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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Lady Vikings go for CIF flag football title, Mariners begin playoff run



Photo by Stephen Edwards

FOOTBALL: The Saint Monica Mariners return to postseason football action on Friday.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The regular season has concluded for Santa Monica's high school football squads, with one team ready for a championship showdown and another attempting to return to postseason glory.

Saturday will see the first-ever CIF Southern Section Division 4 Flag Football Championship game between the Samohi Lady Vikings (13-6) and Fullerton (18-6), with the Lady Vikings taking a title berth via a 13-7 victory in Montebello

SEE **LADY VIKINGS** PAGE 11

Japanese cuisine comes local for two-day Pier festival



Courtesy image

PIER: The Japanese cuisine-focused Konamon Festival will hit the Santa Monica Pier this weekend.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Locals at the Santa Monica Pier will have their attention to the other side of the Pacific Ocean this weekend thanks to some legendary cuisine.

On both Saturday and Sunday, the Pier will play host to the first-ever Konamon Fest on the West Coast, a tribute to both Japanese street food and culture. Konamon, which is flour-based cuisine, is a hit in its home country and is continuing its American expansion

SEE **JAPANESE CUISINE** PAGE 10

Santa Monica voters back Hochman and harsher criminal penalties while opposing rent control expansion

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

While Santa Monica voters backed a slate of progressive, liberal candidates for City Council this week, voters took a slightly more conservative turn in some regional and state races.

The Unity Slate of Dan Hall, Ellis Raskin, Barry Snell and Natalya Zernitskaya remained on the top spots Thursday for City Council.

SEE **ELECTION** PAGE 10


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California beat Trump in court his first term. It's preparing new cases for his second



Photo by Julia Demaree Nikhinson, AP Photo

TRUMP: Republican presidential nominee former President Donald Trump arrives at an election night watch party at the Palm Beach Convention Center, in West Palm Beach, Fla. on Nov. 6, 2024.

BY ANA B. IBARRA AND NIGEL DUARA

During the four years that Donald Trump was president the first time, California sued him about every 12 days on average.

Now that he's returning to office, Democratic state leaders are preparing potential new lawsuits.

State Attorney General Rob Bonta has been developing plans to defend California policies since the summer, when polls showed a good chance that Trump would win the election. Bonta has said his team has preemptively written briefs on a variety of issues in preparation of what's to come.

"During the previous Trump administration, California (Department of Justice) fought hard against Trump's rollbacks and unlawful policies that infringed on Californians' rights…and would do so again if need be," the attorney general's office said in an unsigned email response before the election.

California sued the Trump administration 123 times and scored major victories. Among them: California defended the state's clean air rules, preserved the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) that benefits undocumented people who came to the United States as children, and protected the Affordable Care Act.

Those issues — the environment, immigration and health care — could once again be the main battle lines in the lawsuits that are expected to be waged between California's Democratic administration and Trump's White House.

Gov. Gavin Newsom foreshadowed potential disputes in a statement Wednesday.

"California will seek to work with the incoming president — but let there be no mistake, we intend to stand with states across our nation to defend our Constitution and uphold the rule of law," he said. "Federalism is the cornerstone of our democracy. It's the United STATES of America."

This time, some experts anticipate that Trump will bring forward a more methodical approach to policy.

They point to Project 2025, a 900-page document by the conservative think tank the Heritage Foundation that lays out a conservative agenda. While Trump tried to distance himself from the blueprint during his campaign, former members of his administration contributed to the report.

SEE **NEW CASES** PAGE 11







Why Kamala Harris losing may not boost Gavin Newsom's presidential prospects



Photo by Ted Soqui, SIPA USA via AP Images

NEWSOM: Gov. Gavin Newsom holds a press conference to announce the expansion of the film & TV tax credit program, in Los Angeles, on Oct. 27, 2024.. The annual $750 million tax incentive program is designed to stimulate movie and TV production in California.

BY ALEXEI KOSEFF

As debate raged this summer over whether President Joe Biden should abandon his re-election bid, Gov. Gavin Newsom's stock soared.

The California Democrat became a fixture on the national political stage as he stood behind Biden to the bitter end — a boost in profile, long cultivated by Newsom, that made him a serious prospect in conversations about who Democrats could select as a replacement nominee.

That possibility was cut short when the party quickly consolidated behind Vice President Kamala Harris after Biden dropped out of the race in July. And though her loss to former President Donald Trump this week does reopen a path for Newsom to seek the presidency in 2028, he emerges from the wreckage in a considerably weakened state.

While deeper analysis remains to be done about why the national electorate broadly shifted to the right in this election, Democrats are likely to be skeptical that another culture warrior from California represents their best chance of rebuilding the party after voters rejected Harris, who came out of the same San Francisco political circles as Newsom.

Matt Rodriguez, a Democratic consultant who worked on presidential campaigns for Barack Obama, Dick Gephardt and Bill Bradley, said a Newsom campaign would be stuck with a challenging message: "If you didn't love the first movie, you're gonna love the sequel."

"Being from California is a bit of a millstone around people's necks and that will make Democrats skittish," Rodriguez said.

Newsom, who steadfastly denies any interest in the White House even as he appears to lay the groundwork for a future campaign, has yet to comment on the presidential election results. Neither his office nor his political team responded to inquiries.

But he won't be leaving the spotlight anytime soon. With two years remaining in his governorship, Newsom is poised to return to the resister-in-chief that he was during Trump's first term — a move that could boost his appeal to loyal Democrats even beyond California's borders.

"What else is there? If you're a Democrat today, you're wiping your tears away," said Democratic consultant Andrew Acosta. "They're not going to roll over and say, 'Well, I guess I need to give Donald Trump a chance.'"

Whether the relevance that comes with being Trump's foil translates into votes outside of the most devoted MSNBC viewers is far less certain.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is in New Hampshire to attend a fundraising event for U.S. President Joe Biden's campaign, greets people at the Common Man Roadside Cafe & Deli in Hooksett, New Hampshire, on July 8, 2024. Photo by Reba Saldanha, Reuters

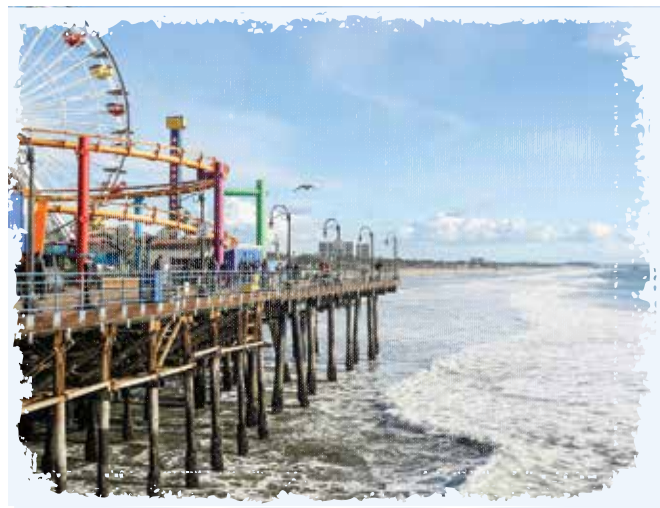
Once the fog of this election lifts, Democrats face a reckoning over the message that will carry them forward, especially as they continue to lose ground with traditionally Democratic working class and nonwhite voters. The party found itself in this position in 1988, after a third straight presidential election loss, and ascended again with Bill Clinton by co-opting conservative messaging on crime and the economy.

If the argument to pivot to the center wins out, then a staunch liberal like Newsom — whose gubernatorial record includes a moratorium on the death penalty and an executive order phasing out the sale of gas-powered cars — could be seen as too big of a risk for Democratic primary voters.

"There will be a lot of soul searching," Acosta said. "The California baggage does become problematic."

Republicans would be only too happy to pounce in a general election. Trump routinely made California a punching bag in his campaign, and his closing argument against

SEE **PROSPECTS** PAGE 6



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **58.6**

FRIDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: Knee to thigh
1-2FT

Rebounding steep-angled NW swell, building through the day. Modest SSW swell mixes in. AM wind looks light, the high tide best for small wave focal points.

SATURDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: Knee to thigh
1-2FT

Similar to Friday, we're expecting some steep-angled NW swell-mix to wrap in for the day. Small SSW swell joins in. Local conditions looking to be OK for now for at least the AM.

Weather

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 65. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. West northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast after midnight.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 65. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/11/08	Fri	04:42 AM	3.59	H
2024/11/08	Fri	06:50 AM	3.53	L
2024/11/08	Fri	1:16 PM	4.68	H
2024/11/08	Fri	9:31 PM	0.28	L
2024/11/09	Sat	04:57 AM	3.98	H
2024/11/09	Sat	09:37 AM	3.17	L
2024/11/09	Sat	2:59 PM	4.53	H
2024/11/09	Sat	10:23 PM	0.24	L
2024/11/10	Sun	05:19 AM	4.46	H
2024/11/10	Sun	10:53 AM	2.41	L
2024/11/10	Sun	4:23 PM	4.53	H
2024/11/10	Sun	11:06 PM	0.28	L
2024/11/11	Mon	05:44 AM	5.04	H
2024/11/11	Mon	11:48 AM	1.50	L
2024/11/11	Mon	5:32 PM	4.57	H
2024/11/11	Mon	11:44 PM	0.44	L
2024/11/12	Tue	06:13 AM	5.66	H
2024/11/12	Tue	12:38 PM	0.57	L
2024/11/12	Tue	6:34 PM	4.58	H

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: 11/06
12 17 37 58 62
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 92 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/05
2 24 25 52 58
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 334 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/06
19 30 32 41 44
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 38 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/06
1 11 12 32 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/06
EVENING: 7 5 3
Draw Date: 11/06
MIDDAY: 6 0 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/06
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:44.85

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Santa Monica Daily Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

With Measure A, Los Angeles voters embrace a bigger response to homelessness



Photo by REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton

HOMELESS: Alard Gavorkian, who said she had been homeless on the streets for twenty years, tends to her shelter on the sidewalk near an Apartment complex in downtown Los Angeles, California, U.S., January 29, 2022.

BY JIM NEWTON

The pressing demand for progress on homelessness in Los Angeles moved both forward and back this week, with voters freeing up billions of dollars to address the issue locally as elected officials lose a vital ally in Washington.

The political shift in the White House has ramifications far beyond Los Angeles and homelessness, of course, but it does represent an obstacle. President Joe Biden had supported Mayor Karen Bass in her work to make LA a proving ground for humane strategies consistent with the values and politics of this liberal, Democratic city. And Kamala Harris, who administered the oath of office to Bass two years ago, would have been a reliable friend and ally had she secured the presidency.

That future went up in a wisp of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania smoke, but the election — in LA at least — also had good news for the mayor and homeless advocates. Even though the nation reelected former President Donald Trump, Los Angeles County was well on its way to approving a sales tax hike to pay for homeless services.

And not just any tax. This will be a big investment for a very long time. Measure A, which is leading in the ballots counted thus far, would end the county's existing quarter-cent sales tax for homelessness that was scheduled to expire in 2027 and replace it with a half-cent tax that would begin immediately and continue in perpetuity. That new tax is expected to raise $1 billion a year, and since it has no sunset, that's $1 billion a year forever — or at least until voters revoke it.

Bass was ebullient. "From day one," she said late Wednesday, "we have been shattering the status quo when it comes to confronting the homelessness crisis. Now with Measure A, we will be able to provide more mental health care and more affordable housing."

The money will be administered by the county, adhering to certain spending formulas contained within the measure itself. Officials have vowed to keep tight tabs on spending. According to the text of the measure, 61% of the money raised is slated to pay for homeless services — including money for mental health and addiction treatment — while 35.5% will go to the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency for affordable housing.

The remaining balance, about 3%, will go to the county's development authority to help produce housing.

The county Board of Supervisors will review the funding allocations every five years and can make adjustments. The board also is charged with creating an executive committee to judge the programs being funded by the revenue; that committee will make recommendations to create new programs or eliminate ineffective approaches, again within guidelines. The measure specifically prohibits money from being spent to prosecute unhoused people.

In the runup to the election, Bass promised to ride herd on the funding, staking her personal credibility on the measure. When I spoke with her last month, she stressed the importance of the oversight provisions, and she elsewhere emphasized her determination to guard the funds closely.

"Money will be taken away from programs that do not deliver results," she told reporters

SEE **MEASURE A** PAGE 11

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

In deep blue California, voters don't always march to Democratic drums



Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

ELECTION: A voter fills out their ballot at a voting center in the Firebaugh Senior Center on Nov. 5, 2024. Voters nationwide are casting their ballots in the 2024 Presidential Election.

BY DAN WALTERS

In the parlance of politics, "ticket-splitting" refers to someone who votes for candidates of both major parties. It bedevils political devotees as they turn out partisan voters.

In some states it has been discouraged by allowing voters to back all of one party's candidates by pulling just one voting machine lever and making it difficult to opt for individual choices.

California is one of the nation's bluest states with Democrats holding all statewide offices and huge majorities in the Legislature and congressional delegation. However, the state's voters engaged in some serious ticket-splitting this week, implying that they are not as wedded to the dominant party and its ideological causes as widely assumed.

The state's blue credentials were certainly evident in voting for the two top-of-the-ticket offices, president and U.S. senator.

Vice President Kamala Harris defeated Donald Trump by an almost 3 to 2 margin to capture California's 54 electoral votes, a virtually identical margin to Congressman Adam Schiff's win over former baseball star Steve Garvey in the Senate race.

However as of Wednesday afternoon, the five Republican congressional members who had been targeted by Democrats in hopes of recapturing the House were all running ahead of their Democratic challengers, albeit by very thin margins with many votes still to be counted.

Democratic strategists chose the districts because they had tended to vote for the party's presidential candidates or had Democratic voter registration pluralities.

The dissonance was especially obvious in the San Joaquin Valley districts of Republicans John Duarte and David Valadao, both of which have Democratic voter margins of well over 10 percentage points. Nevertheless, both were narrowly leading their challengers Wednesday.

In another San Joaquin Valley district, Democratic Rep. Josh Harder is locked in a very tight duel with Kevin Lincoln, the Republican mayor of Stockton, despite having an 11-point advantage in Democratic voter registration.

Moreover, Republican Scott Baugh was leading in the duel for an Orange County congressional seat that Democrat Katie Porter gave up to run for the Senate.

With countless millions of dollars having been spent on congressional races, the bottom line is that despite the state's overall Democratic bent, the GOP could retain all of its targeted seats and might even gain two new ones.

Ticket-splitting was also evident in down-ballot issues, particularly voting for and against ballot measures with ideological profiles.

While about 60% of California voters were opting for Democrats Harris and Schiff, more than 70% backed Proposition 36, a measure that increases penalties for some crimes that the state's Democratic leadership, including Gov. Gavin Newsom, opposed.

To punctuate the hardening mood on crime even more, two big city district attorneys who identified with the left-leaning criminal justice reform movement, George Gascón in Los Angeles County and Alameda County's Pamela Price, lost their positions — Gascón to challenger Nathan Hochman and Price to a recall.

Likewise, Proposition 5, a measure to lower the voting requirement for many local bond issues from two-thirds to 55%, backed by Democratic legislators and their allies in public worker unions, was failing on Wednesday, with well over 50% of voters opposed.

Two other ballot measures reflecting left-of-center ideology were also failing or defeated: Proposition 32, which would raise the state's minimum wage to $18 an hour, and Proposition 33, which would make it easier for local governments to impose rent control, was called early Wednesday morning.

While there are still many votes to be counted and the margins are thin, the overall thrust of this week's election in California is that, while it's still a blue state at least in voting for major offices, its voters don't always march in lockstep with the dominant party. California can be somewhat conservative, especially when it comes to crime and money.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California will likely feel the consequences of Donald Trump's decisive victory



Photo by Leah Millis, Reuters

CALIFORNIA: U.S. President Donald Trump visits the charred wreckage of Skyway Villa Mobile Home and RV Park with then Governor-elect Gavin Newsom, FEMA head Brock Long, Paradise Mayor Jody Jones and then-Gov. Jerry Brown in Paradise on Nov. 17, 2018.

BY DAN WALTERS

Elections have consequences, as California is likely to learn when Donald Trump once again moves into the White House.

The state has been a bastion of anti-Trump sentiment ever since the bombastic billionaire real estate tycoon first ventured into politics nearly a decade ago.

Its political figures — particularly Gov. Gavin Newsom, former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and U.S. Senator-elect Adam Schiff — have sought and achieved notoriety for their public denunciations of Trump.

Trump has responded in kind. As president, he attempted to thwart some California policies, such as its reductions of farmers' supplies, and as a candidate portraying Vice President Kamala Harris's home state as a hellhole of crime and social decay.

There's no reason to believe that Trump, despite election night promises to bridge the nation's stark conflicts, will not continue using California as a punching bag during his second stint as president.

The agricultural water conflict is likely to resurface because the state is still trying to reduce farmers' share. Trump's promised crackdown on undocumented immigrants would likely have its greatest impact on California. The state's aggressive crusade to reduce reliance on carbon-based fuels will conflict with Trump's pledge to ramp up oil and gas production.

That's just three points of friction between California and Trump's second presidency, and many more are out there such as gun control and transgender participation in women's sports.

California officialdom appears ready for four years of confrontation. On election night, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas told Politico, "California will do everything we can to protect America from Donald Trump." Attorney General Rob Bonta promised to wage legal battles against Trump on gun control and abortion rights, telling the political news outlet, "We have gone down to the detail of what court do we file in."

Positioning as a Trump foe is a slam dunk tactic for California politicians, especially those, such as Bonta, who may aspire to succeed Newsom as governor two years hence.

But, one might wonder, what does Harris's defeat and Trump's victory bode for Newsom? He will no doubt lead the opposition if Trump tries to punish the state, as he anticipated in a recent interview.

"They're not going to wait to wind up. It's ready, fire, aim — not ready, aim, fire," Newsom said. "And that is going to create a dynamic that will be profound in two senses — from a governing perspective and also from a political attack perspective."

However, would he take the next step of joining what will be a clutch of Democratic politicians angling to succeed Trump in 2028?

While laboriously building a national political profile in the last two years, Newsom repeatedly denied any ambition of becoming a presidential candidate, saying at one point he has "sub-zero interest."

National political media never bought the line and continued to portray him as a potential aspirant for the White House. However, whatever ambition Newsom may have had if Joe Biden bowed out this year was dashed when Democratic leaders immediately anointed Harris as the substitute.

Her decisive defeat probably means that she has hit the political ceiling, particularly since initial election night finger-pointing dwelled on her shortcomings as a candidate, as well as the Democratic Party. The door is now open for Newsom to run, unless he truly intends to finish out his second term as governor and return to life as a restaurateur and wine merchant.

Newsom has spent half of his 57 years climbing up the political ladder, one rung at a time. Is he really willing to give it up? What he does in the coming months, either entering the Democratic Party's forthcoming battle royale or exiting the national political arena, will answer the question.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

BRIEFS

Downtown

"The Ongoing Moment" Opening Reception and Author Readings at SMC's Emeritus Art Gallery Nov. 21

SMC's Emeritus Art Gallery announces the return as an on-campus event of "The Ongoing Moment: Literature and Art from SMC Emeritus," a collaborative journal/exhibition of original writing and art created by Emeritus students in the Autobiography writing class led by author Monona Wali, the Watercolor Studio class taught by artist Catherine Tirr, and the Writing for Publication class taught by Kathleen MacKay.

The free exhibition will run Nov. 21 through Jan. 10 in the SMC Emeritus Art Gallery, located on the first floor of SMC Emeritus, 1227 Second Street, Santa Monica. An opening reception with author readings — also free to the public — will be held Thursday, Nov. 21, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Author readings will start promptly at 5 p.m. in Room 107, and be followed by a reception with light refreshments in the gallery, hosted by Tirr and Wali with Emeritus Associate Dean (interim) Guadalupe Salgado-Shower and Emeritus Gallery Curator Jesse Benson.

Additional details are available at smc.edu/emeritusgallery or by calling 310-434-4306.

"We're thrilled to invite you to our first in-person reception for 'The Ongoing Moment' since the pandemic," said Associate Dean Salgado-Shower. "This is an especially meaningful gathering, as we not only celebrate the incredible art and writing of our talented Emeritus students, but also honor 50 years of the Emeritus community. Please join us in this milestone celebration!"

This year's edition of "The Ongoing Moment" features written works by Gordon Blitz, Lois Bostwick, Linda Brookover, Kathleen Carey, Dorothy Chin, Judy Davidson, Michael Dernburg, William Doran, Bec Edelson, Wendy Fairbanks, Frances Feinman, Caroline Feinstein, Elizabeth Fenjves, Darlene Gaston, Nancy Gimbrone, Linda J. Hernandez, Feiga Herzog, Brett Holler, Ed Johnson, Tracy Katz, Marie Kennedy, Esther Lainer, Jeanne Lee, Margaret Lenzey, Tamar F. Levin, Rhoda Newman, Janice Nishida, Sean O'Shea, Martin Pearlman, Bonnie Deb Schneider Priever, Linda Rosman, Alice Roy, Veena Sadana, Evelyn Salem, Joe Samuels, Jeanne Shamji, Frima Telerant, Sharon Valente, Nancy Vinicor, Wendy Walsdorf, Shifra Myerow Wylder, and Lisa Zarowin.

Artwork in this year's edition was created by Darshini Aithal, Nadia Akaoui, Marilyn Alquizola, Abbe Barron, Jill Benham, Claudia Carol, Eunjin Chae, Mina Choksi, Pat Fennel, Linda Freedman, Caroline Gray, Kathleen Higgins, Kate Kausch, Sun Lau, Erica LeBlanc, Cheryl Lee, Francine Lucey, Barbara Milliken, Janice Nishida, Helene Poletti, Bea Pomasanoff, Sanae Suzuki, Edwin G Torres, Shifra Wylder, and Adam Yu.

Copies of "The Ongoing Moment" will be available for purchase online (while supplies last) at foundation.smc.edu/ongoingmoment or through the gallery website at smc.edu/emeritusgallery. The cost is $10 per copy.

SMC's widely praised Emeritus program, founded by Santa Monica College in 1975 to serve the lifelong learning interests of older adults, offers more than 120 noncredit adult education classes and special programs that serve more than 3,000 students each year.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

City of Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Public hearing on the following topic will be conducted during the Santa Monica Rent Control Board meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at City Hall, Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.:

Consideration of proposed revisions to Chapter 15 for hearing procedures.
The agenda and staff report are available on the Board's website at:

www.santamonica.gov/rentcontrol.

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BRIEFS

Downtown

'Moments' Exhibit at Gallery 612

Gallery 612 is a small contemporary art gallery in Santa Monica that is hosting its first group photography exhibition. Photography is a special art form and while almost anyone can take a picture - an Artist can freeze time in a single moment to share a unique perspective capable of evoking emotion, crafting a narrative, or transporting the viewer to an entirely different place. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and this exhibition is going to say a lot. The "Moments" exhibition will have 100+ captured moments displayed and we will be featuring over 80 different photographers, many of whom are local. There will be something for everyone as the show features images in color, black and white, digital, film, landscape, portrait, macro, street photography, lifestyle, and more!

The opening reception will be Friday December 6th from 6-9 PM at 612 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica, CA with a live DJ. The show will run through January 4th, 2025 and we are open Fridays and Saturdays from 1-9 PM and Sundays from 11 AM - 3 PM.

With all pieces priced between $150 and $1,000, "Moments" is also a perfect chance for holiday shoppers to gift original art at an accessible price point. We feel this exhibition offers something truly special for your readers, especially those passionate about local art and photography.

SUBMITTED BY ELIZABETH KIM

Downtown

Step into the Magic of the Holidays at Downtown Santa Monica

As the holiday season approaches, Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM, Inc.) brings the holiday spirit to the downtown district with a series of community events. From the much-anticipated return of Ice at Santa Monica presented by Disney+ and themed skate nights to the delightful Holiday Thursdays and the tree lighting celebration, there's something for everyone to enjoy this season in the heart of Santa Monica.

On Thursday, November 21, the community will gather for the Official City of Santa Monica Tree Lighting Ceremony from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the 1300 block of Third Street Promenade. Santa will make a special appearance to illuminate the official City of Santa Monica holiday tree, while attendees enjoy live music, festive treats and the company of friends and family as the promenade transforms into a dazzling holiday display. After the ceremony, guests of all ages can take free photos with Santa, create holiday crafts and indulge in complimentary hot chocolate while experiencing "snow" just blocks from the beach! A DJ will provide festive music, complemented by performances from the Westside Ballet, Lincoln Middle School Madrigals, Santa Monica High School Choirs and the SMC Emeritus Concert Band. For more information, visit downtownsm.com/tree-lighting.

Mark your calendars for Holiday Thursdays on December 5, 12 and 19, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Each Thursday will bring a festive celebration on the 1300 block of Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Boulevard, featuring live music, pop-up markets perfect for holiday shopping and activities for all ages. Guests can delight in the lively tunes of Toyland Brass, participate in holiday-themed crafts and write letters to Santa—hand-delivering them to Mr. Claus himself! Local Girl Scout troops will also be on hand to offer gift wrapping services, so come support your local Scouts while celebrating the season. Warm up with free hot cocoa and experience the festive atmosphere created by thousands of twinkling lights adorning the promenade. Plus, on December 12, join us for a special pet night featuring treats and free photos with Santa for you and your furry friends. Stay tuned for more details!

The celebration continues with Hanukkah in Santa Monica from December 25 to January 1, featuring menorah lightings at sundown on the 1200 Block of Third Street Promenade. This event invites community members to enjoy a festive celebration of lights. Each evening will be hosted by a different local congregation, honoring this long-standing tradition.

Ice at Santa Monica presented by Disney+ and operated by Willy Bietak Productions, will transform the corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue into a winter wonderland, featuring holiday music and a welcoming atmosphere perfect for families and friends to glide under the stars from November 8, 2024, through January 20, 2025. On opening night, guests can enjoy free skating during the 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. sessions, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

An exciting lineup of musical events at the ice rink will kick off with Wednesdays on Ice, featuring DJs on select nights starting November 13, alongside Classical KUSC Sundays throughout the season. Continue the festivities with Taylor's Birthday Celebration on December 13. Don't miss the New Year's Eve East Coast Countdown on December 31 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. where families and friends can ice skate in a magical atmosphere as they ring in the New Year together. For more information on ice rink events, visit iceatsantamonica.com/events.

Admission to Ice at Santa Monica presented by Disney+ is $22 for a 60-minute session, including skate rental. The rink will be open daily:

Sundays through Thursdays: from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays: 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Extended Hours (December 15 through December 30): Open daily until 11:00 p.m. every day.

In addition to these festive events, downtown Santa Monica is an ideal destination for your holiday shopping, offering a diverse range of options to meet all your needs. Explore popular national retailers at the Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Place like Lululemon, Alo, Sephora and Apple. Nearby, discover unique boutiques like Acorn Store, featuring wooden toys, games and art supplies for kids and Candles on Tap, where you can create custom candles for loved ones. After a day of shopping, indulge in delicious cuisine at one of the many restaurants along the promenade, such as New American fare at 1212 Santa Monica, Mediterranean flavors at Layla, or a sweet treat from McConnell's Fine Ice Cream. With a variety of dining options, there's something for the whole family to enjoy. For details on all holiday happenings in Downtown Santa Monica, visit downtownsm.com/holidays. For more information about Ice at Santa Monica presented by Disney+ and a full schedule of ice rink events, visit iceatsantamonica.com or call 310-807-4822.

SUBMITTED BY SANAZ FAKHIMI THE ACE AGENCY

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

PROSPECTS

FROM PAGE 3

Harris focused as much on painting her as too extreme on issues such as transgender rights as it did on the economic concerns that were top of mind for voters.

Jennifer Jacobs, a Republican consultant who worked across the country this year to elect Trump and GOP candidates, said voters everywhere are tired of the politics and governance that California has come to represent: high gas prices and housing costs, widespread homelessness and retail theft, mass illegal immigration.

A Los Angeles Times poll in February found that half of American adults believe California is in decline, and nearly half of Republicans said California was not American.

"We just had an entire nation say we don't want to be like California," said Jacobs, a San Diego native who like many other residents of the state is planning to move to Las Vegas in the coming months.

Newsom himself has struggled with declining job approval among California voters, who appeared to further repudiate the governor this week when they overwhelmingly passed a tough-on-crime measure that he vocally opposed and maneuvered to remove from the ballot.

"He is California," Jacobs said. "I hope he runs for president. It will be the biggest trouncing you've ever seen."

Of course, the next election is four years away. There's still plenty of time for the mood to change, especially if another messy Trump administration turns off voters and pushes them back toward Democrats, further upending assumptions about their priorities.

After Mitt Romney lost in 2012, unable to dent President Obama's multiracial coalition, Republicans concluded that the party needed to be more inclusive to minority groups and take on comprehensive immigration reform to win the White House. Trump's success trashed that theory.

> We just had an entire nation say we don't want to be like California
>
> - Jennifer Jacobs, Republican consultant

"We have to see where this plays out over the course of Trump's presidency and what's the space that the opposition party fills," Rodriguez said.

For Newsom, however, destiny may be set. Completely reinventing himself over the next few years from anti-Trump hero to, say, economic populist is a tall order that would require disappointing allies and slaughtering sacred cows of California politics.

It's not impossible, but his chances of becoming president probably depend more on the frame of mind the electorate is in several years from now than anything Newsom says or does in the meantime.

"Voters are going to have to be open to him," Rodriguez said. "There isn't much he can do to change that."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Photo by Reba Saldanha, Reuters

Gov. Gavin Newsom, who is in New Hampshire to attend a fundraising event for U.S. President Joe Biden's campaign, greets people at the Common Man Roadside Cafe & Deli in Hooksett, New Hampshire, on July 8, 2024.

HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reader Questions – Reduction of Member Quorum

BY KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ. CCAL

Dear Mr. Richardson: If the Association bylaws state that a director can only be removed by a 51% of the Membership, can that bylaw be nullified by recent legislation? M.W., Chowchilla.

Dear M.W.: Your question implicitly refers to the new law in effect this year, which allows reduction of HOA member quorum if the HOA fails to achieve quorum on the first attempt. "Quorum" is the minimum number of participating members required to allow a membership decision to be made. If the HOA fails on its first attempt to meet the quorum required by the bylaws, it may under Civil Code 5115, reconvene a second attempted meeting for director elections with quorum reduced to 20% of all members. This reduction of quorum only applies to director election. Votes for assessment increases, removal of directors, or other membership votes do not qualify for the statutory reduction in quorum. So, your HOA bylaws do not conflict with the new law. Thanks for your question, Kelly

Kelly, question: The AB 2460 (2024) clean-up bill appears not to have cleaned up the previous bill. The new text says: "the quorum of the membership to elect directors will be 20 percent of the associations members". Many HOAs provide one vote per separate interest, such as our own. Normally that is referred to as the "voting power". A little over half our HOA membership consists of properties with multiple owners. So, that increases the voting power, correct? Is this how you read the clean-up bill? J.H., Manteca

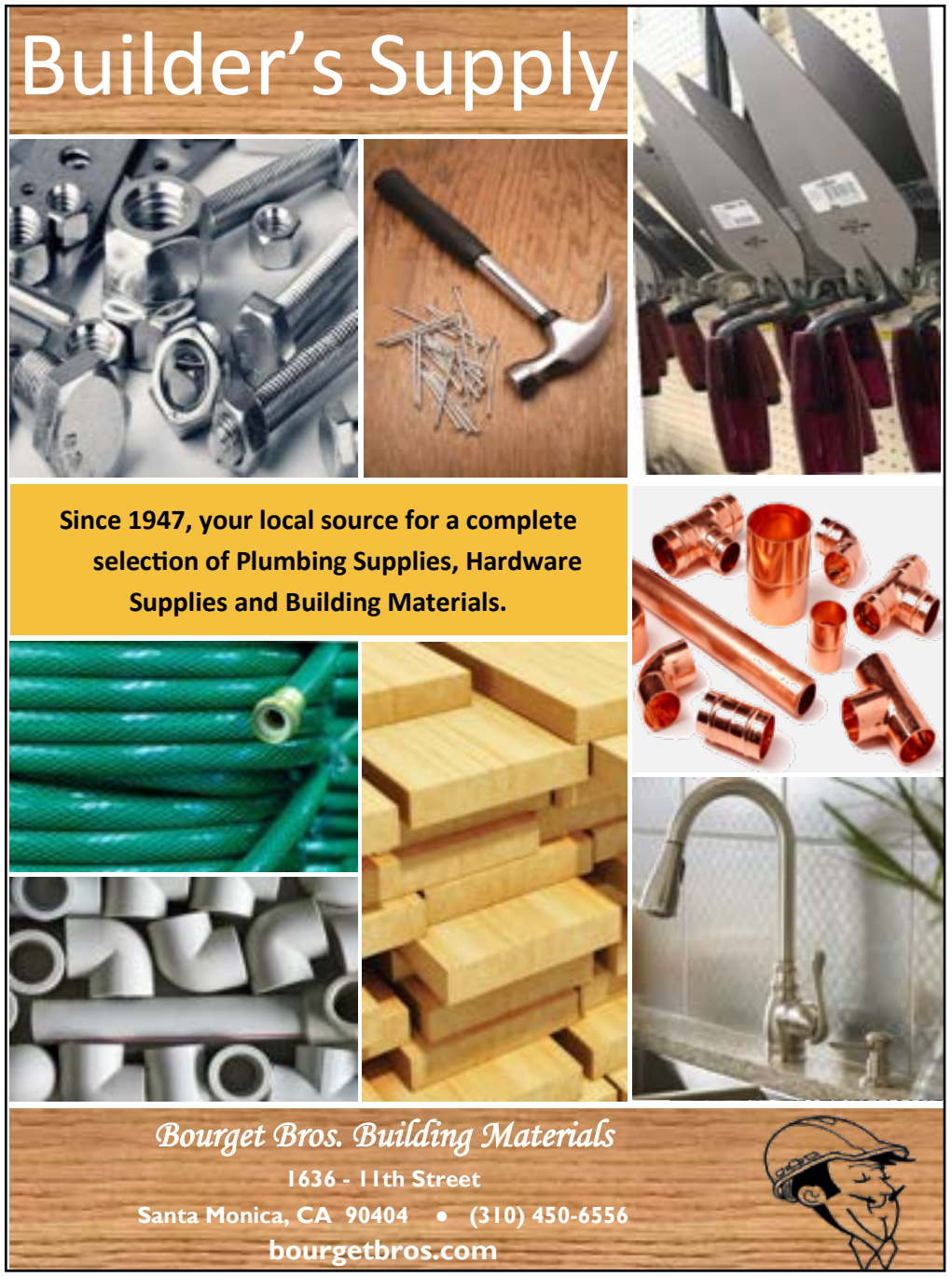
Dear J.H.: Even if there are multiple owners of a given home, that membership is counted as one member. So, the total number of members is still going to be the number of separate properties (apart of course from any HOA owned or common area parcels). The changes Assembly Bill 2460 made to Civil Code 5115 regarding elections are primarily clarifying and do not make any substantive changes to the election processes. The term "voting power" is not found in Civil Code 5115, and the term is no longer useful since all members have the right to vote per Civil Code 5105(h) and 5115(c). The term used to refer to the number of active members who have not had voting rights suspended, but that suspension is no longer permitted. Sincerely, Kelly

Kelly: As you know AB 1458 (2023) created a vehicle for automatic quorum reduction for Davis-Stirling HOAs (CIDs). Unfortunately, non-Davis-Stirling HOAs have no such luxury and one of the only routes to lowering quorum without amending bylaws is still Corp Code 7515. Do you think that given what happened on the CID side with AB 1458, a complaint filed under Corporations Code 7515 would be more likely to succeed- the argument being that the Legislature is showing its intent/opinion that lowering quorums and allowing those members who vote to decide outcomes is preferable to maintaining a high quorum? B.P., Rancho Palos Verdes.

Dear B.P.: Yes, Corporations Code 7515 allows a court motion to be filed to relieve quorum requirements, regardless of whether the corporation is a common interest development. So, a former HOA with expired CC&Rs could invoke that law. That statute also sometimes allows HOAs to get amended bylaws passed when there is difficulty attaining a bylaw-prescribed supermajority of votes. Regards, Kelly

Kelly G. Richardson CCAL is a Fellow of the College of Community Association Lawyers and Partner of Richardson Ober LLP, a California law firm known for community association advice. Send column questions to Kelly@roattorneys.com. Past columns at www.HOAHomefront.com. All rights reserved®.







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Malibu

Paci
Palisa

PACIFIC PALISADES

$2,995,000

16781 Bollinger Dr,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

4 BR, 3BA 2,535 Sq Ft

Listed by N. Lili Geller, DRE #01938836
Compass

SANTA MONICA

$3,999,000

620 11th St,
Santa Monica, CA 90402

4 BR 4 BA, 1,923 Sq Ft

Listed by Richard Schulman, DRE #01427211
KW Advisors

SANTA MONICA

$8,250,000

918 22nd St,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

7 BR 8.5 BA, 5,428 Sq Ft

Listed by Michelle Davaasambuu, DRE #01890302
Compass

SA

$

215
Sant

2 BR

Listed
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Califo
•Dan@

All data gathered at redfin.com

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LISTED THIS WEEK

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$1,395,000

12115 San Vicente Blvd #207,
Los Angeles, CA 90049

2 BR 2 BA 1,296 Sq Ft

Listed by Benjamin Zarifpour
DRE #01971308
Compass

SANTA MONICA

$850,000

1327 Stanford St #3,
Santa Monica, CA 90404

2 BR, 2 BA 988 Sq Ft

Listed by Kseniia Sunny Fedorenko, DRE #02095128
& Safia Lasman, DRE #02072606
The Agency

VENICE

$3,500,000

1814 Penmar Ave,
Venice, CA 90291

4 BR 4 BA, 2,983 Sq Ft

Listed by Luis Mendoza, DRE #01332392
Century 21 Masters

NTA MONICA

1,120,000

0 16th St,
ta Monica, CA 90405

2.5 BA 1,302 Sq Ft

d by Dan Nessel •DRE #01349526
kshire Hathaway HomeServices
rnia Propert •310-365-0195 (agent)
@NesselHomes.com (agent)

VENICE

$2,350,000

330 Rennie Ave #4,
Venice, CA 90291

2 BR 3 BA, 2,125 Sq Ft

Listed by Todd Baker, DRE #01446166
Coldwell Banker Realty

ELECTION

FROM PAGE 1

While it is still mathematically possible for current Mayor Phil Brock to pick up enough votes to retain his seat, it is highly unlikely he would do so.

Brock has been stuck in fifth place since Election Day. He needs to gain about 1,000 votes to climb into fourth and as of Thursday, the County had about 3,500 outstanding ballots to count from Santa Monica voters. While it is possible for more outstanding ballots to arrive through next week (ballots postmarked by Election Day will be counted), Brock has to outpace his rivals by a 2-1 margin to pull ahead and it is highly unlikely that such a high concentration of voters for any one candidate would be clustered in those final ballots.

While Brock's slatemates Oscar de la Torre, Vivian Roknian seem close in voter percentage (both at a little over two percentage points out of fourth place), they are even further behind Brock in the actual vote count and each needs more than 2,000 votes.

At the county level, Santa Monicans were on par with the region in backing the more conservative Nathan Hochman over incumbent District Attorney George Gascon. About 54 percent of Santa Monica voters backed Hochman in his effort to unseat the more liberal Gascon. Locals were also on par with the state in opposing the expansion of rent control as 54 percent of local voters voted "no" on Prop 33. It was a similar outcome for supporting harsher criminal penalties via Prop 36 with 54 percent of locals voting in favor.

Voters overwhelming supported repealing the ban on same-sex marriage and backed new funding for schools by a 2-1 margin. Locals supported efforts to lower voting thresholds to approve new bonds for housing and supported a ban on forced labor for prisoners by similar margins (although both of those appear headed for defeat at the state level). Santa Monicans bucked the state trend and supported raising the minimum wage.

Locals backed Democrat Adam Schiff over his Republican rival Steve Garvey almost 4-1.

Countywide, the total election results count is now 2,883,736, which is 50.27% of registered voters. According to the Registrar of Voters, a large number of Vote by Mail ballots were returned on Election Day and their office continues to prioritize the timely processing of these ballots to establish a clear number of outstanding ballots in this election.

The preliminary estimate of outstanding ballots to be processed is 906,100 countywide.

Final vote results will be reported in the Official Election Canvas, a 30-day period in which the registrar processes and verifies all outstanding ballots to ensure that every eligible ballot cast by Election Day is counted.

editor@smdp.com

JAPANESE CUISINE

FROM PAGE 1

in Santa Monica.

"This is something (to bring) the idea of Japanese culture, (which is) to make something affordable and easy food to grab in (the) street," Japan Taste Marketing Inc. Event Coordinator Stephanie Yoshida said of the event.

The event's main sponsor is Otafuku, a Japanese sauce and ingredients company that wanted a soiree to celebrate the culture of Konamon. The cuisine has gained a foothold in America with events like JAPAN Fes New York, now aiming for California as its next takeover.

Along with Otafuku, another 15 vendors will be present, including some heavy-hitters in the Japanese food scene. Japan's most famous brand of Takoykaki, a flour-based batter ball filled with crispy, golden octopus, will be represented via Gindaco. Another spot, Denko-Sekka, is known for its Okonomiyaki (a savory pancake dish) and was the first restaurant of its kind to earn a Bib Gourmand rating in the Michelin Guide.

"A lot (vendors are) also famous (for) food in Japan, so we wanted to put it together and introduce the atmosphere, and we wanted to do this at this unique place (that) is Santa Monica Pier, which is a center of tourism … so we can have locals and tourists to enjoy this festival," Yoshida added.

Yoshida also pointed to more "interesting" collaborations, such as the festival-famous brand Tokyo Yakisoba and J's Kitchen, which combines traditional flavors of Warabi Mochi (soft rice cakes made from broken starch) to create a drinkable item.

"(It's) made out of special mochi powder, and it's cold mochi that you can enjoy in summer or (fall) or anytime," Yoshida said. "This is a very unique mochi coming into the United States right now."

Tickets for the event are $10, and for an extra $35, locals and tourists alike can try a special Sake flight with five tastings of the unique alcohol and a special souvenir cup. While the two-day festival will also have performances and a family play area, the delectable bites remain at the forefront.

"(It's) mainly focused (on) the food," Yoshida added. "We just want everyone to enjoy the food and some fun time from the beach."

To purchase tickets for the event, visit konamonfest.com.

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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NEW CASES

FROM PAGE 2

There is also some overlap between what he's proposed and what's outlined in the document, such as mass deportations and overhauling the Justice Department.

Choosing battles in a second Trump term

In his victory speech, Trump signaled policy objectives that would likely conflict with California's goals, such as expanding oil production and turning the nation's public health agencies over to vaccine skeptic Robert F. Kennedy Jr. — although in what capacity is still unclear.

"He's going to help make America healthy again," Trump said about Kennedy during his speech. "I just said: 'But, Bobby, leave the oil to me.

"'Bobby, stay away from the liquid gold. Other than that, go have a good time.'"

Attorney General Rob Bonta speaks during a one-on-one discussion at the CalMatters Ideas Festival at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on June 6, 2024. Photo by Cristian Gonzalez for CalMatters

While Democratic leaders vow to uphold their values, they may be more careful in choosing their battles this time around, said Matt Lesenyie, a political science professor at Cal State Long Beach.

"Some of the legal challenges are substantive, like we want to regulate greenhouse gases. Other ones may be more symbolic, and that's not to trivialize cultural or gender identity, but one thing that has been clear, at least to me in this Trump win, is that those cultural issues are motivating his voters," he said.

Because it is a large state, California also has power to negotiate with the federal government.

"Faced with near-total Republican control of the federal government, Sacramento may think the state does better by negotiating," said David A. Carrillo, executive director of Berkeley Law's California Constitution Center. "That affects whether California's strategy is to fight on all fronts, or to focus on leveraging its size and market power in making its own domestic and international agreements — call it soft secession."

Likely disputes over abortion, health care

By most accounts, health care policies are expected to be contested again.

In his first term, Trump's efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act failed, but he did slash some provisions of the landmark health law.

He also influenced the reversal of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 ruling that protected abortion rights, by appointing three conservative Supreme Court justices.

In 2019 the Trump administration also blocked clinics and providers that offer or refer patients to abortion services from receiving federal family planning dollars. California sued. The Biden administration later reversed Trump's rule. Any similar restrictions on abortion would certainly prompt California to respond with litigation again.

Carrillo anticipates that the Trump administration might move to restrict mifepristone, one of the medications used to induce abortion, by using a 19th Century law known as the Comstock Act.

"One fight California probably can't avoid is abortion, specifically access to mifepristone," Carrillo said. "For example, the federal Comstock Act in general bans sending something for 'abortion-causing purposes' in the mail.

"Expect a major legal battle if federal prosecutors start enforcing that to prevent interstate shipping of medical abortion drugs or contraceptives," he said.

Others say they also expect a fight from states if Trump attempts to make drastic cuts to the Medicaid program. About 14.7 million low-income Californians rely on Medicaid for health coverage. The program is also known as Medi-Cal in California.

Project 2025, for example, proposes to cap what the federal government pays for the Medicaid program, which is funded by both the feds and the states. This means that states would receive a fixed amount regardless of their costs. In the health policy world this is referred to as "block grants" or "per capita caps."

"So that's a big cut, a big cost shift to states, and states would have no choice but to either raise taxes substantially or far more likely, shrink their Medicaid programs to a great degree, which means more uninsured, more people go without needed care," said Edwin Park, a research professor at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy.

Park says one key difference between a second Trump administration and the first is that Trump and his team could have a clearer vision of what they want to do with health care programs this time around. That includes the potential for things like imposing work requirements to qualify for Medi-Cal or slashing aid in Obamacare marketplaces, making it less affordable to sign up.

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.



Photo by Cristian Gonzalez for CalMatters
Attorney General Rob Bonta speaks during a one-on-one discussion at the CalMatters Ideas Festival at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on June 6, 2024.

LADY VIKINGS

FROM PAGE 1

over Schurr last Sunday.

The program's second year, and first CIF playoff run, will come down to the title tilt after the squad bounced back from a 2-6 start with a 11-game win streak. The Lady Vikings dispatched Cabrillo, Estancia, Windward and Schurr en route to the game, which will start at 11:15 a.m. at El Modena High 40 miles southeast of Santa Monica in Orange. Fans can purchase tickets to the game at gofan.com.

On the boys' side, this past Friday the Saint Monica Mariners finished its 2024 regular season campaign with a 53-7 drubbing of St. Bernard, clinching a 7-2 record overall and a 4-1 record in Camino League play. The successful season will continue Friday, as the Mariners will face off against Brentwood School in the 2024 CIF Southern Section Division 10 playoff bracket.

This year, the Mariners brought back much of the 2023 roster that earned the team's first CIF Southern Section Division title since 1998, running through the Section 13 field en route to the title. The team's attempt to reach the Division 6-A State Championship game fell one game short, dropping the Regional Finals 47-27 against Sweetwater.

Leading the Mariners potent offensive attack, responsible for over 41 points per game, has been sophomore quarterback Bradley Cassier. In his second season under center, Cassier has thrown for 1,866 yards at an efficient 64.4% completion clip, also accounting for a sparkling 24-4 touchdown-interception ratio.

Cassier's top targets have been sophomore Anthony Mason (28 receptions, 588 yards, 7 touchdowns) and senior Luke Griffin (26 receptions, 545 yards, 7 touchdowns). Griffin has also stood out on the defensive end as a secondary ballhawk, racking up four interceptions, four pass deflections and a fumble recovery. The senior also paces the Mariners in total tackles with 43.

Augmenting the pass attack has been a ground game anchored by sophomore Elijah Wilson, who followed up his 1,344-yard freshman campaign with another 887 yards on the ground, also contributing 8 rushing touchdowns and 98 receiving yards.

The 7-3 Brentwood School Eagles squad bring its own brand of explosiveness to the Friday matchup, with another sophomore slinger to compete against Cassier. Eagles quarterback Ben Mikail has thrown for 2,368 yards this season, ranking 22nd in tracked California Southern Section quarterbacks on MaxPreps. The Eagles' defense also has sophomore studs in Enzo Longhi (93 total tackles) and Emmett Corwin (8.5 sacks).

Santa Monica's other squad, the Samohi Vikings, will be missing out on the playoff field in 2024 after a 49-13 Senior Night loss to Peninsula on Friday. The Vikings finished 4-6 (1-4 in Pioneer League play), dropping four of the team's last five contests.

The Vikings honored seniors such as running back Giovanni Crabtree, who led the squad through eight contests with 496 yards and 5 touchdowns on the ground. Another key senior departing is Charles Cravings, who was the Vikings' top receiver this year though eight games with 33 receptions for 629 yards and 5 scores.

thomas@smdp.com

MEASURE A

FROM PAGE 4

last month. "I want to make it clear that I mean business, and Measure A means business."

As the measure's passage became clear, Bass reiterated her commitment to watchdogging the spending that it unlocks, praising the package not just for the money it unlocks but also for providing "more accountability."

Measure A's expected approval was particularly notable because it defied some of the election trends — even in Los Angeles, where the same voters who approved taxes for homeless spending also favored Proposition 36, which increases punishments for various drug and theft crimes. And they elected a self-styled tough-on-crime prosecutor, Nathan Hochman, to replace progressive District Attorney George Gascón.

In that sense, Measure A's success suggests that voters, even those who want criminals locked up for longer, remain committed to Bass's approach to the problem of street homelessness, coaxing people from encampments rather than arresting them, providing interim housing and ultimately landing them in permanent places to live. Bass championed that cause as a candidate and has made it the central focus of her mayoralty, starting from her first day in office when she issued an emergency declaration.

In the two years since then, progress has been slow and difficult. Last year's count of the region's homeless offered the first bare glimmerings of hope that her work might be paying off, as the city and county each tallied reductions in the annual homeless count, though only by a fraction. There's still some 75,000 people without housing in Los Angeles County, a gigantic pool of men, women and children in need — often desperate need — of help with their dismaying array of difficulties.

For supporters of Measure A, then, the worry was that pessimistic voters would see such a vast population and turn away, concluding that the government should not be trusted to spend more money on homeless services.

Instead, a solid majority of Los Angeles voters, at least as measured in preliminary returns, supported it.

If the measure represents a vote of confidence in Bass's work so far, it also reflects a clever bit of construction by its backers. Under California law, a tax hike such as this would require the approval of two-thirds of the county's voters if the supervisors had placed it on the ballot themselves. Instead, supporters of this measure created it as a citizens' initiative, circulating petitions and placing it on the ballot in that form.

That meant that Measure A, unlike the sales tax it replaced, only required 50.1% of the votes to prevail. As of late Wednesday, the measure had the support of 56% of voters. That would not have met the two-thirds threshold if supervisors placed it on the ballot, but it was enough, this time, to win.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

Biden gets blamed by Harris allies for the vice president's resounding loss to Trump

AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

Joe Biden's name wasn't on the ballot, but history will likely remember Kamala Harris' resounding defeat as his loss too.

As Democrats pick up the pieces after President-elect Donald Trump's decisive victory, some of the vice president's backers are expressing frustration that Biden's decision to seek reelection until this summer — despite long-standing voter concerns about his age and unease about post-pandemic inflation as well as the U.S.-Mexico border — all but sealed his party's surrender of the White House.

"The biggest onus of this loss is on President Biden," said Andrew Yang, who ran against Biden in 2020 for the Democratic nomination and endorsed Harris' unsuccessful run. "If he had stepped down in January instead of July, we may be in a very different place."

Biden will leave office after leading the United States out of the worst pandemic in a century, galvanizing international support for Ukraine after Russia's invasion and passing a $1 trillion infrastructure bill that will affect communities for years to come.

But having run four years ago against Trump to "restore the soul of the country," Biden will make way after just one term for his immediate predecessor, who overcame two impeachments, a felony conviction and an insurrection launched by his supporters. Trump has pledged to radically reshape the federal government and roll back many of Biden's priorities.

"Maybe in 20 or 30 years, history will remember Biden for some of these achievements," said Thom Reilly, co-director of the Center for an Independent and Sustainable Democracy at Arizona State University. "But in the shorter term, I don't know he escapes the legacy of being the president who beat Donald Trump only to usher in another Donald Trump administration four years later."

Biden on Thursday avoided directly addressing the electorate's seeming repudiation of his presidency. Instead, he noted that Americans will feel the effects of the administration's signature legislative efforts for years to come.

"Don't forget all that we accomplished," Biden said in a brief Rose Garden address attended by Cabinet members and top aides but not by Harris. "It's been a historic presidency — not because I am president but because of what we've done. What you've done."

He issued a statement shortly after Harris delivered her concession speech Wednesday, praising her for running an "historic campaign" under "extraordinary circumstances."

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Democrats got caught up in a wave of anti-incumbency in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic that upturned governments in democracies around the globe irrespective of ideology. She did not directly respond to questions about criticism that Biden waited too long to bow out.

"He believed he made the right decision," Jean-Pierre said at her daily briefing.

Only about 4 in 10 voters in the 2024 presidential election approved of how Biden handled his job as president, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of more than 120,000 voters nationwide. Roughly 6 in 10 disapproved, and Donald Trump won a strong majority of those voters who were dissatisfied with Biden.

Some high-ranking Democrats, including three advisers to the Harris campaign, expressed deep frustration with Biden for failing to recognize earlier in the election cycle that he was not up to the challenge. The advisers spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly.

Biden, 81, ended his reelection campaign in July, weeks after an abysmal debate performance sent his party into a spiral and raised questions about whether he still had the mental acuity and stamina to serve as a credible nominee.

But polling long beforehand showed that many Americans worried about his age. Some 77% of Americans said in August 2023 that Biden was too old to be effective for four more years, according to a poll by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs.

The president bowed out on July 21 after getting not-so-subtle nudges from Democratic Party powers, including former President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California. Biden endorsed Harris and handed over his campaign operation to her.

Massachusetts Rep. Seth Moulton, one of several Democratic lawmakers who publicly pressed Biden to step aside this summer, said Thursday on CNN that the Democratic Party "would have been much better off" if Biden had left the race earlier.

Yang argued that Democratic Party leaders also deserve blame for taking too long to push out Biden. With few exceptions, most notably Minnesota Rep. Dean Phillips, Democrats shied away talking publicly about Biden's age.

"Why was this not coming from any Democratic leaders?" Yang said. "It's a lack of courage and independence and an excess of careerism, if I just keep my mouth shut, we'll just keep on trucking along."

The campaign was also saddled by anger among some Arab American and young voters over its approach to Israel's conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon. Sen. Bernie Sanders, an ally of Biden and Harris, said in a statement that Democrats lost the thread on working-class Americans' concerns.

"Will the big money interests and well-paid consultants who control the Democratic Party learn any real lessons from this disastrous campaign?" the Vermont independent said. "Will they understand the pain and political alienation that tens of millions of Americans are experiencing?"

Democratic National Committee Chair Jaime Harrison took to social media Thursday to push back on Sanders' critique, saying that Biden was "the most-pro worker President of my lifetime."

Harris managed to spur far greater enthusiasm than Biden was generating from the party's base. But she struggled to distinguish how her administration would differ from Biden's.

Appearing on ABC's "The View" in September, Harris was not able to identify a decision where she would have separated herself from Biden. "There is not a thing that comes to mind," Harris said, giving the Trump campaign a sound bite it replayed through Election Day.

The strategists advising the Harris campaign said the compressed campaign timetable made it even more difficult for Harris to differentiate herself from the president.

Had Biden stepped aside early in the year, they said, it would have given Democrats enough time to hold a primary. Going through the paces of an intraparty contest would have forced Harris or another eventual nominee to more aggressively stake out differences with Biden.

The strategists acknowledged that overcoming broad dissatisfaction about rising costs in the aftermath of the pandemic and broad concerns about the U.S. immigration system weighed heavy on the minds of voters in key states.

Still, they said that Biden had left Democrats in an untenable place.

Harris senior adviser David Plouffe in a posting on X called it a "devastating loss." Plouffe did not assign blame and said the Harris campaign "dug out of a deep hole but not enough." The post was later deleted.

At the vice president's concession speech on Wednesday, some Harris supporters said they wished the vice president had had more time to make her pitch to American voters.

"I think that would have made a huge difference," said Jerushatalla Pallay, a Howard University student who attended the speech at the center of her campus.

Republicans are poised to control the White House and Senate. Control of the House has yet to be determined.

Matt Bennett, executive vice president at the Democratic-aligned group Third Way, said this moment was the most devastating the party has faced in his lifetime.

"Harris was dealt a really bad hand. Some of it was Biden's making and some maybe not," said Bennett, who served as an aide to Vice President Al Gore during the Clinton administration. "Would Democrats fare better if Biden had stepped back earlier? I don't know if we can say for certain, but it's a question we'll be asking ourselves for some time."

Associated Press writers Matt Brown, Chris Megerian, Zeke Miller and Linley Sanders contributed to this report.

BRIEFS

The Pier

Veterans Day Ceremony to be held Nov. 11 at the Pier

The city of Santa Monica will join the U.S. Army for a Veterans Day ceremony on Monday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. on the Santa Monica Pier. Now in its fifth year, the event will feature exciting performances, military demonstrations and a flyover, as well as remarks from senior military leaders and local elected officials. The ceremony, which will take place on the Pier's west parking deck, is free and open to the public.

The event program will include:

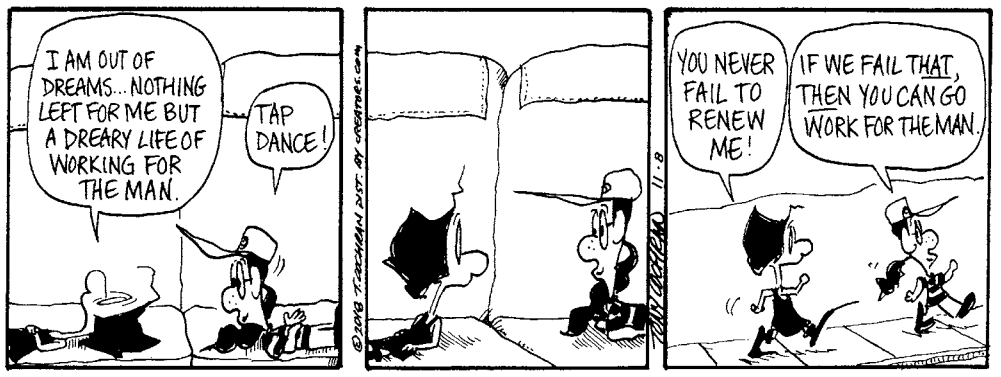
- A military convoy led by former NFL players Andrew Whitworth, Cade McNown, and Donnie Edwards with Army vehicles from the California Army National Guard
- Posting of Colors performed by UCLA ROTC cadets
- A military flyover with Blackhawk and Chinook helicopters from the U.S. Army Reserve
- Demonstration by the West Point Drill Team from the United States Military Academy
- Performances by the 300th Army Band
- National Anthem and "God Bless America" performances by Miss USO Heidi-Marie Ferren
- Keynote speech from a top Army 4-star General
- Remarks from Santa Monica Mayor Phil Brock
- Remarks from Councilmember Gleam Davis
- Remarks from former NFL All-Pro and Super Bowl champion Andrew Whitworth
- Future soldier swearing-in ceremony by Major General Dianne Del Rosso
- Free ride tickets for veterans and active military members (courtesy of Pacific Park)
- Free meals for veterans and active military members (courtesy of Meals on Wheels)
- Music and entertainment provided by 95.5 KLOS (courtesy of Meruelo Media)

"On this Veterans Day, and every day, we should strive to honor our veterans not only with words but through our actions," Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Sonki Hong, who organized the event, said. "We can support them, advocate for their needs, and ensure that they feel valued in our communities. Each veteran carries a unique story, filled with bravery and sacrifice, and it is our duty to listen to those stories and recognize their impact on our lives. We should also acknowledge the families of our veterans, who stand by them through challenges and triumphs. Their support is vital and deserves our deepest gratitude."

SUBMITTED BY TATI SIMONIAN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

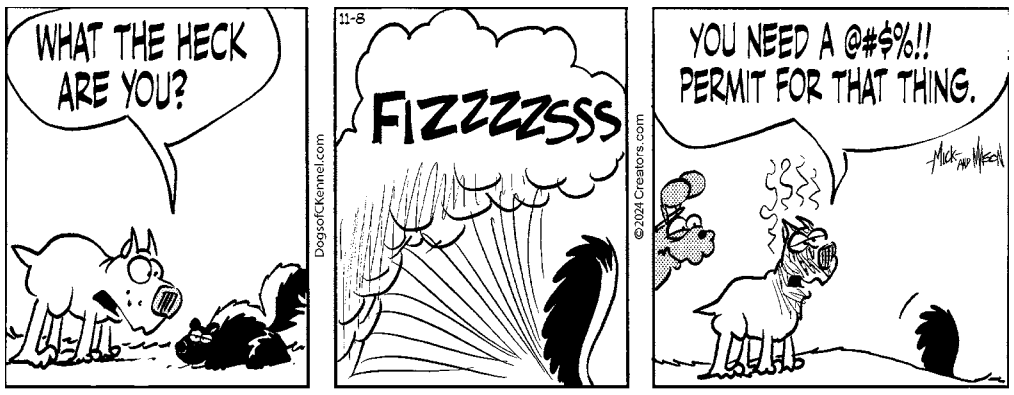
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6388

Adopted words

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

Ad hoc
Attache
Au pair
Bete noir
Chutzpah
Critique
Cul de sac
Czar
Deja vu
Droit du seigneur
Ergo
Ersatz
Fatwa
Faux pas
Gateau
Gesundheit
Grand mal
Gulag
Guru
Habeas corpus
In situ
In vitro
Karaoke
Pro rata
Rapport
Rendezvous
Safari
Salaam
Saute
Smorgasbord
Uber
Vis-a-vis

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
What code do you follow?

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 8)

Prioritize your needs, feed your whims and be creative whenever possible. Everything else blossoms from your beautiful core connection with spirit and self. More highlights: You'll reconfigure finances to excellent effect. A long-term pursuit takes you to places beyond your wildest imagination. You'll turn 10 strangers into people who play a special and distinct role in your life. Aries and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 20, 5 and 41.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're hesitant to request what you need because the words will highlight its absence. You can avoid asking by pretending your heart's desire is already yours. It works even better than asking today, as you somehow attract the solutions by embodying them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Instead of trying to get more accomplished by pushing yourself harder, think about how you can support yourself better. Compassion starts with the tenderness you afford yourself in your own schedule.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Learning is challenging, but unlearning old habits is even harder. This is why you're very careful about what to add to your life, and even more careful when it comes to what to repeat. If you wouldn't want it every day, don't have it today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today stirs a memory buried deep within you. There's an invisible thread between the present and the past, and the connections will pull you in ways both subtle and strong.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's a time for high standards and a time to throw out the requirements completely because compassion will get you further. You don't have to be perfect to be excellent. Be as generous to yourself as you are to others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Enjoying someone's company doesn't always mean it's easy to be around them. You're willing to be a little uncomfortable at times — or to extend yourself for another person's comfort, for the sake of relationship building.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Nepotism can give a unit ease in communication, as family members tend to have shortcuts of language and expression to give one another immediate understanding of the situation. Familiarity can also breed contempt — oh, the complicated glory of family.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're in flow. Everything is working out just as it should, without you even having to try. It's not luck; it's your sharp instincts guiding you to the path of least resistance. Like water, you find the easiest way forward.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The day has a catchy rhythm: fun, interesting, tedious, boring, then suddenly fun again... almost like the universe playing hopscotch with your energy. Each stage sets up the last for maximum contrast — vivid living!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll see an opportunity where others only see a snag. You'll see a glitch in the matrix when others are scrolling their phones. You'll see a groove in their discarded puzzle piece — and it clicks right into the big picture.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Finding common ground in relationships will be strangely difficult today, but don't sweat it. You don't have to be alike to like one another. You'll learn most from those who have led lives different from your own but who share a similar tone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Today feels like riding a unicycle. Sometimes you lean, sometimes you wobble, but as long as you're moving forward, you're still going places. You have an innate sense of balance that kicks in to keep you from falling.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

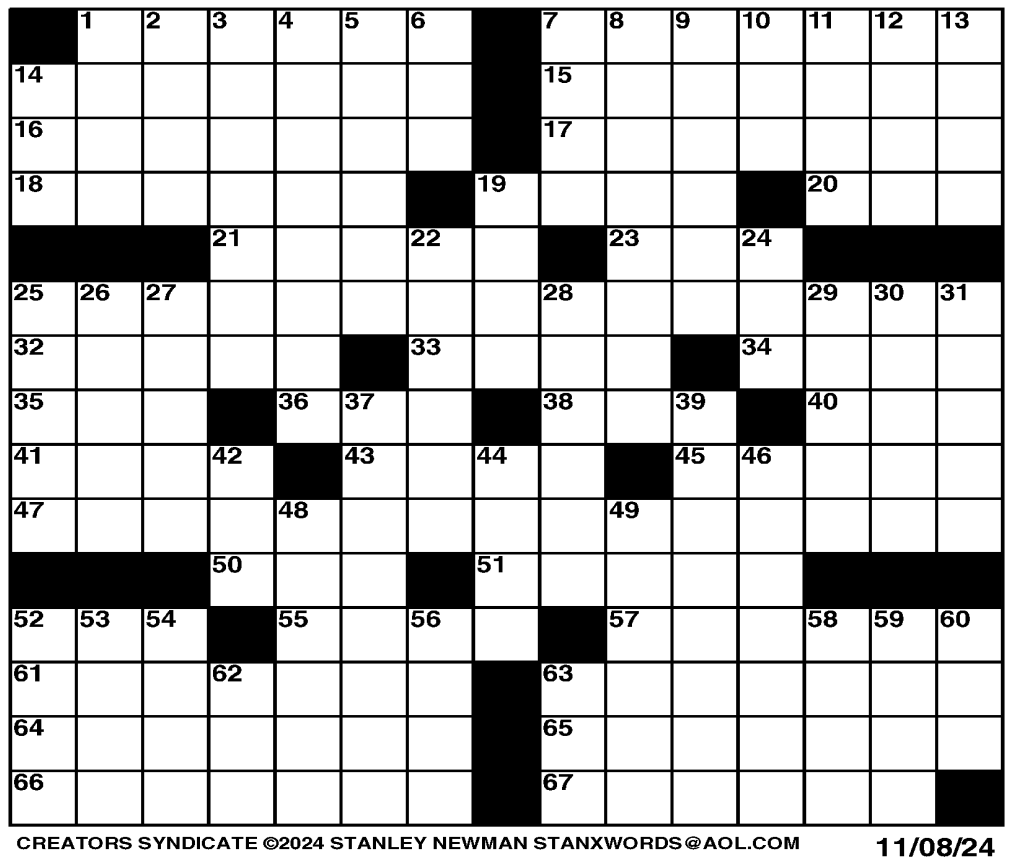
SLOW DOWN by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Criticize severely
7 Serenades
14 Called names
15 Mystery writers' awards
16 With 17-Across, perhaps too quick
17 See 16-Across
18 Public perception
19 Without __ (inimitable)
20 Org. founded by Billie Jean King
21 Prop (up)
23 Scatter
25 Impetuosity adage
32 Face or lace starter
33 Secluded spaces
34 Unaccompanied
35 Hopping brown toon
36 Govt. stipend
38 Female squirrel
40 Director Lee
41 Trim, perhaps
43 Cal. column
45 Shop talk
47 Incautious quickness
50 Leading
51 Be sparing
52 *Abreviatura de esposa*
55 Leave in the dust
57 Fretted
61 With 63-Across, ill-advised time saving
63 See 61-Across
64 Grilling demand
65 On thin ice
66 Ushers elsewhere
67 Great traits

DOWN

1 Quid pro quo
2 Set you back
3 Virtuoso
4 Occupational anagram of HECTARES
5 Taxicab ancestor
6 Flight board abbr.
7 Call at home
8 Unenthusiastic approval
9 Taper
10 VW model
11 Appear
12 Having no play
13 *Odyssey* peak
14 Northern CA hub
19 Chow alternative
22 Spoke in math class
24 Formerly 2-Down
25 Staff builder
26 Entryway for current
27 Poker-faced
28 Continues till
29 Remain in effect
30 NATO alphabet dance
31 Goad
37 Demand for dispatch
39 Korean compacts
42 BO buy
44 Latin being
46 Concentrated
48 Nabokov novel
49 Buffalo minor league team
52 Villainous voice for Irons
53 Mannerless
54 Card readers of a sort
56 PD personnel
58 Broke down
59 Desire deified
60 Adjustment every Mar.
62 Connect
63 Covert ops org.



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11/08/24

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



FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 8

CALVARY CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 701 Palisades Drive, Pacific Palisades. The Calvary Christmas Boutique featured unique gifts, seasonal decor and more while enjoying the festive spirit. Vendors include Adventuretown Toys, Lady Jane Jewels, Sweet Lady Elena and The Closet Trading Co.

ICE AT SANTA MONICA GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION
5 - 11 p.m. Ice at Santa Monica, Corner of 5th St. and Arizona Ave. The Ice at Santa Monica presented by Disney+ grand opening is an enchanting evening of free ice skating after the ceremony. Free skate during the 5:30, 7, 8:30 and 10 p.m. sessions based on a first come basis. Groove to live DJ sets and enjoy captivating on-ice performance featuring Olympic hopeful skaters Katie McBeath and Daniil Parkman. RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ice-at-santa-monica-presented-by-disney-grandopening-tickets-1057716571739.

TRIO BOHÉMO
8 - 10 p.m. First Presbyterian Church Santa Monica, 1220 2nd St. The Da Camera Society presents an evening of Schubert and Brahms with the celebrated Czech ensemble Trio Bohémo. The celebrated ensemble performs two shining stars of the piano trio repertoire: Schubert's Op. 100 and Brahms' Op 8. Tickets $35-$85, to purchase visit: https://dacamerasociety.org/concerts-upcoming/trio-bohemo-plays-schubert-and-brahms/

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 9

LITTLE BLUE DOG RUN GRAND OPENING
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Big Blue Bus Headquarters, 1660 7th St. Join for music, food trucks, a blue ribbon cutting, pet training demonstrations, pet adoptions and the Doggie Fall Fashion Show. To enter your dog into the fashion show, visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JGL3KKS.

A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIGENOUS CULINARY TRADITIONS
2 - 3 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Join Dr. Claudia Serrato as she discusses Indigenous culinary traditions. This interactive lecture will explore cultural food history, cultural nutrition and contemporary food movements.

THE UNRAVELING
2 - 3:30 p.m. The Getty Villa, 17985 Pacific Coast Hwy., Pacific Palisades. Getty Villa Theater Lab presents "The Unraveling," a new plan inspired by Greek mythology exploring the "banishment" of women of a certain age in our society. Conceived and directed by Katharine Noon, artistic director of The Ghost Road Company. Free reservations available at: https://tickets.getty.edu.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
2 - 3:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. It's the 30th anniversary production of the celebrated Rudie-DeCarlo original musical, an excitingly heart-warming, and definitely un-scary, adaptation of the original French tale, proving beyond the shadow of any doubt that true beauty isn't in your appearance, but in your heart. Tickets $15, $12.50 for kids 12 and under. To purchase, visit: https://www.showclix.com/event/beauty-andthe-beast-2024-the-musical.

MICHAEL MAYO ALBUM RELEASE SHOW
8 - 9:30 p.m. Moss Theater at New Roads School, 3131 Olympic Blvd. Michael Mayo, a veteran international jazz performer, will be joined by Andrew Freedman (keys), Nick Campbell (bass) and Robin Baytas (drums) to celebrate the release of his new album "Fly." Tickets $40, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michael-mayofly-album-release-show-tickets-1021822698197.

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 10

FALL FAMILY HEALTH DAY
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy. The SoCalMoms Fall Family Health Day is a day at the beach filled with family-friendly experiences, unique activations, musical performances, gifting, well family resources from the community, plus expert sessions on timely family health topics like nutrition, childhood anxiety, and a family health panel with the Pump Station. Performances by Stories by Music with Kira, the Beat Buds and Chudney Ross of Books & Cookies. Tickets $10, $20 for family pass, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-family-health-day-presentedby-socalmoms-registration-1014991325377.

LOOK WHAT FELL OUT DE MANGO TREE
4 - 5:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. Debra Ehrhardt of "Jamaica, Farwell" fame is back with acclaimed performer Christopher Gossett and iconic Hall of Fame Paul Williams as director. A true story about the importance of forgiveness and the power of vulnerability. Tickets $30, $25 for students, teachers, seniors and military. To purchase visit: https://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/de_mango_tree.html.

MONDAY | NOVEMBER 11

BABY TIME: SESSION 1
10:30am-10:50am Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.
Introduce your child to storytime with interactive books, bounces, and more. Free tickets available at 10:15. For ages 0-17 months.

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR
6:00pm-10:00pm. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close

LANDMARKS COMMISSION
7:00pm.City Council Chambers. Established in 1975, the mission of the Landmarks Commission is "To protect improvements and areas which represent the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history; safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people." [SMMC Chapter 9.56]

TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 12

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM
9:30am-5:00pm Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park. The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 5 pm. The trained Providence St. John's staff can assist with enrollment in CalFresh, the state of California's food subsidy program created to improve the nutrition of families through access to healthy foods. Staff can also help navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. If you have questions about whether you qualify for benefits or if you need help completing enrollment forms, you can make an appointment by calling 310.458.8688. Drop-ins are also welcome.

TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME
10:30am-11:00am. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd
This fun and engaging weekly series, featuring stories, songs and rhymes, travels to a different library location each week. Free tickets are available at 10:15 a.m. For ages 2-5.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:30pm. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore.

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 13

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, MULTI-LEVEL LOW
10:00am-12:30pm, Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) conversation classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. For more information visit the Adult Education Center online . Register online or contact Maria Barajas at (310) 664-6222, ext.76205, mbarajas@smmusd.or

COMPUTER CLASS - HOLIDAY E-CARDS WITH CANVA
10:30am-12:00pm Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.
HOLIDAY E-CARDS WITH CANVA - Learn the basics of Canva, a free online design tool, and make a holiday e-card. An email address is needed to set up your own account (optional). Intermediate level.

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!
12:30pm-1:30pm Venice Branch Library, 501 S Venice Blvd.
Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento.

CANNABIS SOCIAL EQUITY COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1
6:00pm-8:00pm. Cannabis social equity is an important issue that Santa Monica is engaged in to better understand the disproportionate impacts of the criminalization of cannabis. Participate in the first community workshop on cannabis equity to learn about the impacts in Santa Monica, a general overview of the cannabis industry, and what to expect in future phases of this work as the cannabis program develops. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Room 105

SELF-PUBLISHING PANEL: DEMYSTIFYING THE PROCESS
6:00pm-7:00pm, Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. Learn about the advantages of self- publishing and how to get started from a panel of self-published authors.

LITERARY LOUNGE
6:15pm-7:30pm Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Discover the joy of social reading at the Literary Lounge; a space for bibliophiles to bond over books, with music and refreshments. Bring your own book or choose one from a collection of staff picks.

Providence



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So convenient.
So Providence.

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The AEP is your opportunity to select a Medicare plan that gives you access to Providence's expansive network of nationally recognized doctors and hospitals. You'll receive compassionate care and the flexibility to choose when and how you receive care. From in-person and virtual visits to urgent care options, we're here when you need us.

It's the way we deliver exceptional health care that makes it So Providence.

Learn more at Providence.org/SoCalMA

Three easy ways to get started:

1 **Visit Providence.org/SoCalMA.**

Learn the basics of Medicare, get the facts about your options and use our decision tree to help understand your coverage options.

2 **Call 844-992-1259 any day between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Our expert team will answer your questions and help you get the most out of your plan.

3 **Sign up for a seminar.**

Scan the QR code to sign up for a seminar near you led by licensed and independent insurance experts.