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October Sunrise.

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School board talks mobile device regulations for elementary, middle school levels

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A deep dive into a proposed Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) policy on student smartphone usage headlined Thursday's meeting of the Board of Education, bringing clarifications and potential options on the policy to the forefront.

In a presentation by SMMUSD Director of Student Services Dr. Frank Dussan, the board discussed the proposed updates on mobile communication devices, using language recommended by the California School Boards Association and the implementation of an "Away for the Day" policy when it comes to smartphones.

Broken down into a board policy and administrative regulations on the matter, the board policy authorizes the district to limit or prohibit student use of smartphones at school, with exceptions for circumstances like emergencies. The administrative regulations touch on how this policy will be implemented districtwide, instead of each campus making its own decisions.

The implementation of "Away for

SEE **REGULATIONS** PAGE 7

Military leaders, NFL legend salute veterans at Pier ceremony









Photos by Thomas Leffler

VETERANS: The Condor Squadron, the West Point Drill Team and Andrew Whitworth were among the special guest at Monday's Veterans Day ceremony.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A grand tradition on the Santa Monica Pier honored the nation's veterans and members of the Armed Forces on Monday, giving United States heroes a show worthy of their service.

At the Pier, the Veterans Day ceremony brought out the big names, the big vehicles and a particularly big crowd full of veterans and their families. Many of the military's most recognizable names were in attendance, such as the iconic West Point Drill Team, as well as a keynote speech from U.S. Army Forces Command General

SEE **VETERANS** PAGE 11

Desvelados Mexican Cantina on 4th Street focuses on a sit-down dining experience

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Downtown Santa Monica welcomed a new dining experience last week as long LA-established and family run business Desvelados Mexican Cantina opened up its sixth outlet at 1416 4th Street. You may remember, this formally the site of Mercado, the slightly pricey but very popular Mexican-themed eatery.

Since opening in 2016, the local chain has become a staple in the Los Angeles dining scene, proving popular with locals because of the bold flavors and warm, energetic atmosphere. With locations in Maywood, West Covina, Whittier, Glendale, and Pasadena, the new Santa Monica venue promises to continue the tradition of delivering the same high-quality food and service.

It offers 52 covers on the ground floor, together with a handful of seats at the bar plus a mezzanine dining area that features 40 plus covers. The layout remains mostly the same with the notable exception that tables-for-two replace the school bench-style dining tables we saw when the site was Mercado.

"The idea of Santa Monica was always there, because Santa Monica

SEE **CANTINA** PAGE 7


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Fire crews on both US coasts battle wildfires, 1 dead; Veterans Day ceremony postponed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fire crews on both coasts of the United States battled wildfires Monday, including a blaze in New York and New Jersey that killed a parks employee and postponed Veterans Day plans, and another in Southern California that destroyed more than 130 structures.

Firefighters continued making progress against a wildfire northwest of Los Angeles in Ventura County that broke out Wednesday and quickly exploded in size due to dry, warm and gusty Santa Ana winds.

The Mountain Fire prompted thousands of residents to flee their homes and was 31% contained as of late Sunday, up from 26% the previous day. The fire's size remains around 32 square miles (about 83 square kilometers). The cause is under investigation.

Some people have been allowed to return to their homes, "but road closures, evacuation warnings, and orders remain in effect in some areas," according to the Ventura County Fire Department. "Certain areas are open to residents only. As you return home, please watch for hazards such as live power lines and debris."

Meanwhile, New York State Police said they were investigating the death of Dariel Vasquez, an 18-year-old state parks employee who died when a tree fell on him Saturday afternoon as he battled a major brush fire in Sterling Forest, located in New York state's Greenwood Lake near the New Jersey line.

"Rip brother your shift is over job well done," a New York State forestry services post said.

New Jersey's state forest fire service said Sunday that the blaze — dubbed the Jennings Creek Wildfire — was threatening 25 structures, including two New Jersey homes. It had grown to 4.7 square miles (12 square kilometers) and was 10% contained as of Sunday night.

In West Milford, New Jersey, a Veterans Day ceremony was postponed to later in the month because of the firefighting effort, said Rudy Hass, the local Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. commander.

"Many of those personnel currently engaged with the fires are veterans themselves, and right now we need to keep them in our thoughts as they spend many hours, day and night, doing all they can in order protect our great communities in that area," he posted online.

Health advisories were issued for parts of New York, including New York City, and northeastern New Jersey due to unhealthy air quality due to smoke from the fires. People were urged to limit strenuous outdoor physical activity if possible; those especially sensitive included the very young and very old and people with ailments such as asthma and heart disease.

But there was progress on other fires.

New Jersey officials reported 75% containment of a 175-acre (70-hectare) fire in the Pompton Lakes area of Passaic County that was threatening 55 homes, although no evacuations had been ordered, as well as progress made on other fires burning in the state amid bone-dry conditions.

In New Jersey, Ocean County prosecutors on Saturday announced arson and firearms charges in connection with a 350-acre (142-hectare) Jackson Township fire that started Wednesday. The blaze was largely contained by the end of the week, officials said.

They said that fire was sparked by magnesium shards from a shotgun round on the berm of a shooting range.

In Massachusetts, one wildfire among several fueled by powerful wind gusts and dry leaves has burned hundreds of acres in the Lynn Woods Reservation, a municipal park extending across about 3.4 square miles (8.8 square kilometers) in the city some 10 miles (16 kilometers) north of Boston.

The Lynn Fire Department cited "a dry spell we have not seen during this time of year in many years."

"We have had over 400 acres of the woods that have burned so far. We believe we have the fire contained using the main fire roads. We will maintain a presence to ensure the fire doesn't spread further," Lynn Fire Chief Dan Sullivan said in a statement late Sunday.

The Northeast has been experiencing prolonged dry conditions. In New Jersey, the state Department of Environmental Protection is planning a hearing on Tuesday to review its water supply conditions. A major drought was declared in much of Massachusetts last week.

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California enacts new climate rules — which could boost gas prices



Photo by Martin do Nascimento, CalMatters

GAS: The prices for fuel at a gas station in Oakland on March 7, 2022.

BY ALEJANDRO LAZO

In one of its most controversial decisions, California's air board voted tonight to revamp a key climate change program, which could increase gas prices in a state already facing some of the nation's steepest costs at the pump.

The California Air Resources Board approved major changes to its Low Carbon Fuel Standard, a program aimed at encouraging use of cleaner transportation fuels with financial incentives as the state moves toward phasing out gasoline and diesel.

The board's 12-2 vote tonight followed about seven hours of comments from more than 100 people and four hours of discussion by board members at its meeting, held in Riverside.

State Assemblymember Tom Lackey, a Republican from Palmdale, told the board during public comments that the possible impact on gas prices will harm working class Californians.

"We're the hard working men and women here in the state of California. We build homes, we fix roads, and we serve you when you dine out," Lackey said. "To do this, we must drive hours each day to work to put food on the table for our families. This measure before you will cause us financial pain."

At the heart of the controversy is the question: How do you wean Californians off gasoline and diesel — which is critical for cleaning the state's dirty air and reducing its role in the climate crisis — without substantially raising the cost to consumers?

Many air board members referred to an urgency to push for cleaner fuels in California because of the outcome of the Tuesday election, which gave Donald Trump, who has denied the existence of climate change and targeted California environmental programs, the presidency and Republicans control of the U.S. Senate.

The new rule's potential effects on California fuel prices are largely unknown. The air board said today that oil companies typically already pass 8 to 10 cents per gallon of costs on to consumers because of the state's fuel standard.

The board also passed a resolution tonight requiring an annual review of the rule's impact on gas prices. If the changes "ultimately accelerate cost burdens on California consumers," the board said in the resolution that it will consider amending them.

Eric Guerra, a Sacramento city council member who was appointed to the air board by Gov. Gavin Newsom, said the air board must prioritize public health but that support of working families is equally important, so he called for frequent monitoring of the possible impact on gas prices.

Concerns about gas prices have fueled the debate surrounding the board's proposal since its release last December. But much of the agency's revamp of its fuel rules focuses on intricate disputes among environmentalists, oil companies, dairy farms that use manure to produce fuels, biofuel companies and other low-carbon fuel providers.

Environmentalists and consumer advocates opposed the new rules, warning the changes will boost alternative fuels — such as biofuels made from cow manure or soy beans — that may have limited environmental upsides, and will allow oil companies to stay in business because they can buy credits or switch to producing those fuels.

"It is not based on science, and it will undermine environmental justice and the rapid transition to zero emissions that we need more than ever today," Nina Robertson, a senior attorney with Earth Justice told the board. "It represents a grab bag of giveaways to polluting special interests that have turned what once was a program for climate progress into a piggy bank for their false climate solutions."

Electric car advocates and a variety of biofuel company representatives supported the new rules, saying they will provide billions of dollars in funds and incentives to move California toward eliminating carbon that warms the planet.

Tonight's vote was the culmination of a debate over changes in a fuel standard that has roiled the air board for longer than a year, becoming a political flashpoint in recent weeks.

The program, which has existed since 2011, is a $2-billion credit trading system that requires fuels sold in California to become progressively cleaner, while giving companies

SEE **CLIMATE** PAGE 5



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60**

TUESDAY
POOR
SURF: 1-2FT
Knee to thigh

Old swell eases, new NW windswell builds in. AM winds look light. Mind the early AM high tide.

WEDNESDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2FT
Knee to thigh

WNW/NW swell tops out, nice size working into the region. Structure needed for the best shape. Good potential for favorable wind, just mind the big tide swings.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 50. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 70. North wind around 5 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51.
ThursdaySunny, with a high near 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
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
2024/11/13	Wed	12:21 AM	0.70	L
2024/11/13	Wed	06:44 AM	6.25	H
2024/11/13	Wed	1:25 PM	-0.27	L
2024/11/13	Wed	7:31 PM	4.53	H
2024/11/14	Thu	12:57 AM	1.03	L
2024/11/14	Thu	07:17 AM	6.73	H
2024/11/14	Thu	2:11 PM	-0.92	L
2024/11/14	Thu	8:25 PM	4.39	H
2024/11/15	Fri	01:33 AM	1.40	L
2024/11/15	Fri	07:52 AM	7.03	H
2024/11/15	Fri	2:58 PM	-1.31	L
2024/11/15	Fri	9:19 PM	4.18	H
2024/11/16	Sat	02:10 AM	1.78	L
2024/11/16	Sat	08:30 AM	7.09	H
2024/11/16	Sat	3:46 PM	-1.42	L
2024/11/16	Sat	10:16 PM	3.94	H

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POWERball
Draw Date: 11/09
11 24 50 56 66
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 103 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/10
1 7 11 25 28

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/08
25 28 42 64 69
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 361 M

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/10
EVENING: 2 0 4
Draw Date: 11/10
MIDDAY: 2 5 2

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 11/09
14 15 33 38 39
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 39 M

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/10
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:41.14

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Anti-slavery measure Prop. 6 fails, allowing forced labor to continue in California prisons

BY CAYLA MIHALOVICH



Photo by Lucy Nicholson, Reuters

LABOR: From left, prison inmates Gilbert Serrato and Joshua Mojarro, wait to be assigned to work projects at Oak Glen Conservation Fire Camp #35 in Yucaipa, in 2014. Thousands of convicted felons form the backbone of California's wildfire protection force under a unique and little-known prison labor program.

In a setback to California's historic reparations effort, voters rejected a ballot measure that would have ended forced labor in prisons and jails. Proposition 6 garnered support from Democratic party leaders, labor unions and dozens of advocacy groups who viewed their efforts as part of a national movement to end a racist legacy and abolish slavery.

The measure would have amended the state's constitution to repeal language that allows involuntary servitude as a form of criminal punishment, making work assignments voluntary and allowing incarcerated people to prioritize their rehabilitation.

"While it's disappointing that our measure to remove slavery from California's constitution was not approved by the voters, this setback does not end the fight," wrote Democratic Assemblymember Lori Wilson from Suisun City in a statement on Friday morning. "Together, we will continue pushing forward to ensure that our state's constitution reflects the values of equality and freedom that all Californians deserve."

California mandates tens of thousands of incarcerated people to work at jobs – many of which they do not choose — ranging from packaging nuts to doing dishes, to making license plates, sanitizer and furniture for less than 74 cents an hour, according to legislative summaries of prison work.

If a person does not complete their work, regardless of illness, injury or bereavement, they face punishment, such as disciplinary infractions, which can lead to losing privileges including visits from family members. Prop. 6 would have prohibited the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from disciplining incarcerated people who refuse a work assignment.

California has a history of enslavement and racially discriminatory policies despite the fact that it entered the union as a free state, as detailed by the California's Reparations Task Force. The measure was sponsored by Wilson and recommended by the Reparations Task Force as a step toward upholding human rights and addressing systemic injustices that have harmed Black Californians.

"At what point, California, will you see us?" said Dr. Cheryl Grills, a psychology professor at Loyola Marymount University and member of the Reparations Task Force. "How much did (voters) understand the context of over 200 years of forced labor put on Black people? And where's the humanity and compassion for the pain and suffering of the people whose ancestors endured that, and whose current generations are living with the legacy of that?"

Did unclear ballot language imperil Prop. 6?

A similar attempt to ban forced prison labor failed in 2022. At the time, the California Department of Finance opposed the proposal, noting that it had the potential to drive up prison spending by $1.5 billion annually to provide minimum wage to incarcerated workers. This time, lawmakers adjusted what became Prop. 6 to clarify that the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation would have set wages for voluntary work assignments in state prisons.

Lawmakers and advocates pursued a constitutional amendment as a way to "guarantee that (California) does not repeat enslavement, just wrapped up in a different outfit," Grills said.

It faced no funded opposition, and as election results showed the measure trailing, Prop. 6 supporters and independent political experts said the language might have confused voters.

The California Attorney General's Office writes ballot language and summaries, and the word "slavery" did not appear on the California ballot. Instead, the language read, "Eliminates Constitutional Provision Allowing Involuntary Servitude for Incarcerated Persons. Legislative Constitutional Amendment."

"When I saw the words 'involuntary servitude,' I thought, 'This might take some explaining for the voters,'" said Mark Baldassare, survey director at the Public Policy Institute of California. "We know that when people are unsure or uncertain, the default is to vote 'no.'"

In Nevada this election, a measure similar to Prop. 6 passed with 60% voter approval. Voters there saw ballot language that referenced slavery.

The Nevada measure read, "Shall the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada Constitution be amended to remove language authorizing the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment?"

"If Prop. 6 had slavery in the ballot title summary, it would have passed – just like in Nevada," said J Vasquez, a formerly incarcerated organizer for the advocacy group Communities United for Restorative Youth. "People couldn't make the connection between current working prison conditions and slavery."

Assemblymember Wilson also pointed to the Prop. 6 ballot language her a statement on the measure's failure.

"The Prop. 6 campaign believes that using clearer language, like other states have done, could have provided voters with the historical context and moral imperative behind Proposition 6. This experience has underscored the importance of framing and education, and we're taking these insights into account as we plan the path forward," she wrote in her statement.

A Prop. 6 victory would have put California behind a growing number of states, including Oregon, Utah and Alabama, that recently removed language sanctioning involuntary servitude from their constitutions. Now, involuntary servitude remains embedded in 15 state constitutions.

"California got it wrong," Vasquez said. "And now, we're going to keep seeing the same old revolving door of people getting out and going right back in. Shame on us for not doing what we could to build safer communities."

'A highway for exploitation'

Proponents of Prop. 6 say California's constitutional provision has created "a highway for exploitation" that hampers an incarcerated person's ability to participate in rehabilitation.

"A lot of the programs that are vital to rehabilitation are held at the same time as the majority of the forced work assignments," said Lawrence Cox, regional advocacy and organizing associate at Legal Services for Prisoners with Children.

That tension effectively makes rehabilitation a secondary priority and hinders an incarcerated person's ability to prepare for release, the measure's supporters said.

Roughly 40% of people released from state prisons were convicted of new crimes within three years, according to the state's most recent report on recidivism.

"Accountability is not going in there and pushing a broom all day," Vasquez said. "It's about someone working on themselves so when they come back to the community, we all benefit."

Findings from a report earlier this year by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation "point to lower recidivism rates for those who earned credits from participation and completion of rehabilitative programming."

"Nothing about prison slavery is good for rehabilitation and rehabilitation is what's good for public safety," said Carmen Cox, director of government affairs at ACLU California Action. "I genuinely believe that Californians don't want to fund slavery. We will immediately begin the education campaign. People do not understand what it looks like to be an incarcerated worker and how that impacts folks outside."

Cayla Mihalovich is a California Local News fellow. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

City of Santa Monica

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

- **RFP # 432 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND 2025-26 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR CDBG AND HOME FUNDS**
- **Submission Deadline Is December 3, 2024 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

CLIMATE

FROM PAGE 3

financial incentives to produce less-polluting fuels, such as biofuels made from soybeans or cow manure.

The amendments approved today will require gasoline, diesel and other fuels in California to meet stricter standards for greenhouse gases while changing how credits are awarded for specific lower-carbon fuels.

Air board Chair Liane Randolph told CalMatters in an interview last month that the low-carbon fuels program is "one of California's most significant and most effective climate programs."

At the meeting today, Randolph suggested the new rules are critical, given how California's climate and air pollution programs could come under strain from the new Trump administration.

"We know that in order to be successful in addressing climate change, we must continue to reduce our fossil fuel consumption and invest in low-carbon energy," said Randolph, who was appointed to the board by Newsom. "Let's be realistic, the tools in our (climate) toolbox may become much more limited going forward."

But the debate resulted in two rare public defections among the 14 voting members of the Air Resources Board, who often unanimously approve major rules for cleaning up air pollution and cutting greenhouse gases.

Air board members Dean Florez, a former state senator from the Central Valley, and Diane Takvorian, an environmental justice advocate, voted no.

"Obviously, I'm a no, mostly about the environmental issues that were brought up, but also this whole discussion about gas," Florez said.

Takvorian criticized how large dairy farms, which often pollute low-income farm communities, will benefit from the state's low-carbon fuel credits for their manure digesters for 30 years.

Florez said he is concerned that oil companies support the program and "that should give the board a little bit of pause." Their products are a main cause of climate change.

"I listened to the testimony today, and I've been watching most of the industry tweets, and they all seem very giddy about the current program … that kind of worries me, because they kind of get to play both sides in some sense," he said.

Florez warned in a CalMatters opinion piece earlier this week that the program is flawed, that it could impose financial hardships on people, and that the air board was not transparent about the costs.

"Such increases would affect essential goods and services, as transportation costs ripple through the economy, impacting food prices, housing affordability and more. For Californians already stretched thin by escalating rents and inflation, these additional costs could become overwhelming, pushing many into deeper financial insecurity," wrote Florez, who is the state Senate-appointed member of the air board. His current term ends next month.

Air board member Hector De La Torre said oil companies are dishonest when they blame rising gas prices on the climate program. He said it was "a false narrative period" and blamed oil companies for price fluctuations.

"We're not wildly fluctuating … we project out for many years. We let them know what we're going to do, we let them know how it's going to play out," said De La Torre, a former Assembly member who was appointed to the board by the state Assembly. "So let us be clear about why we have the wild fluctuations in California on gas prices. It is not us. It is not the Legislature."

Florez, however, disagreed. "How we can, in all good conscience, say that it's all these other factors and somehow we're not a cause."

A gas price fight

Energy experts and air board staff say the fuel standard raises the cost of producing high-polluting gasoline and diesel for the California market because oil companies must buy credits from lower-carbon fuel producers, or produce the fuels themselves.

Those costs can drive up prices at the pump when companies pass them on to customers, although it's difficult to predict by how much. Some companies might produce cleaner fuels themselves, potentially profiting from the incentives, while others may buy credits on the market.

In an initial assessment released last year, the air board projected that the proposed new standard could potentially raise the per-gallon price of diesel by 59 cents and for gasoline, 47 cents, in 2025. Air board officials have since disavowed that estimate, writing last month that the analysis "should not be misconstrued as a prediction of the future credit price nor as a direct impact on prices at the pump."

A separate report, released last month by the University of Pennsylvania's Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, predicted that the program's changes could increase the cost of gas by 85 cents a gallon through 2030.

The fight over the fuels standard has shown how the state's ambitious agenda for addressing climate change can be the subject of ire if it threatens to make fossil fuels more expensive. Californians paid an average of $4.52 a gallon today, second only to Hawaiians.

The vote came three days after a presidential election marked by concerns over inflation. State Republicans, in particular, have slammed the program as misguided, saying it piles on costs at a time when affordability is a top concern.

An analysis by California's nonpartisan legislative analyst found the average California household spent about $3,200 a year on gasoline in 2021 and 2022, but some families — typically those with below-average incomes — spent more, about $6,150 a year.

"If gas prices would have been (10 cents per gallon) higher during the period we reviewed, the typical household's gasoline spending would have increased by about $60 per year" and $130 per year for the households most reliant on gasoline, the Legislative Analyst's Office wrote.

Raising the cost of diesel could have sweeping effects on the economy, since it fuels trucks and trains that carry goods, from food to toys, that Californians rely on and buy.

Tim Taylor, chief legislative advocate for the National Federation of Independent Business, said the state's small business owners are concerned about that ripple effect on the economy.

"We're not opposed to the greenhouse gas emission goals of the state, but the choice today is not one of endorsing zero emissions… it's one of subsidizing biofuels," Taylor said.

Small businesses worry about "the potentially massive gasoline price hikes, and the adverse impacts those increases will have on their businesses, and the rippling effect it will have on all Californians without actually improving the air quality of the state," he said.

The Western States Petroleum Association, an oil industry group, has supported the program, with many of its members producing some of the new fuels the program has spurred. However, they argued against many proposed changes because they might increase costs or disadvantage some companies. Chevron also warned against what the changes might do to costs in the state.

"At a time when fuel prices are under significant scrutiny and demand in California frequently outstrips supply, regulators should be careful about adding new measures that restrict supply," Don Gilstrap, Chevron's manager of fuels regulations wrote to the board last month.

Millions of tons of carbon eliminated

Under the California Climate Crisis Act, the state must slash its greenhouse gases to reach net-zero greenhouse gases by 2045. Cars, trucks and other transportation are the number one source and the changes to the fuels standard are meant to prevent California from falling behind on its ambitious climate goals, which are already at risk.

The standard has helped the state clean up air pollution and cut climate-warming gases, according to the air board. Through 2022, the program has eliminated 140 million metric tons of carbon dioxide. The air board's changes are expected to reduce carbon dioxide-equivalent gases by 558 million metric tons through 2046, according to its initial economic assessment.

Those predicted reductions are equal to what more than 120 million cars emit on average in a year, though experts have told CalMatters the board's estimates could be overstatements because the carbon footprint from some renewable diesel might be more than reported.

The program has been particularly successful in shifting the fuel market for medium and heavy-duty trucks, and over the course of 13 years, the program has displaced 25 billion gallons of petroleum fuels, according to the board's economic assessment.

The previous standard's target was reducing the climate impact of transportation fuels by 20% between 2010 and 2030. The changes impose tougher "carbon intensity" targets, tightening the greenhouse gas reductions by about 30% by 2030 and 90% by 2045.

Through the state's fuel standard, California has become a proving ground for cleaner fuels. But so many companies are producing them now that the value of credits has nosedived, dropping to an average of $68.12 last week compared to a weekly high in February 2020 of $211.02. The credits have built up to the point where some companies can buy their way out of producing cleaner fuels. To avoid that, regulators tightened the standard so that companies have incentives to burn through their excess credits.

Laura Renger, chair of the California Electric Transportation Coalition, emphasized the low-carbon fuel program's importance in advancing the state's electric car market. "It will bring critical funding," she said. Electrify America and several car manufacturers also voiced their support.

"We have estimated that between now and 2035, the utilities would get about $4.8 billion" from the program to invest in electrification of cars and zero-emission trucks and buses, much of it in low-income communities, air board deputy executive officer Rajinder Sahota.

Biofuels: Are they better?

The fuel standard has notably driven a surge in biofuel production, derived from plant and animal waste. In the Bay Area, two companies are shifting their refineries to biofuels: a joint venture between Marathon and Neste is repurposing the Marathon Martinez refinery, while Phillips 66 is converting its Rodeo refinery into a biofuels-focused facility.

Bobby Thomas, general manager of the Rodeo refinery, told the board today that the program has helped "embrace and promote the production of lower carbon fuels in California."

However, some experts are skeptical about the benefits. The University of Pennsylvania report estimates that about 80% of the credits issued to date — worth more than $17.7 billion, have gone to biofuels. While the air board says biofuels reduce emissions compared to traditional fossil fuels, experts say the results are mixed.

Renewable diesel fuels, like ones made from soybeans, also have unintended environmental consequences, including deforestation and food system disruptions. The board imposed limits on diesel produced from soybean oil, canola oil and sunflower oil, but some say the changes don't go far enough.

"A dynamic that has simply not gotten the attention that it deserves is what it means, ethically and morally, that California is celebrating making fuel from food," said Gary Hughes, Americas Program Coordinator for the group Biofuelwatch. "This is a trend that's particularly disturbing with all the evidence about how these products are not a climate solution."

The board directed the staff to convene a forum in a year to collect the latest science on the effects of biofuels and find ways to avoid any harm on resources and food supply that they may cause.

Another debate over new biofuels has sparked tension around their effects on California's low-income, polluted communities of color. The flashpoint is the phaseout of climate credits for dairy farms' cow poop.

California's strategy has leaned heavily on dairy industry incentives, offering grants for digesters — systems that trap methane from manure — and valuable fuel standard credits for the resulting natural gas. With dairy and livestock responsible for nearly half of the state's methane emissions, capturing these gases not only keeps them out of the atmosphere but also turns waste into renewable fuel.

The changes will phase out these dairy credits, starting in 30 years for existing projects and in 20 years for those built before 2030. Environmental groups wanted a faster discontinuation, arguing that the credits prop up industrial dairy farms that pollute low-income, rural communities in the Central Valley.

In response, the air board directed the staff to prepare a plan to regular methane emissions from dairy farms and other livestock.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

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October Sunrise

BY W. PALMER RILEY

You could hear a pin drop at Yankee Stadium. On October 30, 2024 the Los Angeles Dodgers had just clinched the 2024 World Series with a 7-6 victory in game 5. In the midst of the deafening silence, a few dozen Dodger players and coaches were celebrating on the field like it was 1999. In the stands Yankee fans were in a state of stunned silence. It is always a bit surreal when a visiting team celebrates a World Series victory on the road. On October 30 TV sets throughout the land showed Mookie Betts racing across the diamond throwing hat and glove to the sky. Sheer bliss. As the Dodgers celebrated, Yankee fans mourned. As New York shared in their collective angst, the Dodgers were too busy basking in the glory to even notice the Yankees' five borough nightmare.

Going into their 2024 division series with the San Diego Padres, the Dodgers were reeling from a pair of historic playoff flameouts. In 2022 an epic 111 win season ended with a 3-1 loss to the Padres in the first round. In 2023 the Dodgers won 100 games only to be swept by an Arizona Diamondbacks team that barely made the playoffs. As their series against the Padres loomed on the horizon, the boo birds were waiting in the wings placing their cat calls on hold for a possible third consecutive disaster.

In the 2024 playoffs, the baseball gods graced the Los Angeles Dodgers with a perpetual smile. In the opening round they clinched a five game series against the second best team in baseball-the Padres. (Sorry Yankee fans.) They took the New York Mets in six games and in the World Series they went up 3-0 in a heartbeat. Game one ended with a Gibson style grand slam compliments of Freddie Freeman. From that point onward it was all Dodgers.

With 3-0 as a backdrop the network pundits informed us all that no team that had ever gone down 3-0 in the World Series had ever made it to game six. In the 2024 World Series the Yankees had all the makings of being the first team to achieve that goal. In game four the Dodgers were minced 11-4, and the Yankees were leading 5-0 after three innings in game five. At that point fans of the pinstripes were hoping for an impossible comeback. Bring it back to L.A. and if you win game six all bets were off.

In the top of the fifth the roof caved in on the Yankees. In that inning a series of errors placed the team into a tailspin. Seasoned professionals strangely played like little league washouts. The action started with Aaron Judge muffing a routine fly ball in center field. That mishap was quickly followed by a botched throw to third that resulted in a safe call. With two outs in the inning, a Cy Young

SEE **SUNRISE** PAGE 7

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NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24VECP00529 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Emily Drake Padgett for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Emily Drake Padgett a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Emily Drake Padgett to Emily Drake Padgett McCarthy . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 12/20/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: 107 Room: 107 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 8230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, CA 91401 . A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024225364 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 10/30/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Gooding & Company 1517 20th St Santa Monica, CA 90404. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. 2557512The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Gooding & Company, LLC 1517 20th St Santa Monica, CA 90404. If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company. The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/24. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Gooding & Company, LLC Title: CFO . Morgan Carter. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/30/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). 11/05/024, 11/12/2024, 11/19/2024, 11/26/2024

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REGULATIONS

FROM PAGE 1

the Day" would require elementary school students to secure and stow away devices in a personal carry bag or container assigned to them for the duration of a school day. For middle school, the securing of devices may either be done through a personal bag or container assigned to each student, or through a container assigned by a teacher for each classroom.

Middle school regulations have multiple options due to the district potentially taking part in a research study that would give SMMUSD the funds to afford a personal carry bag or container for each middle school student. If the funds do not come through, the district has the flexibility to keep the classroom storage containers as an action.

Several public commenters noted that student containers could be a phone pouch lock from brands like Yondr, which can be locked at the beginning of the school day and unlocked upon exit. SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton stated that keeping the two options for middle school storage in the administrative regulations maintains future control over the implementation.

"Until we get to the point where we'll be able to get the bags, we have to start somewhere," Shelton said. "If we don't start, we won't get this thing done at all. So the first piece of this, we have to have both of these (options) to work toward the ultimate thing, which is having the phone ultimately in a bag, that we then figure out the purchase process (for). Then the kid could keep the bag in the pouch until the end of the day."

Another option is to bring an administrative regulation to the board with only the classroom storage option involved, then bring a future regulation to the board based on the personal phone pouch option if the district secures funding. Having storage be done class-to-class brought up some concern of students still using a device between periods, but SMMUSD Board Vice President Jon Kean stated that the detail shouldn't be the ultimate hold up on the policy and regulation.

"(The) board is going to make a decision that says you know what, if you are in K-8, your phone is away for the day, it's away," Kean said. "We're making a commitment to that … if (they're) going back and forth between class, there will be a desire to turn it on, (but) I'm not going to let that get in the way of a policy that's going to get us something. Whatever we end up with, we end up with … even if you have to take (a device) from one class to the other, it may not be ideal, (but) we'll get there. I don't want to get bogged down in how (we're) going to do that."

Proposed progressive discipline in the regulations state that a student's mobile communication device will be confiscated and will be logged for a first offense, with a parent or guardian required to retrieve the device. A second offense is the same, plus a student would stow and secure a device each day in a location determined by a principal. A third offense adds the option for site administration to bar a student from bringing a device to school for a set amount of time.

With regulations proposed for elementary and middle school students, questions arose about a proposal for high school students, in which Dussan said he is still working with stakeholders to craft a high school-specific "Away for the Day" implementation. A survey was sent to Samohi teachers and students on the matter, with 687 responses in total.

"We have more students, different dynamics, different developmental ages, so I'm not

recommending anything yet until I meet with the principals and I get more feedback from them," Dussan said.

The board's student representative, Samohi student Haley Castanza, stated that one thing a high school regulation will have to work out is phone use during official activities, such as her position on Samohi's ASB (student council). Still, Castanza offered her support to the proposed policy, especially for lower grades.

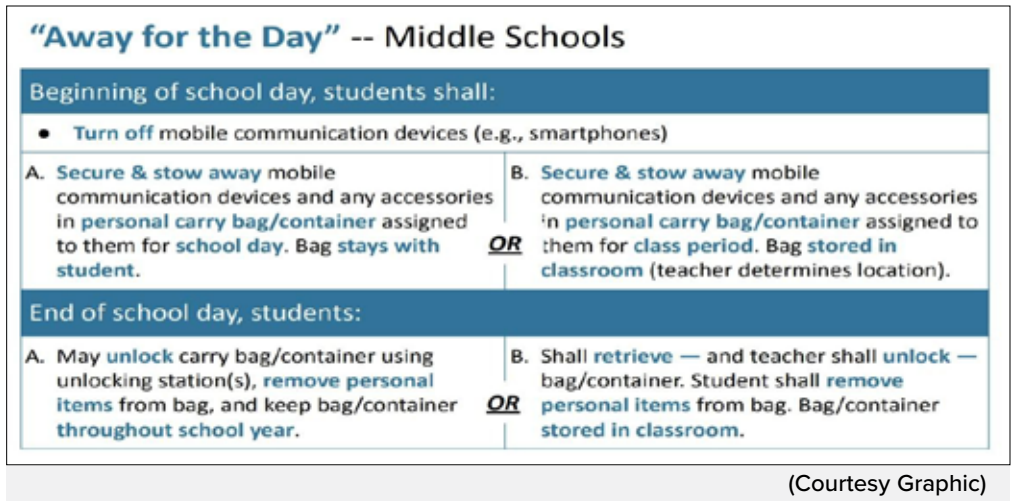
"You're so young, and you're still developing, it's really important to have the phones away so you can develop social interactions, because that's when your mind's developing and you're making those strong connections you need for the rest of school," Castanza said.

A group that has been voicing their concerns all year has been Parents for Slow Tech, which thanked the board for putting the smartphone matter on the agenda, but clarified that they also desire a high school regulation.

"Keep in mind that this year's middle schooler is next year's high schooler, and if we create a policy and the kids who are currently in elementary then move on to middle school and (to) high school and then the policy is completely different, and now the phones are available all the time, I think that would be really detrimental to the work and effort that's going into implementing these changes," Parents for Slow Tech's Laura Kachergus said.

The board policy will return for action at the SMMUSD board's November 21 meeting, while the administrative regulation will return as an informational item during the same session.

thomas@smdp.com



(Courtesy Graphic)

PHONES: Administrative regulations proposed by Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District on mobile communication devices center around the "Away for the Day" policy.

CANTINA

FROM PAGE 1

is one of my favorite cities in the Los Angeles area," said owner Adolfo Valenzuela, adding, "It was always my dream to come to this city, but I had to start somewhere. So I started in small locations where the rent was not so expensive, but Santa Monica was always on my mind and today, we are here."

Unlike the other five locations, the Santa Monica site takes advantage of the fact that alcohol had previously been served here and as such, a full liquor bar is available, enhancing the Desvelados experience with a selection of Mexican spirits and cocktails to pair with their signature dishes. The menu features some house specialties, including the "No Seas Naca" Margarita (agave wine with ice, margarita on the rox mix and a choice of flavor, mango, chamoy, tajin) and the La Sancha (agua de pepino mixed with agave wine, squeezed citrus with chamoy, tajin rim and a tarugo stick).

Valenzuela said he was originally looking at locations closer to the beach, but couldn't find one that he liked. However, when he was shown this site, he thought it was "kinda cozy" and of course, because it had already been zoned as a restaurant, he was extremely fortunate.

"We came in and we remodeled everything. I threw away the whole restaurant and put in a new one in just one month, because I got the keys for this restaurant one month ago, and we did everything from floors to walls to decoration everything," Valenzuela said.

The opening event was quite the full-on affair, with a seven-member Mariachi band playing traditional live music as invited guests shuffled inside to take a seat and try some of the food and drinks on offer. Over 40 different tacos are on offer, including some that are unique to the Santa Monica outlet. The full menu can be found at tacoslosdesvelados.com/menu

The immediate area surrounding the Santa Monica Blvd and 4th Street intersection is a problematic part of town where homeless people often sleep, urinate, defecate and vandalize local businesses. However, Valenzuela remains optimistic and undeterred.

"I understand the city has a lot of problems with homelessness and crime, but in my opinion we are the ones who are going to bring happiness and good vibes," he said. "Our concept is very different, I don't think Santa Monica has anything like this … I opened in East LA in areas that you wouldn't say is the nicest [and] there was a time in Maywood when every week they used to break our windows … but now we're part of the community. They don't do it anymore. People embrace the restaurant, embrace the family and that's how we've survived so far."

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Photo by Scott Snowden

TACO: Desvelados Mexican Cantina recently opened up its sixth outlet at 1416 4th Street.

SUNRISE

FROM PAGE 6

pitcher Gerrit Cole failed to cover the bag during a routine grounder to first. Mookie Betts was safe by a mile. When the smoke cleared the Dodgers went into the sixth inning tied 5-5. Yankee fans who had hoped for an impossible dream were suddenly stuck in a collective meltdown. The Dodgers staged a mini rally in the top of the eighth to go up 7-6. Six outs later they were world champs.

In a world of multimillion dollar contracts major league ballplayers are accused of being businessmen and nothing more. Wake up sports fans! Baseball has always been a business. When Babe Ruth was washed up the Yankees gave him a one way ticket to play for the Boston Braves. In the waning moments of his career, Jackie Robinson was informed by the Dodgers that he was being traded to the Giants. Robinson chose retirement over engaging in such a sacrilege.

In the exhibition season major league ballplayers appear to be millionaires engaging in a business enterprise. In the World Series they magically become ten year old boys playing sandlot ball for the first time. In the World Series they play the game because they love the game. They play the game because it is a grand and glorious thing.

The Dodger victory over the Yankees in the 2024 World Series has had a remarkable impact on the collective psyche of Los Angeles. When a World Series is won, jaded adults feel like ten year old kids on Christmas morning. Chronic pessimists relive the type of childhood glee that they felt on the first day of summer school.

Dodgers 4 Yankees 1. Ain't life grand.

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Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"BUSINESS IS SLOW."

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.

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Drought-proof garden

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

Acid soil	Clematis	Gypsum	Pests
Annual	Corkwood	Habit	Pigface
Beds	Cover	Hakea	Rain
Boree	Cypress	Huon	Shrubs
Bottle	Epiphyte	Income	Soak
Bract	Erica	Kauri	Soluble
Bunya	Espalier	Leggy	Sucker
Bush	Fern	Lime	Telopea
Cane	Figs	Loam	Waxflower
Cassia	Frost-hardy	Manure	
Cedar	Gums	Mulch	

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 12)

A year of apt challenges that expand your boundaries. Though you get fun moments in the spotlight, you'll be most proud of the meaningful, impactful way you're able to support loved ones. More highlights: Published work, ventures into nature and the sort of projects that powerfully connect you to people working for positive change in the world. Aquarius and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 10, 18, 4 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's psychic energy in your first impressions. Record them in some way because later you'll want a record of the pure gold that is your innocent belief. When the time is right, this will give you an extra layer of insight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are many ways to accomplish the same goal, and it will be helpful to remain open to ideas that seem very different from your original ideas. Each person's approach will be one of a kind, and your gentle tolerance will serve you well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Action creates energy. Even if an action is difficult or tiring at first, it will ultimately energize you more than inaction. Take care of yourself because you'll expend a lot of energy to stretch, grow and make things happen.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The most powerful position is one of total acceptance of all that happened and the choices you made. You can get there slowly, processing each bit of your history, or you can get there quickly with a decision to let it all go.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It is your intention to do what will create the most good in the world. And though you are drawn to helping as many people as you can, sometimes the most good is accomplished by doing what delights you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Be wary of anyone who promises too much too soon. The quick fix won't last. True progress takes time. Thinking long-term benefits everyone. Patience and steady effort will yield the strongest results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've been looking out for everyone. Today's happy discovery? Someone is quietly looking out for you. There's actually a powerful support system around you. Lean into it. Prosperity graces those open to receiving help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your luck lies in the helpful people around you - mentors, friends and guides. Seek their advice, and don't hesitate to ask deep, thought-provoking questions. You'll be surprised by the wisdom you receive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Curiosity shapes your plot. You'll get the story, the backstory and the real story. You'll find out the timetable and other details to help you put everything in the correct context.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Destiny rewards those who build in silence. You don't want a witness to this part. In the quiet moments of hard work, far from the glare of the spotlight, true growth occurs. You lay each brick with intention; your dreams solidify.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're like a detective today, identifying what needs repair. Whether it's in your life or someone else's, you'll handle it with care. When offering advice about others' problems, be sure to use tact and discretion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Competition can either impair or improve your game. You'll do best when you're so well matched that the game will be a close call. This is how you learn the small details that sharpen and strengthen your play.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

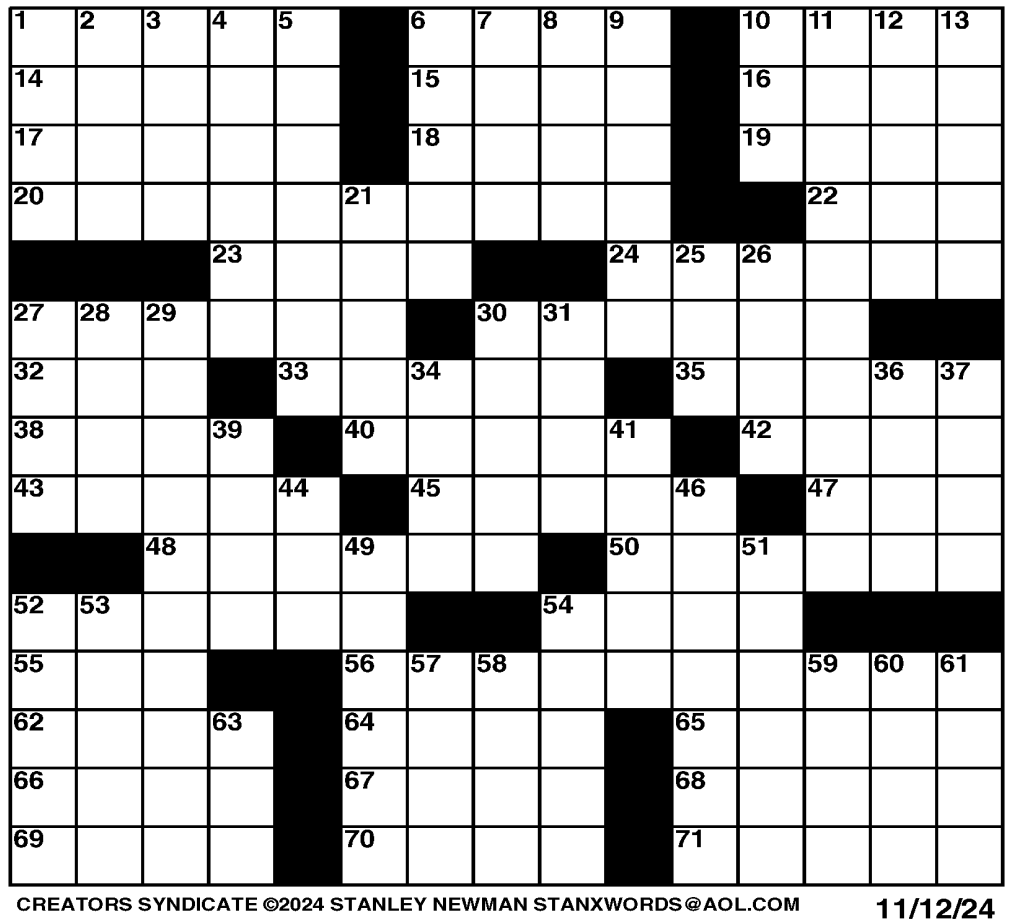
FOUR-HANDED by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
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ACROSS

1 Beef-and-potatoes dinners
6 Stinging remark
10 Pet shelter org.
14 Offer to a hitchhiker
15 Regretful person
16 Breakfast, lunch or dinner
17 Being chilled, as wine
18 "Give __ further thought"
19 Cancel out
20 HANDbag
22 Guys
23 A Great Lake
24 Real-__ broker
27 More angry
30 Circus performer launcher
32 Hospital scan letters
33 Windshield sticker
35 Misplaces
38 Small plateau
40 Half-dozen + 1
42 Person from Bangkok
43 Boxing bout
45 Low-power coffee
47 Adherent: Suffix
48 Offended the nose
50 Hairpiece
52 Kimono-clad hostess
54 Be worthy of
55 Flow back, as the tide
56 HANDicraft such as embroidery
62 Any thing, grammatically
64 Fawn's father
65 Bedsheet or towel
66 Vanish __ thin air
67 First poker bet
68 Lauder of cosmetics
69 Observed closely
70 Back talk
71 Crystal-lined rock

DOWN

1 Small retail store
2 __ avail (useless)
3 Grand tale
4 Evil
5 Smiled scornfully
6 Illegal incentive payment
7 Limo or cab
8 Nevada city
9 Not in working order
10 Dallas sch.
11 HANDwriting skill
12 Military academy student
13 Without assistance
21 Becomes weary
25 NBC weekend comedy series
26 Trumpet sound
27 "That's tasty!"
28 Region
29 HAND out
30 __ in (collapsed)
31 Actor Baldwin
34 Formally transfer
36 Uncomplicate
37 Location
39 One-spot cards
41 Birth-related
44 Sly laugh sound
46 Dog's front limb
49 Where *The Wizard of Oz* begins
51 Not prudent
52 Aladdin's magical pal
53 Black hardwood
54 Outer borders
57 Italian volcano
58 Has a snack
59 Not fooled by
60 Clarinetist attachment
61 Joint above an ankle
63 Nonverbal assent



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11/12/24



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.

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.

COMMUNITY VISIT TO KURUVUNGNA SPRINGS
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1439 S Barrington Ave., Los Angeles. Join the City of Santa Monica's DEI Team and the Gabrielino Tongva Springs Foundation for a visit to this sacred site to the people of the Tovaangar (the LA Basin, including Santa Monica) in recognition of Native American Heritage Month. Learn from Gabrielino-Tongva Springs Foundation President Bob Ramirez about the significance of Kuruvungna Springs, the history of the people of Tovaangar, and even know how Santa Monica got its name. To register, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-visit-to-kuruvungna-springs-tickets-1058350658309.

BUILDING & FIRE-LIFE SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
3 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Building and Fire-Life Safety Commission was established on November 22, 2011 as a consolidation of the former Building and Safety Commission and the Accessibility Appeals Board. This new Commission hears appeals and matters of fire safety as a Fire Appeals Board. The Commission hears appeals to decisions of the Building Official and the Fire Marshall. The Commission also makes recommendations to the City Council on adoption of the State Building and Fire Codes and locally adopted municipal amendments.

CLEAN BEACHES COMMITTEE MEETING
SMI Room, Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr. The mission of the Clean Beaches & Ocean Parcel Tax Citizens Oversight Committee is to uphold the mission of the City of Santa Monica Watershed Management Plan: to restore a healthier balance between the urban environment and the natural ecosystem, including the Santa Monica Bay, by reducing the pollution in urban runoff, reducing urban flooding, and increasing water conservation, recreation opportunities, open space, and wildlife and marine habitat.

Submit your event online at smdp.com/events

VETERANS

FROM PAGE 1

Andrew Poppas.

Poppas, who was proud to be on the Pier and close to the original Muscle Beach, thanked the crowd as well as his daughter for being in attendance. He noted that the country didn't become a "land of opportunity on accident," with the nation being built by veterans' efforts going back centuries.

"I know you understand the commitment, the discipline and the teamwork it takes to prepare formation, and I know that you also understand courage, sacrifice and the resiliency it takes ... to embrace your mission, to face your enemy, even though there are no guarantees of when, how that mission may lead to attack," Poppas said.

The general added that the military "doesn't hold a monopoly on America's warrior spirit," saying that spirit resides in everyone from local leaders to premier athletes. One of those athletes, former Los Angeles Rams offensive tackle Andrew Whitworth, called it an "unbelievable honor" to be a part of the festivities.

In addition to his three All-Pro selections, Whitworth was selected as the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year in 2021, capping off a potential Hall of Fame career with a Super Bowl victory with the Rams. Despite him saying he's "seen a lot of cool guys do a lot of cool things" during his football run, Whitworth admitted that his peers weren't his heroes.

"My heroes are the men and women that serve our country," Whitworth said. "They give up and sacrifice for us to have the freedoms and the opportunities to sit exactly where we are right now."

One of his heroes was his college roommate, Lee Deal, who served in the 2nd Marine Division and was killed in action in 2006, three weeks after Whitworth was drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals. Deal's death put the football star's life into perspective, he added.

"There wasn't a single National Anthem that I didn't stand there with tears in my eyes, realizing that I got to play a kid's gamer for my life's calling because of the sacrifices that he made to give me the opportunity to be safe, to enjoy and to chase my dream, and I will forever see Lee Hamilton Deal as my ultimate hero for that," he said.

Other remarks were given by Mayor Phil Brock and City Councilmember Gleam Davis, with the latter remarking that being a mother to a veteran made her a firsthand witness to "the pride that veterans have taken in answering the call to duty" as well as the sacrifices that "come with this calling."

The ceremony was kept lively by two flyovers from the 7-158th Aviation Regiment Army Helicopters and The Condor Squadron, as well as musical entertainment by The 300th Army Band and Miss USO Heidi-Marie Ferren. The future of the military was on display too, with Army Reserve Major General Dianne Del Rosso proceeding over a future soldier's swearing-in ceremony.

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