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Santa Monica Daily Press



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Rent protest targets Santa Monica company



Madeleine Pauker

PROTEST: Supporters of the failed Proposition 10 marched through Santa Monica this week to protest the high cost of rent.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Supporters of a defeated state proposition that would have paved the way for expanded rent control in California protested Wednesday night at the Santa Monica office of The Blackstone Group, a real estate and private equity firm that donated \$6.2 million to defeat the proposition.

More than 100 protesters from Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment,

Democratic Socialists of America, LA Tenants Union and other groups occupied the lobby of Blackstone's downtown office, where tenants in support of Proposition 10 spoke about their experiences with Blackstone and other corporate landlords.

The proposition's supporters packed every square foot of the lobby, chanting and erecting tents, and were told to leave by Santa Monica Police Department officers about 30 minutes into the protest. Some stayed behind and were arrested — 13,

according to the Democratic Socialists of America, Los Angeles — while the majority left the building to continue the protest on the sidewalk, flanked by police cars.

Despite the fact that 62 percent of California voters cast their ballots against Proposition 10, the protest's organizers said the Yes on 10 campaign was just the start of the state's tenants' fight for rent control and called on Governor-elect Gavin Newsom to

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 6

18th Street Art Center celebrates 30 years in Santa Monica

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica breeding ground for art and social movement is hitting a milestone this weekend and wants the city to celebrate the

occasion with them.

The 18th Street Art Center hits thirty years in the community this Saturday and the organization will be ringing in its third decade the

SEE **30 YEARS** PAGE 7

Popular newcomers outrank incumbents in several races

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monicans enthusiastically voted in newcomers to the Santa Monica City Council and Rent

Control Board (RCB) this month and in both cases, the challengers outscored incumbents for total votes.

Greg Morena earned a Council

SEE **NEWCOMERS** PAGE 5

Uller no longer a City employee

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Alleged child molester Eric Uller is out of jail and out of a job this week.

According to information from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Uller posted a bond for his \$750,000 bail shortly after a court hearing on Nov. 5.

Uller is accused of sexually abusing boys when he was a volunteer at the Santa Monica Police Activities League. He is alleged to have abused the victims between the ages of 12 and 16 years old starting 1986.

Uller, age 50, faces three counts of lewd acts upon a child, two counts of oral copulation of a person under 18 and one count of continuous sexual abuse.

He entered a not guilty plea on Nov. 5 and is scheduled to return to court on Nov. 15.

According to court documents, his bail was set at \$750,000 and he posted bond to be released from custody.

Uller had been employed with the City of Santa Monica's Information Technology department however, city officials said he was no longer a city employee as of this week. No information was available as to whether he was fired or resigned.

City Hall is conducting an internal investigation regarding Uller following accusations that his behavior had been reported in the past. Several community members have said they raised concerns but were not taken seriously. The City's internal investigation is not part of the criminal case which is being handled by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

If convicted as charged, Uller faces a possible maximum sentence of more than 23 years in state prison.

editor@smdp.com

Isabel A. Ash Esq.

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Calendar

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Nov. 9

International Games Week: The Games We Play

Kids can celebrate International games week by joining organizers for an afternoon of board and video games. Ages 4-12. Limited space, register at the library. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 3:30 - 5 p.m.

The Coffee's on Us ... and the Birds!

Drop in to Wild Birds Unlimited at 12433 Wilshire Blvd (across from Armstrong Garden Center) all day on Saturday, Nov. 10 for free coffee. They're celebrating Birds and Beans, a coffee company that grows its beans deep in Latin American forests while preserving the habitats that sustain native birds. Mark McReynolds of Birds and Beans will do three. Presentations (10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.) about how shade-grown coffee provides local jobs and preserves natural habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Saturday, Nov. 10

Spiritual Healing Workshop

Dr. Jaffe, MD - founder of Medical Spiritual Healing Presents a workshop on Why Western Medicine is not Enough! Discover the Ancient Sufi Healing Secrets That Really Work! Addressing Modern Illnesses & Immune Disorders. Mystic Journey Bookstore - 1624 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (310) 399-7979. Nov. 10- 1pm - 5pm. Tickets: \$39 - bit.ly/drjaffe2

Free Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) Class

2 p.m. - Free Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) Class, which is also known as Tapping, with EFT Practitioner Frances O'Brien will be held at the Kaufman Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard. EFT Tapping is very specific, powerful stress-reduction method that can be applied to whatever may be ailing a person. For more, call 310-575-8273.

Library book sale

The Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library Bookstore are holding their annual sale on from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Bookstore at the Main Library at 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica. What will be offered? Art books, history, biography, new fiction, cookbooks, graphic novels, signed books and antiquarian books. Many of our books this year are first editions! If you are driving, please enter the parking lot on 7th between Arizona and Santa Monica Boulevard. Hope to see you there! Contact: friendsofsmpl.org or (310) 395-1951.

Classics Book Group at Fairview

This long-running book discussion group discusses literary classics from around the world. November 2018's book: The Bridge on the Drina by Ivo Andric. Fairview Branch Library 2101 Ocean park Blvd, 11 - 12:30 pm

Friends' Bookstore Annual Sale of Special Books

Join us at the Friends' Bookstore for the Annual Sale of Special Books. Find great deals on Art & Music, Cookbooks, Graphic Novels, New Fiction, History & Biographies, Signed & Antiquarian Books. Proceeds from this sale help the Friends of the Library support a rich array of programming at Santa Monica Public Library. Main Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd, 11 - 2 pm

Open Drawing Lab with Lisa Diane Wedgeworth

An opportunity to work independently and intuitively, paring it down to pencil and paper, under the guidance of and with occasional prompts from Studio Resident Lisa Diane Wedgeworth. Cost: Free! Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 11 - 1 pm

Sunday, Nov. 11

Guest House Open

Free tours begin at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pico Blvd.
Art show supports nonprofits

“AffirmSheArt” Featuring the art of Debbi Singer Opens November 18, 2018
Santa Monica’s the Upper West presents “AffirmSheArt - Working it out in the Paint,” on November 18, from 4 to 7 p.m. The solo exhibition will feature the paintings of Debbi Singer. The artist will be in attendance at the reception. All are welcome to attend this free Santa Monica community event.
“I discovered the Upper West about four years ago. I love the ambiance, checking out the Art and most importantly Chef Nicks artistic food creations. That is what keeps me going back.” She added that she has always been impressed with the art on exhibit at the Upper West and is looking forward to having her own art on exhibit. “Their large walls and beautiful restaurant make for a perfect backdrop so it is an honor.”
Like most artists, she works on several paintings at a time. Painting three to four times a week, she said it is an essential part of her soul’s journey. Most pieces are non-representational influenced by her inner world, events, music, etc.
“It is not unusual for me to take a finished piece and feel compelled to paint over all or part of it,” said Singer. “So some have multiple lives.” She commented that some paintings just come together right away and feel finished. “Other times that is just a starting point and from there I respond to what is on the canvas.”
Singer works with Acrylic paints, Oil pastels, and many mark making tools. She explained, “From time to time I use stencils, mixed media and digital images I create in Photoshop.” Color can be the theme of the work, or the impetus to starting the painting. She chooses not to work in series. “My process is more intuitive and organic and doing a series would feel stifling to me. I feel that my best pieces come from my heart not my head.”
For Singer, Painting is the best medicine. “I turn on my music, pick up a brush and let it rip. I peel away the layers inside myself as I place the layers onto the canvas. Often times I literally “work it out in the paint”. That is why you might see words from earlier layers on a canvas peeking through as she works it out one stroke at a time.
Don’t miss the opening reception of “AffirmSheArt” on Sunday, November 18, from 4 to 7 p.m. Meet the artist Debbi Singer, who will generously donate 50% of all sales to Safe Place for Youth or The Ovarian Cancer Circle. The Upper West is located at 3321 Pico Boulevard. For more information call (310) 586-1111 or visit <http://www.theupperwest.com>, <http://debbisingerart.com>, <http://www.safeplaceforyouth.org> or www.theovariancancercircle.org.

SUBMITTED BY LESLIE REED

Downtown
Burglary suspect arrested

On Wednesday, November 7, SMPD Officers responded to a suspicious person call near the 2500 Block of 2nd Street. While searching the area, officers heard the sound of glass breaking and discovered a suspect broke the front window of an apartment. The suspect entered the apartment and made his way to a bedroom in the unit. Officers arrested the suspect at the scene. In custody: Derek Dunfee, booked for 459 PC, burglary.

SUBMITTED BY THE SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAN FRANCISCO
Yelp’s shares take a beating after revenue miss

Shares of Yelp Inc. took a beating Thursday after the online-reviews site reported soft third-quarter sales and indicated the current period would also be weak.
Yelp’s stock was down \$12.50, or 29 percent, to \$31 in after-hours trading.
CEO Jeremy Stoppelman blamed the revenue miss on the company’s new non-term advertising, intended to encourage advertisers to try the site without being tied to longer-term contracts.
“While the shift to non-term advertising has opened our sales funnel, it has also made our results more sensitive to short-term operational issues,” Stoppelman said in a new release. He said the company said expected revenue would also take a hit in the fourth quarter.
The San Francisco-based company reported revenue of \$241.1 million in third quarter, up from \$223 million during the same period a year ago. That was below Wall Street expectations of \$245.4 million, according to Zacks Investment Research.
Yelp posted profits of \$15 million, or 17 cents a share. Earnings, adjusted for stock option expense, came to 43 cents per share. That was above the 35 cents per share expected by analysts.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO
Incoming CA governor condemns normalized ‘gun culture’

The incoming Democratic governor of California condemned the politicians and gun advocates who he says have normalized mass shootings in America.

Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom was scheduled to make his first public remarks after winning office Tuesday, but he dedicated much of his time Thursday to the shooting in a country music bar in Southern California.
He said facts of this particular case are needed, but said he was talking generally about shootings in America. Last month, a shooter opened fire at a synagogue in Pennsylvania, killing 11.
Newsom is a strong supporter of gun control, and said he has no sympathy for firearm advocates who resist what he calls common-sense regulations.
He blamed the country’s “gun culture” and said mass shootings do not happen anywhere else on “Planet Earth.”

JANIE HAR, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Downtown
Wells Fargo Collecting Non-Perishable Food Items during Holiday Season at Branches and Mobile Location

Wells Fargo and Los Angeles Food Bank, a local Feeding America non-profit affiliate that supports hunger related initiatives, are collaborating this holiday season to collect non-perishable food items for those in need. Last holiday season, thanks to the generosity of Angelenos, more than 22,000 pounds of non-perishable food items were delivered to local food banks and pantries, providing almost 18,998 meals.
This year, from November 13 through December 31, the second annual Wells Fargo Holiday Food Bank program will once again provide the opportunity for customers and community members to conveniently donate items at Wells Fargo’s 1,009 branches, as well as at its 5,700 locations around the U.S.
For a limited time, there will also be one mobile pop-up food banks situated at ICE at Santa Monica (1324 5th St) on November 17 and 18 where contributions to the food bank can be made.
Wells Fargo is working with Feeding America and its network of 200 food bank affiliates around the country to support near-term and long-term hunger-related causes in local communities. Wells Fargo will launch the program with a \$4 million donation to Feeding America. In addition, the company will also match up to an additional \$1 million in consumer monetary donations. During the holiday campaign, Wells Fargo’s national network of 13,600 ATMs will accept monetary donations from customers and others for Feeding America. Customers and community members can also donate online and through Wells Fargo social channels.

SUBMITTED BY JOSEFINA TALAVERA

WASHINGTON
US immigration officials move to restrict asylum at border

The Trump administration is seeking to deny asylum to migrants caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally.
New regulations will block migrants from claiming asylum if they do not come to an official border crossing.
They are intended to speed up rulings on asylum claims, instead of having migrants try to circumvent official crossings on the nearly 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) border.
The move was spurred in part by caravans of Central American migrants walking toward the border. They are now about 600 miles (965 kilometers) away. President Donald Trump has vowed to stop them from entering the country.
The new rules are subject to a presidential proclamation expected Friday in which Trump will invoke the same justification he did for the travel ban. The new rules will almost certainly face court challenges.

COLLEEN LONG, ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK
Ford buys electric scooter sharing company Spin

Ford Motor Co. has bought an electric scooter sharing company, expanding its presence in alternative modes of transportation.
The century-old automobile company announced its acquisition of Spin, a San Francisco-based dockless scooter sharing company, on Wednesday.
Spin operates in 13 cities and campuses and allows riders to borrow a scooter for \$1 and an additional 15 cents per minute.
Ford says the number of mobility options available to people has risen dramatically in recent years, and in some situations people use multiple forms of transportation during a single trip.
Ride-sharing giants Uber and Lyft also have been investing in scooter-sharing companies. Ford also owns bike sharing system Ford Go Bike in the San Francisco Bay Area.
Financial terms of the Spin acquisition were not disclosed.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



**NOTICE OF REQUEST
FOR PROPOSALS**

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County is inviting proposals on the following: Bid #19.16 Chromebooks, fitness and quality being equal, supplies grown, manufactured, or produced in the State of California will be given preference.

Bid package will be available per request on Tuesday November 13th via email to tberumen@smmusd.org.

All bids must be filed in the Purchasing Office at 1651 Sixteenth Street, Santa Monica, California on or before: **Monday, November 26, 2018 by 2pm** at which time the bids will be publicly opened. Each proposal must be marked with the bid name and number. The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
By Purchasing Director, SMMUSD

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Women May Have Saved Our Democracy

Women must have enormous patience. I say this because 18 months from now will mark the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote. Given Tuesday's sweeping election results, if this turns out to be "The Year of the Woman," it couldn't come at a better time.

Clearly without women running for office and voting in such high numbers, the Democrats wouldn't have won the House and Trump would be more demagogic than ever. (If that's possible.)

The GOP congressional defeat was their worst since Watergate. And yet, as I watched Tuesday night, I occasionally covered my eyes like a kid watching a horror movie. I also found myself recalling the film *All the President's Men*.

In the movie's next to last scene that takes place after midnight, Woodward and Bernstein (Redford and Hoffman) rush to the elegant house of Washington Post editor Ben Bradlee (Jason Robards.) Grumpy and wearing a robe, Bradlee invites his young reporters inside but they flash a handwritten note, "Our lives are in danger."

Bradlee cautiously walks his weary reporters to the lawn where they can't be bugged. He tells them to go home, take a bath, maybe nap for 15 minutes and "Get the hell back on the story. There's not too much at stake here," he says sarcastically, "only the Constitution and the future of our democracy." That's how I felt as Tuesday night's election results began coming in.

So, thanks to women, our democracy is no longer on life-support and is breathing on its own. In looking back, we shouldn't be surprised about the crucial female contribution given the massive Women's March the day after Trump's 2017 Inauguration.

The March advocated for human rights, women's rights, immigration reform, health care reform, reproductive rights, the environment, LGBTQ and racial equality. None are exactly in Trump's Top Ten, with the other 9 likely being "What's Good For Me!" (Trump now admits there's global warming but says it will reverse itself, adding absurdly, "I have a good instinct for these things.")

Ironically, during the 2016 campaign, some "less enlightened" males claimed a female president could be consumed with her hair and make-up and could suffer from menopausal mood swings. I say "ironically," because Trump has admitted he spends 90 minutes a day on his hair and makeup and has so many mood swings he seems tri-polar.

Wednesday revealed wildly erratic behavior, even for Trump. In the morning he fired Attorney General Jeff Sessions. He replaced him with Matthew Whitaker as Acting Attorney General despite apparent conflicts of interest. The move is being

compared to Nixon's infamous Saturday Night Massacre.

Actually this highlights numerous similarities between Nixon and Trump. (Except Nixon was highly intelligent, a student of world history and extremely well read, whereas Trump doesn't even read Daily Briefings.)

In fact, it's possible that Trump scandals may be far worse than Watergate. For example, there was never even a suggestion Nixon cooperated with a foreign adversary, according to John Dean, former White House Counsel whose congressional testimony led to Nixon's downfall. (Recently, Trump, in mobster manner, called Dean a "rat," as though telling the truth was a character flaw.)

Dean wound up going to prison and being disbarred. Recently, however, he said that he never once doubted that Nixon would obey the law, as in a court order, etc. Ominously, he can't say the same for Trump. That's why Tuesday's election may eventually bring us to a constitutional crisis like no other, except during the Civil War.

Clearly election related, Trump's behavior at Wednesday's 90 minute press conference was a disturbing mix of somber and surly. Vengefully, he mocked by name losing Republican candidates whom he felt didn't "embrace" him enough. (#Pathetic.) Reminiscent of Baghdad Bob, he also falsely claimed his historic high African-American polling numbers which, in reality, were 8%! (What's next, blame Kanye?)

In addition, Trump warned Democrats if they didn't stop investigating him he would start investigating them, "And I know more about them than they know about me." (Sounding childish like "I know you are, but what am I?")

At one point in the press conference, Trump, who looked like he had fallen asleep in a tanning bed, suddenly left the podium. Some thought he was going to angrily walk right out of the room. Instead, he paced. (#Weird.)

In response to her question about his referring to himself as a "nationalist," Trump called African-American reporter, Yamiche Alcindor, "a racist." He then purposefully picked a fight with CNN's Jim Acosta and later suspended him from the White House. (Petty POTUS panicking?)

Of the nearly 100 women who won Congressional seats on Tuesday, many have extensive military and combat background whereas Trump has a draft-dodger background. Note to Bully In Chief: Sooner than you think, you may meet more than your match.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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California bar shooter had been a Marine, lived with his mom

BY KATHLEEN RONAYNE & JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press

The gunman who killed 12 people at a country music bar in a Los Angeles suburb was a former military machine gunner who was interviewed by mental health specialists months ago after a neighbor reported a disturbance.

Ian David Long, 28, apparently killed himself after the Wednesday attack. He had joined the Marines and gotten married young. Within several years, he left the military and divorced. Later, he enrolled at a university and most recently lived with his mother in a home where neighbors said they could hear aggressive arguments.

Long's service began when he was 18 and lasted nearly five years, including a seven-month tour in Afghanistan, according to the Pentagon. He was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal in 2013.

In April, a neighbor called authorities to report loud noises coming from the house that Long shared with his mother in a Thousand Oaks neighborhood of well-manicured lawns and homes.

Deputies found Long "was somewhat irate, acting a little irrationally" and called in a mental health specialist, Ventura County

Sheriff Geoff Dean said. That specialist assessed Long but concluded he couldn't be involuntarily committed for psychiatric observation.

"The mental health experts out there cleared him that day," Dean told reporters Thursday, less than 12 hours after the Wednesday night massacre.

They also were concerned that Long might be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, Dean said, "basing that (on) the fact that he was a veteran and had been in the Corps."

Long's only other contact with authorities came after a traffic collision and after he alleged he was the victim of a violent encounter in 2015 at another bar in Thousand Oaks, Dean said.

A next-door neighbor said he called authorities about six months ago when he heard loud banging and shouting come from Long's ranch-style home.

"I got concerned, so I called the sheriffs," neighbor Tom Hanson said outside his home Thursday as federal and local law enforcement officers searched Long's house, where an American flag flew over the garage. "I was concerned because I knew he had been in the military."

Hanson described Long as an introvert

who never caused him problems and said he was "dumbfounded" by the massacre.

Another neighbor described frequent, aggressive shouting between Long and his mother, especially over the last year. About 18 months ago, Don and Effie Macleod heard "an awful argument" and what he believes was a gunshot from the Longs' property. Don Macleod said he did not call police but avoided speaking with Ian Long.

"I told my wife, 'Just be polite to him. If he talks, just acknowledge him, don't go into conversation with him,'" Don Macleod said Thursday.

Authorities haven't identified what motivated Long to open fire during college night at Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks, around 40 miles (64 kilometers) from downtown Los Angeles. The city of about 130,000 people is consistently near the top of lists of the safest places in California.

The dead included 11 people inside the bar and a veteran sheriff's sergeant who was the first officer through the door.

"Obviously he had something going on in his head that would cause him to do something like this," Dean said.

The Marine Corps said Long earned several awards, including a Combat Action Ribbon and a Marine Corps Good Conduct

Medal. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Third Marine Division in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

Long's mother, Colleen, posted Facebook photos of her son in his military uniform in 2010 and 2011.

"My Son is home, well sort of, back in Hawaii, soon to be in Cali come January, hooray!" she wrote on Dec. 14, 2012.

Another photo from 2014 shows Ian Long with his arm draped around his mother in front of Dodger Stadium. The two were wearing Dodgers T-shirts and smiles.

Court records show Long was married as a 19-year-old in Honolulu in June 2009, and he and his wife separated in June 2011 while he was deployed to Afghanistan. The couple cited irreconcilable differences in divorce papers filed in May 2013, two months after Long left the Marines. Their marriage officially ended that November.

California State University, Northridge, said in a statement that Long was a student, last attending in 2016, but offered no further details.

Pritchard reported from Los Angeles. Contributing were Michael Kunzelman in College Park, Maryland; Tami Abdollah and Lolita Baldor in Washington; Alina Hartounian in Phoenix; and Reese Dunklin in Dallas.

NEWCOMERS

FROM PAGE 1

seat with almost 20 percent of the vote, second behind one-term incumbent Sue Himmelrich, whom about 24 percent of voters favored. However, he outranked longtime Councilmember Kevin McKeown (who won reelection with about 19 percent of the vote) and pushed incumbent Pam O'Connor out of contention for one of the three open seats.

RCB candidate Naomi Sultan received 26.5 percent of the vote, the highest percentage in her race ahead of one-term incumbent Nicole Phillis, who trailed by just half a percent. Incumbent Steve Duron took third in that race with 22 percent of the vote. Only two incumbents were running for the three open seats.

Councilmember O'Connor's loss was a rarity in Santa Monica making her only the third incumbent voted out in the Council's history.

"History underscores the fact that incumbents are very hard to unseat," said Himmelrich, who supported Measure TL, which will impose term limits on Council members after 2020. "I think (O'Connor) has been dropping in her vote counts in previous elections and this is when she finally dropped off with a strong challenger in (Morena)."

Morena said he is grateful for the support he received from Council incumbents and credits his victory to Santa Monica's politically engaged electorate. He ran on a platform of public safety, renters' rights and affordable housing, preserving neighborhood character and improve sustainability.

"It's an incredible show of how important government is to our community," said Morena, who was raised in Santa Monica and runs a family restaurant on the Santa Monica Pier. "It gives me hope that you can grow up here, get involved, stay involved and be a part of the change that will keep this city great and make it better."

Council member Terry O'Day, who was not up for reelection, said he thinks Morena

was an unusually strong candidate and noted he received a higher percentage of the vote than the Council's two longest-serving members, McKeown and O'Connor.

"The story is really about (Morena) and not about (O'Connor's) loss," O'Day said. "(O'Connor has done so much for our city ... and we owe her a great debt."

O'Connor served as a Council member for 24 years and many consider her signature achievement to be bringing the Expo Line to Santa Monica.

Himmelrich, who was the most popular Council candidate with voters, said she does not plan to run again in 2022 because she has a set of changes she set out to make within her two terms, including promoting the public use of public land and helping Santa Monicans feel more included in their local government.

"I think I'm an independent voice and I think people respond to that," Himmelrich said. "I try to do what I think is right, talk and listen to everybody, answer my own phone and try to be responsive to what people tell me."

Like Morena, a newcomer was popular for the Rent Control Board election. Sultan won a slight majority of votes ahead of Phillis, and said she is looking forward to working with Phillis and other board members to protect tenants and neighborhoods. She added she thinks she brings a new perspective to the Board as a public interest attorney.

"I represent folks threatened with homelessness," Sultan said. "I'm on the front lines of the housing affordability crisis."

Phillis said the election of Sultan, Duron and herself demonstrates Santa Monica's commitment to housing rights and progressive social justice values. In the wake of Proposition 10's defeat, she said, the Board will focus on protecting tenants from corporate landlords, land use speculation and tenant harassment. Proposition 10 would have paved the way to expand rent control in California.

The new Council and Board members will begin their four-year terms on Jan. 1, 2019.

madeleine@smdp.com

Along border, a growing opposition to military deployment

ASTRID GALVAN
Associated Press

Amy Juan drove two hours north from her remote community on the U.S.-Mexico border in Arizona to rally against the deployment of troops there.

She's one of many residents of the Southwest who oppose and are speaking out against President Donald Trump's deployment of over 5,000 military troops to the border to fend off a slow-moving caravan of Central American migrants headed to the U.S.

In El Paso, Texas, a march is planned to protest the deployment this weekend. In Laredo, the city's mayor released a statement referring to the deployment as "false efforts" that will "harm morale and damage the economy of our region."

"Even though our communities are all very different and diverse, we all experience the same thing, which are the effects of militarization at the border," said Juan, who was one of several speakers at a news conference in Phoenix on Thursday. "Having an increased presence of military is scary, you know. It's scary."

Juan is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation, which sits on about 75 miles along the international border. Residents of the reservation have long had a complicated relationship with the U.S. Border Patrol, and its leadership has been vocal about its opposition to the president's plans for a border wall.

"I find the fact that the military is being deployed absolutely terrifying. The amount of militarization that we already experience on a daily basis and that we are currently living under is like living in a waking nightmare," said Eva Lewis, a resident of the small town of Arivaca just north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Many residents of Arivaca have spent years battling the Border Patrol's checkpoints, which require everyone who

cross them to stop and declare whether they are citizens. Trips to school or the grocery store require passing through checkpoints, and many residents say that agents discriminate against Latinos in the area, a claim the agency denies.

In Nogales, Arizona, which shares a name with its neighbor to the south, residents said they were distressed, confused and shocked when the military showed up on election day to install barbed wire on a border fence, according to the Nogales International newspaper.

As of Thursday, there are over 5,600 troops deployed at the border. There are 2,800 in Texas, while 1,500 are in Arizona and another 1,300 are in California.

The military expects to have most of the over 7,000 troops planned for the mission deployed by Monday. A spokesperson for the Department of Defense could not be reached Thursday.

But not everyone opposes the military presence.

Jim Chilton, an Arizona border rancher and staunch Trump supporter, said in a news release to the AP this week that he looks forward to the arrival of more troops. Chilton said the 25 miles of international border in Arivaca is poorly secured and actively sees drug smuggling and human trafficking.

"The lack of access and infrastructure, cartel scout presence, and rough terrain and inefficient 'defense in depth' strategy creates a de facto 'no man's land' in which border ranchers live and work," Chilton said.

Despite rhetoric about the Central American migrant caravan, illegal immigration to the U.S. is at historic lows, with only a fraction of arrests made by the Border Patrol — and twice the number of agents — made this year compared with 2000, at the height of illegal activity.

Associated Press reporter Lolita Baldor in Washington contributed to this report.

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Local

6

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Madeleine Pauker

PROP 10: A protest targeted the local offices of Blackstone due to high rents.

PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

immediately advance policy to expand rent control. Proposition 10 would have repealed the 1995 Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, which limits the types of rent control California cities can enact.

"We have no choice but keep up this fight until we win," said Gloria Cortez, who was evicted by her Pomona landlord and has been homeless with her family for more than a year. "These corporate landlords are always going to ignore the needs of the people, but what about Governor-elect Newsom? Is Governor-elect Newsom going to stand up for us, or ignore the fact that every day more families are being pushed out of their homes with nowhere to go?"

Amid cheers of "What do we want? Rent control! When do we want it? Now!" and

"Housing is a human right," Cecilia Reyna told the crowd that she has been fighting off evictions and rent increases since Blackstone bought her Compton home. Reyna said her husband now works seven days a week to afford the rent, and she has been forced to work more as well.

"Prop 10 didn't fail because voters don't support rent control. Poll after poll has shown the majority are tremendously concerned about the high cost of housing and support rent control," Reyna said. "Prop 10 failed because corporate landlords like Blackstone spent millions to make sure that people wouldn't get what they want and need."

Supporters staged a similar protest at Blackstone's headquarters in New York earlier on Wednesday and indicated that they would continue their efforts in Sacramento to pressure Governor-elect Newsom to introduce rent control legislation.

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30 YEARS

FROM PAGE 1

only way it could— with art, at its WE THE ARTISTS 18th Street Arts Center's 30th Anniversary Celebration.

The event, co-hosted by 18th Street co-founders La Pocha Nostra and Highways Performance Space, bills itself as an immersive live performance festival.

Additionally, the celebration will feature new work from current and previous 18th Street artists, video installations, exhibitions, music, open artist studios, food trucks and complimentary beer.

"We're rethinking of it as a big birthday party," Sue Bell Yank, Director of Communications & Outreach for the 18th Street Arts Center said. "It's for the community and folks that have been a part of us for a long time and for them to enjoy it. For newcomers, we hope to make a connection."

A connection is something the art center has had with the city for its longevity, and not just in terms of a lease agreement.

The alternative art space was created in the 80s, immediately becoming a hub for artists international and local to experiment, mentor each other and organize grassroots political efforts.

Marcus Kuiland-Nazario, one of the many 18th Street artist cofounders who will be present and performing a piece of his own this weekend, said he couldn't be happier to see something he and others created reach three decades.

"Well, I'm happy but it's weird...it makes me feel old," Kuiland-Nazario said with a laugh. "But this place has such a unique legacy ... it's magical here."

Kuiland-Nazario detailed some of the magic he's experienced at 18th, noting the many political storms the artists of the center weathered, gaining an international education as a byproduct of working around each other and how important the center has been for marginalized residents in Santa Monica.

"18th Street has been a petri dish in developing artists and good people. Pick any large institution— the Getty, MOMA, whatever — and you'll find someone that came from 18th. It takes so much to make this machine move. The grooming and education of art leaders and thoughtful people happens here. That's what's important about this place."

WE THE ARTISTS 18th Street Arts Center's 30th Anniversary Celebration takes place this Saturday, November 10 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

angel@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Man Charged With Additional Murder, Attempted Murders for Attacks on Homeless and Others

A criminal complaint was amended today against a man accused of killing four people and injuring eight others in a series of attacks in Los Angeles and Santa Monica earlier this year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ramon Alberto Escobar (dob 6/5/71) now faces four counts of murder, eight counts of attempted murder and six counts of second-degree robbery. The charging document also includes special circumstance allegations of multiple murders and murder during the commission of a robbery, making him eligible for the death penalty.

He pleaded not guilty today to all counts and is scheduled to return to court on Jan. 6 for a preliminary hearing setting.

Deputy District Attorney Victor Avila of the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

On Sept. 16, Escobar is accused of beating three homeless men and robbing one of them in downtown Los Angeles. Two of the men, Branden Ridout and Kelvin Williams, were killed. Another man suffered serious injuries.

Escobar then allegedly beat, killed and robbed Steven Cruze whose body was found under the Santa Monica Pier on Sept. 20. The defendant also is accused of beating and robbing Jorge Martinez in Santa Monica on Sept. 24. Martinez was taken to a hospital where he later died.

The defendant also is accused of attacking a man on Sept. 8 at a Santa Monica beach, two people in Griffith Park a day later, and several others in separate incidents in Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

According to the criminal complaint, Escobar used a baseball bat or blunt object during the alleged crimes.

Escobar faces a possible maximum sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole or death if convicted as charged. A decision will be made at a later date on whether to seek the death penalty.

Case BA471690 remains under investigation by the Los Angeles and Santa Monica police departments.

SUBMITTED BY GREG RISLING, ASSISTANT CHIEF MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

Citywide

Man Gets Seven Years for Hollywood Boulevard Stabbings

A 34-year-old man was sentenced today to seven years in state prison for stabbing two people with a knife and a screwdriver last year on Hollywood Boulevard, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Daniel Samuel Jones pleaded no contest to two felony counts of assault with a deadly weapon and admitted an allegation of causing great bodily injury in a negotiated plea agreement, according to Deputy District Attorney Catherine Mariano. Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Renee Korn immediately sentenced him.

On Nov. 22, 2017, Jones stabbed a woman in the arm with a screwdriver on the sidewalk near Hollywood Boulevard and La Brea Avenue in an apparently random attack. He was accused of then entering a nearby hotel and assaulting two employees with a knife.

After leaving the hotel, Jones stabbed a man walking on the sidewalk in the back with a knife. Case BA463192 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Hollywood Division.

SUBMITTED BY PAUL EAKINS, D.A. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 67.5°

FRIDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2 ft ankle to knee high

Fading WNW swell and Southern Hemi swell mix. AM offshore flow likely and possibly breezy.

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2 ft ankle to knee high occ. 3 ft

New S swell slowly builds. Light AM offshore flow possible.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON OCTOBER 24, 2018 AT ABOUT 5:47 P.M.

Officers responded to Sephora, 1244 3rd Street Promenade, regarding a theft in progress. Additional information was received indicating the subject had left the location. Officers located the subject in the 200 block of Arizona Avenue. The subject was in possession of clothing from other stores along the 3rd Street Promenade -Old Navy, Footlocker and The Gap. All of the clothing was determined to be stolen. Damion Jimmerson, 29, was arrested for possession of stolen property and a parole violation. He was denied bail.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 343 Calls For Service On Nov. 7.

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

Kidnap 4th / Arizona 12:08 a.m.
Burglary 3400 block Ocean Park 12:39 a.m.
Burglary 1100 block 21st 1:21 a.m.
Drunk driving 26th / Santa Monica 1:36 a.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 1600 block Lincoln 3:52 a.m.
Encampment 2300 block Olympic 5:02 a.m.
Encampment 2000 block Ocean 5:19 a.m.
Petty theft 600 block Wilshire 6:10 a.m.
Audible burglar 300 block Wilshire 6:25 a.m.
Indecent exposure 2000 block the beach 6:27 a.m.
Burglary 1200 block Ocean 6:43 a.m.
Strongarm robbery Lincoln / Broadway 7:40 a.m.
Burglary 2400 block Centinela 8:00 a.m.
Strongarm robbery Lincoln / Broadway 8:06 a.m.
Person down 300 block Bay 8:40 a.m.
Petty theft 700 block Broadway 8:43 a.m.
Burglary 1300 block Yale 9:13 a.m.
Fraud suspect 1700 block Santa Monica 9:15 a.m.
Petty theft 3100 block Pennsylvania 9:21 a.m.
Burglary 2400 block Centinela 9:33 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200 block 9th 9:38 a.m.
Threats 1700 block Ocean 9:54 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1300 block 19th 9:57 a.m.
Fraud 2800 block Santa Monica 9:57 a.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln / Ocean Park 10:05 a.m.
Elder abuse 1200 block 6th 10:45 a.m.
Strongarm robbery 700 block Broadway 10:45 a.m.
Vehicle parked 1500 block 9th 10:47 a.m.
Hit and run 2500 block Pico 11:13 a.m.
Person with a gun 1800 block 14th 11:15 a.m.
Burglary 1000 block 5th 11:25 a.m.
Petty theft 1400 block Harvard 11:42 a.m.

Silent robbery alarm 400 block Santa Monica 12:02 p.m.
Petty theft 1600 block Ocean 12:12 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1400 block Palisades Park 12:13 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200 block 2nd 12:18 p.m.
Drunk driving 11th / Olympic 12:29 p.m.
Encampment 16th / Santa Monica 12:34 p.m.
Grand theft 0 block Pico 12:38 p.m.
Person down 800 block Lincoln 12:40 p.m.
Traffic collision 1000 block Wilshire 12:50 p.m.
Traffic collision 9th / Wilshire 12:52 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 12:53 p.m.
Encampment 1100 block Palisades Park 1:24 p.m.
Petty theft 1100 block Grant 1:27 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 1:34 p.m.
Encampment 800 block Hill 1:46 p.m.
Traffic collision 1000 block Wilshire 1:49 p.m.
Traffic collision Chelsea / Santa Monica 2:26 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block 3rd Street Prom 2:30 p.m.
Traffic collision 1900 block Interstate 10 2:33 p.m.
Injured person 600 block Santa Monica 2:36 p.m.
Fight 7th / Wilshire 2:46 p.m.
Petty theft 2800 block Ocean Front Walk 3:07 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 900 block 4th 3:08 p.m.
Fight 2000 block Ocean 3:25 p.m.
Traffic collision 2300 block Santa Monica 3:31 p.m.
Traffic collision 23rd / Santa Monica 3:33 p.m.
Battery 300 block Wilshire 3:52 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 39 Calls For Service On Nov. 7.

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

Emergency Medical Service 1700 block Cloverfield 12:17 a.m.
EMS 2500 block 29th 2:28 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Cloverfield 3:52 a.m.
EMS 2100 block Ocean 4:58 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block 16th 6:16 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Ocean 6:19 a.m.
EMS 1000 block 4th 7:07 a.m.
EMS 300 block Bay 8:40 a.m.
EMS 1200 block 10th 8:44 a.m.
EMS 2300 block 16th 8:56 a.m.
EMS 1400 block Montana 9:33 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1800 block Olympic 9:40 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Colorado 9:58 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 4th 10:40 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2800 block Neilson 11:30 a.m.
EMS 600 block Santa Monica 12:55 p.m.

EMS 5th / Santa Monica 1:21 p.m.
EMS Chelsea / Santa Monica 2:26 p.m.
EMS Lincoln / Interstate 10 2:53 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 7th 3:16 p.m.
Haz mat - level 1 1300 block 18th 15:52:32
EMS 1500 block 5th 4:06 p.m.
EMS 300 block Santa Monica pier 4:28 p.m.
EMS 2000 block hill 4:30 p.m.
Odor investigation 800 block hill 4:35 p.m.
EMS 1600 block centinela 5:20 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 17th 6:14 p.m.
Automatic alarm 3400 block pico 6:47 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1700 block Euclid 7:33 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 2nd / hill 8:24 p.m.
EMS 1200 block Wilshire 8:31 p.m.
EMS 1200 block Wilshire 8:36 p.m.
EMS 1100 block Wilshire 8:39 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY



Draw Date: 11/7
26 28 34 42 50
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 92M



Draw Date: 11/6
28 34 37 56 69
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 90M



Draw Date: 11/7
12 25 28 45 47
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 21M



Draw Date: 11/7
6 10 11 21 34



Draw Date: 11/8
MIDDAY: 2 6 5
Draw Date: 11/7
EVENING: 0 3 8



Draw Date: 11/7
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:48.08

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>

WORD UP!

volute
1. a spiral or twisted formation or object. 2. Architecture. a spiral ornament, found especially in the capitals of the Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite orders. 3. Carpentry. a horizontal scrolled termination to the handrail of a stair.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LALEE

Medical History
■ This week in 1928, the iron lung was used by its first patient, a young girl at Children's Hospital in Boston. The artificial respirator enabled her to breathe, despite being paralyzed by polio. This negative pressure ventilator, invented by a young Harvard doctor named Philip Drinker, was the first widely used device of its kind. From the neck down, the patient's body lay in a sealed galvanized iron box. The 3- by 7-foot, 700-pound apparatus was powered by two household vacuum cleaners. As air was pumped out of the metal box, the patient's lungs drew in air, which was expelled as the air pump cycle next increased pressure in a cycle mimicking a normal breathing rate.

MYSTERY REVEALED!

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Barbara Bienias correctly identified this image as the building at Wilshire and 7th. She wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

BICENTENNIAL by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Art gallery activity
8 Quite mistaken
15 What some kitchen cans contain
16 Is a nuisance to
17 Do a documentary job
18 British royal family
19 Novel first published in 1818
21 Common Arabic prename
22 Needing orientation
23 Watson on *Elementary*
26 Contraptions
28 Sandwich kin
30 Arsonist, for instance
32 Italian hot spot
33 Tiny tunneler
34 "Absolutement!"
35 Author of 19 Across
38 Cadet contingent
40 Significant period
41 Midmonth day
44 Kitchen knife brand
45 Swindler's victim
46 Grimm character
47 Well put
48 Retail activity
50 Vast span
51 Poem quoted on 19 Across' first title page
56 '90s morning TV cohost
59 Expressed digitally
60 One out early

DOWN

1 Showy display
2 How many makeup mirrors are made
3 Courtroom activity
4 Poetic period
5 Karen's pen name
6 Explanatory comment
7 Rural lowland
8 "That's too much praise"
9 Mythical trio of destiny
10 Getting good results
11 Grain cover
12 Bubble wrap contents
13 No longer changing
14 Half a figure eight
20 Laid on thick
23 WWI British leader
24 Evidence of debt
25 One, to start with
27 Swedish cars no longer made
28 Behavior patterns
29 Maj. Houlihan et al.
31 End of a kids' song
34 Nivea competitor
36 Opposite of "throwaway"
37 It sounds like 12 Down
38 Grp. for great putters
39 Bratty talk
42 Canyon creator
43 Shipped out on faith
45 Solar satellite
49 Spring sign
51 What a cabal cooks up
52 "___ wildest dreams . . ."
53 "Certainly!"
54 Austen novel
55 Bill Piper contemporary
56 Opp. of 43 Down
57 Big name in cinematic space operas
58 Sort of shelter

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15								16						
17								18						
19								20						
21								22				23	24	25
26			27		28	29				30	31			
32					33				34					
		35		36				37						
38	39						40				41		42	43
44						45					46			
47				48	49							50		
			51					52	53	54	55			
56	57	58						59						
60								61						
62								63						

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/9/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (NOV. 9)

You'll take in gorgeous views this solar return, including natural landscapes, seascapes and many warm smiles. Other victories will include a special friendship bond made even tighter, work that makes a difference in the world and progress within a group that helps you finally reach your goal. Pisces and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 3, 47, 11 and 20.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Every attitude causes a chain reaction. So it's important to check in with yourself before stepping one foot into conversations, environments or projects. Where am I at? What attitude am I bringing to it?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

A buoyant mood prevails. From here it's easier to be resourceful and open to change. Any and every thing you do to feel better will contribute to your positive vibes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

The real challenge will be in choosing what to believe. Assessing not only if a potential belief is correct, but also what its natural trajectory is. Who will you be if you believe it? Choose beliefs that uplift and empower.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Conventional approaches to self-improvement may leave you feeling resentful and rebellious against the taskmaster that is supposedly the higher version of you. Make your overall well-being a priority instead.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

The key to harnessing and maximizing your energy is to embrace your own polarizations – the very best and worst in you, the most attractive and unattractive traits and tendencies. There's power in loving your whole self.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Productivity and joy go hand in hand. Even work you once considered to be a grind will be over quickly and done well because of the happiness in your approach.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Your brain has a way of balancing itself and today you can practically feel it at work, guiding you to the next action that will lead to your health and well-being.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

The earth is big, and yet in the entire world there is only one place where success exists, and that place is inside you. There are experiences you'd like to have. Whether you have them or not, you are successful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Because everyone has different values, it is sometimes difficult for people to understand what matters to you and how you want to be treated. Today you won't have that problem. They'll get it right away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

How can you get more of the things that make you feel good being in your body? Because when your physical self is happy, the rest of you will follow in kind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

The first time you do something, there's excitement and possibly trepidation over the unknown aspects of it. The second time you know what to expect and can relax into the process. The third time – that will truly be the charm!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Learning about things makes you appreciate and enjoy them better. Your urge to go deeper into a body of knowledge is an instinct to move toward happiness.

PLEASURE TRINE

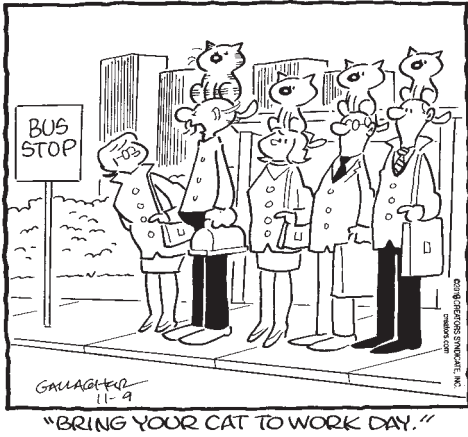
Pleasure is a response to the sensations, but it doesn't end there. We get pleasure from not only how something tastes, feels or looks, but also from what we believe about it. We only delight in the things that fit our idea of delight. It can be hard to guess what's going to please another person. The Venus and Mars trine says, "So don't guess... ask!"

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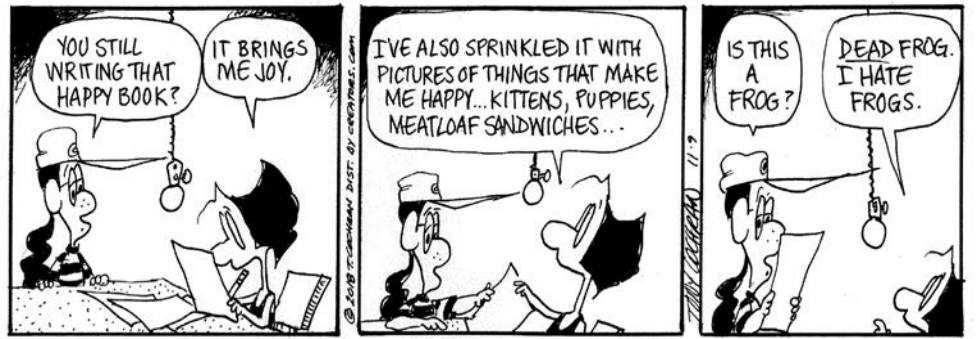
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



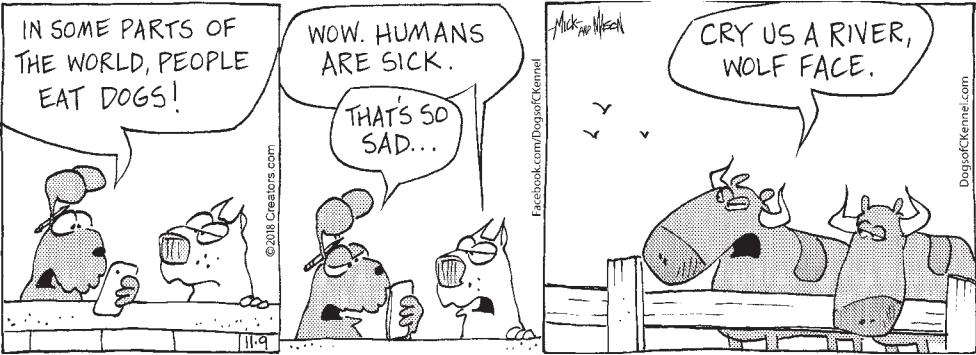
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LGBT triumphs: 2 governorships, at least 9 seats in Congress

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

On the East Coast, West Coast and in heartland states between them, LGBT candidates scored a raft of notable midterm election victories — winning two governorships, at least nine seats in Congress, and their first-ever legislative seats in Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska.

The head of the LGBTQ Victory Fund, which recruits and assists LGBT candidates, said many of the winners in Tuesday's elections were motivated by concerns over the Trump administration's rollback of protections for transgender people.

"We've worked hard to achieve the rights we have today," said the fund's CEO, former Houston Mayor Annise Parker. "But we realize we're still in a vulnerable position in many places."

From Parker's perspective, the highlights were many. In Colorado, U.S. Rep. Jared Polis became the first openly gay man elected as a governor of any state. In Wisconsin, Tammy Baldwin — who in 2012 became the first openly gay person to win a U.S. Senate seat — easily won re-election despite being targeted by outside conservative groups that spent millions attacking her.

In races for the U.S. house, a record eight LGBT candidates won seats for the Democrats. Four incumbents— Mark Takano of California, Sean Patrick Maloney of New York, David Cicilline of Rhode Island and Mark Pocan of Wisconsin — will be joined in January by newcomers Katie Hill of California, Sharice Davids of Kansas, Angie Craig of Minnesota and Chris Pappas of New Hampshire.

For two other LGBT candidates, their

races were too close to call — U.S. Rep. Kyrsten Sinema's bid for a U.S. Senate seat in Arizona and Gina Ortiz Jones' race for a U.S. House seat in Texas.

Hill, Davids and Craig were among a batch of Democratic winners who flipped control of GOP-held House seats, overcoming initial skepticism that LGBT candidates were not best-suited for that challenge.

"We saw LGBTQ candidates talk openly about their lives to a degree unseen in past elections — and it resonated with voters," Parker said.

In Minnesota, Craig featured her wife and their sons in TV ads en route to winning a rematch against GOP Rep. Jason Lewis in the Twin Cities' suburban 2nd District.

"What I say is my wife and I have four sons, just like any other politician would," Craig said during the campaign. "It'd be cool to be the first openly gay member of Congress from Minnesota, but that's not why I'm running."

In Kansas' 3rd District, near Kansas City, Davids unseated four-term GOP incumbent Kevin Yoder. Being lesbian was only one aspect of an eye-catching biography — she's also Native American, a lawyer, a former White House fellow, and a past competitor in mixed martial arts.

"From the beginning, this campaign has been built on bringing new leaders to the table, and new voices to the table," she said in her victory speech.

In New Hampshire, Pappas did not stress his LGBT status during the campaign, but reacted with passion during a debate when his GOP rival, Eddie Edwards, questioned why Pappas had been photographed wearing a "Resist" T-shirt.

"The photo you are referring to is a

rainbow shirt I wore at a gay pride event," Pappas said. "I am proud of who I am and I am proud to stand up against hate, bigotry and intolerance."

In Colorado, which was beset by gay-rights controversies in the past, Polis' successful campaign for governor was striking in that his LGBT status never became a campaign issue.

"We went from a state where our elected officials struggled to provide even basic rights to same-sex couples to a state where a gay man ran for governor and his sexual orientation wasn't discussed as a political liability," The Denver Post wrote in an editorial.

Kayla DeShon, an independent voter from the Denver suburb of Highlands Ranch, said she voted for Polis because of his stance on health care.

"I did not know he is gay. I found out afterward — it was an added bonus," said DeShon, 29. "And I do think that it doesn't matter."

Polis will join Oregon's Kate Brown as the only LGBT governors. Brown, who identifies as bisexual, narrowly won re-election over Republican Knute Buehler.

In state legislative races, the Victory Fund projects that about 130 LGBT candidates will win seats — all but two of them Democrats. That would be up from 121 LGBT legislators heading into the election, according to the fund.

Winning a state Senate seat in Utah was Derek Kitchen, a city councilor in Salt Lake City who rose to prominence when his lawsuit overturned Utah's ban on gay marriage several years ago. Voters in Omaha elected an openly bisexual candidate, Megan Hunt, to the Nebraska Senate.

In New Hampshire, two transgender

women, Gerri Cannon and Lisa Bunker, won seats in the state House of Representatives.

A third transgender woman, Brianna Titone, was locked in a too-close-to-call race for the Colorado House. Unofficial near-complete returns showed Titone with a 12-vote lead after more than 47,000 votes were cast.

Among LGBT victors elsewhere was Dana Nessel, elected as Michigan's attorney general. Nessel made headlines as co-counsel in the historic lawsuit that led to same-sex marriage in Michigan.

She said the outgoing GOP attorney general, Bill Schuette, "made a mockery of state government" by bringing social scientists to court to denigrate the parenting skills of same-sex couples.

"There are LGBTQ people clamoring for representation and tired of the office of attorney general using them as a punching bag," Nessel said during the campaign.

In Massachusetts, voters soundly defeated an attempted repeal of a 2016 state law extending nondiscrimination protections to transgender people in the use of restrooms and other public accommodations.

The outcome was hailed by Parker, who was mayor of Houston in 2015 when a trans-inclusive civil-rights ordinance was repealed in a referendum. Opponents of the ordinance played upon public fears with the slogan, "No Men in Women's Bathrooms."

Parker said Massachusetts voters, having lived with the state law for two years, didn't buy such rhetoric.

"They realized it was completely inane fear," she said.

Associated Press writer James Anderson in Denver contributed to this report.



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