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The Nutcracker returns to stage in all its sugar plum glory

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Sweets will swirl, snowflakes will glitter and toys will spark to life in a show comprising the fantastical dreams of Clara and a dream come true for the students of the Westside School of Ballet.

The company's 48th production of the Nutcracker will mark the cast's triumphant return to the Broad stage after the pandemic relegated last year's show to a pre-filmed performance in the school's outdoor studio.

After a nearly two year artistic drought the whimsical holiday show is set to dazzle. For the students this is a thrilling opportunity to showcase their hard work to a live audience and for the community a delightful chance to reimmerse themselves in the enchanting world of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.

"It's everyone's favorite season in the ballet, the energy in the studio is bright and exciting and everyone loves performing at the Broad, it's just so special to all of us," said cast member Catia Boucher, who is a student at Samohi and has been dancing at Westside since she was eight.

The show has a long and storied history both in the world of ballet and at the Westside School.

The Nutcracker is an essential training ground for any aspiring professional dancer at Westside, as according to Artistic Director Martine Harley it prepares students with the same rigor and professionalism required to perform at any major ballet company.

Many ballet luminaries have passed through the program such as Lucia Connolly, who is now performing at the renowned Joffrey Ballet in Chicago. Connolly trained at Westside from the age of five where she literally grew up dancing the Nutcracker, passing through the roles of Clara, Lead Candy, Center Mirliton, Snow Queen, Lead Spanish, and Dew Drop Fairy to reach many ballerinas' ultimate dream — the Sugar Plum Fairy.

This year the prized role will be performed by former Samohi student Daniella Zhou. Zhou is a protégé of the Westside School of Ballet and danced there for nine years before being offered a place with the Pre-Professional Division at Miami City Ballet for their 2021/2022 season.

"She was very torn about cutting her time short at Westside Ballet because she would have gone through all the leading roles and finished up with Sugar Plum Fairy," said Harley. "I said 'it's okay we're going to make it happen, you're going to come back and dance Sugar Plum and that way you will have your crowning achievement.'"



Courtesy photo

BALLET: The show hits the stage starting next week.

Harley is a product of the Westside Ballet herself and made her stage debut in the Nutcracker. She performed the role of Dew Drop Fairy in the 1980 production and went on to have a celebrated career in the Houston Ballet.

Harley has added her own touches to the show since taking over as artistic director in 2013, such as altering some of the cultural dances, like the Arabian and Chinese dances, to be less stereotypical and more authentic.

For example, last year she studied traditional Chinese fan dances and used this research to re-choreograph the Chinese tea dance.

The Westside Ballet's rendition of the Nutcracker always strives to balance tradition with the modern moment. Much of the choreography is retained from the company's original 1973 staging, which was itself a close rendition of iconic choreographer George Balanchine's Nutcracker.

Westside ballet co-founder Yvonne Mounsey trained under Balanchine and created the Nutcracker role of Center Spanish during the peak of her career as a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. It was Mounsey alongside co-founder Rosemary Valaire who started the Nutcracker tradition at the Westside Ballet.

Though much of the choreography remains the same, Harley adapts the show year to year to reflect the needs and talent of the current students.

For example, this year the Angel Trio has been replaced by Catia Boucher performing as a Solo Angel, which will provide Boucher her first opportunity to perform a solo in front of a live audience.

Additionally, the Russian dance has been re-choreographed to showcase the artistry and athleticism of three exceptionally talented Santa Monica ballet dancers Jesse Dean, Sawyer Jordan and Dylan Weinstein.

"The Russian dance has always been an audience favorite," said Harley. "We are so proud of our advanced young male cast members, who train tirelessly––over 25 plus hours a week––and have mastered the exuberant Russian dance to a level usually reserved for one professional guest soloist."

Jordan is currently a ninth grade student at Samohi and has been dancing at Westside since he was five.

"I think it's really fun to be a part of something so widespread, because schools all over the world are doing Nutcracker yearly and it really brings the holiday spirit to everything," said Jordan. "I think it (the Westside's staging) is very different from all the other Nutcrackers, because it uses the whole school and everyone of all ages, different levels, and backgrounds... they don't just look for who they need, they make sure that there's a spot for everyone."

Mounsey said this tradition stems from the core principle of the Westside Ballet —

SEE **NUTCRACKER** PAGE 7



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California wildfires torch thousands of giant sequoia trees

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

Lightning-sparked wildfires killed thousands of giant sequoias this year, adding to a staggering two-year death toll that accounts for up to nearly a fifth of Earth's largest trees, officials said Friday.

Fires in Sequoia National Park and the surrounding national forest that also bears the trees' name tore through more than a third of groves in California and torched an estimated 2,261 to 3,637 sequoias, which are the largest trees by volume. Fires in the same area last year killed an unprecedented 7,500 to 10,400 of the 75,000 trees that are only native in about 70 groves scattered along the western side of the Sierra Nevada range.

Intense fires that burned hot enough and high enough to kill so many giant sequoias — trees once considered nearly fire-proof — puts an exclamation point on the impact of climate change. The combination of a warming planet that has created hotter droughts and a century of fire suppression that choked forests with thick undergrowth have fueled blazes that have sounded the death knell for trees that date back to ancient civilizations.

"The sobering reality is that we have seen another huge loss within a finite population of these iconic trees that are irreplaceable in many lifetimes," said Clay Jordan, superintendent of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. "As spectacular as these trees are we really can't take them for granted. To ensure that they're around for our kids and grandkids and great grandkids, some action is necessary."

California has seen its largest fires in the past five years, with last year setting a record for most acreage burned. So far, the second-largest amount of land has burned this year.

After last year's Castle and SQF Complex fires took officials by surprise by wiping out so many sequoias, extraordinary measures were taken to save the largest and oldest trees this year.

The General Sherman tree — the largest living thing on earth — and other ancient trees that are the backdrop for photos that often fail to capture grandeur of the giant sequoias was wrapped in a foil blanket.

A type of fire-retardant gel, similar to that used as absorbent in baby's diapers, was dropped on tree canopies that can exceed 200 feet (60 meters) in height. Sprinklers watered down trunks and flammable matter was raked away from trees.

The measures spared the Giant Forest, the premiere grove of ancient trees in the park, but the measures couldn't be deployed everywhere.

The bulk of the Suwanee grove in the park burned in an extreme fire in the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River drainage. The Starvation Complex grove in Sequoia National Forest was largely destroyed, based on estimates of how much burned at high-severity.

In 2013, the park had done climate modeling that predicted extreme fires wouldn't jeopardize sequoias for another 50 years, said Christy Brigham, chief of resource management and science at the two parks. But that was at the start of what became a punishing five-year drought that essentially broke the model.

Amid the drought in 2015, the park saw giant sequoias torched for the first time. Two fires in 2017 killed more giant sequoias. Just over 200 giant sequoias were killed in the fires that served as a warning for what was to come.

"Then the Castle Fire happened and it was like, 'Oh, my God,'" Brigham said. "We went from the warning sign to hair on fire. To lose 7,000 trees in one fire is crazy."

A full mortality count from last year's fire is still not available because crews in the forest were in the process of confirming how many trees died when lightning struck Sept. 9, igniting the Windy Fire in Sequoia National Forest and the SQF Complex in the park, Brigham said.

Not all the news in the park's report on the fires was bleak.

While fire burned into 27 groves and large numbers of trees were incinerated, a lot of low-intensity fire that sequoias need to thrive will clear out vegetation and the heat from flames will open cones so they can spread their seeds.

There was also less damage in many of the groves where the park has routinely used prescribed fire to clear out accumulated vegetation under cooler and more humid conditions to control the blaze. The fires emphasized the need to expand that work and, where that's too risky, begin thinning forests, Jordan said.

However, areas where fire burned so hot that seeds were killed and trees can't regenerate may need additional help. For the first time, the park is considering planting seedlings to preserve the species.

"I'm not ready to give up on giant sequoias," Brigham said. "This is a call to action to better protect the remaining old growth and make our Sierra Nevada forests wildfire resilient, because the fire's coming."

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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Jury finds Rittenhouse not guilty in Kenosha shootings

MICHAEL TARM, SCOTT BAUER AND AMY FORLITI
Associated Press

Kyle Rittenhouse was acquitted of all charges Friday after pleading self-defense in the deadly Kenosha shootings that became a flashpoint in the debate over guns, vigilantism and racial injustice in the U.S.

Rittenhouse, 18, began to choke up, fell forward toward the defense table and then hugged one of his attorneys as he heard a court clerk recite "not guilty" five times. A sheriff's deputy immediately whisked him out a back door.

"He wants to get on with his life," defense attorney Mark Richards said. "He has a huge sense of relief for what the jury did to him today. He wishes none of this ever happened. But as he said when he testified, he did not start this."

The verdict in the politically combustible case was met with anger and disappointment from those who saw Rittenhouse as a vigilante and a wannabe cop, and relief and vindication from those who regarded him as a patriot who took a stand against lawlessness and exercised his Second Amendment right to carry a gun and to defend himself.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, the longtime civil rights leader, said the verdict throws into doubt the safety of people who protest in support of Black Americans.

"It seems to me that it's open season on human rights demonstrators," he said.

Rittenhouse was charged with homicide, attempted homicide and reckless endangering for killing two men and wounding a third with an AR-style semi-automatic rifle in the summer of 2020 during a tumultuous night of protests over the shooting of a Black man, Jacob Blake, by a white Kenosha police officer.

Rittenhouse, a then-17-year-old former police youth cadet, said he went to Kenosha to protect property from rioters. He is white, as were those he shot.

The anonymous jury, whose racial makeup was not disclosed by the court but appeared to be overwhelmingly white, deliberated for close to 3 1/2 days.

President Joe Biden called for calm, saying that while the outcome of the case "will leave many Americans feeling angry and concerned, myself included, we must acknowledge that the jury has spoken."

Rittenhouse could have gotten life in prison if found guilty on the most serious charge, first-degree intentional homicide, or what some other states call first-degree murder. Two other charges each carried over 60 years behind bars.

Kenosha County District Attorney Michael Graveley said his office respects the jury's decision, and he asked the public to "accept the verdicts peacefully and not resort to violence."

Ahead of the verdict, Democratic Gov. Tony Evers announced that 500 National Guard members stood ready in case of trouble. But hours after the jury came back, there were no signs of any major protests or unrest in Kenosha.

As he released the jurors, Circuit Judge Bruce Schroeder assured them the court would take "every measure" to keep them safe.

Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, who is Black and a Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate, denounced the outcome. He, like many civil rights activists, saw a racial double standard at work in the case.

"Over the last few weeks, many dreaded the outcome we just witnessed," Barnes said. "The presumption of innocence until proven guilty is what we should expect from our judicial system, but that standard is not always applied equally. We have seen so many black and brown youth killed, only to be put on trial posthumously, while the innocence of Kyle Rittenhouse was virtually demanded by the judge."

Political figures on the right, meanwhile, welcomed the verdict and condemned the case brought against Rittenhouse.

Mark McCloskey, who got in trouble with the law when he and his wife waved a rifle and a handgun at Black Lives Matter protesters marching past his St. Louis home in 2020, said the verdict shows that people have a right to defend themselves from a "mob." He is now a Republican candidate for U.S. Senate in Missouri.

The Kenosha case was part of an extraordinary confluence of trials that reflected the deep divide over race in the United States: In Georgia, three white men are on trial in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, while in Virginia, a trial is underway in a lawsuit over the deadly white-supremacist rally held in Charlottesville in 2017.

The bloodshed in Kenosha took place during a summer of sometimes-violent protests set off across the U.S. by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and other cases involving the police use of force against Black people.

Rittenhouse when he went to Kenosha from his home in nearby Antioch, Illinois, after businesses were ransacked and burned in the nights that followed Blake's shooting. Rittenhouse carried a weapon authorities said was illegally purchased for the underage young man, and joined other armed civilians on the streets.

Bystander and drone video captured most of the frenzied chain of events that followed: Rittenhouse killed Joseph Rosenbaum, 36, then shot to death protester Anthony Huber, 26, and wounded demonstrator Gaige Grosskreutz, now 28.

Then-President Donald Trump said it appeared Rittenhouse had been "very violently attacked." Supporters donated more than $2 million toward his legal defense.

At trial, prosecutors portrayed Rittenhouse as a "wannabe soldier" who had gone looking for trouble that night and was responsible for creating a dangerous situation in the first place by pointing his rifle at demonstrators.

But Rittenhouse testified he came under attack: "I didn't do anything wrong. I defended myself."

Breaking into sobs at one point, he told the jury he opened fire after Rosenbaum chased him and made a grab for his gun. He said he was afraid his rifle was going to be wrested away and used to kill him.

SEE **RITTENHOUSE** PAGE 6

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 283 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 18

Grand Theft Just Occurred Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 12:19 a.m.
Overdose 1400Blk 9th St 12:22 a.m.
Prowler There Now 900Blk 10th St 12:45 a.m.
Loud Music Main St / Pier Ave 12:48 a.m.
Burglary Just Occurred 900Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:46 a.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 1900Blk Ocean Way 4:37 a.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 1000Blk 3rd St 5:04 a.m.
Fight 1300Blk 2nd St 6:02 a.m.
Construction Noise 800Blk Colorado Ave 6:25 a.m.
Overdose 1400Blk Ocean Ave 7:18 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 200Blk Ocean Ave 7:23 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 7:45 a.m.
Person With A Gun 400Blk Broadway 7:56 a.m.
Found Property 1700Blk The Beach 8:06 a.m.
Burglary Report 700Blk Idaho Ave 8:11 a.m.
Missing Person 2300Blk Oak St 8:20 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 8:28 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800Blk 9th St 9:08 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 9:12 a.m.
Burglary Report 1400Blk 7th St 9:28 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 22nd St / Pico Blvd 9:33 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 9:37 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1600Blk Appian Way 10:17 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 300Blk Colorado Ave 10:23 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 11th St / Expo Line 10:53 a.m.
Identity Theft 1900Blk Idaho Ave 11:01 a.m.
Encampment 1400Blk 5th St 11:09 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 900Blk 10th St 11:14 a.m.
Drinking In Public 2200Blk Lincoln Blvd 11:32 a.m.
Loud Music 2400Blk Beverley Ave 11:55 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:13 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 34th St / Pico Blvd 12:18 p.m.
Death Investigation 2500Blk Kansas Ave 12:27 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:40 p.m.
Burglary Report 300Blk Ocean Ave 1:03 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1100Blk Harvard St 1:10 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100Blk Montana Ave 1:28 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 4th St / Montana Ave 1:31 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800Blk Ozone St 1:33 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 1:45 p.m.
Identity Theft 1200Blk 10th St 1:54 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1600Blk Montana Ave 1:56 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 200Blk 16th St 2:00 p.m.
Found Property 2nd St / Strand St 2:13 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:16 p.m.
Rape Report 1300Blk 2nd St 2:18 p.m.
Burglary Report 2400Blk Beverley Ave 2:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500Blk 6th St 2:29 p.m.
Missing Person 300Blk Olympic Dr 2:30 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2300Blk Kansas Ave 2:40 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 9th St / Montana Ave 2:47 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200Blk 23rd St 2:57 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 2300Blk 24th St 3:27 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500Blk The Beach 3:52 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500Blk Palisades Park 3:52 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Franklin St / Wilshire Blvd 3:55 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 3:57 p.m.
Loud Music 00Blk Pico Blvd 3:59 p.m.
Found Property 1100Blk 5th St 4:09 p.m.
Fight Euclid St / Olympic Blvd 4:10 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 300Blk Olympic Dr 4:24 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 20th St / Broadway 4:34 p.m.
Burglary Report 2200Blk 5th St 4:40 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2700Blk Pico Blvd 4:52 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 600Blk 4th St 4:52 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 700Blk Idaho Ave 4:53 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved Stewart St / Pico Blvd 4:56 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:58 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1600Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:59 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2800Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:22 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 5:33 p.m.
Burglary Now 1200Blk 26th St 5:46 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1600Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:53 p.m.
Found Property 00Blk Pico Blvd 5:53 p.m.
Arson 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 6:08 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Pacific Coast Hwy / Moomat Ahiko Way 6:18 p.m.
Drinking In Public 800Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:20 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 2500Blk 6th St 6:26 p.m.
Identity Theft 1300Blk 4th St 6:49 p.m.
Loud Music 1100Blk 3rd St 7:39 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:41 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1300Blk 4th St 8:00 p.m.
Rape Report 1200Blk 16th St 8:01 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 4th St / Pico Blvd 8:10 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1900Blk Olympic Blvd 8:23 p.m.
Encampment Stewart St / Pico Blvd 8:25 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper Just Occurred

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 4

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 26 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 18

EMS 1300Blk 15th St 12:21 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 9th St 12:22 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 1:49 a.m.
EMS 400Blk Expo Line 1:59 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 15th St 2:06 a.m.
EMS 200Blk Ocean Ave 7:25 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000Blk Pine St 9:06 a.m.
EMS 2800Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:34 a.m.
Public Assist Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 9:51 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 400Blk Broadway 10:13 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 300Blk Colorado Ave 10:23 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:06 a.m.
EMS 2500Blk Kansas Ave 11:55 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 9th St 11:55 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk Ocean Ave 1:22 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk 23rd St 2:00 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2000Blk Arizona Ave 2:06 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Ashland Ave 3:53 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700Blk Hill St 3:57 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Main St 5:12 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 16th St 6:06 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 6:42 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:53 p.m.
Wires Down 2200Blk Marine St 7:14 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk 17th St 7:58 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:08 p.m.



City of Santa Monica

**CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE
INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

TThe Santa Monica City Council is now accepting applications for annual appointments of members to the following City Boards and Commissions:

Airport Commission	1	6/30/2025	Santa Monica Resident
Architectural Review Board	2	6/30/2025	-
Audit Subcommittee	1	6/30/2025	Santa Monica Resident
Building and Fire-Life Safety Commission	1	6/30/2024	State of California Certified Access Specialist
	1	6/30/2024	State of California Registered Fire Protection Engineer
	1	6/30/2025	State of California Licensed or Registered Architect
	2	6/30/2025	-
Housing Commission	2	6/30/2023	Santa Monica Resident and Section 8 Member. One Section 8 Member must be 62 years of age or older and one member must be unhoused or formerly unhoused.
	2	6/30/2025	Santa Monica Resident
Recreation and Parks Commission	1	6/30/2025	Santa Monica Resident
Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, Inc.	2	6/30/2025	-

Applications due by noon, November 30, 2021.
Appointments to be made by City Council, December 7, 2021.

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income that may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

All appointments are conditional on providing evidence of COVID-19 vaccination. Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

California jobless rate falls in October as hiring picks up

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

Following a lull in September, California employers bounced back in a big way last month as they added 96,800 new jobs and lowered the state's unemployment rate to 7.3%

New data released Friday showed job gains across all but one employment sector, led by white-collar jobs in management and administration and additional hiring in restaurants and hotels. Government was the only sector to decline, shedding 4,000 jobs for the month.

California — the nation's most populous state with nearly 40 million residents — accounted for 18.2% of the nation's total job gains in October. Since February, California has averaged more than 100,000 new jobs each month.

"California has again created more new jobs than any other state — averaging six figure job growth for nine months straight — an unprecedented achievement as our economy continues to recover from the pandemic," said Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat.

But a big reason California can add so many new jobs is because of how many jobs it lost at the start of the pandemic. California lost 2.7 million jobs in March and April 2020 after Newsom issued the nation's first statewide stay-at-home order because of the coronavirus.

It's taken 18 months to add back 67.4% of those lost jobs as California's coronavirus restrictions, both at the state and local level, have lingered longer than other states. While California's unemployment rate fell to 7.3% in October compared to 7.5% in September, it's still tied with Nevada for the highest rate in the country.

California's claims for unemployment remain higher than the national rate, accounting for more than 25% of all claims in the U.S. last week. California's workers make up 11.7% of the civilian labor force.

"Two things are simultaneously true. These are strong job gains, more consistent with what we've seen throughout much of this year. At the same time, there are other economic employment indicators that suggest a more uneven and muted recovery," said Michael Bernick, a former director of the California Employment Development Department who now monitors employment trends at the Duane Morris law firm.

The big question in the months ahead is how rising prices because of inflation will impact the job market in California and

SEE **JOBLESS** PAGE 6

No charges for suspect with a fake gun in Chess Park

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department sized pieces of a fake gun in Chess Park this week after receiving reports of a man with a gun in the area.

According to SMPD, officers were called to the park at about 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 16 and made contact with a man matching the description given by callers. Officers identified the parts in his possession as a dismantled airsoft rifle that could not be fully reassembled into a working device.

"An airsoft gun often resembles a traditional firearm, but shoots non-lethal, plastic pellets," said SMPD in a statement. "No other weapon or replica of a weapon was located. Contrary to rumor, there were no victims of criminal threats nor brandishing of this replica firearm. The male subject surrendered the parts of the airsoft to our officers."

The .29 acre park is located at Ocean Front Walk at Seaside Terrace, directly behind Santa Monica's Original Muscle Beach. It includes 14 large tables with four chess boards per table, 10 small tables with one chessboard per table and a large chessboard with large chess pieces set on the ground. It is open sunrise to sunset with the tables available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The park has long been a hotbed for homelessness and problematic behavior leading officials to propose closing the facility.

SMPD said the individual contacted this week did not meet the criteria for an involuntary psychiatric hold. They said the first violation of state law that prohibits the display of an imitation firearm in public is treated as an infraction and not punishable by imprisonment.

WEEKLY ARRESTS

SMDP MADE 27 ARRESTS FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO NOVEMBER 14

Date	Sex	Age	Charged With
Tue, Nov 9	M	24	Parole Violation
Tue, Nov 9	M	26	Corporal Injury To Spouse
Tue, Nov 9	F	70	Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Wed, Nov 10	M	36	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Wed, Nov 10	M	47	Robbery
Wed, Nov 10	M	24	Jaywalking
Thu, Nov 11	M	40	Prohibition against camping in public places
Thu, Nov 11	M	34	Parole Violation
Thu, Nov 11	M	35	Resisting Arrest
Thu, Nov 11	M	32	Vandalism
Thu, Nov 11	M	29	Corporal Injury To Spouse
Thu, Nov 11	M	35	Drunk in Public
Fri, Nov 12	F	23	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Fri, Nov 12	F	24	Joyriding
Fri, Nov 12	M	24	Drunk in Public
Fri, Nov 12	M	43	Domestic Battery
Sat, Nov 13	M	34	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Sat, Nov 13	M	48	Drunk in Public
Sat, Nov 13	M	39	Robbery
Sat, Nov 13	M	20	Loitering in Parking Structure
Sun, Nov 14	M	51	Corporal Injury To Spouse
Sun, Nov 14	M	28	Criminal Threat
Sun, Nov 14	M	23	Drunk in Public
Sun, Nov 14	M	50	Drunk in Public
Sun, Nov 14	M	45	Fugitive
Sun, Nov 14	M	22	Assault & Battery
Sun, Nov 14	M	54	Shoplifting

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 3

1000Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:29 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 3100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:34 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700Blk Navy St 9:11 p.m.
Burglary Report 1000Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:13 p.m.
Traffic Miscellaneous Report Neilson Way / Barnard Way 9:36 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2600Blk Neilson Way 9:44 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 900Blk 6th St 10:02 p.m.
Overdose 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:08 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500Blk 2nd St 10:50 p.m.
Fight 7th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:16 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 7th St / Arizona Ave 11:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 11:21 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 11:41 p.m.
Loud Music 1800Blk 9th St 11:50 p.m.



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WINNER

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Letter to the Editor

Cody O'Connell
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Let's relocate Chess Park to a new park

I'm very sad to hear that Chess Park will be closing. I'm writing this letter because I have a proposal to relocate the chess boards to another place in Santa Monica, perhaps Virginia Park. I'll tell you a bit about myself, why this matters to me and why I think it's a good idea.

My name is Cody O'Connell. I'm 27 years old, I grew up in here in Santa Monica and I'm a resident now as well. When I was a teenager, I got involved with the now discontinued chess program at the Santa Monica libraries run by the late Mel Bloch. I loved it. I'd volunteer there to teach kids how to play and the adults would give me some pointers on my own game. It brought people of all ages together to learn from one another and have fun. After that I went off to college at UC Santa Barbara and founded the chess club there. I met some great friends along the way. Nowadays I still play chess regularly and I've coached quite a few friends throughout the pandemic. Chess is a lifelong passion for me for both the beauty of the game and the people you meet.

I have fond memories of Chess Park. I started going there when I was a teenager and some really good players would stop by on Saturdays sometimes. It was the first exposure I had to watching a real "chess hustler" playing blitz chess. The crowd loved it. It makes me sad that such an iconic place is closing.

The truth is this might be a blessing in disguise for the chess community. Chess Park is hard to access. It's located right next to the pier so there's lots of traffic, it's geographically out of the way and finding parking is tough. That's why I'm proposing that we relocate the boards from Chess Park to a more accessible place in Santa Monica. This should be pretty easy because as far I can tell, the boards themselves are thin metal plates that are simply screwed down to the wood tables. We can just unscrew them and reattach them elsewhere.

As for where to put them, I think Virginia Park would be a great choice. It already has plenty of wood tables and benches. We could just screw the boards to them. It's centrally located, accessible and there's already quite a few community activities going on there. Adding some public chess tables would only strengthen the park's value to the community. My only complaint is that the layout of the benches at Virginia is a bit sparse. Ideally you'd want multiple benches in the same area so players could mingle and switch games easily. To solve this we could potentially reuse the old Chess Park benches or add new ones in the future. Someday we should also add that life-size chess set from Chess Park because, well, how cool is that? But for now, I want to keep it simple. The simplest solution is to take the metal boards from Chess Park and screw them into the tables at Virginia. All you need is a cordless drill.

By the way, if you ask me, every public table in existence should have a chess board on it. Chess board: $50. Sparking a lifetime interest in a young kid or kindling new friendships: Priceless.

You might be reading this and thinking, "Why not just bring your own chess board to the park?" You can certainly do that and I've done that before with a friend. But the thing is, you can't just show up to the park and expect to find a game. You have to call a friend ahead of time and coordinate. To make it a community activity, you need to create an environment where strangers can meet and play. Fortunately, we chess players aren't high maintenance. If you lay out the boards, we'll be there.

In the wake of the The Queen's Gambit and online chess streaming, chess is back on the rise and I'm hoping we can find a new home for it to grow. As someone who has found great meaning in my life through chess in Santa Monica, I feel obligated to insist that we do. And I know my late mentor, Mel would insist as well.

Sincerely,

Cody O'Connell PS If it makes any difference, I've bounced this idea off a handful of residents and they all loved the idea. Some of whom are active players and others are community members who just want to see Santa Monica be the best it can be.

CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH 2:37PM

Officers were dispatched to the 800 block of Wilshire Blvd. regarding a strongarm robbery. The victims relayed they had been sitting on the patio eating lunch when the suspect approached them demanding their money and simulating he had a gun. Although the victims did not see a gun, they feared he may have one and gave the subject money. The subject left and the victims told the cashier what had occurred. The victim noticed that there was a picture of the subject attached to their tip jar describing him as an individual who had stolen a tip jar recently. Later that day, an Officer encountered an individual matching the subject's description at Reed park and Jamarr Larue Daniels was arrested for robbery.

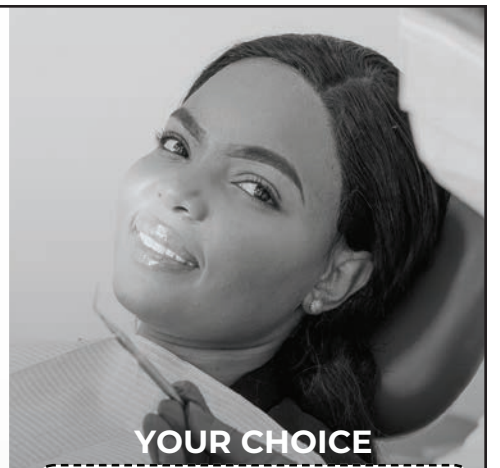
FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)

If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

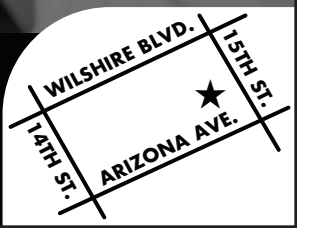
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RITTENHOUSE

FROM PAGE 2

Huber was then killed after hitting Rittenhouse in the head or neck with a skateboard, and Grosskreutz was shot after pointing a gun of his own at Rittenhouse.

After the verdict, Huber's parents, Karen Bloom and John Huber, said the outcome "sends the unacceptable message that armed civilians can show up in any town, incite violence, and then use the danger they have created to justify shooting people in the street."

Rittenhouse's mother, Wendy Rittenhouse, seated near her son on a courtroom bench, gasped in delight, cried and hugged others around her.

Richards, the defense attorney, said that Rittenhouse wants to be a nurse and that he is in counseling for post traumatic stress disorder and will probably move away because "it's too dangerous" for him to continue to live in the area.

Going in, many legal experts said they believed the defense had the advantage because of provisions favorable to Rittenhouse in Wisconsin self-defense law and video showing him being chased at key moments. Testimony from some of the prosecution's own witnesses also seemed to buttress his claim of self-defense.

Witnesses described Rosenbaum as "hyperaggressive" and said that he dared others to shoot him and threatened to kill Rittenhouse earlier that night. A videographer testified Rosenbaum lunged for the rifle just before he was shot, and a pathologist said his injuries appeared to indicate his hand was over the barrel.

Also, Rosenbaum's fiancee disclosed that he was on medication for bipolar disorder and depression. Rittenhouse's lawyers branded Rosenbaum a "crazy person."

Rittenhouse had also been charged with possession of a dangerous weapon by a person under 18, a misdemeanor that carries nine months behind bars and appeared likely to lead to a conviction.

But the judge threw out that charge before deliberations after the defense argued that the Wisconsin law did not apply to the long-barreled rifle used by Rittenhouse.

Associated Press writer Tammy Webber contributed from Fenton, Michigan; Aaron Morrison from New York.

JOBLESS

FROM PAGE 4

the nation. Inflation can lead to increased wages for workers. But higher prices can also prompt consumers to buy less, which would slow demand and convince employers to shed jobs.

Right now, price increases are driven by increased demand combined with a shortage of goods caused by disruption in the supply chain. While inflation has averaged about 2% for the past decade, it has exceeded 5% since June, according to California's Legislative Analyst's Office.

"Inflation is the biggest risk we are facing for the nation and then for the state. Unfortunately in California, as a state, we don't really have any control over it," said Sung Won Sohn, a professor of finance and economics at Loyola Marymount University.

Sohn said most of California's job gains came in Southern California, where Los Angles accounted for 42% of growth and San Diego made up 28%. That was driven by gains in hotels and restaurants as tourism picks up.

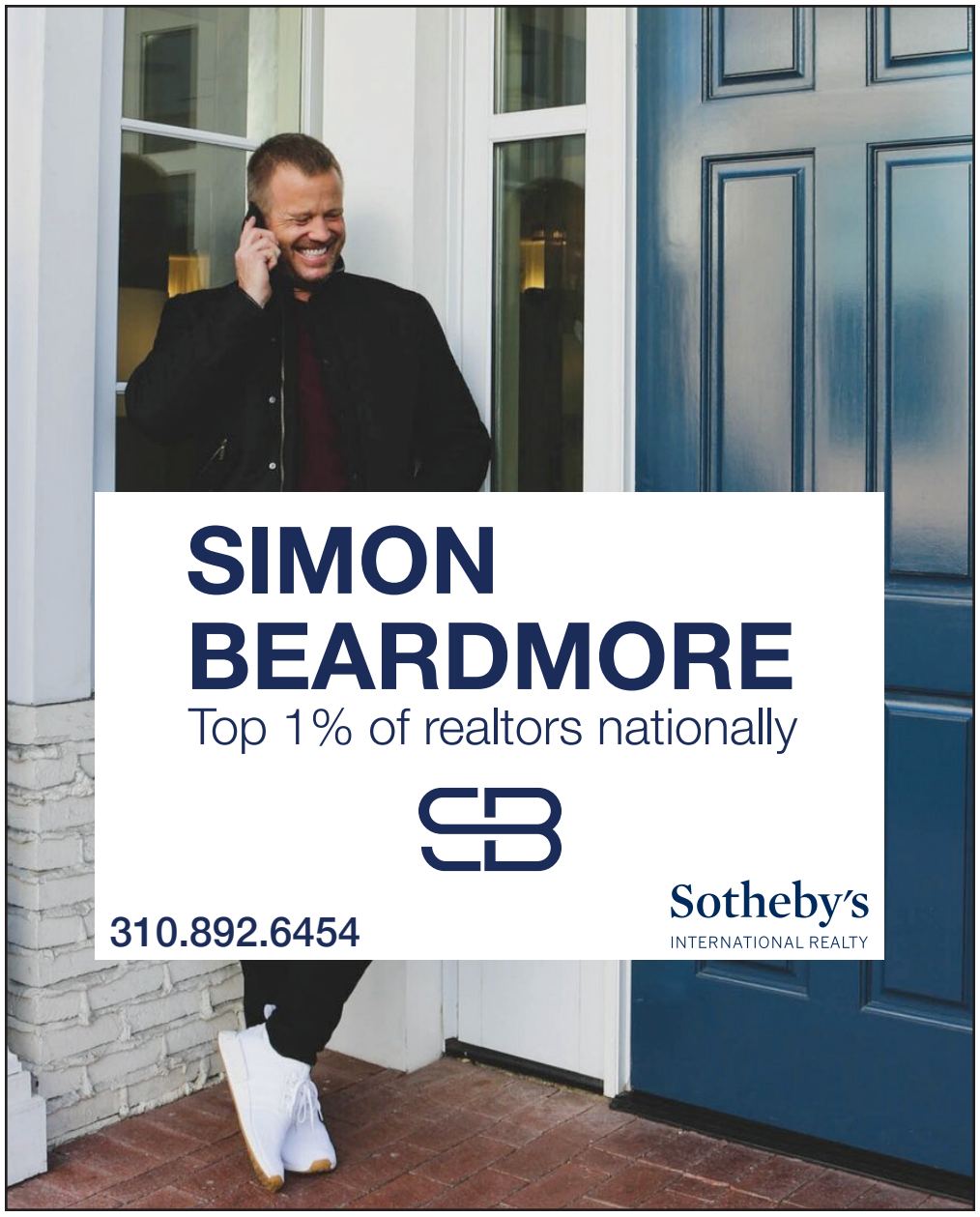
New rules in Los Angeles took effect this month requiring everyone to show proof they have received the coronavirus vaccine before entering public places, including restaurants. City officials have said they won't begin enforcing the rules until Nov. 29.

Sohn says those rules, among the strictest in the nation, are likely to have some impact on hiring but probably won't "bend the trend."

"I would expect leisure and hospitality continuing to add jobs," he said, though he worried the industry could continue to be impacted by labor shortages.

Business owners seeking to hire for lower-wage jobs have reported difficulty in finding workers. California's workforce — people who either have a job or are looking for one — decreased by 8,400 people in October, according to survey results released Friday by the Employment Development Department.

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com







NUTCRACKER

FROM PAGE 1

that everyone is welcome. Unlike many other ballet schools, there are no auditions required to join classes at the Westside. Similarly any student age nine and above who wants to be in the Nutcracker is welcome and encouraged to take part.

"Every child that wants to study ballet can walk through the door and be trained in our curriculum and that is something that's always been unique to Westside Ballet and is very special," said Harley.

The Westside School of Ballet is closely integrated with the local community and relies on sponsorships from Santa Monica individuals, organizations, and businesses to fund productions like the Nutcracker and offer scholarships to students. Some of these groups include the Santa Monica College Public Policy Institute, The Huntley Hotel, Lyft Scooters, Urth Caffe and Morley Builders.

This year's Nutcracker will take place on Nov. 27 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.; Nov. 28 at 1 p.m.; Dec. 4 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m; and Dec. 5th at 1 pm. The Broad Stage is located in the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center at 1310 11th St. Tickets are $50 and may be purchased online at www.westsideballet.com or by calling 800-595-4849.

Clara@smdp.com









Courtesy photos

SHOW: Tickets for the performance at The Broad Stage can be purchased online for $50.



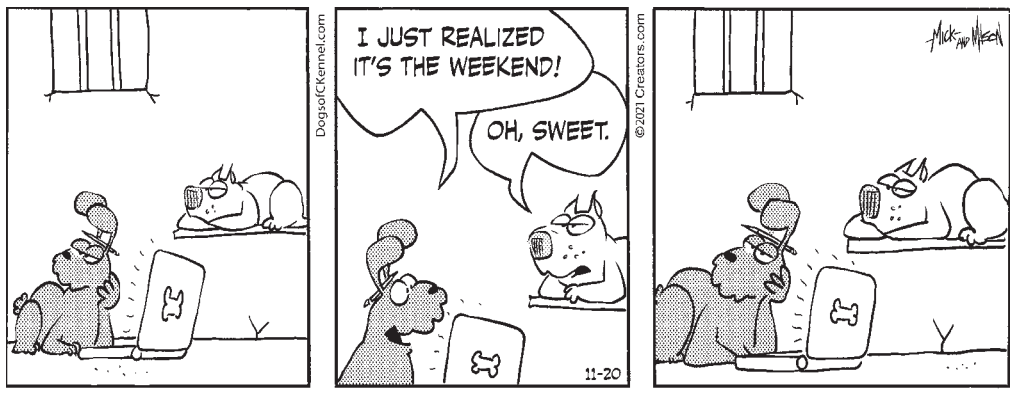
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



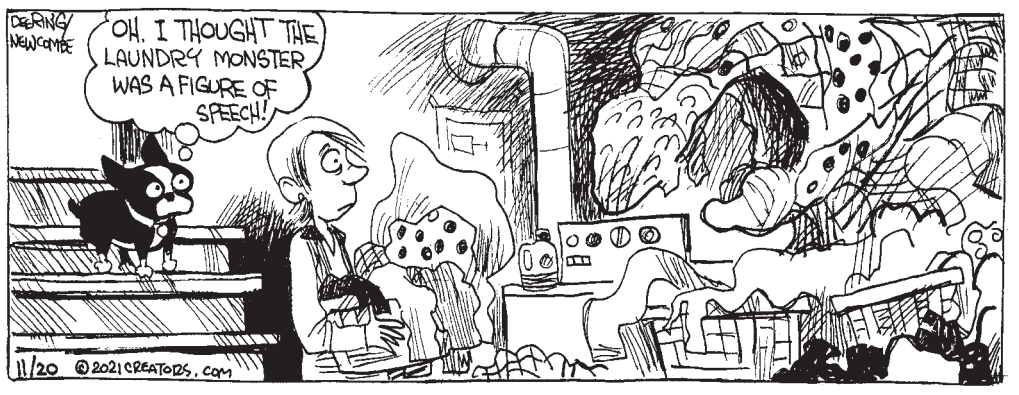
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



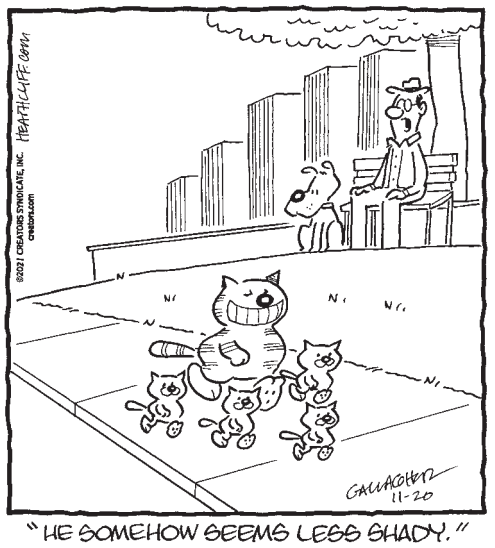
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE SOMEHOW SEEMS LESS SHADY."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.6°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
SSW swell starts to come down, blending with a touch more NW energy for peaky surf at combo spots. Deep high tide early/mid-AM that you'll need to plan around, but wind looks light as it drops.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
On the smaller side but with offshore Santa Ana wind through the AM. NW swell leftovers blend with easing SSW swell. Deep mid-AM high tide to account for, but could stay clean as it falls off.

WEATHER

Saturday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high near 64.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54. North northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/11/20	Sat	02:28 AM	2.23	L
2021/11/20	Sat	08:45 AM	5.89	H
2021/11/20	Sat	4:03 PM	-0.25	L
2021/11/20	Sat	10:35 PM	3.53	H
2021/11/21	Sun	02:51 AM	2.48	L
2021/11/21	Sun	09:11 AM	5.76	H
2021/11/21	Sun	4:40 PM	-0.16	L
2021/11/21	Sun	11:26 PM	3.37	H
2021/11/22	Mon	03:15 AM	2.70	L
2021/11/22	Mon	09:39 AM	5.56	H
2021/11/22	Mon	5:22 PM	0.01	L
2021/11/23	Tue	12:29 AM	3.24	H
2021/11/23	Tue	03:40 AM	2.93	L
2021/11/23	Tue	10:12 AM	5.30	H
2021/11/23	Tue	6:09 PM	0.20	L
2021/11/24	Wed	01:55 AM	3.23	H
2021/11/24	Wed	04:07 AM	3.15	L
2021/11/24	Wed	10:51 AM	4.98	H
2021/11/24	Wed	7:03 PM	0.39	L
2021/11/25	Thu	11:44 AM	4.61	H
2021/11/25	Thu	8:05 PM	0.53	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/17
3 16 48 52 60
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 205 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/16
6 22 44 53 65
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 74 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/17
11 13 42 43 44
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 36 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/18
4 6 12 25 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/18
EVENING: 9 6 4

Draw Date: 11/18
MIDDAY: 1 1 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/18
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:40.74

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (NOVEMBER 20)

Nothing stops your effervescence. Your unsinkable attitude will make this a remarkable year. What some would consider a setback, you'll leverage into opportunity. Your habit of admiring people will lead to friendships and work that interests you. New modes of transportation will be featured too. Taurus and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 14, 8, 33 and 28.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Trying on a new personality will be as easy as sticking your face into one of those photo boards at tourist attractions. You line it up and people see the visage while the real you stands a little further back.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have much to give, so go where there are takers. At the same time, you're ready to absorb more life. Lucky for you, the place where you can give and take is one and the same.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's a gamble in the works. Play the game twice and you'll double your chances of winning, but you'll also double your chances of losing. If the game in question is love, don't worry. In one way or other, love always wins.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The dynamics of love will bring out both the fearful and the brave side of you. Connection is more than a matchup of preferred traits. It's action and reaction to a shared moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Good taste is inclusive. It relies on the integration of many influences. Good taste doesn't fear criticism or challenge, as it only sharpens with scrutiny. You'll raise your awareness and more.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Because your heart is open, life will bring you many things to fall in love with, like endeavors that make your heart sing, places that light up your imagination and kindred souls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You hold the people around you to a certain standard and hold yourself to a much higher one. It hardly seems fair, but since you don't mind hard work, you'll be better for the injustice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When people make mistakes, it creates an opportunity to educate or overlook, correct or build goodwill. To call a mistake an ending is a missed opportunity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Everyone has a default expectation about the nature of others. You'll be made aware of your own tendency in this regard. Keep in mind that expectation is a choice, and you can always choose differently.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll take things public. The fun, information, feelings and other expressions you show the world will gain support. It doesn't hurt that you've been so encouraging of others in the past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have a good sense of what's going on with other people as you interact with them. You interpret their movements, at first unconsciously and then quite deliberately and with great accuracy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Pace yourself. Your creativity isn't dangerous, but it is quite demanding, as it won't turn off. It keeps inventing new situations which require ever more creativity.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

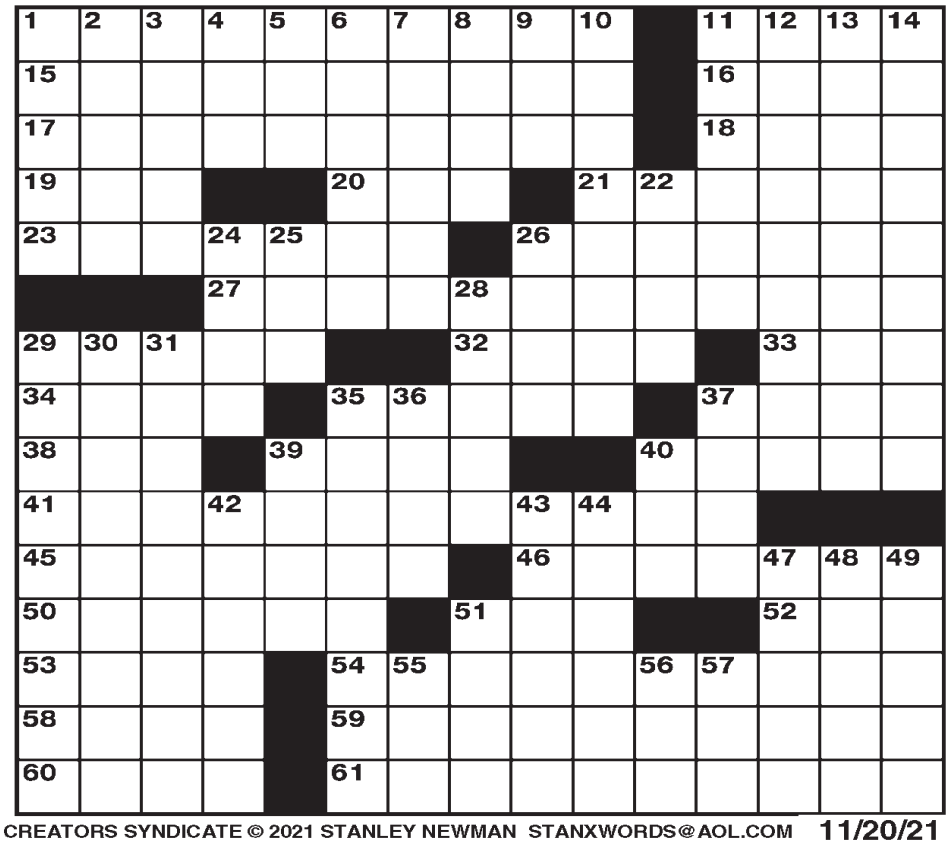
					5		8	
	1	7		2		9		5
3				4			7	
	4				7			
7		6		8		5		3
			1				9	
	5			7				8
6		8		5		4	2	
	7		2					

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 What Astaire (at 78) fell off, breaking his wrist
11 __ cry
15 Be in the dark
16 Largest of the Tuscan Archipelago
17 Sustaining, as with supper
18 Keep at it
19 New Deal power provider
20 Become entangled
21 Defeat
23 Reclusive National Book Award novelist
26 30-year Indonesian leader
27 Neptune et al.
29 Name on the cover of *All Quiet . . .*
32 Name akin to Harley
33 Small roller
34 Don't do it
35 See 57 Down
37 In-a-pinch screwdriver
38 Social media chats
39 Double-accent sport
40 Fawned (on)
41 Asian Official Partner of FIFA
45 Japanese pen name
46 Maintains with authority
50 Unobservant
51 Blazin' Blueberry beverage brand
52 Scornful sound
53 Sorority letters
54 Marching band debut, c. 1906
58 Sermon conclusion
59 Mini-monocrat
60 Give up
61 American pen name

DOWN
1 Type of tone
2 Penny on *Big Bang Theory*
3 Like a hawk
4 Short time, for short
5 Compass reading
6 Bit of wit
7 High-__ (dynamic)
8 Stepped down
9 Unbroken string
10 European Union's busiest airport
11 Athenian attraction
12 Moved to the max
13 Remark of relief
14 Became shabby
22 First female Asian-American Cabinet member
24 Team __ (O'Brien production company)
25 Request for repetition
26 Brisk
28 $2 bills, compared to $10s
29 "The Raven" conclusion
30 Something to see in Pompeii
31 Set up
35 Shimmer, as a certain stone
36 __ Zirconia (pop legend impersonator)
37 How much you can take
39 Things to remember
40 Antonym of "eu-"
42 Kicked around
43 Middles
44 Triple-1 Down sequence
47 She's close kin to "Rose"
48 Dogmatic stance
49 Kipling's word for "tiger"
51 Storyteller's steps
55 "Make friends of __ enemies": Pythagoras
56 By order of
57 With 35 Across, common lunchbox contents



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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

SATURDAY | NOV 20

NOTABLE FICTION BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION: APEIROGON BY COLUM MCCANN
Two fathers, a Palestinian and an Israeli, navigate the checkpoints of their conflicted world before losses bring them together to use their grief as a weapon for peace. To register, email karen.reitz@santamonica.gov. 11 a.m.

SUNDAY | NOV 21

ORCHESTRA SANTA MONICA: "MUSICAL RETURN AND GATHERING"
Orchestra Santa Monica and Music Director Roger Kalia return to live performance with a special admission-free concert. The orchestra will present an early preview of its collaborative film, "We Gather: Black Life in Santa Monica told through Music, Visuals, and Narrative". A novel arrangement of Mahler's Symphony No. 1 for 15 musicians will also be performed, providing an intimate feel to the listening experience and revealing Mahler's chamber-like writing as each musician is treated as a soloist. 7:30 - 9 p.m. Calvary Baptist Church 1502 20th Street. Free. Register at https://www.OrchestraSantaMonica.org.

MONDAY | NOV 22

REGULAR MEETING OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION
6 p.m. Agenda available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/Airport/Commission. Meeting will be available online at https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/fgcyrgwx

STORY TIME AT THE MAIN LIBRARY: THANKSGIVING IS COMING
Stories, songs, rhymes and fingerplays for ages 2 & up. Space is limited. To register, email ann.wilson@santamonica.gov. Main Library. 11 - 11:30 a.m.

THANKSGIVING ON THE PIER
The Pacific Wheel will be lit orange, yellow, dancing turkeys and fun harvest themes on Monday, November 22 to Thursday, November 25 in recognition of Turkey Day 2021. Pacific Park is celebrating Thanksgiving in a big way with a fun, festive light program on the Pacific Wheel that features a 90-foot-tall Thanksgiving Turkey.

WINTERLIT LIGHTS
Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) brings the holidays to the Third Street Promenade with the return of Winterlit, transforming the downtown district into an immersive, festive experience. Tens of thousands of colorful lights, decor and garland will deck the Third Street Promenade, 2nd and 4th Streets, illuminating convenient shopping and cozy outdoor dining experiences.

TUESDAY | NOV 23

WHAT I DID LAST SUMMER
bG Gallery is pleased to present "What I Did Last Summer ", a solo exhibition by artist, Ellen Schinderman. As an artist and feminist, the reclaiming of needle and thread fascinates Ellen. Her work comes from a need to celebrate female pleasure and female bodies. Using images that are often considered pornographic, she recontextualizes them by focusing on and highlighting women as beings that feel and think, rather than objects that arouse. This exhibit will focus on Schinderman's activities during lockdown in Los Angeles during the COVID-19 pandemic. 2525 Michigan Ave, #A2,

WEDNESDAY | NOV 24

SANTA MONICA WHALER'S ENDLESS SUMMER PARTY
Come celebrate Thanksgiving eve with The Santa Monica Whaler. Ticket includes: Open Bar: 10 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., a special edition commemorative Whaler hat, VIP priority entry for the night and chances to win a raffle. 101 Broadway. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/205464157827

DRINKSGIVING UGLY SWEATER BLOCK PARTY
Party the night away before hunkering down for Thanksgiving celebrations. With open bar, drink specials, plus live bands and DJs spinning Top 40s, you'll be celebrating in style. VIP tickets that include 2 drinks start at only $18. VIP+ Open Bar tickets start at only $49! VIP reserved seating and bottle service are also available now. 1460 3rd St Promenade. 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. https://tickets.gotolanea.com/event/friendsgiving-block-party-11-24-2021-2000/tickets/seg?e=0WG

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

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 26 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5304

Having a pedicure

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

Acetone	Coat	Gels	Perm
Acrylics	Comb	Glitter	Ponytail
Afro	Conversation	Grooming	Pretty
Aloe	Day spa	Hairdresser	Rinse
Basin	Dull	Hygiene	Shine
Bowl	Dyed	Long	Short
Brush	Elegant	Manicurist	Trim
Care	File	Massage	Undercut
Champagne	Foil	Natural	Wash
Clean	Funny	Parlour	Wigs

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Perfect for a rainy day

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