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Huge crowds celebrate the seasonal spirit as Ice at Santa Monica opens



Scott Snowden

ICE: The always popular ice rink in Downtown Santa Monica is a sign of the season and is already thrilling visitors who flock to the corner of 5th and Arizona every year.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The annual Ice at Santa Monica seasonal spectacular installation opened last week as massive numbers gathered to celebrate the seasonal spirit, filling the temporary ice rink to capacity on Friday evening.

Every year, the corner of 5th Street and Arizona Avenue is transformed into an ice skating rink, but building on the success of last year, Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) has once again partnered with specialist company Willy Bietak Productions, Inc. to produce something even better than last year's production.

DTSM Operations and Placemaking Director Jeremy Ferguson introduced the evening's proceedings before Robert Keith, Director of Rink Operations for Willy Bietak Productions spoke for a few minutes and then 2026 Winter Olympic US figure skating hopefuls Katie McBeath and Daniil Parkman gave an incredible performance to an energized and enthusiastic crowd.

Noticeably absent was any member of Santa Monica City staff along with any member of City Council, either existing or incoming. Moreover, not one of the 13 directors on the board at DTSM chose to attend the event, which was surprising since the 2023-24 season was a smash hit, generating a gross revenue of $1,096,792 with a total expenditure of just $126,829.

In years past, the rink had been constructed upon tons of flattened sand, but as Ferguson explains, that wasn't particularly cost effective and it was extremely problematic to clear up afterwards. Like last year, the entire ice rink has been constructed upon a wooden framework that has been painstakingly laid flat over the uneven surface of the parking lot space using laser levels.

"We've been producing this ice rink since 2007 and we think that this year you're going to find that this is the best ice season yet. It takes a lot of hard work to make this to all come together," Ferguson said.

"Because every single piece of wood used has been carefully cut to size, numbered and indexed, we can rebuild and recreate exactly the same structure for the next five years or so without having to use any new or additional materials," said Matthew Kessinger, Project Director for Willy Bietak Productions.

The Santa Monica-based company has a long history of installing ice rinks throughout the state of California, including projects at Union Square in San Francisco, Beverly Hills and Pershing Square in Downtown Los Angeles. It was founded by an Austrian-born, national pair

SEE **ICE** PAGE 4



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Home design ideas made accessible to locals through annual fair

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy Photo

DESIGN: Santa Monica Airport's Barker Hangar will be transformed into a space for the WestEdge Design Fair this week.

With holiday commercials already running on the airwaves, locals looking for the gifts to upgrade their homes will have a three-day soiree to peruse new style and functionality options.

From Thursday to Saturday, Santa Monica Airport's Barker Hangar will transform into the home and lifestyle paradise known as the WestEdge Design Fair. Showcasing the best in modern design, guests can shop the latest from the big and small names in home furnishing, while exhibitors have a chance to foster connections in the lucrative West Coast marketplace.

WestEdge Design Fair Principal Megan Reilly stated that a brand looking to find their way into the western markets, particularly California and Los Angeles specifically, can be "kind of daunting" as far as finding out where a store can be opened and how to reach new customers.

The fair lays out the Barker space with networking organizations that can offer one-on-one consultations with up-and-coming names in the industry, pushing along potential showrooms in Los Angeles.

"Both homeowners and design trade professionals, architects, designers, (see) there's a lot of development and projects going on in California," Reilly said. "(With) hospitality, hotels, the Olympics bringing more eyeballs internationally to the Los Angeles area, we are connecting design brands with people who love great interior design, and a lot of them are new … to the Los Angeles market."

She added that consumers can also use the fair as a "great place" to gain inspiration for home purchases, as well as introduction to new companies that make the home furnishings world "a little bit more easy to navigate."

While the show has no theme other than the overarching sentiment of "innovative interior design," the space is broken down into different sections, such as the outdoor living area outside of the Hangar doors to showcase patio settings and other outdoor equipment. Another feature is the "Made Modern" section, focusing on independent designers and creators in everything from hand-blown glass and furniture to ceramic artists.

"It's (knowing) that individual who's the artist behind the product, and is making things by hand, a lot of one of a kind custom work that you don't necessarily find going into Pottery Barn or one of the main big box retailers," Reilly said.

A new section for this year's fair is the Connoisseurs Club lounge, a "high style demonstration kitchen and hospitality lounge" that shows off the latest in kitchen trends and color ideas. The lounge will expand outside pure home items by featuring presenters on craft cocktails, chocolate and coffee.

With so much information at once, consumers and designers alike can find a more concise set of facts via panel discussions on single subject areas. Panels include "Unlock Your Color Potential" hosted by Sherwin-Williams, how the 2024 Election results will affect design, and a special panel talking about the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) movement, with Reilly stating people with new homes want to know if they can put ADUs on the property for additional rental income.

"Design can be overwhelming for a newbie … so we want to create these educational opportunities that make the process a little less intimidating and also kind of give updates on things to be aware of … those panels are a way to create educational content that is valued, and it helps people make better decisions in their own projects or planning," Reilly said.

Along with the ADU movement, Reilly stated that design trends include sustainability, "mixing and matching" heirloom pieces with more modern items in order to foster a "unique style," as well as the continued outdoor living trend that started strong during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"During COVID, everybody was spending more time outside, and that's still continuing," Reilly said. "I think that now it seems like every furniture brand has an outdoor collection, because more and more people want to bring nature into their lives for wellness and health."

The fair kicks off Thursday with an opening night party, serving as a charitable benefit for nonprofit Hollywood Food Coalition. The fair partnered with Priority Bicycles, AmFund and local artists to feature an auction of unique bicycles, travel experiences and art.

"Thanksgiving is two weeks away, we're all thinking about our holiday entertaining and the season, but the Hollywood Food Coalition is really about fostering community for those people who maybe don't have a hot meal for Thanksgiving or don't have a place to go," Reilly said. "We are very much aligned with their mission of providing food equity throughout the city."

To purchase tickets for the WestEdge Design Fair, visit westedgedesignfair.com.

thomas@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

FAIR: The popular home design event returns this weekend.

Eric Uller, who volunteered at Santa Monica's Police Activities League (PAL), masqueraded as a police officer during the late 1980s to early 2000s and *sexually abused hundreds of children.* There may still be time to make a claim.



PAL SANTA MONICA

"I never wanted to be the last one in the car with him."
- Eric Uller victims

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California empowered immigrants to speak up at work. Trump could end their protections



Damian Dovarganes, AP Photo

IMMIGRATION: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents transfer an immigrant after an early morning raid in Duarte on June 6, 2022.

BY JEANNE KUANG

In 30 years in America, Alejandro Gamez took any job he could as an undocumented worker — at fast food restaurants, factories and car washes and driving trucks, even when conditions were poor.

"I had no status," he said. "I had no options."

But after speaking up in 2017 about unpaid wages at an Inglewood car wash, his fortunes changed. As part of a state investigation into that employer's labor practices, Gamez this year became eligible for four years of protection from deportation — and a temporary work permit that seemed to open doors overnight. The 51-year-old Hawthorne resident said he can apply for better, stable jobs that pay more and provide benefits. He now has a union-represented position in a college kitchen and a Social Security number to build his credit.

"It changed my life," he said in Spanish. "It is giving me many job opportunities, to be better financially and to give a better life to my family."

His opportunities are thanks to a recent federal program that grants temporary legal status to workers involved in certain labor investigations. With some of the nation's strictest workplace laws but widespread concerns of employer retaliation, California has issued more than 200 requests to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, asking it to grant legal status to workers who report violations.

But just months after Gamez got his reprieve, the program may be on the chopping block: President-elect Donald Trump and his advisors have vowed mass deportations, a return to workplace immigration raids and the repeal of similar temporary protection programs.

Gamez's attorney, Yvonne Medrano, said she's expecting the program to be axed soon after Trump takes office Jan. 20. Her firm, the Los Angeles-based Bet Tzedek Legal Services, is no longer pursuing new cases under the program after representing workers seeking protections in 15 different workplace investigations.

"Removing this protection will return workers to a time when they fear deportation for asking for minimum wage, their paychecks or any other protections they have," Medrano said.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents transfer an immigrant after an early morning raid in Duarte on June 6, 2022. Photo by Damian Dovarganes, AP Photo

Other immigration attorneys in California had already stopped filing new applications before Election Day. They said they expect Homeland Security to honor the four-year reprieves that the department has already granted, but are uncertain what happens next.

"This is a discretionary program," said Jessie Hahn, senior counsel for labor and employment policy at the National Immigration Law Center, an advocacy group. "We are not anticipating that if Trump were elected he would continue the program."

A Trump campaign spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment about his intentions for the program.

It has created another group of immigrants who have been granted temporary permission to be in the United States as the chances of a federal immigration overhaul have grown ever slimmer — making their prospects heavily dependent on the see-saw of each presidential administration.

The program, one of several Biden administration efforts to boost the enforcement of labor laws, aims to give state investigators easier access to witnesses who may otherwise fear reprisal for making workplace complaints.

It's similar to the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that gave work permits and temporary deportation protections to immigrants who had been brought to the U.S. without authorization as children. About 500,000 residents have that form of legal status, but the program has stopped granting new applications after challenges in the federal courts. Trump tried

SEE **IMMIGRATION** PAGE 8



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **60**

WEDNESDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 0-1 ft
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.

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2 ft
Waist to shoulder

Should still be pretty fun but likely coming down in size from Wednesday - just account for the big tide swings. Tide will be very high early, so look to the later AM and PM as it drops for the best surf, w/wind potentially staying light.

Weather

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.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.
Friday: A slight chance of rain after 10am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 58.
Friday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2024/11/17	Sun	02:48 AM	2.15	L
2024/11/17	Sun	09:09 AM	6.91	H
2024/11/17	Sun	4:37 PM	-1.28	L

Daily Lottery

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ICE

FROM PAGE 1

skating champion and Olympic contender Wilhelm Bietak. Following his retirement from competitive skating, Bietak started his skating rink-related events company over 30 years ago.

Benefiting from the experience of last year, a few teeny-tiny improvements have been made. The primary sponsor this year is Disney+ and the branding surrounding the ice rink is significantly more subtle to the extent that even the artificial turf has been color-matched to the studio's teal-like hue called "Aurora" that's used in the logo. The skate hire building has also been refined with cleaner lines and a new clear plastic roof has been installed, which means no lighting is necessary during the daytime.

The layout has changed slightly too. The VIP areas, as they were last year, have been removed and replaced with three more modest seating areas that each encircle a fire pit and are now placed right next to the rink to be closer to the action. There are no food and beverage outlets as such, so the need for hefty kitchen equipment has also been removed. Instead, Shake Shack will have a small presence, where on busier nights they will have a hot cocoa station, plus folk can order food from Shake Shack and get it delivered to the rink. There are plans to expand this to a permanent residence, but at the time of going to press, it hasn't been completed yet.

While last year the rink was 25% bigger than it had ever been before, the rink this year is slightly smaller, by just 10 ft, which still leaves 120 by 60 square feet to skate on, with the entire site taking up approximately 16,000 square feet. Ultimately, what this all means is that there is considerably more space for people to change into their skates and just hang out in between sessions.

"We felt it was disjointed a little last year and the front area didn't get used as we were hoping. So we pushed everything forward to make the rink more center stage again," explained Kessinger, adding, "And we moved the kids rink to the left and so that opened the deck up too. So it's one big, wide open deck and it makes everything more visible. It's so much nicer this way."

"This year, we have three fire pits instead of two and they're more reasonably priced, and they come with a storage box. So rather than renting individual lockers for your group of six or eight, you can come in and use that storage box at the same time you're enjoying the ringside fire pit," Ferguson said.

The Chill Zone is another new addition this year, Ferguson said, which is just to one side of the main skating area and enables people to take a break without having to negotiate the ramp and actually leave the rink.

"You can just go to the end of the rink and watch a Disney movie against the Bank of America wall. And we'll project movies and episodes from various different Disney Plus series right against the wall," he said.

Tickets can be purchased from the website, iceatsantamonica.com and admission for a one hour session, including skates, is $22; locker rental, gloves and socks are $5 each and a skate helper will cost $6. The opening hours will be noon to 10 p.m. every day, each week and Friday and Saturday till 11 p.m.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit electronic bids for the:

Pier Electrical Utility Relocation Project
SP2741

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PROJECT ESTIMATE: $1 Million
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LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $3,600 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A or C-10** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids. Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

Trump names former Rep. Lee Zeldin to lead EPA, adviser Stephen Miller to be deputy chief of policy

BY MICHELLE L. PRICE, JILL COLVIN, ZEKE MILLER AND MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

President-elect Donald Trump on Monday named former New York congressman Lee Zeldin to lead the Environmental Protection Agency as he continues to build out his future administration with loyal supporters.

Zeldin, a Republican who mounted a failed bid for governor of New York in 2022, will "ensure fair and swift deregulatory decisions that will be enacted in a way to unleash the power of American businesses," Trump said in a statement. Zeldin also will maintain "the highest environmental standards, including the cleanest air and water on the planet," Trump said.

Trump's statement misidentified the name of the agency Zeldin was picked to lead, labeling it the Environmental Protective Agency.

Zeldin, who left Congress in January 2023, was a surprising pick for the role. His public appearances both in his own campaigns and on behalf of Trump often had him speaking about issues such as the military, national security, antisemitism, U.S.-Israel relations, immigration and crime.

He was among the Republicans in Congress who voted against certifying the 2020 election results. While in Congress, he did not serve on committees with oversight of environmental policy and had a lifetime score of 14% from the League of Conservation Voters during his eight years in Congress.

In the 2022 governor's race, Zeldin vowed to reverse a fracking ban imposed by Democrats.

In an interview Monday on Fox News Channel, Zeldin, 44, said that he will seek to ensure that the United States is able to "pursue energy dominance ... bring back American jobs to the auto industry and so much more."

He's excited to implement Trump's economic agenda, Zeldin said, adding: "I think the American people are so hungry for it. It's one of the big reasons why they're sending him back to the White House."

In 2016 Zeldin pushed to change the designation of about 150 square miles of federal waters in Long Island Sound to state jurisdiction for New York and Rhode Island. He wanted to open the area to striped bass fishing.

Zeldin said at the time that he wanted to restore local control and common sense to fishery management. He later pushed to allow striped bass fishing in an amendment to a federal spending bill. Environmental groups criticized the amendment, which they said risked overfishing in the area.

Trump often pointed to Zeldin's performance in the 2022 gubernatorial race, when the Republican did far better than had been expected against Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul. While Trump didn't win New York state in last week's election, he did far better than he had during previous elections, particularly in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens.

New York Republican chair Ed Cox said Zeldin's surprise appointment was "a testament to President Trump's commitment to revitalizing the original mission of the EPA — an agency created ... under President Richard Nixon to protect our nation's environment."

The announcement came after Trump selected longtime adviser and Santa Monica High School graduate Stephen Miller, an immigration hard-liner, to be the deputy chief of policy in his new administration and named New York Rep. Elise Stefanik as his choice for U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

Miller is one of Trump's longest-serving aides, dating back to his first campaign for the White House. He was a senior adviser in Trump's first term and has been a central figure in many of his policy decisions, particularly on immigration, including Trump's move to separate thousands of immigrant families as a deterrence program in 2018.

Miller has also helped craft many of Trump's hardline speeches, and was often the public face of those policies during Trump's first term in office and during his campaigns.

Since leaving the White House, Miller has served as the president of America First Legal, an organization of former Trump advisers fashioned as a conservative version of the American Civil Liberties Union, challenging the Biden administration, media companies, universities and others over issues such as freedom of speech and religion and national security.

Miller drew large cheers at Trump's rally at Madison Square Garden during the race's final stretch, telling the crowd that, "your salvation is at hand," after what he cast as "decades of abuse that has been heaped upon the good people of this nation — their jobs looted and stolen from them and shipped to Mexico, Asia and foreign countries. The lives of their loved ones ripped away from them by illegal aliens, criminal gangs and thugs who don't belong in this country."

Because it is not a Cabinet position, the appointment does not need Senate confirmation.

On the environment, Zeldin said in 2016 that he disagreed with then-candidate Trump's call to eliminate the EPA. He told a candidate forum on Long Island that he saw "a need to improve the agency," including bettering its relationship with Congress and deferring to lawmakers on some regulations, "which is very different from advocating to eliminate it."

Miller and Daly reported from Washington. Associated Press writer Michael Sisak in New York contributed to this report.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

Bitcoin has topped $87,000 for a new record high. What to know about crypto's post-election rally

WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS
AP Business Writer

As money continues to pour into crypto following Donald Trump's victory last week, bitcoin has climbed to yet another record high.

The world's largest cryptocurrency topped $87,000 for the first time on Monday. As of around 3:45 p.m. ET, bitcoin's price stood at $87,083, per CoinDesk, up over 28% in the last week alone.

That's part of a rally across cryptocurrencies and crypto-related investments since Trump won the U.S. presidential election last week. Analysts credit much of the recent gains to an anticipated "crypto-friendly" nature of the incoming administration, which could translate into more regulatory clarity but also leeway.

Still, as with everything in the volatile cryptoverse, the future is hard to predict. And while some are bullish, others continue to warn of investment risks.

Here's what you need to know.

BACK UP. WHAT IS CRYPTOCURRENCY AGAIN?

Cryptocurrency has been around for a while now, but seen come under the spotlight in recent years.

In basic terms, cryptocurrency is digital money. This kind of currency is designed to work through an online network without a central authority — meaning it's typically not backed by any government or banking institution — and transactions get recorded with technology called a blockchain.

Bitcoin is the largest and oldest cryptocurrency, although other assets like Ethereum, Tether and Dogecoin have gained popularity over the years. Some investors see cryptocurrency as a "digital alternative" to traditional money — but it can be very volatile, and reliant on larger market conditions.

WHY ARE BITCOIN AND OTHER CRYPTO ASSETS SOARING NOW?

A lot of it has to do with the outcome of last week's election.

Trump was previously a crypto skeptic, but changed his mind and embraced cryptocurrencies during this year's presidential race. He has pledged to make the U.S. "the crypto capital of the planet" and create a "strategic reserve" of bitcoin. His campaign accepted donations in cryptocurrency and he courted fans at a bitcoin conference in July. He also launched World Liberty Financial, a new venture with family members to trade cryptocurrencies.

Crypto industry players welcomed Trump's victory, in hopes that he would be able to push through legislative and regulatory changes that they've long lobbied for. And Trump had previously promised that, if elected, he would remove the chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Gary Gensler, who has been leading the U.S. government's crackdown on the crypto industry and repeatedly called for more oversight.

"Crypto rallied as Election Day progressed into the night and as it became increasingly clear that Trump would emerge victorious," Citi analysts David Glass and Alex Saunders wrote in a Friday research note, pointing to larger industry sentiment around Trump being "crypto-friendly" and a potential shift in regulatory backing.

> "Investors should only dabble in crypto with money that they can be prepared to lose. Because we've seen these wild swings in the past."
>
> - Susannah Streeter, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown

Even before the post-election rally, assets like bitcoin posted notable gains over the past year or so. Much of the credit goes to early success of a new way to invest in the asset: spot bitcoin ETFs, which were approved by U.S. regulators in January.

Inflows into spot ETFs, or exchange-traded funds, "have been the dominant driver of Bitcoin returns from some time, and we expect this relationship to continue in the near-term," Glass and Saunders noted. They added that spot crypto ETFs saw some of their largest inflows on record in the days following the election.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Crypto assets like bitcoin have a history of drastic swings in value — which can come suddenly and happen over the weekend or overnight in trading that continues at all hours, every day.

In short, history shows you can lose money as quickly as you've made it. Long-term price behavior relies on larger market conditions.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, bitcoin stood at just over $5,000. Its price climbed to nearly $69,000 by November 2021, in a time marked by high demand for technology assets, but later crashed during an aggressive series of Federal Reserve rate hikes aimed at curbing inflation. Then came the 2022 collapse of FTX, which significantly undermined confidence in crypto overall.

At the start of last year, a single bitcoin could be had for less than $17,000. Investors, however, began returning in large numbers as inflation started to cool — and gains skyrocketed on the anticipation and then early success of spot ETFs. While some crypto supporters see the potential for more record-breaking days, experts still stress caution, especially for small-pocketed investors.

"Investors should only dabble in crypto with money that they can be prepared to lose," Susannah Streeter, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown, said last week. "Because we've seen these wild swings in the past."

WHAT ABOUT THE CLIMATE IMPACT?

Assets like bitcoin are produced through a process called "mining," which consumes a lot of energy. And operations relying on pollutive sources have drawn particular concern over the years.

Recent research published by the United Nations University and Earth's Future journal found that the carbon footprint of 2020-2021 bitcoin mining across 76 nations was equivalent to the emissions from burning 84 billion pounds of coal or running 190 natural gas-fired power plants. Coal satisfied the bulk of bitcoin's electricity demands (45%), followed by natural gas (21%) and hydropower (16%).

In the U.S., the Energy Information Administration notes that crypto mining across the country has "grown very rapidly over the last several years," adding that grid planners have begun to express concern over increases in related electricity demand. Preliminary estimates released by the EIA in February suggest that annual electricity use from crypto mining probably represents between 0.6% to 2.3% of U.S. electricity consumption.

Environmental impacts of bitcoin mining boil largely down to the energy source used. Industry analysts have maintained that clean energy has increased in use in recent years, coinciding with rising calls for climate protections from regulators around the world.

AP Business Writer Kelvin Chan contributed to this report from London.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Profile in Courage or Shameful Silence?

EDITOR:

Six weeks before our recent City Council elections attacks were made before this body by supporters of the winning United Slate against a candidate of the Safer Slate. Among those attacks were allegations of antisemitism and racism supposed to have occurred five years earlier. The United Slate has made no comments on those attacks by their supporters. These events brought back memories to me of prior Presidential elections.

In October 2008, John McCain was trailing Barack Obama when he was sent a closing speech for the last debate. The speech focused on Obama's full name, Barack HUSSEIN Obama, highlighting Obama's Muslim heritage and alleged religion. McCain refused to use that speech.

In 2021, on January 6th as rioters were attacking our Nation's Capital Donald Trump remained silent in his office for more than three hours watching the insurrection when he could have made a statement to his supporters to stop the rioting. During his silence 174 police officers were injured.

Everyone knows politics is not for the weak or faint of heart, war without the blood. What difference does it make? The Safer Slate lost, Get over it. That is how many, if not most, will see those attacks, those actions. I believe there is a more important distinction, a longer term, longer lasting perspective. Should we look at the actions of the United Slate, winners of the City Council elections, as similar to the actions of which Republican?

- The Profile in Courage of John McCain who lost the election in 2008, or
- The Shameful Silence of Donald Trump who later won the election in 2024?

I choose the latter. Character counts.

John Medlin, Santa Monica

Statement Affirming HRC's Opposition to Hate in Our Schools & Communities

EDITOR:

On Nov. 9, 2024, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton addressed the incident involving racist text messages sent to African-American and Black students of SMMUSD, as well as to students across the nation. Dr. Shelton emphasized a zero tolerance policy for racism and hate speech at SMMUSD. He stated that disciplinary actions will be taken against any Santa Monica student involved in these acts of racism and hate speech.

The HRC stands committed to advocating for diversity, equity, respect, and justice. We recognize the importance of communities coming together to protect the safety of systemically marginalized groups. In light of the recent nationwide incidents that have led to an increase in hate speech, hate crimes, and racism, we publicly denounce all acts of racism and hate in every form.

To our community members affected by this incident, we stand in solidarity with you.

Julie Rusk and Dr. Karen S. Gunn on behalf of the Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council

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CHEVRON	1732 Lincoln Blvd	$4.99
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CHEVRON	1330 Santa Monica Blvd	$4.99
CHEVRON	1348 Pico Blvd	$4.89
CHEVRON	432 Wilshire Blvd	$4.79

*Prices paying in card

Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 1.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.43/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 13.1 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 70.7 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has declined 0.4 cents in the last week and stands at $3.52 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.76/g while the most expensive was $5.57/g, a difference of $1.81/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.55/g while the highest was $6.79/g, a difference of $3.24/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 2.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.03/g today. The national average is down 16.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 32.3 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Waymo's robotaxis now open to anyone who wants a driverless ride in Los Angeles



SMDP Photo

TAXI: The driverless vehicles have been moving around Santa Monica for a while and the service is expanding in the LA area.

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

Waymo on Tuesday opened its robotaxi service to anyone who wants a ride around Los Angeles, marking another milestone in the evolution of self-driving car technology since the company began as a secret project at Google 15 years ago.

The expansion comes eight months after Waymo began offering rides in Los Angeles to a limited group of passengers chosen from a waiting list that had ballooned to more than 300,000 people. Now, anyone with the Waymo One smartphone app will be able to request a ride around an 80-square-mile (129-square-kilometer) territory spanning the second largest U.S. city.

After Waymo received approval from California regulators to charge for rides 15 months ago, the company initially chose to launch its operations in San Francisco before offering a limited service in Los Angeles.

Before deciding to compete against conventional ride-hailing pioneers Uber and Lyft in California, Waymo unleashed its robotaxis in Phoenix in 2020 and has been steadily extending the reach of its service in that Arizona city ever since.

Driverless rides are proving to be more than just a novelty. Waymo says it now transports more than 150,000 weekly trips in its robotaxis, a volume of business numbers that helped the company recently raise $5.6 billion from its corporate parent Alphabet and a list of other investors that included venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz and financial management firm T. Rowe Price.

"Our service has matured quickly and our riders are embracing the many benefits of fully autonomous driving," Waymo co-CEO Tekedra Mawakana said in a blog post.

Despite its inroads, Waymo is still believed to be losing money. Although Alphabet doesn't disclose Waymo's financial results, the robotaxi is a major part of an "Other Bets" division that had suffered an operating loss of $3.3 billion through the first nine months of this year, down from a setback of $4.2 billion at the same time last year.

But Waymo has come a long way since Google began working on self-driving cars in 2009 as part of project "Chauffeur." Since its 2016 spinoff from Google, Waymo has established itself as the clear leader in a robotaxi industry that's getting more congested.

Electric auto pioneer Tesla is aiming to launch a rival "Cybercab" service by 2026, although its CEO Elon Musk said he hopes the company can get the required regulatory clearances to operate in Texas and California by next year.

Tesla's projected timeline for competing against Waymo has been met with skepticism because Musk has made unfulfilled promises about the company's self-driving car technology for nearly a decade.

Meanwhile, Waymo's robotaxis have driven more than 20 million fully autonomous miles and provided more than 2 million rides to passengers without encountering a serious accident that resulted in its operations being sidelined.

That safety record is a stark contrast to one of its early rivals, Cruise, a robotaxi service owned by General Motors. Cruise's California license was suspended last year after one of its driverless cars in San Francisco dragged a jaywalking pedestrian who had been struck by a different car driven by a human.

Cruise is now trying to rebound by joining forces with Uber to make some of its services available next year in U.S. cities that still haven't been announced. But Waymo also has forged a similar alliance with Uber to dispatch its robotaxi in Atlanta and Austin, Texas next year.

Another robotaxi service, Amazon's Zoox, is hoping to begin offering driverless rides to the general public in Las Vegas at some point next year before also launching in San Francisco.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Yes on Measure G Campaign Declares Victory–Ushering in Most Significant Reforms to Los Angeles County Government in a Century

The Yes on Measure G campaign made history and declared victory this week after gaining majority approval from voters—a triumph that ushers in a new era for Los Angeles County, an era of true accountability, transparency, representation, and results. Measure G was put on the ballot by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through a motion co-authored by Chair Horvath and Supervisor Janice Hahn, with support from Supervisor Hilda L. Solis.

The campaign said that after 100 years of the status quo, and too many broken promises on the toughest issues facing Los Angeles County, voters have affirmed that the way forward is complete transformation of the County's governance structure—one with true checks and balances through a more representative legislative branch and a distinct executive branch with direct accountability to voters.

"The people of Los Angeles County have made history in passing Measure G, ushering in the change necessary for a more effective Los Angeles County," said Co-Author of Measure G and LA County Board Chair Lindsey P. Horvath. "We will now have the ability to fix what is broken and deliver the results our communities are counting on, especially in the face of threats to our most vulnerable residents from the next federal administration. Through this historic change, we will address the most pressing issues facing Angelenos with greater urgency and accountability, and create a more ethical and representative government fit for the 21st century."

Chair Horvath continued: "This victory means that every community, from the San Fernando Valley to the South Bay, from the San Gabriel Valley to the Antelope Valley, will now have greater access to a government prepared to hear their voices and prioritize their needs. This is a victory not only for today, but for generations to come. In the coming days, we will be working on the next steps to begin an inclusive implementation process and deliver on the promises of Measure G."

Supporters said Measure G has unequivocally made history. Past attempts to change the Los Angeles County Charter failed, while Measure G was approved by voters through a campaign that garnered broad-based support, including nurses, small businesses, civil rights groups as well as local, state and federal leaders throughout the County.

Measure G defied the odds and achieved a monumental victory through a comprehensive package of reforms, turning the pages of history.

In 1962, Proposition D to expand the Board of Supervisors failed by 64%.

In 1976, Propositions A to create an elected County Mayor failed by 57% and B to expand the Board of Supervisors was rejected by 65% of voters.

In 1992, Propositions B to create an Elected County Executive failed by 57% and Proposition C to enlarge the Board of Supervisors failed by 65%.

In 2000, Measure A to expand the Board of Supervisors to nine members failed by 64%.

Most recently, State bills introduced in 2015 and 2017 failed to garner enough support from the legislature.

The academic community responds to Measure G's passage, sharing:

"The passage of Measure G is a monumental step forward in making Los Angeles County's government more representative and effective," said Dr. Fernando Guerra, Director of the Center for the Study of Los Angeles. "For too long, we've seen our communities underserved by an outdated system. Measure G ensures that our government can truly serve the diverse needs of our County's residents. This new structure brings the accountability Angelenos deserve and the representation our communities need to thrive."

"Measure G is a groundbreaking achievement for Los Angeles County, marking the beginning of a new era of accountability and representation," said Dr. Sara Sadhwani, Professor of Politics at Pomona College. "This historic victory gives voice to communities who have long been marginalized in the decision-making process. With a more transparent and responsive governance structure, we're creating a County government that truly reflects the diversity and needs of its people. This is a win for democracy and for all Angelenos."

Once certified by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder on December 3, 2024, the necessary reforms in Measure G will be enshrined into the Los Angeles County Charter. The timeline for changes, include:

Requiring County departments and agencies to present their budgets to the Board in open, public meetings, prior to adoption of an annual budget is effective immediately.

The strengthened "revolving door" policy prohibiting former County officials from lobbying the County for a minimum of 2 years after leaving County service begins immediately.

Suspension without pay for elected officials criminally convicted of a crime begins immediately.

Creating an independent Ethics Commission as well as an Office of Ethics Compliance, to be led by an Ethics Compliance Officer, by 2026.

The election of a County Executive will be held in 2028.

Four seats will be added to the Board of Supervisors in 2032, following the 2030 independent redistricting process.

Here's what more community voices are saying about this historic win:

"Los Angeles County voters made history by passing Measure G. This reform reflects the values of our communities and our commitment to true representation," said Mark Ramos, Chair of the Los Angeles Democratic Party. "For too long, County governance has been out of reach for many of our neighborhoods. Measure G is a powerful step in building a government that includes all voices, from our small cities to the heart of Los Angeles. This victory belongs to everyone who believes in a County that serves its people first."

"Measure G represents a defining moment for ethics in Los Angeles County government. By establishing an independent ethics commission, we are setting a new standard of transparency and accountability that Angelenos deserve," said Serena Oberstein, former President of the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission. "This victory means that County leaders will be held to the highest ethical standards, ensuring that decisions are made for the benefit of our communities, not special interests. Measure G is about restoring public trust and building a government we can all believe in."

"Measure G's passage is a triumph for working families across Los Angeles County," said SEIU 121RN. "Our communities have demanded a County government that doesn't just hear our voices but truly represents and serves our needs. With this measure, we're moving toward a system that values accountability and integrity, ensuring that every decision made will be in the best interest of the people. This is a win for frontline workers and for all Angelenos committed to a more just and transparent government."

SUBMITTED BY NICK WYVILLE

IMMIGRATION

FROM PAGE 3



Photo by Zaydee Sanchez for CalMatters

WORKERS: Alejandro Games in his home in Hawthorne on Nov. 8, 2024.

to rescind the program in his last term; Stephen Miller, a close Trump advisor, said he will do so again, the New York Times has reported.

Deferred Action for Labor Enforcement is much narrower — 7,700 workers have benefited since January 2023. Anyone who's not a U.S. citizen can apply if they can prove they were working for an employer under investigation. First, a state or federal labor agency must submit a letter to Homeland Security saying they need the cooperation of worker witnesses in each investigation.

Those granted deferred action are shielded from deportation and allowed to work legally for four years, but there is no path toward permanent residency. Some recipients see it as a way to earn money legally and get better-paying jobs outside the underground economy. Others said it gives them time — and a much quicker path to a work permit — as their other immigration-related cases wind their way through the federal bureaucracy.

Immigration attorneys and advocates say while some applicants are seeking reprieves from active deportation cases, most have been living and working without papers undetected, meaning they've come forward to federal immigration authorities for the first time.

It's not clear how many of those workers are in California. A Homeland Security spokesperson would not release state-by-state figures, citing "ongoing investigations."

But California is an eager participant in the program; Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration says it was the first state to file a letter supporting worker protections. The state is home to nearly 1.5 million workers who are undocumented immigrants, making up more than 7% of the workforce.

Such workers are a frequent focus of the state's labor investigations, and labor advocates say undocumented workers routinely fear both losing their jobs and being reported to immigration authorities for complaining about workplace violations.

"This fear can prevent them from fully cooperating with labor enforcement agencies in reporting and corroborating violations of the law," Daniel Lopez, spokesperson for the state Labor Commissioner's Office, said in a statement. "Ultimately, fewer protections undermine workers and impact responsible employers."

In the past two years, the office, which investigates wage theft, has sent letters supporting deportation protections in 136 workplace investigations covering potentially hundreds of workers. The Division of Occupational Safety and Health has sent at least 12 letters. The Agricultural Labor Relations Board, which oversees farmworkers' rights, has sent 10, and the Civil Rights Department, which investigates workplace discrimination complaints, has sent 60, spokespersons said.

The state has even paid to help immigrants get work permits. Last year, Newsom announced $4.5 million to pay for free legal services to help farmworkers who are involved in labor investigations apply for deferred action. The money, allocated through mid-2026, has so far helped screen more than 500 workers for eligibility and 175 apply for the program.

There are as many as 800,000 seasonal and year-round farmworkers in California; at least half are believed to be undocumented.

"Agricultural regions have very limited access to immigration legal services," said Jason Montiel, spokesperson for the Department of Social Services, which administers the grant to five legal aid groups statewide. "Providing farmworkers direct access to immigration legal services when their labor rights are violated increases the likelihood that they will file labor claims and collaborate with labor agencies."

Newsom's spokespersons did not respond to an inquiry about what will happen with the state grant program if federal rules change.

Nicole Gorney, a supervising attorney with VIDAS Legal Services, which is receiving a state grant, said that she has 12 farmworker clients waiting to be granted deferred action. She had hoped the state would expand the program to include workers in other industries.

> "Ultimately, fewer protections undermine workers and impact responsible employers.

"There are still a lot of workers out there who may qualify but really don't want to come out of the shadows," she said the morning after the election.

Alejandro Games in his home in Hawthorne on Nov. 8, 2024. Photo by Zaydee Sanchez for CalMatters.

Gamez' deferred action was granted in connection with retaliation claims he and his coworkers filed against Century Car Wash in 2018. That year, they had also filed wage theft claims with the state Labor Commissioner's Office. According to state records, they told the office their managers made them show up earlier and leave later than the businesses' opening hours, but their time-sheets didn't match all the hours they worked. The car wash's co-owners denied the claims, and told the state the time-sheets were accurate.

After demanding payment from his managers, Gamez said he was fired, and told to leave in front of customers. According to state records, he and his coworkers won the wage claims in 2021; a state hearing officer ruled Gamez was owed more than $20,000. But the state is still investigating claims the workers were fired and questioned about their immigration status in retaliation for speaking up. Last year at Gamez' attorney's request, the Labor Commissioner's Office sent a letter to Homeland Security to request deportation protection for the workers.

"The ongoing investigation … is being conducted by our Retaliation Complaint Investigation unit and requires worker cooperation and testimony," Labor Commissioner Lilia Garcia-Brower wrote in the letter.

Reached by phone, one of Century Car Wash's owners deferred to the co-owner, who did not respond to a request for comment.

Gamez said his deferred action status kept him calm last week as many immigrants feared for their futures under a second Trump administration.

Others who received the protection remain afraid.

Alejandra Montoya came to the United States five years ago fleeing "problems in the family," she said, and found work in the Central Valley's fields. She had a degree in business administration in her native Mexico, and said she never intended to be an undocumented immigrant. But she had a son, and stayed to raise him in Bakersfield.

Montoya said she enjoys farm work, despite the hard days on her hands and knees picking and bunching carrots for $3.05 per box. On a good day, when the field conditions are forgiving, she can take home $150 or more, she said.

Working for a contractor hired by Grimmway Farms, she said she kept her head down, until one day last September when a coworker, Rosa Sanchez, was struck by a truck and killed in the field next to hers. Montoya said workers had raised concerns about that driver and she believed the accident was preventable. Some of the workers were told to keep working around Sanchez' body, she said. Stunned, and now knowing what else to do, she did.

It was "traumatic," she said through a translator. "Inhumane."

In March, the state's workplace safety agency issued more than $65,000 of citations against Grimmway, the contractor Esparza Enterprises and another contractor that employed the driver, alleging serious safety violations for allowing employees to work "in close proximity to a Commercial Truck being driven in an unsafe manner," according to files obtained through a public records request. Federal and state records show the driver was backing up when the truck struck Sanchez.

The company and its contractors have contested the citations. Esparza did not respond to a request for comment. In a statement, Grimmway spokesperson Dana Brennan wrote the company has strict policies prohibiting retaliation against employees or contractors' employees who report issues at work.

"We have a confidential, anonymous, bilingual hotline where employees can report ethical concerns," Brennan wrote. "As we have since we first learned of this tragic accident, we are committed to working with authorities throughout their investigation and extend our deepest sympathies to Ms. Sanchez's family and her co-workers on this grievous loss."

As a potential witness to the accident, Montoya applied for deferred action with the help of the United Farm Workers, and has since become more active with the organization, encouraging coworkers to apply and speaking at a union convention in September.

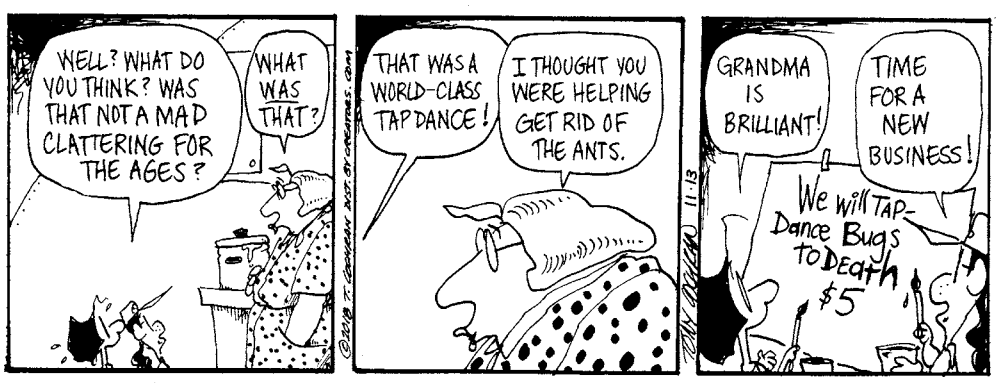
The day after the election, she said she's both relieved she got her work permit this year and fearful that she's given her information to federal immigration authorities. In the fields, most of the workers were talking about Trump's victory, "about what will happen with us now."

"It protects us from deportation," she said of the program. "Even so, the fear exists … Whenever he wants, he can take it away."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

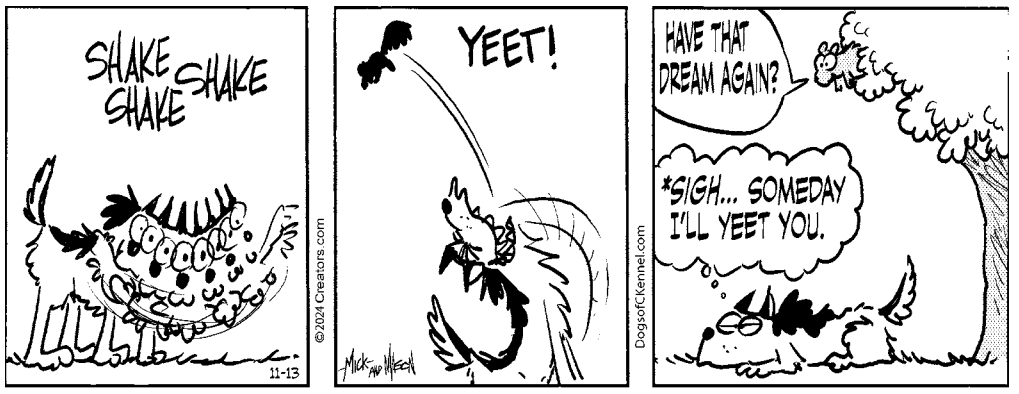
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



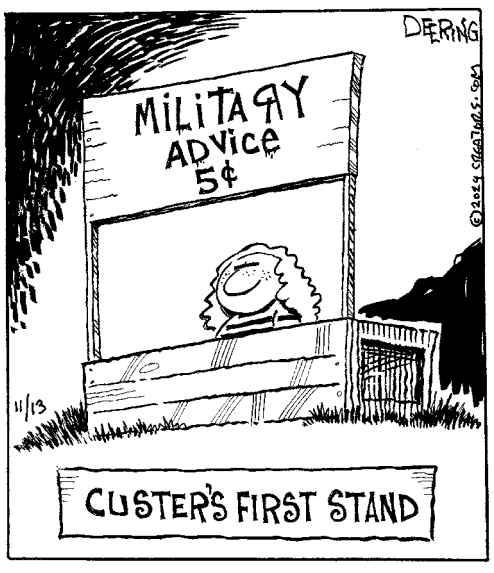
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6393

Geometry class

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

Abscissa	Element	Number	Semicircle
Acute	Euclid	Oblique	Side
Apply	Face	Obtuse	Similar
Arcs	Flat	Oval	Size
Area	Function	Pair	Skew
Axis	Join	Parts	Solve
Base	Kite	Plot	State
Conclude	Length	Prism	Study
Cross	Line of symmetry	Proof	Thickness
Data	Locus	Radii	True
Degree	Logical	Ray	Turn
Design	Mass	Right	Unit
Edge		Ruler	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 13)

Your cosmic birthday gift is the certainty of knowing what you want, and the wisdom of wanting what will actually make you happier. You'll also have the momentum of others wanting your objectives as badly as you do. More highlights: Fun friends who inspire you to be the fullest version of yourself; 10 satisfying and lucrative wins; and a surprise that takes weeks to enjoy. Taurus and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 10, 35, 27 and 8.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Like a director framing a scene, you'll explore perspectives, change up lenses and lights, and play around to find the most interesting point of view. Note that you don't have to agree with another person to appreciate how they see things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The proof of a strategy is in the results. There's no shame in results falling short. It's simply a signal to recalibrate, refine and try again. No effort is ever wasted. Success is built on the lessons gathered from each attempt.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Green lights are lined up today; catch one and the rest will follow. This also has to do with your sense of pacing, which is consistent. When you go at a nice, easy clip, people see you coming and anticipate the "yes" they'll give you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Revealing conversations are the norm for you because you're naturally disarming. Your ability to listen without judgment makes others feel safe, open up and perhaps be surprised by the things they share with you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If your efforts aren't met with the support you expect, remember jealousy often drives unfair criticism. Those aiming to better themselves can seem threatening to the insecure. Take heart and keep moving forward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Work doesn't have to be a grind. It's all about the company. With the right people around, the job is fun. You'll soon be positioned to assemble a team. Start looking for those key members who keep morale high.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've always believed that it is far better to contribute something meaningful to the world than to waste energy asserting dominance. Because of this, you will steer clear of power struggles that hinge on winning rather than truth.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Should you happen to find yourself in a disagreement, the quickest way to peace is to find something on which you can simply agree. Drop the defenses and walk together on common ground.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Acts of forgiveness are in the heart of love. The question on your mind now: How many times should you forgive a person? A better question may be: How many times should you forgive yourself? That answer could be the key to both questions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While others are busy chasing what they want, pause to truly see what's going on under the surface of things. Avoid awkward situations and, even better, come off as effortlessly cool.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Some look back on their home of origin with warm and loving feelings. For others, it's painful to touch on history. But even painful history can benefit a person. For instance, you know you're stronger because of the compensations you employed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It will be tempting to obsessively review things until you've talked yourself out of making a move. Just act. In action, problems are avoided or solved almost magically, no mental process is even necessary.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

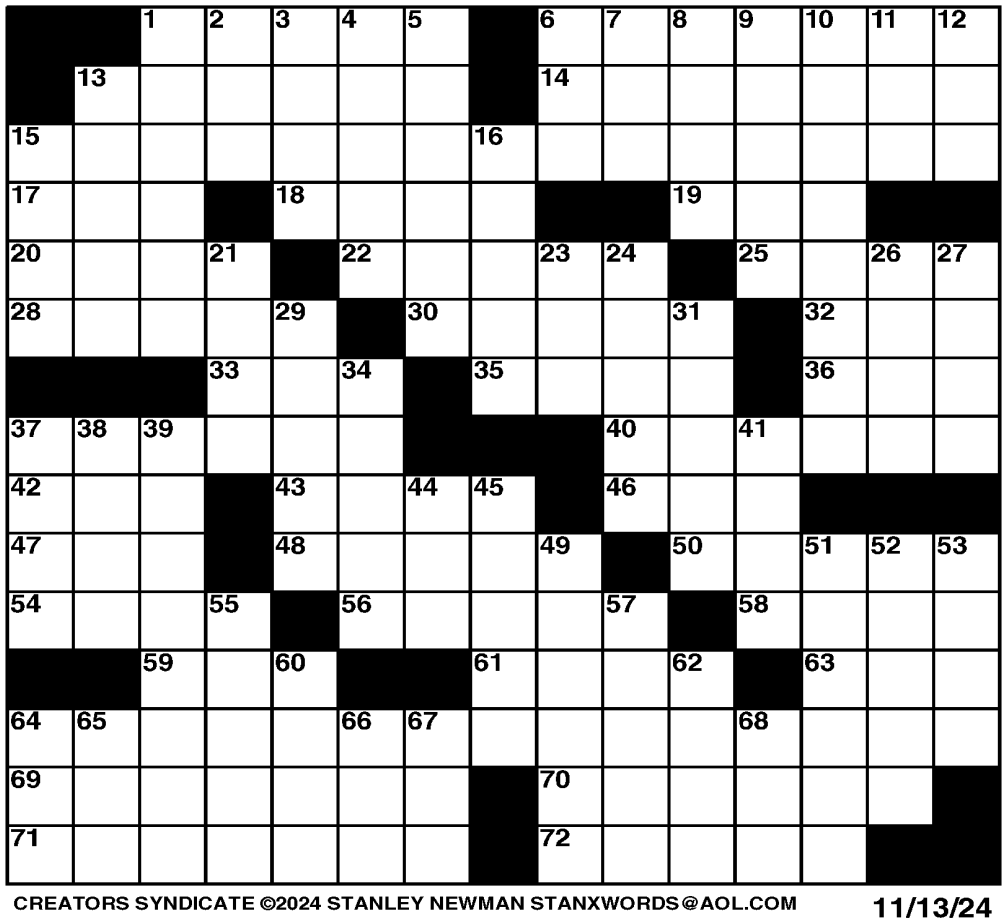
LAND THAT I LOVE by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Person's specialty
6 With ice cream, as pie
13 Any weekly TV show
14 Unskilled worker
15 With 64-Across, end of a patriotic anthem
17 Sci-fi saucer, for short
18 Footnote abbr.
19 Fall behind
20 Supposedly "happy" songbird
22 "Laughing" African beast
25 VIP's auto
28 In delicate health
30 Dueling weapon
32 Short snooze
33 Tiny
35 Bit of a constellation
36 Lumberjack's chopper
37 With 40-Across, composer of the anthem
40 See 37-Across
42 Snake that squeezes
43 Dull in color
46 Verbalize
47 Charged atom
48 Typical second-grader's age
50 Coffee without a kick
54 Competes in a slalom
56 Spills the beans
58 Reduced-price event
59 __-cone (icy confection)
61 Is indebted to
63 Dull routine
64 See 15-Across
69 Say repeatedly
70 Saloon seats
71 Supplementary material in backs of books
72 Small cities

DOWN

1 Soft felt hat
2 Poetic sphere
3 Annoy
4 Molars and bicuspids
5 Opinion pieces
6 State east of Miss.
7 On the __ (fleeing)
8 Adam's second son
9 End of a fable
10 Innovative
11 End of a yr.
12 Noteworthy period
13 Until now
15 __ of Mexico (water bordering Florida)
16 Large quantities
21 Fuzzy brown fruit
23 "Ready or __, here..."
24 Most Saudis
26 Ankle-length skirt
27 Amenable (to)
29 Gives for a while
31 Be fearful of
34 Marsh bird
37 Marsh bird
38 Chess castle
39 Disappeared suddenly
41 Sandwich bread
44 Urban rd.
45 Underneath
49 L.A. Dodgers division
51 Seasonal songs
52 Grads
53 Lavish party
55 Sleep noisily
57 Take care of
60 Mideast nation
62 Store (away)
64 "Mamma __!"
65 Since Jan. 1st
66 Plane's takeoff stat.
67 Mermaid's place
68 Darlin'



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11/13/24



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.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 14

CHANGEMAKEHERS COFFEE COHORT

10:30am-11:30am. Bodega Wine Bar, 814 Broadway. Looking for community, networking, and camaraderie? Join us for our ChangemakeHERS Coffee Cohort for a chance to mastermind with other amazing women. Visit ChangemakeHERS.org for more information or to make a tax-deductible donation. Thank you for your continued support. $24
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/changemakehers-coffee-cohort-tickets-1065652016869

TECH & TASKS

2:00pm-4:00pm Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.
Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes, and more.

KIDS' CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

4:00pm-5:00pm Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. Do you love to write? Even if you're not writing a novel for National Novel Writing Month, join us for fun writing prompts and exercises to inspire your next story. Notebooks and pens provided. For ages 8-11.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

5:00pm Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 501 S. Venice Boulevard. Join organizers on Zoom the second Thursday of each month for a thoughtful discussion of our latest selection. Copies available at the front desk. For Zoom link and more information please email venice@lapl.org.

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

6:00pm-8:00pm Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. This is a regular meeting of the Library Board held on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Main Library, Administration Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, 90401. The public is welcome to attend. Agenda and minutes are available at smpl.org.

SOMMELIER-LED WINE TASTING EXPERIENCE: WILLAMETTE WINES, SANTA MONICA DINES

6:30pm-8:30pm Birdie G's, 2421 Michigan Avenue. This luxe pop-up wine event in Santa Monica includes rare wines, each paired with a small plate from award winning chef at Birdie G's. $95
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sommelier-led-wine-tasting-experience-willamette-wines-santa-monica-dines-tickets-1071120453109

RENT CONTROL BOARD MEETING

7:00pm Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street. The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations.

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 15

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA POETRY FESTIVAL 2024 -

7:00pm-10:00pm Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center, 681 Venice Blvd Venice Beach. The 6th annual Southern California Poetry festival kicks things off with thrilling performances by poet, lyricist, and musician Camae Ayewa, known for her exceptional work as Moor Mother. Her groundbreaking poetry collection American Equations in Black Classical Music (Hat & Beard Press) illuminates the stark realities and poignant struggles of the past and present. The evening will feature a fusion of spoken word and music, with alchemic verses hailing from San Francisco's Eighth Poet Laureate (2021-2023), Tongo Eisen-Martin and Linda Albertano Fellow, abbi page, in the Wanda Coleman Theater. Performances in the theater will be followed by a set in the Poets' Garden with one of L.A's most eccentric voices in Alternative Hip-Hop, Rhys Langston. $12
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southern-california-poetry-festival-2024-friday-nov-15-tickets-1047730950477

RON GALLO (SOLO)

11:00pm The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, $15. This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund.
https://www.ticketweb.com/event/ron-gallo-solo-the-venice-west-tickets/13834023

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 16

RECYCLING EVENT

9:00am-2:00pm City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave
The City is hosting a FREE recycling event Saturday, November 16th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Santa Monica residents only. Bring your used mattresses, box springs, electronic waste, and up to five boxes of paper for shredding! Shredding will happen on-site and the paper will be recycled. Questions? Call (866) 311-7266
Accepted items: Up to 5 banker boxes of paper, Phones, laptops, and tablets,DVD & VHS players, Radios & stereo equipment, printers (please remove ink cartridges), Batteries, CRT, LCD, OLED, and plasma screen TVs and monitors, Mattresses and box springs
Prohibited items: Microwaves & blenders, Coffee pots & Keurigs, Ink cartridges, Washing machines, Bread makers, Waffle irons, Refrigerators and mini-fridges, Household hazardous waste (including paint).
For household hazardous waste please call Clean Earth at (877) 443-2371 or to go cleanearthinc.com for complimentary residential household hazardous waste and e-waste collection.

FRIENDSGIVING AT ISHIHARA PARK LEARNING GARDEN

9:00am-11:00am Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd. During this season of thanks, come help organizers decorate the Tree of Thanks by putting in writing what you are thankful for. Garden Pancakes on the griddle, Kids Crafts under the Oak Tree, compost to take home, cool season veggie seeds and more. Feel free to bring a dish to share !!!

UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET

Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. he booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays.

Submit your events online at smdp.com/events

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