of both Pico's people and their chosen professions.

"As we often say, everything you need is on Pico, along with our rich history of Pico merchants, some of who are among the oldest in Santa Monica," commented Pico Improvement Organization Chair Sharon Town Lee.

Having a grant from the Art of Recovery program was appropriate for the project, as many of the featured businesses on the project's website, OurPico.com, described how they survived the COVID-19 pandemic. At Paws & Effect, groomer Kathy Lopez was able to make it through the pandemic by creating a "doggy drop-off zone" at the sidewalk over her 3030 Pico Boulevard location. Ana Henton and Melanie Keedle, co-owners of Still Life Ceramics, were photographed at their Pico studio which opened during the pandemic, the second such studio after opening a Downtown Los Angeles location in 2018. In November, the two will open another space in Henton's hometown, the Detroit suburb of Ferndale, Michigan.

"The pandemic challenged Pico ... and the businesses found solutions," Moorehead said. "Building patios, pivoting to take-out, setting up doggy drop-off zones, building their online presence. Cars still needed repairs (as well), and Pico businesses showed up to work."

Moorehead noted that the three-mile-long Pico business district is also one of the most "ethnically and economically diverse" populations in the area, saying it "made sense to take a deeper look" into that human element.

"When is the last time you saw an art exhibition celebrating everyday workers?" she said. "We think they are what make Pico special. Their stories are compelling and entertaining. We named the exhibition 'Our Pico' because we really are a community."

The gallery is now open through the end of 2023 at the Pico Culture House, 3018 Pico Boulevard, with hours available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. By appointment viewings can also be made by emailing picoblvdsm@gmail.com.

thomas@smdp.com

Lady Vikings gear up for CIF meet

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

In what Samohi Cross-Country head coach Tania Fischer called "probably the hardest league" in CIF's Southern Section, the girls' varsity team clinched a spot in a postseason preliminary meet during the Bay League Finals Nov. 2. The Southern Section Preliminaries take place Saturday at Mt. San Antonio College, an arduous course the squad has taken on before.

At the Bay League meet, held at Redondo Union High School, the girls squad finished fourth behind the host school and fellow league heavyweights Palos Verdes and Mira Costa. Santa Monica's team score of 68 just missed the cut of the top three, the usual cutoff for the Preliminaries, but the girls' 11th-place Southern Section ranking earned the team a "wild card" bye into the Mt. Sac meet.

The girls were once again paced at the Bay League meet by junior phenom Phoebe Benun, who continued her consistently dominant 2023 campaign by winning the 3-mile varsity race. Benun's time of 17:34.97 beat out Redondo Union's Lyla Fedio by 4 seconds, clinching the junior back-to-back individual Bay League championships, the first to complete that feat since Rebecca Mehra of Palos Verdes in 2008 and 2009.



Courtesy David E. Hunzicker Photography

RACE TO CIF: Samohi junior Phoebe Benun and the girls varsity squad will compete in the CIF Southern Section Preliminaries on Saturday.

Fischer noted that her top runner showed great "racing instincts" in the victory, making her move past competitors on a key downhill to claim the win.

"(Benun had) that kind of confidence during a race to make a move, and to make it so that the other girls couldn't come back … she's just been exciting to coach, and seeing her development as a runner … it's just a testament to her ability and her willingness to put in the work," Fischer said.

The junior also paced the field by nearly 20 seconds at the Oct. 10 Bay League Meet, making the Finals her second win in 2023. Benun also finished second in the 2-mile Palos Verdes Invitational on Sept. 29, and took third-place finishes at the 2.93-Mile Mt. SAC Cross Country Invitational and the ASICS Cool Breeze Evening Invitational.

"She's continued to lead our team (and) be the positive element," Fischer added. "There's always someone (like her) that just elevates your whole program, because she's enthusiastic, she's a great leader and she just brings everybody up, so to speak. She lifts everybody up in spirit."

Following Benun's lead were the trio of junior Cleo Topp, senior Hawene Alomayehu and senior Matilde Martinez, who took the 14th, 15th and 16th spots at the Bay League meet, respectively. Sticking together shortened the score for the Lady Vikings, a strategy the team will try to employ at an unforgiving Mt. SAC course on Saturday. The course holds a "super fast" flat first mile, followed by multiple steep hills cresting with Reservoir Hill before a half-mile run to the finish. Out of the squad's 16-team heat, consisting of teams finishing tops in their respective leagues, only four will move onto the Southern Section Finals on Nov. 18.

"You're constantly changing gears … you're trying to 'recover' on the downhills but you still have to press the downhills," Fischer said of Saturday's meet. "There's no way you can take a break, it is a constant pushing and picking up the pace and gear-changing. Running hills is difficult, (but) if you're fit you can do it, and you have to have that mindset that (you're ready)."

The Bay League Finals were the last 2023 meet for the boys unit, as the Vikings also finished fourth with a 119 team score, unable to secure a Bay League or wild card bid to CIF. The Vikings were paced by sophomore Emerson Hill and junior Landon Kozmor, who finished 20th and 21st overall, respectively.

In Junior Varsity action, the boys team finished third with a team score of 95, while the girls took second with a team score of 53. Freshman boys finished third in Bay League competition, while the girls placed the first four individuals en route to a freshman victory. Freshman Selin Kocataskin's impressive 3-mile time of 19:53.37 earned her a spot as an alternate for Saturday's varsity race.

Samohi Cross-Country:
Nov. 2- Bay League Finals at Redondo Union

Boys' Varsity 3-Mile Run:
Mira Costa- 27
Redondo Union- 55
Palos Verdes- 67
Santa Monica- 119
Peninsula- 123
Culver City - 159
Emerson Hill (Sophomore): 15:56.14, 20th overall
Landon Kozmor (Junior): 16:02.11, 21st overall
David Ervin (Senior): 16:07.82, 25th overall
James Faries (Sophomore): 16:09.85, 26th overall
Kingsley Lin (Freshman): 16:10.38, 27th overall

SEE **SAMOHI XC** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64.2**

TUESDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Old WNW swell eases, but a new and stronger WNW swell will build in to replace it, mainly over the back-half of day. SW-SSW swell still minor but new energy starts to fill in. Winds looking light for the morning.

WEDNESDAY
POOR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Size bumps up some with new/modest WNW swell, which will combo with a new/modest SW-SSW swell that fills in further. Consistency should be good. Wind looks nice at this point, just a bit of a deep tide to start with.

Weather

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 69.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. North wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 72. Breezy, with a north wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53. Breezy.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2023/11/07	Tue	06:14 AM	4.51		H
2023/11/07	Tue	12:00 PM	2.22		L
2023/11/07	Tue	5:26 PM	4.20		H
2023/11/07	Tue	11:54 PM	0.81		L
2023/11/08	Wed	06:31 AM	4.80		H
2023/11/08	Wed	12:34 PM	1.65		L
2023/11/08	Wed	6:15 PM	4.24		H
2023/11/09	Thu	12:20 AM	0.95		L
2023/11/09	Thu	06:48 AM	5.12		H
2023/11/09	Thu	1:06 PM	1.10		L
2023/11/09	Thu	6:57 PM	4.25		H
2023/11/10	Fri	12:43 AM	1.14		L
2023/11/10	Fri	07:06 AM	5.45		H
2023/11/10	Fri	1:38 PM	0.57		L
2023/11/10	Fri	7:37 PM	4.21		H
2023/11/11	Sat	01:06 AM	1.35		L
2023/11/11	Sat	07:26 AM	5.76		H
2023/11/11	Sat	2:11 PM	0.11		L
2023/11/11	Sat	8:16 PM	4.12		H
2023/11/12	Sun	01:29 AM	1.59		L

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

Powerball
Draw Date: 11/4
1 28 30 34 52
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 179 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 11/3
15 32 38 47 65
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 196 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/4
5 6 18 26 44
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/5
8 20 21 32 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/5
EVENING: 4 4 8
Draw Date: 11/5
MIDDAY: 8 7 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/5
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:41.79

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Santa Monica Daily Press

California's 'tripledemic' season is off to a mild start. What to know about flu, RSV and COVID

SHREYA AGRAWAL
Special to the Daily Press

Don't call it a tripledemic — yet.

Influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and COVID-19 are circulating this fall, but not yet at the rate that worried public health agencies a year ago.

As we approach the time of winter when these diseases usually peak, around December to February, experts warn that the patterns can change at any time and advise people to take precautionary measures, such as getting vaccines.

For those who are concerned about respiratory viruses, there is good news: the Food and Drug Administration approved two RSV vaccines and another shot for use in vulnerable populations.

Several vaccine makers also have updated their COVID-19 boosters, which are recommended for those who are over age 5.

Public health experts generally expect a milder flu season this year. Last year was especially severe as social activities returned to normal and COVID-19 social distancing rules ended. Experts say that more than two years of staying at home and taking precautionary measures protected people from influenza viruses, but also reduced their immunity once they resumed normal social activity.

"We are seeing pretty decent matches with the flu vaccine, which is going to help and we haven't seen a big take off locally and nationally yet of the flu," said Dr. Marlene Millen, an internal medicine doctor at UC San Diego.

If you still haven't gotten the latest vaccines for flu and COVID-19, it is not too late. Here's what you should know about this cold and flu season.

> We are seeing pretty decent matches with the flu vaccine, which is going to help and we haven't seen a big take off locally and nationally yet of the flu
>
> - Dr. Marlene Millen, an internal medicine doctor at UC San Diego



Photo by Mark J. Terrill, AP Photo

VACCINE: Syringes with vaccines at the L.A. Care and Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plans' Community Resource Center where they were offering flu and COVID-19 vaccines on Oct. 28, 2022. Updated COVID-19 vaccines are expected in the latter half of 2023 — just in time to pair them with flu shots.

WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK FOR FLU, RSV AND COVID?

"The big answer is that it is uncertain," said Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, infectious disease physician at UC San Francisco.

Experts say the exact patterns of infection of any of these respiratory viruses cannot be predicted due to several factors, such as human interaction, travel and preventative habits. According to the California Department of Public Health, it is too soon to know how severe each of the diseases will be this season.

"As more people are heading indoors for school, fitness routines, and festive gatherings, Californians are getting exposed to respiratory viruses," said Dr. Tomás Aragón, director of the state Public Health Department in a press release. "Anyone can be affected by winter illnesses, however, some individuals, including older adults, people with weakened immune systems or chronic conditions, pregnant people and young children are at higher risk for severe illness and death."

Chin-Hong said that while infections from COVID-19 have plateaued in the past few months, there may be an uptick in infections on the horizon, especially among vulnerable populations.

The state's respiratory infections reports show that RSV infections are currently rising ahead of flu and COVID-19. But the state also has more tools to battle the disease compared to last year. The new RSV shots, combined with the leftover immunity from last year, Chin-Hong said, may result in a comparatively milder RSV season from last year.

What experts are worried about is the rate of infections for all three of these respiratory diseases peaking together at the same time, which can overwhelm health care systems. That scenario is now known as a "tripledemic."

"Every year, that's a possibility. I always cross my fingers that that doesn't happen because we get very busy in the hospitals, especially in the clinics and other places," Millen said. "Every year since COVID, it has been a concern that all three will kind of peak at once. And if that happens, then our health care system gets even more strained."

SHOULD I BE WORRIED?

Millen said even though infections could spread faster than predicted, there is no reason to panic.

"These aren't new viruses, so all of the risks are already there," she said. "The biggest thing is listening to what is going on and paying attention."

Several treatments can help reduce serious infections and death rates. Experts also say that people should continue to exercise preventative measures such as wearing masks, washing hands and staying away from crowded places as they did during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE FLU, COVID-19 OR RSV?

All three viruses have similar symptoms in that they attack the respiratory system and cause symptoms like cold, fever, cough, stuffy or runny nose, body ache and fatigue, as well as chills. Infections from all three viruses can also be asymptomatic.

Doctors recommend isolating if you develop any respiratory systems or fever at all, to avoid putting others around you at risk, especially young children and the elderly.

"If you're sick, stay home," Millen said. "Viral loads are really high in those first few days of illness and that's when spreading illnesses happens, so just wait."

WHAT IS THE CURRENT GUIDANCE ON VACCINATIONS?

For influenza and COVID-19, the state Department of Public Health recommends vaccinations for all who are 6 months or older. Anyone over 6 months old should get the annual flu shot, while those 5 years and older should also get the updated COVID-19 booster this year.

For RSV, doctors recommend all those who are eligible to get vaccinated. This includes adults who are 60 or older, pregnant women, infants who are 8 months or younger and high risk children between 8-19 months old.

For those who do not have health insurance, California has several resources to get free vaccines, including federally qualified health centers, Bridge Access Program for COVID-19 vaccines, and the Vaccines for Children program.

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE NEW RSV VACCINE?

Earlier this year, three shots were approved for RSV: two vaccines and an antibody shot.

The two vaccines are approved for use in elderly and pregnant women. The vaccine for pregnant women is recommended to be used between weeks 32 and 36 of the pregnancy and will reduce the risk of infection in newborns. The vaccine for seniors is available for all adults 60 or older as they are at higher risk from infections than younger adults.

The antibody preparation provides lab-prepared monoclonal antibodies to infants and young children at high risk from infections who may not be able to produce their own antibodies. This shot is recommended for all infants under 8 months as well as high-risk children between 8-19 months old.

There is currently a shortage of the antibody shot, which is causing concern among pediatricians, especially as RSV infections rise this winter.

Supported by the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF), which works to ensure that people have access to the care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford. Visit www.chcf.org to learn more.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

Lack of affordable housing in Venice Beach inspires activism and art

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

As more and more of her friends and neighbors found themselves priced out of rental units in Venice Beach, Judy Branfman began photographing the dozens of houses, bungalows and apartments being sold, renovated and then relisted at double or triple the cost.

Branfman started with only the vague idea that she should be documenting the growing problem of evictions and housing unaffordability in her beloved west Los Angeles neighborhood. The writer and activist lamented that Venice, where tourists flock to the famous boardwalk and Muscle Beach, has been slowly shedding its historically bohemian vibe and becoming another enclave for the wealthy.

Word spread about her photo project and earlier this year Branfman started hosting community meetings where residents could share their experiences with evictions that forced them to move out of the area and, in some cases, into homelessness. Some people recited poems. Others expressed themselves through paintings. And the more academically-minded among them began compiling housing and eviction statistics.

Branfman's initial notion to just shoot a few photos has culminated in an unlikely but ambitious art-meets-data exhibit titled "Where Has All The (affordable) Housing Gone?" It's on display through Saturday at Venice's venerable Beyond Baroque gallery, a hub for cultural events and activism dating back to the late 1960s.

"The idea was to illustrate the problem, to show what we've lost. You know, make it visual so people would walk in and be a little shocked, and want to do something about it," Branfman said at the gallery this week.

Venice became a center of the Los Angeles homelessness crisis during the coronavirus pandemic, when camps sprouted up in residential neighborhoods and along the sands. The nation's second-largest city also has 46,000 residents who are homeless among the overall population of 4 million people, according to the most recent survey.

The area was a flashpoint because of its visibility as a city landmark — the boardwalk attracts an estimated 10 million visitors per year. A certain edginess always coexisted with a live-and-let-live ethos in the artsy beach community, but the widening of the wealth gap has become increasingly apparent as tech firms moved in and sleek modern homes went up.

As building owners seek to bring in more deep-pocketed renters, longtime residents find themselves dealing with rent increases that overwhelm their finances. Some 80% of low-income Los Angeles renters pay over half their income toward housing costs, according to data released this week by the nonprofit Angeleno Project.

While Los Angeles is on track to meet certain goals for new housing set out by recent ballot measures, "supply is severely behind demand," the report found.

"Some 3,500 housing units are at high or very high risk of losing their affordability terms, threatening to push more families into homelessness," said the report. "A significant dip in affordable housing that started in 2022 post-COVID-19 continues to trend downward."

Upon entering Branfman's exhibit, visitors are confronted by her photos on an enormous and detailed map depicting, block by block, many of the nearly 1,500 rent-controlled units she says have disappeared from the housing market in Venice over two decades. In many instances, the buildings were sold to large corporations that are increasingly buying up properties and jacking up rents.

The map, and much of the exhibit, pins some of the blame for the problem on the Ellis Act, a 1985 California law that gave landlords broad authority to evict tenants in rent-controlled buildings for redevelopment, and then later list the same units at market rates. Branfman said she was "Ellis Acted" when she was evicted from a Venice apartment in 2003.

"Too many tenants are afraid to fight back. And most don't know what their rights are under the law," she said. And even when tenants do file complaints against landlords, she said, the city very rarely prosecutes the claims.

On the wall opposite the map is a free-verse poem made up of quotes about why many renters are were afraid to take on landlords, such as: "I don't want any trouble" and "My neighbors aren't documented and they're afraid if they say anything they'll be targeted."

Upstairs there are paintings and mixed-media figurines that the artist Sumaya Evans calls "dignity dolls." Evans, who was homeless in Venice for years before recently finding housing, said creating art gave her a sense of self-worth when she was living on the streets.

"You get used to being ignored as a homeless woman. People are blind to you when you're outside," she said. "And so being a part of a project like this, being a part of a community, is just so healing."

Branfman and other housing activists are hopeful that change could come with measure that's qualified for the 2024 ballot. The initiative that will go before voters would expand local control by overturning a 28-year-old law that prohibits rent control on single-family homes, condos and rental units that were built after 1995.

After the exhibit closes Saturday, Branfman hopes to find a home for some of the installations at a library or university. Most of it will live virtually on its own Instagram page.

"The rest of it will be on display in my apartment," she laughs.

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SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive electronic bids from contractors holding a type "B" license, on the following: Bid #24.14. SMS – DSA #03-122583 – Library Renovation Project at John Adams Middle School per bid specifications. This scope of work is estimated to be between $1,200,000.00 to $1,400,000.00 and includes the construction of: Abatement and demo of acoustical ceilings and wall tiles and replace with new acoustical T-Bar ceilings with new ductwork registers and pendant lighting, Replacement of flooring, add new framing and roof penetrations for new rooftop HVAC package units on curbs and reconfigure ductwork, New Casework, New Doors, door frames, Hardware and salto access control, New Store front windows and doors, new Mecho shades to the old and new windows and storefronts, Patching and painting of new and existing walls and casework, Demolish exterior stairs and install new concrete ramp and stairs and install new Lunberock deck in courtyard and install new shade shelter over the new deck, Install a Hi-Low drinking Fountain and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be submitted electronically as per the instructions included in the bidding documents on or before 11/29/23 no later than 2:00 PM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit the projects SecureBids website at: https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/Bid2414SMSJAMSLibrary.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 11/13/23 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4172.

Mandatory Job Walk: 11/9/23 @ 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: John Adams Middle School located at 2425 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405 – All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the campus entrance. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location.

Electronic Bid Submittal Deadline: 11/29/23 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly

One third of homeless veterans live in California. Here's Newsom's new approach to help them

SHREYA AGRAWAL
Special to the Daily Press

California has poured billions of dollars into finding homes for unhoused veterans, but the number of former military service members living on the street has held steady for almost a decade. Today, a third of the nation's unhoused veterans are in California.

Tori Gibson of San Francisco is one of them. She's been looking for a stable place to live since she left the Navy seven years ago, and it hasn't been easy for her. She left the service in part because of health issues that continue to debilitate her.

Now 32 and undergoing a gender transition, she's struggling to make ends meet.

"It was just a really bad spiral of just more disability and then less money and no support," she said.

She's searching for a new start as Gov. Gavin Newsom proposes a significant change in the state's strategy for ending veteran homelessness. His plan, included in a $6.4 billion mental health bond he's sending to voters in the March primary election, would set aside funding specifically for veterans with serious behavioral health conditions.

That's a shift from California's last two major efforts to fund housing for veterans, both of which created units for a general population of former military service members.

The first effort began in the late 1990s, when the state built seven new veterans' homes over a period of 17 years. Today those veterans homes are underused. They were built to house about 2,400 people, but only 1,575 veterans live in them. The 300-unit veterans home in Barstow was so underutilized in 2020 that Newsom moved to close it as he braced for a pandemic recession, although lawmakers blocked him from shutting the site.

The second push centered on a pair of ballot measures voters approved in 2014 and in 2018 that allocated $4.6 billion to build housing specifically for former military service members. The money created the Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program, which has supported the construction of about 3,250 housing units for veterans to date.

Veterans advocates and state officials view the programs — along with federal efforts led by the Department of Veterans Affairs — as successful in reducing homelessness among former military service members. In the last 12 years, veteran homelessness in California has decreased by more than 30%.

But the trend in California mostly accounts for gains made during the Obama administration, when veteran homelessness peaked nationwide and the Department of Veterans Affairs moved aggressively to place former troops in housing. Since 2014, the number of homeless veterans in California has mostly plateaued around 10,000 to 12,000 people, according to annual counts released by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Alex Visotzky, senior California policy fellow at the National Alliance to End Homelessness, said the high numbers of veteran homelessness result from the challenges veterans face on returning home in California's competitive housing market.

"When housing markets are unaffordable and incredibly competitive, those with the greatest needs are going to be more likely to fall out," he said.

Newsom's new strategy in the mental health bond, advocates say, should help those most in need. The California Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that half of the state's unhoused veterans suffer from some kind of behavioral health issue.

The money in the bond would go to the state's Department of Housing and Community Development, which would work with CalVet "to focus specifically on housing veterans experiencing behavioral health challenges," said Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, the Thousand Oaks Democrat who wrote the bill that ultimately put the bond on the ballot.

Studies have shown veterans are overrepresented in the nation's homeless population. They may experience personal challenges, such as post-traumatic stress disorders or other mental health issues as well as disabilities related to their military service.

"Transitioning from that very specific culture and society to civilian life is a lifelong process," said Amy Fairweather, director of policy at the veterans advocacy group Swords to Plowshares. "If you do have any physical or mental disabilities, dealing with those and trying to re-enter civilian life can be very difficult."

CALIFORNIA'S VETERANS HOMES

California's long history of providing housing to former military service members dates to 1884, when it opened an estate in Napa County as the state's first veterans home. That site is still in operation, housing around 600 veterans on a picturesque property in wine country.

Altogether, the state now has eight veterans homes. The two largest homes are in fairly remote communities — one is in Napa County's Yountville and the second is in Barstow in the Mojave Deserts. Moving to them can mean living at a long distance from a veteran's family. That geography somewhat limits interest in the homes.

The homes account for the lion's share of CalVet's $650 million annual budget. Some advocates have called on the state to put money into programs that would benefit people who don't necessarily want to live in a veterans home.

"The state should keep its promises to the current home residents, but as things change, the program needs to be less structured on just providing room and board for a very limited number of people and more structured on providing skilled nursing facility care for those who need it," said Ethan Rarick, executive director at Little Hoover Commission, which published a report on the veterans homes in 2017.

Outside of the veterans homes, California approved a series of bonds meant to help military service members find housing beginning in 2008. The Veterans Bond Act, passed that year, provided $900 million to veterans through the CalVet Home Loans Program.

In 2014, California passed an initiative creating the Veterans Housing and Homelessness Program, which put $600 million toward building multi-family homes for veterans. A second ballot initiative in 2018 gave another $4 billion to the program.

The federal Department of Veterans Affairs, meanwhile, has kept up steady funding for housing vouchers that can provide a place to live for former troops. The Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program, commonly known as HUD-VASH, was a centerpiece of the Bush and Obama administration's efforts to curb veterans' homelessness. It provides rental assistance to over 100,000 veterans nationally.

A STEEP DROP IN VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

The number of homeless veterans in the U.S. peaked in the Great Recession, when the VA in 2007 reported some 154,000 former troops were homeless.

At that time, Fairweather of Swords to Plowshares said many of those deployed in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were starting to come back home "to a society that wasn't prepared for it."

On top of that, they and older veterans struggled in the economic downturn, which led to more unemployment and homelessness.

"It all came together in a way that was really disadvantageous to the veterans," she said.

Last year, the VA estimated about 33,000 veterans were homeless nationwide. According to the 2021 annual homelessness assessment report by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, more than half of them are over age 55. The data also shows that Black veterans are more likely to be homeless than veterans

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 8



Photo by Loren Elliott for CalMatters

VETERAN: Army veteran Latoya White at her home on Treasure Island in San Francisco, on Oct. 24, 2023. A third of the nation's homeless veterans live in California, where the state has spent several billion dollars creating more housing specifically for former military service members since 9/11.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California needs to change its homelessness policies, not spend more money

California's homeless crisis has plagued the state for years, and despite throwing a staggering amount of money trying to solve it, the problem is only getting worse.

In 2018, California had about 130,000 homeless individuals. Today, that number is over 170,000. That amounts to a more than 30% increase. During those same five years, Democrat lawmakers and the governor spent $20 billion trying – and failing – to address this crisis. If money isn't a problem, what is?

Homeless people face harsh, dangerous and inhumane conditions living on the street. In 2021, 5,000 homeless people died on the streets in California. They are 16 times more likely to die suddenly than the general population, according to UC San Francisco. They are also more likely to be a victim of crime. San Diego County data shows that homeless people were 19 times more likely to be murdered and 12 times more likely to be assaulted compared to the housed population.

It's important to remember the humanity aspect of the crisis. Those on the street are someone's mother, father, brother, sister, daughter and son. They had a life before becoming homeless. Unfortunate circumstances – loss of employment, mental health, substance addiction, grief or something else – led them to this tragic situation.

Tents and deplorable conditions are becoming increasingly common throughout California. Encampments line nearly every block in some areas. Children are being exposed to open drug use and other dangerous criminal activity. Californians pay the highest cost of living in the continental U.S. – they should not have to jump over used drug needles in their parks or be afraid to walk down their street.

Clearly, the current approach is not working. It's time to shift the focus from merely throwing money at the problem to implementing compassionate and effective policy changes that focus on accountability.

It's not that financial resources are unimportant in tackling the homeless crisis, but it's time to realize that the problem cannot be solved by money alone. Pouring billions into the issue without a well-thought strategy is like trying to douse a fire with a never-ending supply of gasoline.

In the long term, California needs to build more housing and mental health facilities and needs to train and educate more people to provide services at those facilities. Last year, when the state had a $100 billion surplus, California Senate Republicans proposed using 10% of it – $10 billion – to expand our mental health infrastructure. Unfortunately, this proposal was rejected by Democrat lawmakers.

Despite the deficit shift in budget health, I'm confident the state has funding for this infrastructure in our general fund budget, which is over $200 billion annually.

In the short term, we need to restore safety, sanitation and quality of life by compassionately clearing the encampments that have sprung up across the state. Many of the people within them are in obvious states of distress. Leaving them to live (and die) on the streets is inhumane, unhealthy and often dangerous – for both the people living in encampments and those in the neighborhoods around them.

What does "compassionately clearing encampments" mean? Our goal is not to criminalize homelessness but to lift them off the streets through an approach that connects them with desperately needed services.

We are already seeing local governments implement measures to do this. Recently, the San Diego City Council passed the Unsafe Camping Ordinance. The ordinance prohibits homeless encampments in all public spaces, including schools and parks, if shelter beds are available. The San Diego County Board of Supervisors is exploring options to take the ordinance county-wide. Los Angeles and Sacramento also passed measures aimed at clearing these inhumane encampments.



Cal Matters

TENTS: Homeless tents at an encampment near the PATH apartment complex in Los Angeles on Nov. 17, 2021.

It's past time we implement a similar policy statewide. Tents are everywhere. No community is immune, and this crisis needs a statewide solution.

Last year, I introduced the bipartisan Senate Bill 31 to prohibit encampments near sensitive areas around schools, parks, libraries and daycare centers and connect impacted homeless people with treatment and services.

Unfortunately, the measure was shot down by liberal Democrat lawmakers on the Senate Public Safety Committee. Interestingly, these lawmakers did not vote against the measure, they simply refused to cast a vote at all, likely in fear of backlash for once again failing to tackle the homeless crisis.

I am not giving up and will continue to push for a statewide policy to compassionately clear these encampments.

As we explore new approaches to the homelessness crisis, it's important to reflect on what failed in the past and why. Thanks to California Senate Republicans' demands for accountability, we may finally get some answers to a big question: What happened to the billions of dollars spent on homelessness? This year, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee authorized an audit on homelessness spending with bipartisan support. We cannot keep repeating the same failed, expensive mistakes of the past.

I'm renewing my calls for Capitol Democrats to work in a bipartisan manner, act on homeless encampments and focus on the safety and wellbeing of the most vulnerable in our communities. The current statewide approach to homelessness is clearly failing and Californians are tired of it. It's time for all elected officials to prioritize compassion and safety over political gamesmanship. We will not give up on the fight to protect our communities and compassionately clear encampments.

Both sides agree that we cannot allow the homelessness crisis in California to continue. The state must take a new approach to fix California. We can and we must do better.

The homelessness conversation by California Voices features authors involved with the issue to help Californians grasp the solutions and areas of consensus. State Sen. Brian W. Jones is the Senate Minority Leader and represents the 40th Senate District. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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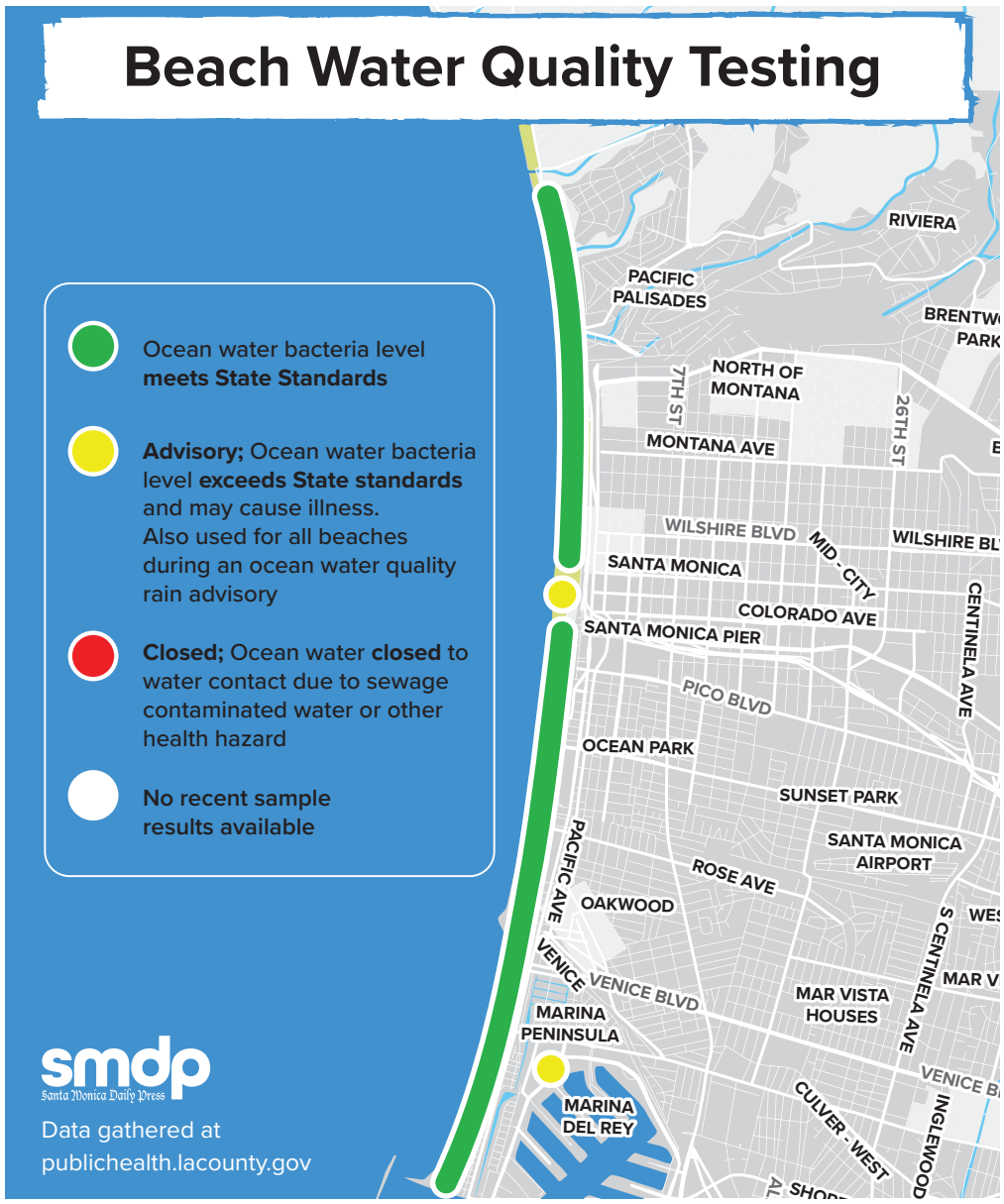
City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP: #386 2023-24 PARKING STUDY**
- **Submission Deadline Is November 30, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.



HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 6

belonging to other races.

Advocates say veterans can be reluctant to ask for help.

"When veterans ultimately fall down that hole into homelessness, what is happening along with that is that they're losing connection with friends and family, because they're ashamed that their life is falling apart and it's hard for them to ask for help," said Stephen Peck, president of the veterans support organization U.S. Vets.

WHAT DOES NEWSOM WANT TO DO?

Putting the money into the mental health bond comes with a tradeoff.

In advancing Newsom's mental health plan, lawmakers amended an early version of Assemblymemer Irwin's veterans' housing bill that would have issued more bonds for the existing veterans' housing program. Without new funding, the program that supports construction of multi-unit veterans' housing is expected to run out of money in 2024.

Still, representatives for Newsom's ballot measure in a written statement said the bond would create more capacity to help former troops.

"Proposition 1 adds new money for California's most vulnerable veterans without any redirection or reprioritization from the current program. Without Proposition 1, there would be zero funding for homeless veteran housing moving forward, which is why the measure is so critically needed," the statement read.

All together, the ballot measure going to voters includes $6.4 billion to fund projects for behavioral health issues and those at the risk of homelessness. It also includes a proposal to adjust how the state spends money it collects for mental health services from a tax on personal income over $1 million, aiming to direct more of the money to housing.

The $1 billion for veterans housing will be distributed in the form of loans and grants by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Representatives from veterans' groups say the program's success could hinge on getting the word out, and providing services that provide a path out of homelessness.

Supported by the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF), which works to ensure that people have access to the care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford. Visit www.chcf.org to learn more.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



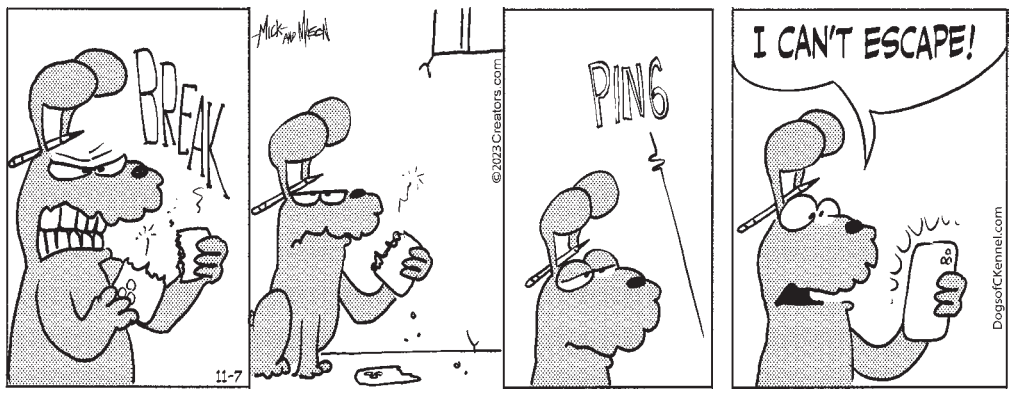
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

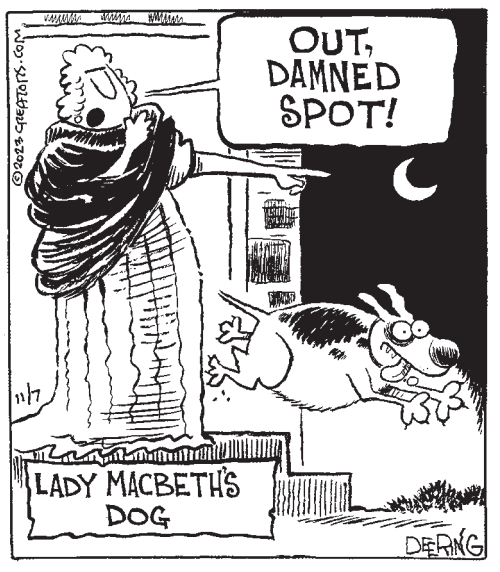
By PETER GALLAGHER



"ONE MANI-PEDI, ONE PEDI-PEDI."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Dinner time

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

Bake
Beans
Beef
Board
Boil
Brains
Burnt
Care
Cook
Corn
Cube
Cure
Cuts
Dice
Dust
Eggs
Entree
Fold
Fricassee
Fruit
Heat
Icing
Jams
Lamb
Lunch
Mango
Meuniere
Mint
Pan-fry
Pear
Peel
Pies
Recipe
Render
Rissole
Roast
Salad
Satisfied
Sauce
Scald
Seafood
Sift
Skim
Souffle
Steep
Stir
Stove
Supper
Tart
Tongs
Toss
Truss
Utensils
Veal

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 7)

You'll do as you say you'll do, and it will feel powerfully good to know your word makes things happen. You'll restructure your routines, strengthen your skills and achieve the mastery which attracts admiration, students and supporters. More highlights: new pastimes and passions, an epic partnership and a financial position you once only dreamed about. Virgo and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 50, 30, 13 and 18.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Being your own advocate sometimes requires you to push yourself and other times requires you to back off. Make work a pleasure by taking it in easy chunks. All unfolds with grace under relaxed circumstances.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Just because you're uncomfortable doing a new activity doesn't mean you made a mistake in choosing it. Being uncomfortable, even deeply so, only means you're growing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ideas are like clothes you're trying on for fit. Some are so big you'd have to pad yourself to hold them up. Others are so restrictive you couldn't get into them without bursting the seams. Keep testing until you find your Goldilocks idea.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When people find out what you do and how well you do it, they'll want to be a part of it. Because beginnings and endings are easier to remember than middles, you'll make an impression with an entrance or an exit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your energy is quick and bright. You'll make the usual rounds, but with the extraordinary aim to improve the lighting with your internal sunshine. In this you will succeed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). As you repeat similar types of projects, you become more proficient in identifying which actions lead to a desirable result. Once you figure out what works for you, all you have to do is more of it!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Declare what you want and the muses will perk up their ears. So will the spirit of resistance, known to test declarations of intent by taking on the shape of fear and procrastination. The muses will help you win this one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your ability to work with a wide variety of people is impressive and will be lauded. You focus on the job at hand. Whether you like or agree with a person will be irrelevant to the success of your collaboration.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone you know is living in a bubble of isolation. And though this is an invisible barrier, it is very real in its ability to keep the outside world at a distance. Your warmth and loving intention will pierce the bubble.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're starting to see your work catch on. In the launching stage, it's normal to feel a tinge of possessiveness and want to hoard things for your own. This will pass, and you'll never regret sharing with the world.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The ancients regarded volcanoes as God's anger. Knowing it's just nature's way of letting off pressure doesn't make it any less destructive. When you come across emotional volcanoes, flee the danger zone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll have competitors, and that only means you're going for a prize many want. Don't let that add undue stress. Think of this as motivation to do your best, as well as a chance to practice your sportsmanship.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

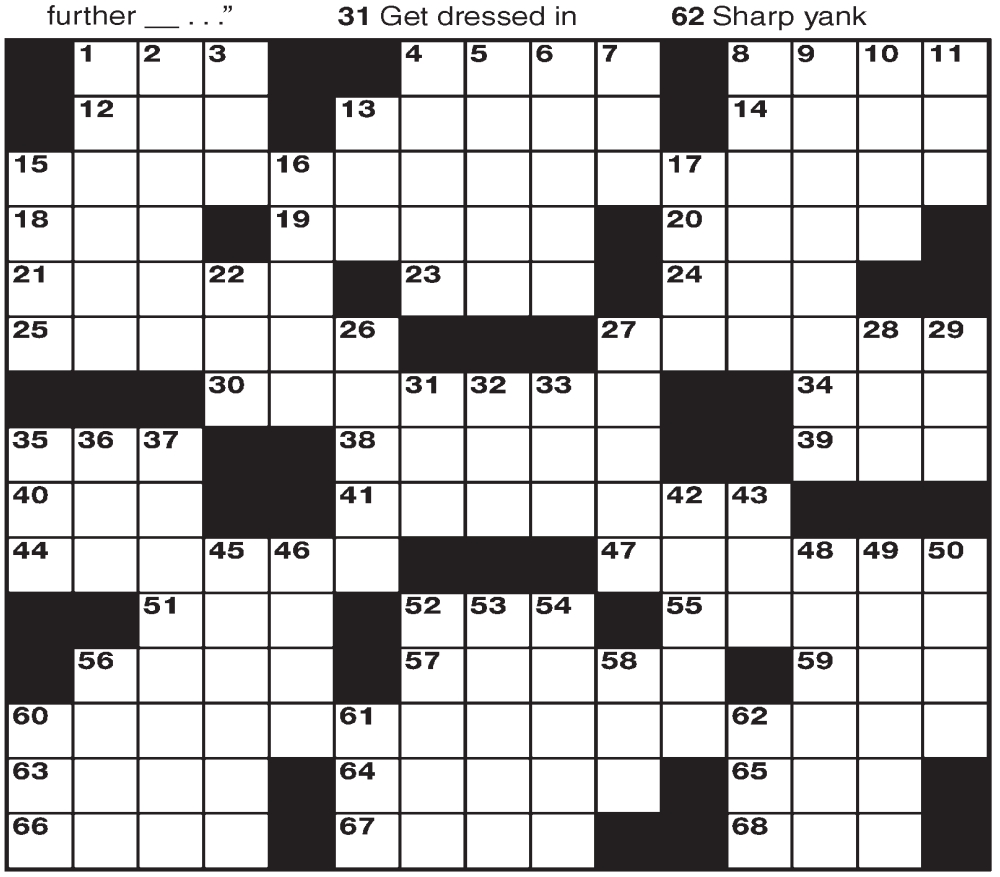
TOO'S DAY by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Comedian's joke
4 House, in Spanish
8 Capital of Norway
12 "Now I see!"
13 Strongly advised
14 On the summit of
15 Too __ (overly near)
18 *All Things Considered* airer
19 French painter Claude
20 "Oh no!"
21 Fundamental
23 "I'd be glad to"
24 Flavor enhancer initials
25 Too __ (with 27 Across, overly shrewd)
27 See 25 Across
30 Any job on a ship
34 Veggie in a pod
35 Mischievous child
38 Discussion subject
39 50% of a dozen
40 Neither here __ there
41 Learning with other students
44 Too __ (with 47 Across, overly appealing)
47 See 44 Across
51 Mai __ cocktail
52 Rested in a chair
55 Primary strategy
56 Cubicle furniture
57 Suspect's explanation
59 DVD player ancestor
60 Too __ ("overly specific" text message)
63 Initial poker bet
64 Extend a subscription
65 Numero __ (the boss)
66 The Loch __ monster
67 Greek war god
68 Hairstyling goo

DOWN

1 Female friend, informally
2 __ of a different color (something unexpected)
3 Service station fuel
4 Old friend
5 See eye to eye
6 Splinter groups
7 "Without further __ . . ."
8 Prone to clumsiness
9 Temporary solutions
10 Handed-down wisdom
11 __ for (choose)
13 ET's vehicle
15 Cable network covering Wall Street
16 Banquet host
17 "What a surprise!"
22 Tubes dripping medicine: Abbr.
26 Math proportion
27 Going in a taxi
28 Luau necklace
29 Phoned-in document
31 Get dressed in
32 Supermarket ID
33 Up to, for short
35 Common suffix for verbs
36 Cow's comment
37 Stands guard over
42 Brown photo tone
43 MO arch city
45 100-yard races
46 Hawaiian carving
48 Deep-sided valley
49 Not fashionable
50 Be entitled to
52 Less risky
53 Without assistance
54 Auto wheels
56 Sand hill
58 German auto
60 Adult male
61 Hunters' org.
62 Sharp yank



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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

SAMOHI VIKINGS

FROM PAGE 1

Held on home turf in poor visibility due to fog in the area, the Vikings turned an early 14-0 deficit into victory behind the dual threat of quarterback Wyatt Brown, who continued his record-breaking 2023 campaign with a sparkling playoff performance. Already holding the single-season passing yards record for his sophomore season, Brown threw for 278 yards on 24 completions against Santa Ana, as well as adding two crucial touchdowns in the rushing game.

After falling behind 14-0 at the end of the first quarter, the Vikings were able to move the ball into scoring position, punctuated by a 7-yard score from senior Caden McCallum. McCallum, who hit the 1,000-yard mark for the Vikings this season, carried the ball 23 times for 135 yards and three scores against Santa Ana.

Down 17-7 nearing the end of the half, the Vikings went to the air after a kickoff return from Jeremy Guerrero set the squad up at midfield, with the combination of Brown and receiver Griffin Seals marching the Vikings into the redzone. Needing a score before the half, Brown switched from his arm to his legs on 4th down, evading a Santa Ana pass rush and running 13 yards for a touchdown. Seals was sparkling in postseason play, catching 12 balls for 155 yards in the contest.

Visibility continued to deteriorate as the second half began, with defense dominating the first possessions for both teams before another McCallum touchdown, this time a 59-yard score, grabbed the home team its first lead of the game at 20-17. A responding Santa Ana touchdown left the Vikings with another deficit, this time at 24-20, with three minutes remaining in the fourth quarter.

With the Vikings season on the line, Brown was brilliant on the final regulation drive, hooking up with Charles Cravings on a 4th-and-3 conversion before hitting Seals with a completion that took the team deep into the Santa Ana redzone. With just one minute remaining, another Brown scramble touchdown secured a 27-24 lead for the Vikings.

The final regulation possession saw Santa Ana in Vikings territory, and after what looked like the last play in heavy fog, Samohi students mistakenly rushed the field thinking the Vikings were victorious. Santa Ana actually had one second on the clock, and after removing students from the field, a 37-yard field goal tied things up at 27 apiece as regulation expired. Students once again rushed the field after the field goal, believing the kick to have missed in the dense fog.

Santa Ana had the first chance at ending the contest in overtime, but two short runs and an incomplete pass forced the opponent into a missed field goal attempt. The Vikings then took over on the Santa Ana 25-yard-line, with Cravings breaking a tackle after a catch to set the squad up on the 2-yard-line. On the very next play, McCallum plunged his way into the endzone, with the raucous Samohi faithful finally getting to rush the field properly.

Now 7-4 in 2023 after the playoff win, the Vikings have moved on in the CIF Southern Section Division 9 brackets, now faced with tackling the Troy Warriors on Friday evening at Fullerton High School. Like the Vikings, Troy finished the regular season 6-4, defeating Monrovia in its first postseason matchup by a 41-28 score. The Warriors feature a three-headed monster in the backfield, with three running backs rushing for over 500 yards in 2023.

SAMOHI FOOTBALL:

Nov. 3- Vikings vs Santa Ana
Vikings win 33-27 (OT)

Passing:

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 24-38, 278 yds, 11.6 YPC

Rushing:

Caden Mccallum (#5, Senior): 23 carries, 135 yds, 5.9 YPC, 3 TD

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 11 carries, 23 yds, 2.1 YPC, 2 TD

Receiving:

Griffin Seals (#15, Senior): 12 rec, 155 yds, 12.9 YPC

Charles Cravings (#3, Junior): 6 rec, 69 yds, 11.5 YPC

Payton Seals (#14, Sophomore): 4 rec, 42 yds, 10.5 YPC

Isaiah Fernandez (#22, Sophomore): 1 rec, 13 yds, 13.0 YPC

Caden Mccallum (#5, Senior): 1 rec, -1 yds, -1.0 YPC

Defense:

Jayden Montanez (#71, Senior): 9 tackles (4 solo, 5 asst)

Caden Mccallum (#5, Senior): 8 tackles (5 solo, 3 asst)

Samuel Reynoso (#45, Junior): 4 tackles (3 solo, 1 asst), 1 Tackle For Loss

Theo Naessens-Dowling (#4, Senior): 4 tackles (2 solo, 2 asst)

Charles Cravings (#3, Junior): 4 tackles (2 solo, 2 asst)

Amir Jahromi (#57, Senior): 3 tackles (1 solo, 2 asst), 1 Tackle For Loss

Maui Williams (#51, Freshman): 2 tackles (2 solo), 2 Tackles For Loss, 1 Sack

Manny Lares (#24, Junior): 2 tackles (2 solo), 1 Pass Deflection

Aaron Heirigs (#49, Sophomore): 2 tackles (2 solo)

David Solis-Valdovinos (#9, Senior): 2 tackles (1 solo, 1 asst), 1 Pass Deflection

Darian Hawkins (#20, Sophomore): 1 tackle (1 solo)

Payton Seals (#14, Sophomore): 1 tackle (1 solo)

Jeremy Guerrero (#10, Junior): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Brandon Valdovinos (#11, Senior): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Kidus Woldegiurogis (#8, Senior): 1 Pass Deflection

Special Teams:

Osbaldo Rivera (#18, Junior): 3-4 PAT

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 2 Punts, 88 yds, 44.0 YPP

Jeremy Guerrero (#10, Junior): 4 Kickoff Returns, 61 yds, 15.3 YPR

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TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 7

GAME DAY FOR KIDS & FAMILY

Celebrate International Games Month by playing board games at the library. Explore new adventures, solve murders, and give your heart to a princess. Family session for ages 3-9. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 3 - 5 p.m.

GRAPHIC NOVEL READING CLUB

Online discussion of Fullmetal Alchemist Vol. 1 by Hiromu Arakawa. 11:15 a.m. https://smc-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtdOmqrT0jHtepD1qecVWMzystsnPSccc1#/registration

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE PANEL

Learn first-hand information and practical advice from healthcare industry professionals. All SMC majors welcome! This event is co-sponsored by the Career Services Center and the Pre-Health Professional Association (PHPA). If you need an accommodation due to a disability, please email dsps@smc.edu or call 310-434-4265 at least 5 business days prior to the event. 11:15 a.m. https://smc-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdO-uqzIrGtHH6PFNuiqdaWgX9EBFQMit#/registration

LA MADE: SOUND BATH MEDITATION

Sound bathing is a form of meditation, a massage for your brain, using crystal bowls, drums, elemental chimes, and other modalities. The frequency of sound transmutes and relaxes the subconscious to lighten our psyche. After a sound bath, you can expect to leave feeling lighter, more at ease, and deeply connected to the world around you. This vibrational healing technique is especially beneficial when we realize that everything is vibration. So when we begin to heal ourselves at a vibrational level, we are healing ourselves at the most basic root of existence. 11820 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 8

COMPUTER CLASS - TIPS FOR ONLINE HOLIDAY SHOPPING

TIPS FOR ONLINE HOLIDAY SHOPPING - Find the deals and avoid the scams. Learn tips for getting the most bang for your buck online this holiday season. All levels. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

STUART HOUSE: PRESENTS SIMPLE STRATEGIES TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Conversations around body safety should happen in every family and can be done with ease and without fear or discomfort. Come discover how you can start this conversation with your child today.

Las conversaciones sobre la seguridad del cuerpo deberían ocurrir en todas las familias y se pueden hacer con facilidad y sin temor ni incomodidad. Venga a descubrir cómo puede iniciar esta conversación con su hijo/a hoy.

Register online at https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtcuqsrDgqHtLiKAtSs2o8RrPgjHcK2m33#/registration 6 - 7 p.m.

VENICE BACKGAMMON CLUB WITH LIVE JAZZ

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, 8 p.m. $20.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 9

ICE AT SANTA MONICA GRAND OPENING

Come take part in the fun and festivities all under the starlit Santa Monica sky! Join us for an enchanting evening of free ice skating after the ceremony-a perfect way to kick off winter!Free skate from 5-9:30PM Groove to the coolest beats spun by our talented DJ while you skate. Corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue

REFRAME: CITY HALL MURAL - OPEN HOUSE AND COMMUNITY MIXER

Join organizers in the Historic Santa Monica City Hall for a public preview of findings from the Reframe: City Hall Mural project community engagement phase and to celebrate the months-long process. Meet the organizers and public participants in the project, view art in the lobby and the "Lives that Bind" exhibition in City Hall East, and meet fellow residents and interested stakeholders. Learn about the recommendations that arose from the process before they're presented to City Council for consideration in early 2024. You'll have an opportunity to ask questions and to tell us how you would like to be involved in the next phases of the project. This will be a casual evening with light refreshments and good conversation. Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. 6 - 8 p.m. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reframe-city-hall-mural-open-house-and-community-mixer-tickets-744635624197

SAMOHI XC

FROM PAGE 3

Nico Lombard (Senior): 16:12.19, 28th overall

Brody Wilkes (Senior): 16:35.59, 32nd overall

Girls' Varsity 3-Mile Run:

Redondo Union- 49
Palos Verdes- 53
Mira Costa- 60
Santa Monica- 68
Peninsula- 119
Culver City- 189

Phoebe Benun (Junior): 17:34.97, 1st overall

Cleo Topp (Junior): 18:58.59, 13th overall

Hawene Alomayehu (Senior): 19:06.47, 14th overall

Matilde Martinez (Senior): 19:07.96, 15th overall

Crystal Gaitan (Sophomore): 19:46.59, 25th overall

Maeko Gross (Junior): 20:18.77, 30th overall

Siena Tovar Burke (Junior): 20:34.33, 33rd overall

Next Meet: Saturday- Girls' Varsity at CIF Preliminary Meet, Mt. San Antonio College

thomas@smdp.com

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