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Volume 18 Issue 2

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Santa Monica votes for continuity when it comes to local education

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica seems to like where the future of its education is heading.

In last week's election, Santa Monica voters opted to keep a sense of normalcy voting in only one newcomer in the races of SMC and SMMUSD school boards.

Sion Roy, who has previously ran for SMC board, finally got over the hump this year.

"There was definitely a sense of relief," Roy said with a laugh in a phone call with the Daily Press. "I was nervous on election night, as you naturally would be … and then there was that combo of relief and real joy and satisfaction of accomplishing something that's been important to me."

Roy says as he joins his incumbent colleagues early next year, he'll be sponge-like and absorb as much knowledge as he can from them.

He says that when he finds his footing on the board, he plans to make good on his election promises: to increase ties between SMC and the SMMUSD school district and to explore internships and working opportunities between SMC and local hospitals in Santa Monica.

"The healthcare industry has a longterm, viable future," Roy said. "It's important to me to expand partnerships for the future of our students and our city."

As for the SMMUSD school

SEE **EDUCATION** PAGE 7

Displaced Malibu residents seek answers from officials







File Photos

MEETING: Samohi hosted Malibu evacuees this week to discuss when and how they would be able to return home.



ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Malibu evacuees received updates on progress towards the recovery of their city but the quantity and quality of the information left many unsatisfied.

At the Malibu Evacuee Meeting held at Samohi November 13, Malibu and state agency officials provided a steady drip of information to Malibu residents and while the standing room only crowed were eager for whatever they could learn, some said the meeting didn't provide enough to help them get through the disaster.

The meeting opened with a somber tone as City Manager of Malibu Reva Feldman thanked City officials and first responders, bringing standing applause when mentioning those that have had to help with a mass shooting and now several fires.

She said because of them and Malibu

SEE **EVACUEES** PAGE 7

Council hears resident pleas for safer parks

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Children have been finding hypodermic needles, bags of meth and open latrines in Santa Monica Parks, multiple parents told the City Council Tuesday night.

Rich Hill, a safety officer with Santa Monica Little League, said a boy found a syringe discarded in the dugout of the baseball field at Memorial Park and poked himself with it. Another who found a syringe unwittingly gave it to his younger sister to throw away. Young players also frequently encounter people living or prostituting themselves in the parks' bathrooms, Hill said.

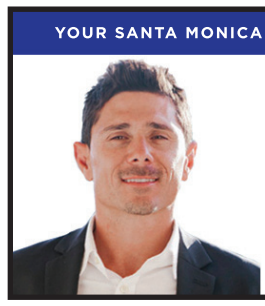
"Kids are scared to go to the park," he said.

Hill and several other residents who spoke at the meeting called on the City to increase police presence in the city's parks and deploy more maintenance workers to clean up needles and human waste.

They were joined by John C. Smith, chair of the Recreation and Parks Commission, who wrote a letter to the Council recommending the Santa Monica Police Department schedule

SEE **PARKS** PAGE 11


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– Sadhguru

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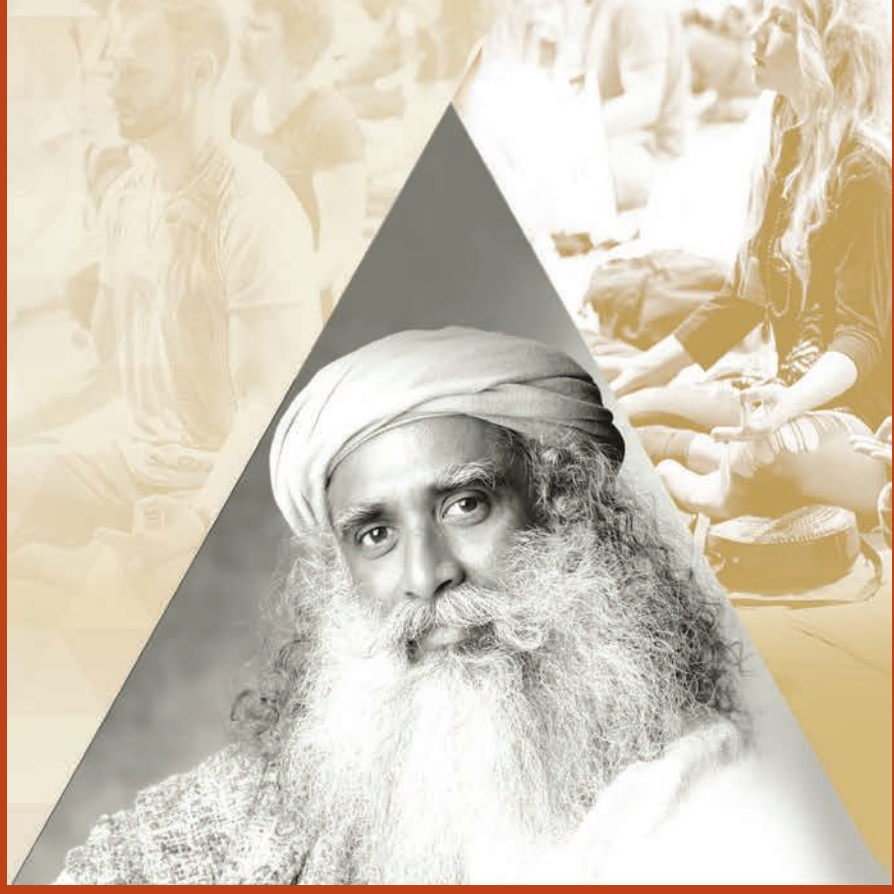
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Nov. 15

The Recreation & Parks Commission Regular Meeting

The Recreation and Parks Commission serves as an advisory board to the City Council and the Director of Community and Cultural Services in all matters pertaining to public recreation.
Meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street.

Soundwaves Concert: Gloria Cheng PianoSpheres Preview

A concert of music composed by or dedicated to Steven Stuckey. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7:30 - 8 p.m.

Medicare 101

Find the answers you need to make an educated decision about Medicare. Samuel Schwartz discusses the four parts of Medicare, who is eligible, when one can enroll, and changes happening in 2019. Bring any and all questions! Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 6 - 7 p.m.

College Application Drop-In Services

Get free one-on-one assistance with college applications and essays. To submit your application, bring your transcript(unofficial is fine) and Social Security, DACA or Green Card number. Computers provided, or bring your laptop. Presented in collaboration with the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club's College Bound Program, Diana Hanson of Magellan Counseling, and Nick Soper of Creative College Prep and TeenLAUNCH. Grade 12. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 4 - 6 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Experience T'ai Chi

Instructor Pat Akers introduces the gentle flowing movement of T'ai Chi exercise. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 16

Craft Supply Swap

Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures. Pico Branch Library, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Mat Pilates

Learn the techniques of Pilates, a system of controlled exercises
that engage the mind and condition the total body. tana Avenue Branch Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

Saturday. Nov. 17

Lego Club

Come have fun with LEGOS and build something amazing. Board games also available. Ages 4 & up. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Drop-In College Counseling

Do you need someone to review your college application, essay or have general college admission or financial aid questions? Diana Hanson of Magellan College Counseling will be available to assist and answer questions. For Grades 9-12 in the Annex Room. Pico Branch Library, 3 - 5:30 p.m.

Aparna Sindhoor & Lisa Diane Wedgeworth; New Works

Join organizers for the culminating exhibition of studio residents Aparna Sindhoor and Lisa Diane Wedgeworth, showing new interdisciplinary and performance works. For her residency project, she is choreographing a new evening-length dance work with S.M. Raju and Anil Natyaveda on the theme of love. 1450 Ocean, 3 - 6 p.m. Free. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aparna-sindhoor-and-lisa-diane-wedgeworth-new-works-tickets-47573902824 or call (310) 458-2239.

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

This elegant nut tart is surprisingly easy to prepare

By AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

This elegant nut tart is surprisingly easy to prepare, thanks to the very simple filling. For the filling, we used a pecan pie base but swapped in walnuts, reduced the amount of sugar, and added a hefty amount of vanilla as well as a hit of bourbon (or rum).

The liquor cuts through the sweetness and intensifies the flavor of the nuts. We found that it's important to add the filling to a warm pie crust as this helps keep the crust from getting soggy. Pecans can be substituted for the walnuts if desired.

RUSTIC WALNUT TART

Servings: 8
Start to finish: 2 hours, 25 minutes
(Active time: 25 minutes)

1 recipe Classic Tart Dough (recipe follows)
1/2 cup packed (3 1/2 ounces) light brown sugar
1/3 cup light corn syrup
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and cooled
1 tablespoon bourbon or dark rum
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 large egg
1 3/4 cups walnuts, chopped coarse

Roll dough into 11-inch circle on lightly floured counter. Loosely roll dough around rolling pin and gently unroll it onto 9-inch tartpan with removable bottom, letting excess dough hang over edge. Lift dough and gently press it into corners and fluted sides of pan. Run rolling pin over top of pan to remove any excess dough. Wrap loosely in plastic, place on large plate, and freeze until dough is fully chilled and firm, about 30 minutes.

Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 375 F. Line chilled crust with double layer of aluminum foil, covering edges to prevent burning, and fill with pie weights. Bake until tart shell is golden and set, about 30 minutes. Carefully remove weights and foil and continue to bake until tart shell is fully baked and golden brown, 5 to 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk sugar, corn syrup, butter, bourbon, vanilla, and salt together in large bowl until sugar dissolves. Whisk in egg until combined. Pour filling into warm tart shell and sprinkle with walnuts, pressing them into the filling. Bake until filling is set and walnuts begin to brown, 30 to 40 minutes, rotating sheet halfway through baking.

Let tart cool on sheet to room temperature, about 2 hours. To serve, remove outer metal ring of tart pan, slide thin metal spatula between tart and tart pan bottom, and carefully slide tart onto serving platter or cutting board. Serve with whipped cream, if using.
Classic Tart Dough:

While regular pie crust is tender and flaky, classic tart crust should be fine textured, buttery rich, crisp, and crumbly, it is often described as being shortbread-like. We set out to achieve the perfect tart dough, one that we could use in a number of tart recipes. We found that using a stick of butter made tart dough that tasted great and was easy to handle, yet still had a delicate crumb. Instead of using the hard-to-find superfine sugar and pastry flour that many other recipes call for, we used confectioners' sugar and all-purpose flour to achieve a crisp texture. Rolling the dough and fitting it into the tart pan was easy, and we had ample dough to patch any holes.

Makes enough for one 9-inch tart
Start to finish: 1 hour 25 minutes
(Active time: 15 minutes)

1 large egg yolk
1 tablespoon heavy cream
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/4 cups (6 1/4 ounces) all-purpose flour
2/3 cup (2 2/3 ounces) confectioners' sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
8 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into 1/4-inch pieces and chilled

Whisk egg yolk, cream, and vanilla together in bowl. Process flour, sugar, and salt together in food processor until combined, about 5 seconds. Scatter butter over top and pulse until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal, about 15 pulses. With machine running, add egg mixture and continue to process until dough just comes together around processor blade, about 12 seconds.

Turn dough onto sheet of plastic wrap and flatten into 6-inch disk. Wrap tightly and refrigerate for 1 hour. Before rolling dough out, let it sit on counter to soften slightly, about 10 minutes.

___

Nutrition information per serving: 554 calories; 321 calories from fat; 36 g fat (13 g saturated; 1 g trans fats); 98 mg cholesterol; 244 mg sodium; 54 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 35 g sugar; 7 g protein.

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For more recipes, cooking tips and ingredient and product reviews, visit https://www.americastestkitchen.com. Find more recipes like Rustic Walnut Tart in "The Complete Make-Ahead Cookbook ."

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Public Notice

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed funds in the amount of $7,419,140 to Community Corporation of Santa Monica for the acquisition of property located at 2120 Lincoln Boulevard and predevelopment activities regarding a future affordable housing development targeted to low-income families.

Notice of Community & Design Meeting

Community Corporation of Santa Monica will hold an Information Session and the first of two community Design Input meetings for the proposed new construction affordable housing development at 2120 Lincoln Boulevard in Santa Monica in accordance with Section V of the Santa Monica Housing Trust Fund Guidelines. A second Design Input meeting will be held at a future time. The Information Session and Design Input meeting will allow Community Corp. to provide residents, property owners, and interested parties information regarding the City of Santa Monica's loan commitment, and to elicit public input on the design of the development. This meeting is part of the preliminary concept phase of the development process where interested parties are introduced to the proposal and have the opportunity to provide direct feedback to the developer regarding the development's conceptual design, size, mix of use and proposed program.

Date: November 27, 2018

Location: Joslyn Park Auditorium
633 Kensington Road, Santa Monica, CA 90405

Time: 7:00-8:30 PM

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• Submission Deadline is December 3, 2018 at 5:00 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: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fire And Fiddles

UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES

Of the horrible fires: the Paramount Ranch burned and the old Western town was severely damaged, and besides the loss of an historic, quaint movie set, much more importantly it was the ideal home for 24 years of the Topanga Banjo-Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival, a treasure of our local music scene, 58 years and counting. The location of the next one is at this point uncertain but the organizers are assuring everyone that it will take place as scheduled, the third Sunday in May, May 19, 2019.

"OLD MAN TRUMP"

In 1950,

Normally a discovery like this would be notable mainly for the folkies and Guthrie fanatics, but this song is different. Woody's landlord was none other than Fred Trump, father of Donald J. Trump, and the subject matter could have been pulled directly from the campaign of 2016.

Now, in partnership with the Guthrie archives and the Guthrie family, Woody's words have been put to music by California rock band U.S. Elevator, fronted by Johnny Irion, who is married to Sarah Lee Guthrie, Woody's granddaughter.

See the lyrics below.

RECOMMENDED:

GARY CLARK JR., Bambaata Marley (Oh My Sweet Lord Jah Rasta-fari, now there are Bob GRANDkids coming out of the woodwork, this one is Ziggy's boy, a good lineage but as a longtime fan I'm showing up for Gary Clark Jr., already playing and gigging at 12 in Austin, he does drop your jaw when you first hear him and brings the blues to every style he plays, simply one of the very best electric guitar players alive), Thurs 8:30 p.m., the Fonda Theatre, Hollywood, $40.

LA PHILHARMONIC: CAMERON CARPENTER (plays Saint-Saëns on the mighty Disney Hall organ — yes I wanted to find a different modifier for that bodaciously powerful instrument-unlike-any-other-instrument other than the overused mighty but came up empty so I'll just stick with that — but I do love the sound of a mighty organ well-played, caught a few mini-concerts before and after services in cathedrals all over Europe, the Saint-Saëns is the warhorse, for good reason but the Poulenc is also beautiful and dramatic, plus there is the premier of Christopher Cerrone's "The Insects Became Magnetic" and doesn't that sound intriguing, and Carpenter with his muscular physique and modified Mohawk will command the eyes as well as the ears, having been quoted in a New York Times interview as "describing his sexuality as 'radically inclusive,'" a description also applied to his unorthodox interpretations of the standard organ repertoire), Fri 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, downtown LA, $20-$204.

SNOOP DOGG (who's more entertaining than Snoop? — right, nobody), Fri 8 p.m., Microsoft Theater, downtown LA, $45-$130.

I SEE HAWKS IN LA, Bandini Mountaineers, Groovy Rednecks (the Hawks' unique brand of alt country-folk-rock-whatever with expert but intelligently restrained musicianship and Rob Waller's affecting vocals is, obviously, hard to accurately describe as to why it is so mesmerizing and authentic while also often unlike anything you'd expect), Fri 8:30 p.m., Cafe NELA, Glassell Park, $5.

LA OPERA: Hansel & Gretel (Engelbert Humperdinck ain't no Puccini, Verdi or Strauss but H&G is considered his greatest work and Strauss dug him and conducted the premier, a smashing success, and he also ain't the schmaltzy crooner who stole his name in the '60s, but don't get too distracted from the superb Wagnerian score, by the 12-foot magical characters on stage, the fantastical sets and special effects of this production and it's also got laughs and I plan to catch it and report firsthand), Sat 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, downtown LA, $16-$294.

TALLINN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (I can't tell you much about this group except that they must be some of the best musicians in Estonia and they will be doing some Arvo Pärt, I love me some Arvo, because he's their national treasure and you can bet they're not playing Albuquerque or Moscow, Idaho so take advantage of where you live, the cultural center of the universe, oh yes it is, New Yorkers, sorry, thank you UCLA and Royce Hall for bringing us so much great world music), Sat 8 p.m., UCLA, Royce Hall, $29-$49.

THE TOLEDO SHOW (on a slow week you can always count on Sunday evening and Toledo Diamond, right here in SM, great music, choreography, drama, sensuality, for 10 bucks, what a town), Sun 9 p.m., Harvelle's, downtown Santa Monica, $10.

FARTBARF, Jesika von Rabbit (you know how much I love Fartbarf, everyone who experiences them does, playing this night in a cool dive for only 10 bills with Jesika von Gram/Rabbit, regular denizens at the too-hip Pappy & Harriet's Pioneertown Palace in Joshua Tree, who you will probably also love but I can't guarantee it like Fartbarf), Wed 8:30 p.m., Bootleg Theater, LA, $10.

BAND NAMES OF THE WEEK: The Southwest Biscuit Company, Jerry's Middle Finger, Birdy Bardot, Talkin' Treason, Blitzen Trapper, Trampled by Turtles, Deer Tick, Chet Happens, Burning Manilow, Flogging Seagulls, Devastating Karate, Giants in the Trees, Dahli Mamas, Angry Samoans: The Later Years, Japanese Breakfast, Bad Advice, Joe Finkle & the 7/10 Splits, Whiskey & Knives, Waxahatchee, Beach Ball of Death.

LYRICS OF THE WEEK: "I suppose that Old Man Trump knows

Just how much racial hate he stirred up in that bloodpot of human hearts

When he drawed that color line here at his Beach Haven family project

Beach Haven ain't my home! No, I just can't pay this rent!

My money's down the drain and my soul is badly bent!

Beach Haven is Trump's Tower where no black folks come to roam,

No, no, Old Man Trump! Old Beach Haven ain't my home!

I'm calling out my welcome to you and your man both,

Welcoming you here to Beach Haven to love in any way you please

And to have some kind of a decent place to have your kids raised up in."

– WOODY GUTHRIE ("OLD MAN TRUMP," 1950)

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 32 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Fatal California fires spur search for solutions

BY MATTHEW BROWN & ELLEN KNICKMEYER
Associated Press

Creating fire buffers between housing and dry brush, burying spark-prone power lines and lighting more controlled burns to keep vegetation in check could give people a better chance of surviving wildfires, according to experts searching for ways to reduce the growing death tolls from increasingly severe blazes in California and across the West.

Western wildfires have grown ever more lethal, a grim reality that's been driven by more and more housing developments sprawling into the most fire-prone grasslands and brushy canyons, experts say. Many of the ranchers and farmers who once managed those landscapes are gone, leaving neglected terrain that has grown thick with vegetation that can explode into flames when sparked.

That's left communities ripe for tragedy as whipping winds and recurring drought that's characteristic of climate change stoke wildfires like the ones still raging in Northern and Southern California that have killed at least 51 people in recent days.

Hundreds of thousands of people were told to leave their homes ahead of the blazes to get out of harm's way. Yet some experts say there's been an over-reliance on evacuation and too little attention paid to making communities safe, as well as not enough money for controlled burns and other preventive measures.

Search crews found many victims inside their vehicles, or just next to them, overcome by flames, heat and smoke as they tried to flee. Survivors of the blaze that nearly obliterated the Northern California town of Paradise and nearby communities spoke of having just minutes to escape alive and narrow roads made impassible by flames and traffic jams.

"There are ... so many ways that can go wrong, in the warning, the modes of getting the message out, the confusion ... the traffic jams," said Max Moritz, a wildfire specialist with the University of California Cooperative Extension program.

As deadly urban wildfires become more common, officials should also consider establishing "local retreat zones, local safety zones" in communities where residents can ride out the deadly firestorms if escape seems impossible, Moritz said.

That could be a community center, built or retrofitted to better withstand wildfires, which can exceed 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, leaving little trace of ordinary homes.

Such fire protection measures in buildings can include sprinklers, fire- and heat-resistant walls and roofs, and barriers that keep sparks out of chimneys and other openings, according to the International Code Council, a nonprofit that helps develop building codes used widely in the United States.

Creating more buffers — whether parks, golf courses or irrigated agriculture, like the vineyards that helped keep 2017 wildfires in California's wine country from spreading into even more towns — around new and old housing developments would help stave off wildfires threatening to overrun cities and towns.

So would burying electric power lines, which can spark and fail in the high winds that drive many of California's fiercest fires, said Jon Keeley, a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey in California. Sparks from electrical utility equipment are suspects in the Northern California wildfire that consumed Paradise, destroying some 7,700 homes, and other deadly blazes in the state.

A proven historic method to prevent wildfires from getting out of control is the use of controlled burns. By intentionally lighting fires, property owners or land managers can remove dead and low-lying trees and brush — material that otherwise accumulates and can accelerate the growth of fires.

In the mid-20th century, California ranchers burned hundreds of thousands of acres annually to manage their lands, said Lenya Quinn-Davidson, director of the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council.

That was phased out in the 1980s after California's fire management agency stepped in to take over the burns, and by the last decade the amount of acreage being treated had dropped to less than 10,000 acres annually, Quinn-Davidson said.

Former agriculture land that rings many towns in the state became overgrown, even as housing developments pushed deeper into those rural areas. That was the situation in the northern California town of Redding leading up to a fire that began in July and destroyed more than 1,000 homes. It was blamed for the deaths of eight people.

"You get these growing cities pushing out, housing developments going right up into brush and wooded areas. One ignition on a bad day and all that is threatened," Quinn-Davidson said. "These fires are tragic and they're telling us this is urgent. We can't sit on our hands."

The latest California fires have fueled debate over the reasons for the ever-more deadly wildfires, with President Donald Trump claiming in a tweet Saturday that "gross mismanagement of the forests" was the sole reason the state's fires had become so "massive, deadly and costly." He also threatened to withhold federal payments to the state.

However, most of California's deadly fires of recent years have been in grasslands and brushy chaparral, Keeley said.

"Most of the fires we've been seeing in the last couple years that are the most destructive are not in the forest. Thinning isn't going to change anything," he said.

Trump's assertion also ignored the huge federal land holdings in the state and brought a quick backlash, with the president of the California firefighters union describing it as a shameful attack on thousands of firefighters on the front lines.

To ease tensions, the White House sent Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to tour fire-damaged areas and offer assistance to California Gov. Jerry Brown.

In an interview prior to the two-day visit, which began Wednesday, Zinke struck a conciliatory tone and said federal officials share blame for not managing public forest and rangelands aggressively enough.

"We need to work in unison to make sure we thin the forest, especially fire breaks, and make sure we have prescribed burns," Zinke told The Associated Press. "There's been a lack of management on Interior lands, on U.S. Forest Service lands and certainly with state lands."

But it's California, not the Trump administration that is putting more money behind such efforts.

In response to the deadly blazes of recent years, California lawmakers in September approved a measure that would provide $1 billion over five years for fire protection, including more controlled burns and projects to thin forests and brush land.

By contrast, spending on the federal government's hazardous fuels reduction programs has been flat in recent years. It's hovered just under $600 million, even as spending on fighting fires increased dramatically, to more than $2 billion last year.

For 2019, the Forest Service has proposed a modest $3 million bump for its wildfire fuels program. Zinke has proposed a $29 million cut for Interior's program.

Knickmeyer reported from Washington.

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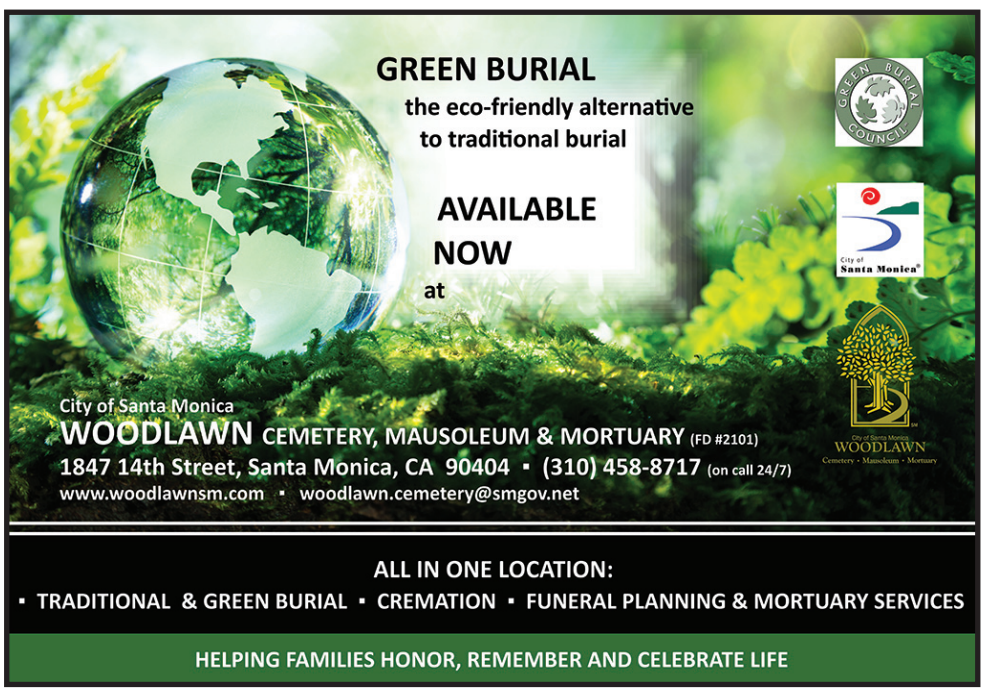
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The Re-View

By Merv Hecht
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Del Frisco's Grill at the SM Pier



Merv Hecht

GRILL: Del Frisco's has one of the best locations in Santa Monica for people watching.

Del Frisco's Grill
1551 Ocean Ave Suite 105
Santa Monica, CA 90401
(310) 395-7333
delfriscosgrille.com, opentable.com

Located at what might be the best restaurant location in Los Angeles, the Del Frisco restaurant on the corner of Ocean and Colorado has a steady stream of people passing by day and night. The restaurant brings back good memories for me, for when I was in the wine business.

Their Dallas Texas location was one of my best customers. And I remember some mighty fine steak dinners there.

Times have changed, and steak houses are no longer in the NY style, with dark rooms and red leather booths. This restaurant has a large, attractive indoor seating room, and two outdoor seating areas, one facing the pier, with afternoon sun, and the other shaded facing the restaurant next door. Best of all the tables are well spaced apart, so you don't feel like you are having lunch with the people at the next table.

The staff is well trained, with the male waiters in white shirts and ties, and the female waitresses in very short black skirts and black stockings. Personally, I find short skirts on waitresses a bit out of date, and suggest they too would benefit from the same black pants as their male counterparts wear. It certainly makes it easier for them to bend over to pick up something on the floor.

There is a very attractive selection on the menu: steaks are around $40, and some of the best reasons to go there would be the sweet potato fries and the soups, especially the butter squash soup. I love the brunch menu, especially the crab benedict. I'm going back one night for the BBQ ribs, which looked delicious.

But we went there for a hamburger. When I asked for it medium rare the waiter counseled against it, and said the patties were too thin to be cooked medium rare. He suggested instead the ground filet burger. So we went with that, and it was medium rare. But the meat reminded me of hamburgers in France, where they use high quality beef with very low fat content, which results in a burger that is dense, and not juicy. There are so many wonderful hamburger places in Santa Monica now, that I don't think Del Frisco's is the go to place for that. We didn't try the "impossible burger" which turns out to be vegetarian, but I've heard good things about it.

Also I'm passing on the fried chicken on a waffle, which is too much food for me, and I'm not having salads until the current romaine lettuce scare is over.

There is a separate dessert menu, and next time we'll try the lemon cake, but this time we had the molten chocolate cake which was excellent, and served with vanilla ice cream and whipped cream. That made it worth the visit!

The big disappointment is the wine list. The wines look to be priced between 3.5 and 4 times wholesale, which is much higher than most restaurants. There are almost no reasonably priced wines, and even the Malbecs, which I would expect to pay under $25 for, are at $75 or more. On the good side, there is a nice selection of half bottles (to my taste better than the selection of full bottles) but there is not a good selection of wines by the glass.

With the great "Meat on Broadway" restaurant a block away, with a broader selection of steaks and a better selection of wines at about one-third the price of the wines at Del Frisco's, this restaurant has some shaping up to do. Still, there is plenty of good food on the menu and the service, location, and table spacing make this a nice addition to our local restaurants.

Merv Hecht, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988, he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book is "The Instant Wine Connoisseur" and it is available on Amazon. Or you might like his attempt at humor in "Great Cases I Lost." He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and wine products internationally. Please send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com.

EDUCATION

FROM PAGE 1

board, all incumbents returned, staving off challenger Ann Maggio Thanawalla who captured 13.23% of the vote.

Incumbent board members said being re-elected was a literal vote of confidence for the work they've accomplished and worked for thus far.

"In partnership with our Superintendent and the District's dedicated teachers and classified staff, the continuity of leadership offers the best opportunity to move forward without delay in pursuing the goals we have articulated," said Board member Laurie Lieberman.

Additionally, both Measure SMS in Santa Monica and Measure M in Santa Monica passed with nearly 70% of residents in both communities voting to pass the bond measures.

The measures will issue general obligation bonds in the amounts of $485 million to Santa Monica and $195 million to Malibu. Money from these bonds will be used for a myriad of causes including modernizing aging schools, improving school safety and expanding sustainability efforts.

The school district says they will facilitate community input and continue with public advisory and oversight committees to ensure transparency through bond usage.

"We're extremely happy that both passed," Board member Craig Foster said. "But we have a lot of work to do. We have some schools that are literally 100 years old and we have an academic vision to design learning spaces differently. So it's really, really important that these passed. I'm thrilled that Malibu approved their bond and grateful that Santa Monica supported theirs."

angel@smdp.com

EVACUEES

FROM PAGE 1

neighbors working together, the city would eventually be fine.

"We need to remember we are Malibu and we will get through this," she said. "There will be rough days ahead but will get through this. Today is better than yesterday and tomorrow will be better than today."

Several council members spoke after Feldman, emotions running high as both Skylar Peak and Mayor Pro Temp Jefferson "Zuma Jay" Wagner's daughter, Ava provided tear-filled statements.

Once LA County Fire Chief Deputy David Richardson took to the podium, some residents grew restless with a perceived lack of information. One man yelled "We want information" while another jeered "No more cheerleading!"

The interruption brought applause from the crowd.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Chief John Benedict took the podium next, saying he'd provide information, adding that he understood frustrations.

"I know you're pissed off and quite frankly, I get it."

Benedict said some parts of Malibu have been reopened after mandatory evacuations, adding that residents from Carbon Canyon are allowed back home to a "soft closure", meaning they'll need identification to re-enter the area.

Everything north of that area is still very dangerous, he said. Reentry will be "incremental in nature," in order to not have "everyone scrambling home at the same time."

Looking towards the rebuilding of Malibu, officials said they plan to hire local, county, state and federal consultants to help residents process building permits and reassess property taxes and more in a one-stop shop.

California Assemblyman and former Coastal Commissioner Richard Bloom said to residents concerned about building permits that in his experience, the Coastal Commission relaxed its rules during natural disasters. Skylar Peak said he'd do everything in his power to streamline and expedite permitting.

As for a return to Malibu, a Department of Health official said local emergency operation centers are planned. The centers will assist in providing help such as FEMA assistance and replacing lost identification.

Officials also urged residents to file property damage claims even if the damage was minimal.

Education in Malibu is still delayed as well, with SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati saying Malibu schools will, at a minimum, be closed until after Thanksgiving.

Drati said displaced families can resume their child's education by temporarily registering at nearby SMMUSD schools or another district near where they are staying.

Drati added that the district has received college application extensions through Dec. 15 along with fee waivers. A school counselor will be at Olympic High School Nov. 20 to further provide guidance with the college application process.

In a Nov. 14 press release, Drati noted that, unofficially, the district knows that Webster, Point Dume, and Cabrillo seem to be unaffected by flames. Buildings at Malibu High seem to be unaffected by flames as well, but fields and athletic areas may have some damage to which the district doesn't know the extent. Additionally, a construction trailer appears to have been damaged.

When the Q and A session came, about half of the auditorium walked out.

Some questions asked concerned looting (not happening in Malibu, according to an official, but occurring in Ventura County. A small security detail is in place in Malibu to prevent looting.) criticism of the City's response and communication, and questions of the fire department's priorities.

One resident who walked out early from the Q and A and asked not to be named for this article was upset with the meeting, calling it a waste of his time.

"This City doesn't want to have a dialogue with us," he said, critiquing the Q and A portion of the meeting. "That was all B.S."

Shelby Meade, a resident of Malibu who runs a PR firm, felt the meeting was helpful.

"We already knew some of this info, but we're happy with the additional information provided," she said. "A lot of the information is available if you're resourceful. We love our city council, first responders and the police chief that's been going that extra mile."

Malibu resident Mike D of the Beastie Boys echoed Meade's sentiment.

"I think it was important," he said of the meeting. "They're trying to get information out but it's a vast, rapidly changing horizon, so it's very difficult to give a concrete assessment on what's happening."

angel @smdp.com

HELPFUL LINKS

www.lacounty.gov/emergency/alert-la
sign up for alerts

www.211.org
to file a property claim

www.lacwaterworks.org for water advisory

www.fema.gov register for federal assistance as well as assistance not covered by insurance

sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance
for small business help and low-interest loans

malibucity.org/133/Contact
to contact city officials with any other questions







SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 66.3°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
S swell continues, easing further. Light AM offshore flow may continue.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft knee to waist high
Smaller leftovers from the S, modest SSW swell builds. Some NW swell also builds.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 330 Calls For Service On Nov. 13.

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

Fight 4th/Olympic 02:24 a.m.
Overdose 800 block 3rd 02:44 a.m.
Person w/gun 1300 block Ocean 02:56 a.m.
Family disturbance Lincoln/Pico 04:48 a.m.
Encampment 1400 block The Beach 05:31 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block Ocean Front Walk 05:51 a.m.
Encampment 1200 block Ocean Front Walk 05:54 a.m.
Vandalism 2100 block Lincoln 06:08 a.m.
Vandalism 2300 block Lincoln 06:44 a.m.
Burglary 800 block Broadway 07:50 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block California 07:59 a.m.
Burglary 2800 block Neilson 08:11 a.m.
Encampment 1000 block Ashland 08:32 a.m.
Rape 500 block Colorado 08:51 a.m.
Burglary 900 block 7th 09:10 a.m.
Encampment 2500 block Michigan 09:16 a.m.
Vandalism 1600 block 5th 10:03 a.m.
Grand theft auto 1300 block Washington 10:06 a.m.
Animal related incident 1100 block Washington 10:09 a.m.
Encampment 900 block Palisades Park 10:27 a.m.
Stolen vehicle 600 block Palisades 10:37 a.m.
Fight 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 10:54 a.m.
Fight 2000 block Ocean Front Walk 11:17 a.m.
Strong-arm robbery Ocean/Arizona 11:31 a.m.
Arson 2500 block Santa Monica 11:53 a.m.
Animal related incident 23rd/Ashland 11:56 a.m.
Animal related incident 1200 block San Vicente 12:50 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block Pacific Coast Hwy 12:52 p.m.
Strong-arm robbery 00 block Pacific Ter 1:27 p.m.
Person down 1600 block Lincoln 1:29 p.m.
Auto burglary 400 block Pacific Coast Hwy 2:03 p.m.
Vandalism 2000 block 6th 2:11 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 800 block Yale 2:16 p.m.
Burglary 300 block Arizona 2:29 p.m.
Critical missing person 1900 block Pico 2:59 p.m.
Urinating/defecating in public 1700 block 9th 3:21 p.m.
Animal related incident 600 block Palisades 3:39 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 4th 4:06 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 4:35 p.m.
Public intoxication 1400 block Euclid 4:38 p.m.
Auto burglary 400 block Pacific Coast Hwy 4:59 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 5:07 p.m.
Person w/gun 18th/Pico 5:30 p.m.
Critical missing person 600 block Pico 5:31 p.m.
Person down 1200 block 5th 6:25 p.m.
Auto burglary 200 block Santa Monica Pier 6:40 p.m.
Public intoxication 1300 block 4th 7:19 p.m.
Illegal weapon 1000 block Broadway 7:33 p.m.
Person down 1300 block 4th 8:35 p.m.
Burglary 2800 block Neilson 8:35 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 23rd/Wilshire 8:42 p.m.
Lewd activity 1900 block Lincoln 9:56 p.m.
Domestic violence Lincoln/Pico 10:07 p.m.
Auto burglary 800 block Washington 10:18 p.m.
Family disturbance 3100 block Pico 10:20 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 24 Calls For Service On Nov. 13.

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

Emergency Medical Service 800 block 3rd 02:44 a.m.
EMS Lincoln/Ocean Park 06:20 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100 block Wilshire 09:11 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block 6th 10:06 a.m.
EMS 2100 block Ocean 11:12 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block Princeton 11:34 a.m.
EMS 2400 block Montana 11:51 a.m.
EMS 2000 block Santa Monica 12:26 p.m.
EMS 500 block Olympic 12:28 p.m.
EMS 400 block Pier 12:55 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 6th 1:04 p.m.
EMS 1200 block 16th 1:13 p.m.
EMS 2300 block Lincoln 1:19 p.m.
EMS 1600 block Lincoln 1:29 p.m.
EMS 0 block Pacific Ter 1:35 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block 6th 1:56 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury Ocean/Olympic 3:01 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 7th 3:33 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Lincoln 4:40 p.m.
EMS 100 block Marguerita 5:31 p.m.
Odor investigation 1400 block 17th 6:50 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 4th 8:35 p.m.
EMS 1600 block 18th 8:48 p.m.
EMS 800 block 9th 9:37 p.m.





DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 11/10
5 29 34 53 57
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 107M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 11/13
34 46 57 65 69
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 122M

Super Lotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/10
1 3 20 36 37
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 22M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/13
10 13 17 22 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/14
MIDDAY: 9 0 8
Draw Date: 11/13
EVENING: 7 7 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/13
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:49.62

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

WORD UP!

catastrophize
1. to view or talk about (an event or situation) as worse than it actually is, or as if it were a catastrophe: Stop catastrophizing and get on with your life! She tends to catastrophize her symptoms.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Why Are You Sitting While Reading This?

■ A new analysis of self-reported activity levels among adults in 168 countries indicates that more than one-quarter of the world's adult population doesn't get enough exercise.

■ Guidelines recommend 150 minutes of moderate exercise, or 75 minutes of vigorous exercise, per week to stay healthy. Roughly one-third of women and one-quarter of men don't meet that minimum, mostly in high-income countries.

Phobia of the Week

■ Koumpounophobia: Fear of buttons

MYSTERY REVEALED!

SPONSORED BY Ice at The Plaza at Santa Monica



Christian Boyce correctly identified the mystery photo as the exterior of the Santa Monica Public Safety Building. He wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

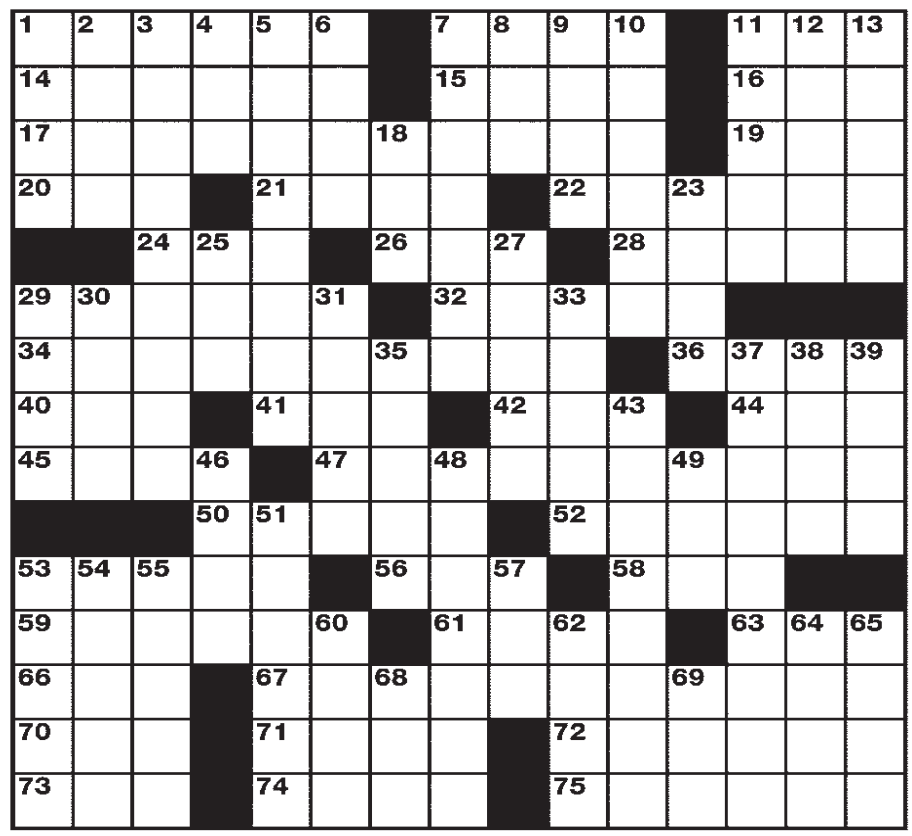
		4		8			3	5
	6		5		1			
2		5		3		1		8
	3	9			4	7		2
			8		9			
7		1	2			8	6	
5		6		2		3		7
			9		7		8	
4	8			6		9		

Newsday Crossword

RETRO-ELEMENTARY by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Some wall coverings
7 Person close to you
11 Alternative to HBO
14 "Bam!" TV chef
15 Director Dunham
16 Amount calculated as a percent
17 Levelheaded
19 Angry feeling
20 Organ ending
21 Where many "Buy it now"
22 Bill Cody's shooting star
24 In __ time (these days)
26 Augments
28 Offer of assistance
29 GPS technology, for short
32 Exclamation of anticipation
34 Facing trouble
36 Visit at an inn
40 HST's successor
41 Cloud computing giant
42 Cook's cry
44 Erstwhile MGM rival
45 Brontë heroine
47 Not yet decided
50 Adorn with stones
52 Contact lens solution
53 Message center of a sort
56 Stream stopper
58 Pro Bowl org.
59 "Supergrain" from South America
61 Overly diluted
63 7 Across, in text
66 Metro region
67 Pressure-filled test
70 Speck on a globe: Abbr.
71 Stravinsky's first
72 Made a reservation
73 Small wooden platform
74 Edible dessert holder
75 Mumbai money

DOWN
1 Prefix meaning "foot"
2 Novelist Oz
3 Taker of a Wear Your Baby class
4 Directional ending
5 Well-read ones
6 Less-than-ideal roommate
7 Terra cotta product
8 "Joy to the World" pronoun
9 Toward, in Proverbs
10 Hawaiian 43 Down
11 Long-legged wading bird
12 Part of a sultan's palace
13 Daisy variety
18 What *la mer* is made of
23 Answer sheets
25 A third of *tres*
27 Luster
29 Beans or broccoli
30 *Toy Story* boy
31 Beetle on the road
33 Sausages that might be beer-cooked
35 Excited, these days
37 Off-road ride
38 Related (to)
39 Days long past
43 Award winner's words
46 Poetic black
48 Start of a "knowing" comment
49 Mall Santa aide
51 Unusual and mysterious
53 Exclamation of resignation
54 Drink slowly
55 Any authoritative volume
57 Name on *Young Frankenstein* posters
60 Ship of Greek mythology
62 Shortened wd.
64 For the asking
65 US agents
68 Tiny charged bit
69 Fancy Dan of a dresser



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/15/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 15)

Count this among your more ambitious and curious years. You'll be driven to move beyond the many things you already do well. Highlights include: the resources necessary to explore new avenues, a perfect application for obscure talents and knowledge, and the assemblage of a tight team to do lucrative work. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 33, 24, 16 and 9.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Your social savvy will serve you nicely. You'll know when someone is lying or telling the truth. You'll build on the truth and leave the lies alone, as those aren't worth chasing. They'll spin in circles and collapse on their own.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
The thing that used to keep you from doing what you felt like doing no longer applies to your situation. You're free, if you want to be. Go be a part of whatever is pushing or pulling your forward. Get the experience.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
If ideas were stars, there's one that's your North Star right now, constant and bright. Follow faithfully and you won't have to be worried that you're going in circles. Keep your eye on it, and you'll know where you are.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
In some areas you may feel too inexperienced to help another, but even a 5-year-old has something to teach a four-year-old, if not those much, much older. Don't underestimate the value of your observations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
In movies, the devil shows up bearing gifts, but he always winds up taking much more than he gave. "A fool judges people by the presents they give him." – Chinese proverb.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Who would savor disappointment? For starters, it's not savory. In fact, it often tastes bitter. But if you can stomach it, a closer examination of a past disappointment will absolutely prevent a future one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
It's very easy to sing the praises of people so far away (physically distant, famous or dead) that they can't possibly be proven unworthy of the accolades. But the good reputation of our nearest and dearest is hard earned.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
As you think more about it, you may not be so sure that what you want will really satisfy you. Take a short pause before transactions. An honest moment of self-reflection will save you money and trouble.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
As fun as it would be to be the primary controller of the universe, the challenge of the day will have to do with adapting to the fact that there's an ample portion of life that can't be bent to human will.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
The conflict is in each side wishing the other would behave differently, a wish that is basically useless today. Accepting the other person's behavior and building on it... that's the start of productivity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
When the struggle is about being "good" or "bad," it's an opportunity to consider the unmet needs at play. There's something you need that makes the "bad" thing so appealing, and it could be filled in less risky or harmful ways.

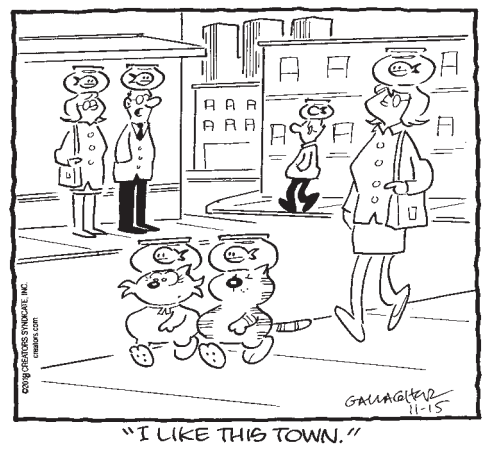
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You'll feel it's unnecessary, but speak up and be assertive anyway just to make your presence known. There's a balance to be struck. You want people to feel comfortable around you but not so comfortable they're inconsiderate.

MARS CHANGE IDENTITY CHECK

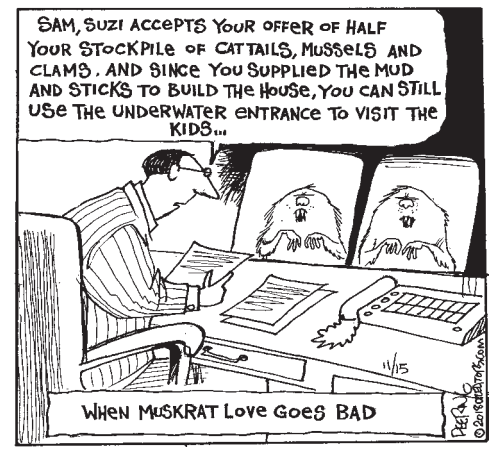
It is too easy to lose sight of who you are and what you've given. The human brain pays attention to what's changed while taking for granted all that has already been established. It's why others notice you, but you don't notice yourself unless you consciously step back. Do so under as Mars enters Pisces. Affirm that you count.

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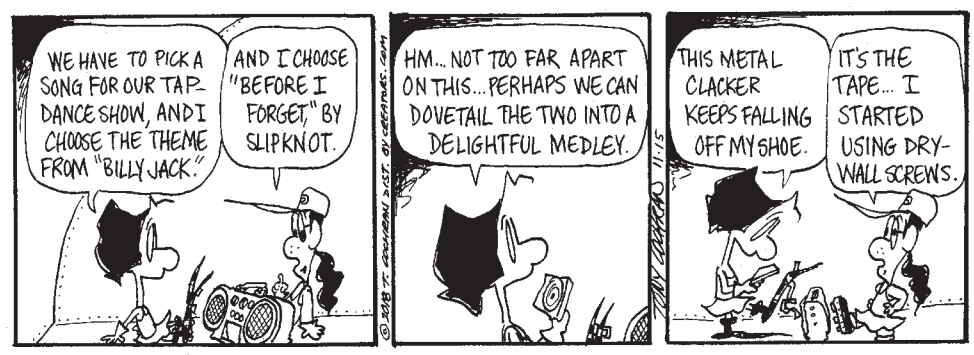
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



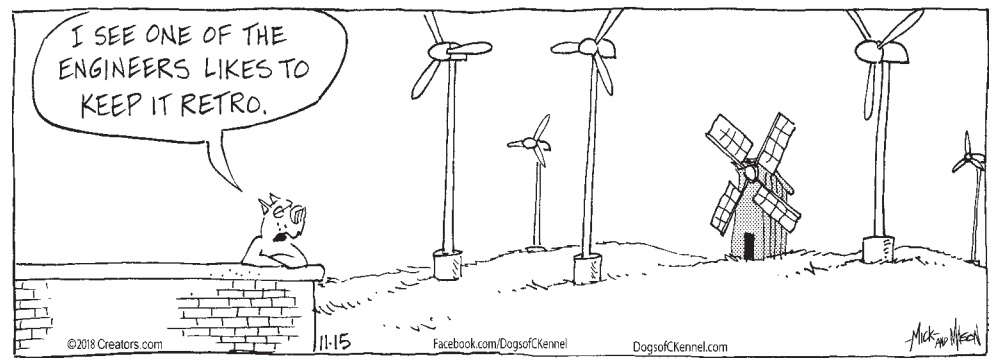
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



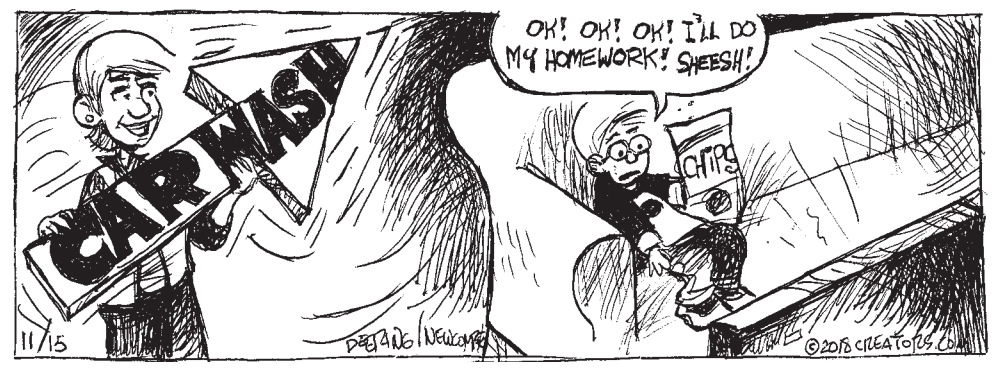
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel
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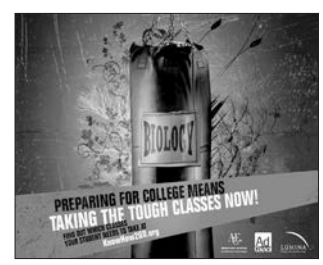
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PARKS

FROM PAGE 1

more frequent patrols in the parks and at the beach more frequent. The letter also suggested reinstituting park rangers, installing cameras and additional lighting and enforcing existing park and beach closure and camping laws.

Smith pointed to Santa Monica's increasing homeless population as the reason for the uptick in crime in the city's parks and beach, saying that 84 percent of respondents to a recent survey expressed concern about homeless individuals in those areas.

But City Manager Rick Cole and several councilmembers cautioned against conflating crime and homelessness, noting that homeless individuals have been among the victims of murder, assault and other crimes in the parks. He also said SMPD can't arrest or cite people for sleeping in public because of a ruling the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals made in September.

"A lot of people feel frustrated that there are people sleeping on the grass at Reed Park or on the beach, but those activities can not be made unlawful because someone is homeless," he said.

SMPD has been patrolling the parks and beach much more frequently, however, and have prevented people from camping, Cole said.

Some councilmembers were wary of further increasing police presence and said improving maintenance and installing AI-assisted cameras would be more cost-effective and welcoming to visitors.

"Having a police officer in every park would be like living in an armed community and would not the most effective or cost-effective thing," said Mayor Pro Tempore Gleam Davis. "The most important thing we can do is use our parks. If we're afraid of them, they become more desolate, and criminals want to be in areas where there aren't a lot of people."

Council agreed to hold a study session on the issue and directed staff to work with the Recreation and Parks Commission on its recommendations. Mayor Ted Winterer indicated he aims to address the public meals local groups have been hosting in Reed Park and elsewhere, which attract crowds of homeless individuals.

Cole said the City is taking residents' concerns seriously but urged the Council not to go to extreme measures in its efforts to safeguard the parks.

"Crime is up in Santa Monica and Southern California. There are more aggravated assaults, larcenies and burglaries," he said. "That said, the level of increase is nowhere near the perception that's bandied about, either by people who are well-intentioned but misinformed or people who have a different agenda."

madeleine@smdp.com

3rd body found in Southern California fire zone

AMANDA LEE MYERS & BRIAN SKOLOFF
Associated Press

A body was found in a burned home Wednesday and authorities were investigating to determine if it's the third victim of a huge wildfire in Southern California that destroyed hundreds of homes.

Two deaths were previously linked to the weeklong blaze in Ventura and Los Angeles counties that so far has scorched 152 square miles (394 square kilometers), engulfing homes, scenic canyon getaways and celebrity estates. The two unidentified adults were found dead last week in a car overtaken by flames.

The body under investigation was found in a burned residence in the Agoura Hills area. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department called it an apparent fire-related death but did not immediately have any further information.

The so-called Woolsey Fire started Nov. 8 and quickly became one of the largest and most destructive fires in state history. Firefighters have made steady progress this week but warned many hotspots remain.

Before sunrise Wednesday there was a flare-up in rugged wilderness at the western end of the Santa Monica Mountains as winds buffeted parts of the region. The flare-up sent a huge column of smoke out to sea as it burned in parklands well away from communities.

The National Weather Service said winds would slack off sufficiently during the afternoon to allow authorities to lower wildfire warnings from their highest "red flag" levels.

Forecasters cautioned, however, that low humidity levels would keep danger levels elevated.

Authorities allowed residents back into several more communities on Tuesday, including a section of Malibu. Other areas have been repopulated since the weekend. As many as 250,000 people were ordered out at the height of the fire.

"We are not out of the woods yet. We still have some incredibly tough conditions ahead of us," Ventura County Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen said Tuesday.

The number of homes and other structures destroyed stood at 483 and another 86 were damaged. Those numbers were expected to rise. More than 80 percent of National Parks Service land in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area was incinerated.

Some people who stayed behind in coastal communities that were cut off by road closures got supplies by boat. Gas, food, baby wipes and horse pellets were among the items brought ashore in the Paradise Cove area of Malibu. Some residents donned wetsuits and swam ashore with cases of water and beer.

"It's pretty cool. It's really amazing that people out there know that we're kind of stranded here in Malibu," Cherie Millford Smart said.

The area has not seen such a destructive blaze since 1993.

The fire has left an array of hazards, including trees ready to fall, downed power lines, toxins, and water main and gas leaks.

A forecast of possible rain next week would help firefighters but also raised the prospect of potential mud flows.

A new fire erupted late Tuesday about 75 miles (121 kilometers) to the east in the Fontana area of San Bernardino County, but firefighters reported good progress overnight, holding the blaze to 147 acres (59 hectares).

The cause of the Woolsey Fire remained under investigation.

Myers reported from Thousand Oaks. Associated Press writers John Antczak and Christopher Weber contributed from Los Angeles.



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