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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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WILL ROGERS GOES TO THE FARM



Photo by Thomas Leffler

GROWING A COMMUNITY: Will Rogers Learning Community continues to grow its regenerative farm project into the 2023-24 school year.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

Curiosity fuels learning at a young age, something that one Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District campus has found out in spades, all while aiding student and community environmentalism.

During the 2021-22 school year, Will Rogers Learning Academy introduced a regenerative farm on the corner of 16th and Maple Street, serving as one of the first such working farms on a school campus in the Los Angeles area. The farm serves as both hubs for learning for Will Rogers students and as a local food hub for Santa Monica residents.

The expansion to the Will Rogers campus began as a collaboration between local parents and farmers, who had the idea of creating an "outdoor classroom" where students can apply knowledge from courses in a real-world setting. The role of head farmer for the project is in the hands of "Farmer Mark," Mark Abraham, who also works as a farmer for Grant Elementary School.

"I want to express how happy I am that the farm has been received by so many … I have poured my heart and every available resource into the farm for over two and a half years, sacrificing my own personal time on the weekends every weekend to advance the mission of the farm, to help build a space that students, families and the greater community can access, enjoy success early on, and have it stand out as a model in the community," Farmer Mark stated.

The farm is a model of "regenerative agriculture," a system that works to sequester carbon, build biodiversity and create resistant farms in the face of drought and natural disasters.

SEE **FARM** PAGE 11

Lack of affordable housing construction undermines local development rules



Photo by Antoniette Damico

DEVELOPMENT DEBACLE: Santa Monica's local control over new development has been once again jeopardized.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's failure to build enough affordable housing has once again jeopardized local control over new development but the current situation is far less severe than the previous debacle over the city's Housing Element.

According to state regulators, Santa Monica did not build enough units in the very low, low and moderate income levels in recent years and that deficit now puts the city under a state law that allows anyone building a project with at least 50% affordable units to bypass design rules. However, the law's additional requirements on developers make it generally undesirable as a regulatory option and local officials said that while they have to comply with the law, they do not think it will have an impact on local development.

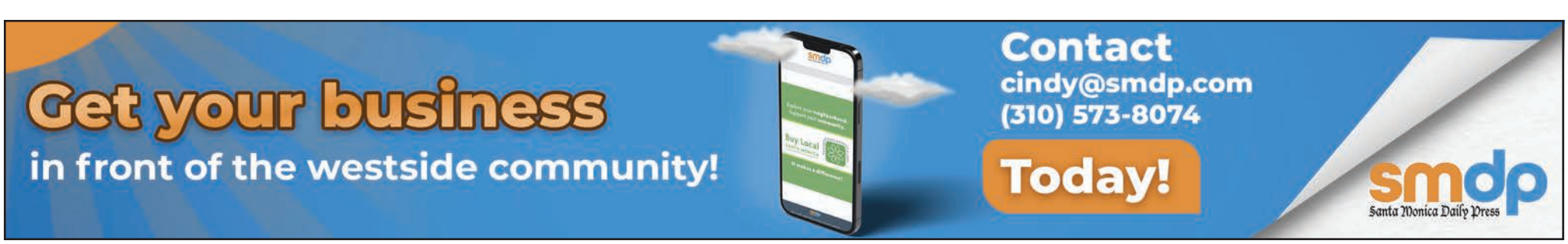
Municipalities are required to plan for a State mandated quota of housing at various income levels. That plan, known as a Housing Element, is developed every eight years and Santa Monica recently moved from its 5th Housing Element into the 6th.

During the 5th cycle, the city only built 91 percent of its very low income quota, 58 percent of its low income quota and 18 percent of its moderate income quota. In that time it built 250 percent of the above moderate quota.

That disparity triggers a law known as SB35 allowing developers to skip all public hearings if they meet a variety of conditions. Santa Monica already has a streamlined approval process similar to SB35 but the two have different requirements. Santa Monica rules limit commercial use in a building to 25 percent, can't be applied to lots larger than one acre and have more tenant protections.

In addition to the 50 percent affordable rule, SB35 requires developers to meet wage and workforce rules for larger projects which local officials said will

SEE **PLANNING** PAGE 4



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Vikings road heroics continue with semifinals win



Photo by Manny Lopez

ROAD WARRIORS: Mason Oliva (#72) and the Vikings offensive line were the key in a 35-21 victory over Kaiser.

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Samohi Vikings have turned into the most battle-hardened of November road warriors, cresting with a CIF Southern Section Division 9 semi-finals victory over Kaiser on Nov. 17. The 35-21 win was anchored by a ground-and-pound identity on offense and a turnover-forcing defense, sending the Vikings to the Division 9 Championship Friday evening.

A win over Kaiser was the third straight playoff road victory for the Vikings after taking down Santa Ana and Troy away from Samohi grounds. The home field will once again be packed on Friday for the Vikings' matchup with Rio Hondo Prep in the Division 9 finals, nearly a month after the team's thrilling overtime win at home over Santa Ana.

Controlling the clock and the score was the Vikings rushing attack, led by a dominant offensive line consisting of Jayden Montanez, Mason Oliva, Ezra Klein, Nikki Gonzalez, Ryland Hawkins and Mike Michalski. The line's effective performance led to one-sided playcalling down the stretch, as the Vikings did not attempt a single pass in the second half. Running behind the line was senior Caden McCallum, who took on a hefty workload consisting of 29 carries for 240 yards and three touchdowns.

Quarterback Wyatt Brown, who helped carry the offense throughout the 2023 campaign, added the first touchdown of the contest through the run game as well, a 4-yard rush to put the Vikings on the board. Kaiser fumbled the ensuing kickoff return, recovered by Vikings sophomore Payton Seals, leading to a McCallum touchdown run and a 14-0 lead.

After Kaiser put a touchdown of its own on the board, the Vikings were able to overcome a sack and a false start penalty on the final drive of the first half, taking a 21-7 lead into the break after a 25-yard touchdown strike from Brown to Griffin Seals.

Stuffing the Cats to start the second half, the Vikings added another score to its growing lead when McCallum took the ball 78 yards to the house. A quick Kaiser response kept the game at 28-14 in the third quarter, but the Vikings' methodical offense took advantage of a possession beginning at midfield, subsequently scoring on a McCallum 9-yard score for a 35-14 lead.

The final hope for the Cats in the early stages of the fourth quarter was snuffed out by junior Charles Cravings, who forced a fumble deep in the Vikings' redzone, recovered by senior Carlos Gonzalez-Melchor. The defense was just as potent as the Vikings' offensive rushing game, with both McCallum and Jayden Montanez recording 10 tackles. The Vikings defensive athletes took to the skies as well, as Montanez, Cravings and Manny Lares each recorded a pass deflection against Kaiser.

One final challenge awaits in the Division 9 bracket, that being the Kares of Rio Hondo

SEE **FOOTBALL** PAGE 8

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Leave Turkeys off the Table

Dear Editor:

In the United States alone, 46,000,000 turkeys are killed for Thanksgiving. These 46,000,000 innocent animal lives were taken for no reason.

Of the 245,000,000 turkeys killed in the U.S. in 2022, nearly all were raised in crowded toxic fume-filled sheds, and their talons and beaks were violently clipped to prevent stress-induced aggression. At only sixteen weeks, their throats are cut by industry workers before lowering them into boiling water to remove their feathers.

Human health also pays a hefty price at Thanksgiving. Turkey meat is full of saturated fats and cholesterol, and that elevates risk of heart disease and cancer. Intense prolonged cooking is required to stop the rotting process while also destroying deadly pathogens.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks for our good fortune, health, and happiness with a cruelty-free dinner of plant-based holiday roasts, vegetables, fruits, and more. Try a simple search for "vegan plant-based Thanksgiving" for countless simple, delicious, and nutritious recipes. This year, let's all consider a non-violent, cruelty-free Thanksgiving and leave Turkey off the table.

Sincerely,

Shane Undrow, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY NEWS

CITYWIDE

Clean Your Closets For Charity & Donate to Flair's 21st Annual Holiday Clothing and Shoe Drive

It's time to clean our closets for charity and support the Flair Cleaners 21st Annual Holiday Clothing and Shoe Drive from November 24 through December 31, 2023. Customers and community members can donate at any of Flair Cleaners four locations. Pickup and Delivery customers may leave a clearly marked bag out with their orders. Donations will be given to the National Council of Jewish Women, the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission and The Salvation Army Santa Monica.

"The numbers are staggering: 58,936 people in Los Angeles County are experiencing homelessness and six out of 10 of these are without housing for the first time. Without homes, many of these individuals lack basic needs including clothing and shoes," said Gary Futterman, owner of Flair Cleaners. "This annual event makes it easy for our customers to not only clear their closets of unused items but helps our communities and neighbors in need."

ITEMS NEEDED MOST INCLUDE:

-Clothing in men's, women's, and children's sizes
-Extra-large and tall sizes are needed (XL, XXL, XXXL shirts)
-Business attire
-New socks and undergarments (used items will not be accepted)
-Sun hats and ball caps
-Shoes in men's, women's, and children's sizes
-Coats, beanies, and gloves
-Pajamas, tops and bottoms

REMEMBER THESE TIPS BEFORE DONATING:

-Before donating, consider the dignity of the person receiving your donation.
-Never give something you wouldn't be willing to wear.
-Be sure that all used clothing is clean, of good quality, and ready to wear (no repairs needed).
-Remember to empty all pockets before donating.

Since 1958, Flair Cleaners, a family-owned business, has delivered on its promise to provide exceptional quality and personal service that brings new "life" into clients' wardrobes and home accessories. With four locations – Studio City, Santa Monica, Redondo Beach, and Valencia - and a dedicated Costume & Wardrobe Department, Flair Cleaners has earned a reputation for outstanding quality. It is respected as a trusted pillar of the community due to its family's commitment to eco-friendly cleaning, contributions to the community, and commitment to helping customers look their best. For more information on Flair Cleaners, its community service, or its green environmental practices and awards, visit FlairCleaners.com, or on Facebook and Instagram @FlairCleaners.

SUBMITTED BY PHYLLIS GRABO

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.6**

TUESDAY
POOR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Small mix of steep-angled NW swell, shadowed SW pulse lingering. Offshore Santa Ana flow continues for the morning, potential light wind in the afternoon for beautiful weather.

WEDNESDAY
POOR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Small but clean. Small WNW swell moves in through the day, will show best over the afternoon. Shadowed SW pulse lingering.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 76. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. North northeast wind around 5 mph becoming west in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/11/21	Tue	04:57 AM	4.61	H
2023/11/21	Tue	10:44 AM	2.26	L
2023/11/21	Tue	4:11 PM	4.41	H
2023/11/21	Tue	10:49 PM	0.29	L
2023/11/22	Wed	05:31 AM	5.17	H
2023/11/22	Wed	11:46 AM	1.39	L
2023/11/22	Wed	5:26 PM	4.32	H
2023/11/22	Wed	11:31 PM	0.56	L
2023/11/23	Thu	06:03 AM	5.71	H
2023/11/23	Thu	12:38 PM	0.53	L
2023/11/23	Thu	6:32 PM	4.26	H
2023/11/24	Fri	12:10 AM	0.90	L
2023/11/24	Fri	06:36 AM	6.19	H
2023/11/24	Fri	1:25 PM	-0.20	L
2023/11/24	Fri	7:30 PM	4.19	H
2023/11/25	Sat	12:46 AM	1.26	L
2023/11/25	Sat	07:08 AM	6.53	H
2023/11/25	Sat	2:08 PM	-0.73	L
2023/11/25	Sat	8:22 PM	4.08	H
2023/11/26	Sun	01:21 AM	1.63	L

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/18
34 50 51 61 67
Power#: 20
Jackpot: 295 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/17
6 12 31 33 69
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 289 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/18
1 4 16 29 41
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 16 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/19
29 31 34 36 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/19
EVENING: 0 0 8
Draw Date: 11/19
MIDDAY: 9 3 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/19
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:49.04

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Santa Monica Daily Press

PLANNING

FROM PAGE 1

discourage most builders from using the process.

Planning Commissioner Jim Ries said SB35 was unlikely to unleash a flood of new development because anyone who wanted to build a 50 percent affordable project would most likely just build it at 100 percent affordable and avail themselves of other bonuses and incentives. In addition, he said the cost to build projects under SB35 is a deterrent.

"My clients would do anything to stay away from it, because nobody … cares about the affordability, nobody wants the labor standards and labor standards only going to be increased in this next version," he said.

While projects that did choose to use SB35 can avoid public hearings, they can be subject to "objective design standards" which are minimal rules governing elements of the project's construction.

Riese said he still supported putting those standards in place as a failsafe in case the city did receive a project application.

"Affordable housing projects have always been extremely highly designed and hat's why we see such nice projects throughout the area. But a lot of the reasons they do that is because the communities were so unreceptive to their projects because they were going to be bigger, taller, denser buildings," he said. "I'm not going to guarantee that the level of architectural design for those projects is gonna stay the same because there's a lot of costs in that design."

SB35 is one of several mechanisms in State law that overrides local zoning rules to facilitate housing. Current developments that meet certain thresholds for affordable projects can apply for density bonuses that allow projects to increase in size by 50 percent and bypass local restrictions.

Santa Monica previously lost control of its development process when the first draft of its sixth housing element was rejected by state regulators for being too restrictive. The City regained control after amending its rules and settled a lawsuit with developers that withdrew most of the so called Builder's Remedy projects from the pipeline in exchange for streamlined approval of a handful of specific large projects.

The City Council is set to discuss SB35 and the design standards at their Dec. 12 meeting.

editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

CITYWIDE

Superintendent's Message: Happy Thanksgiving

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff, Students and Community Members,

We are quickly approaching Thanksgiving. I wanted to take some time to say thank you for being the best educational partners and for allowing me to serve as your superintendent. I am thankful for each one of my colleagues and those who continue to lead our wonderful schools.

This system is blessed to have supportive parents, guardians and caregivers at each of our schools. We are also honored to have amazing teachers, staff, school administrators, board members, students, and community partners.

It is important that we take some time during this Thanksgiving season to acknowledge one another and the relationships that we have nurtured over time. I encourage everyone to reflect on what you are thankful for and take some time to be with your loved ones. Time spent with those we care about are special, precious and energizing.

I want to remind everyone that during these few days you will have with your loved ones, consider disconnecting from social media, devices that distract you and focus on the ones you love and care for. I can truly say that all of us need these special moments in our busy world to recharge and refresh. You will certainly be quickly reminded of why you are so thankful.

On a final note, I want to say thank you to all of our parent organizations, staff, and community partners who continue to make Santa Monica and Malibu the best place to educate our students. I am truly thankful for being a part of this one-of-a-kind school community. Without your involvement, care, and concern, our amazing educational community would not be the thriving learning centers that we are. I wish you and your loved ones the best and please know that I am extremely thankful this Thanksgiving season for each one of you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Antonio Shelton

SUBMITTED BY GAIL PINSKER

CITYWIDE

Fairview Branch Library presents an Open House and Children's Holiday Book Fair

On Tuesday, December 5, from noon to 8:00 p.m., the Fairview Branch Library will throw open its doors for an Open House celebration that will welcome back our neighbors and the wider Santa Monica community. Library patrons are invited to bring their cards and learn how to sign up for the branch's unique self-service system, find out a little bit of history of the branch and its place in the Sunset Park Community, browse and check out books and other media, enjoy crafts with the kids, as well as light refreshments. And from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., the branch will host a children's holiday book fair, where kids 18 and under will be able to "shop" for free books for their parents, siblings, or anyone special to them. The library will also provide supplies, and assistance if needed, to wrap their book gifts and have them ready to share this holiday season.

Prior to the library's opening, at 10:30 a.m., the branch will also present a special edition of our Tuesday Tales story time, a traveling story time for children aged 2 to 5. Free tickets will be available 15 minutes prior to the storytime, at 10:15 a.m.

The Fairview Branch is located at 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. This program is free and open to the public. For more information on this and other Library programs, visit smpl.org. All Santa Monica Public Library locations are wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, call (310) 458-8600 one week prior to event. Ride your bike or Big Blue Bus. Bicycle parking racks are available at all Library locations.

SUBMITTED BY ROBERT GRAVES, LIBRARIAN

Fears of political violence are growing as the 2024 campaign heats up and conspiracy theories evolve

ALI SWENSON AND MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

The man who bludgeoned former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband with a hammer last year consumed a steady diet of right-wing conspiracy theories before an attack that took place with the midterm elections less than two weeks away.

As the 2024 presidential campaign heats up, experts on extremism fear the threat of politically motivated violence will intensify. From "Pizzagate" to QAnon and to "Stop the Steal," conspiracy theories that demonized Donald Trump's enemies are morphing and spreading as the front-runner for the 2024 Republican nomination aims for a return to the White House.

"No longer are these conspiracy theories and very divisive and vicious ideologies separated at the fringes," said Jacob Ware, a research fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations who focuses on domestic terrorism. "They're now infiltrating American society on a massive scale."

A federal jury on Thursday convicted David DePape of attacking Paul Pelosi at his San Francisco home on Oct. 28, 2022. Before the verdict, DePape testified that he had intended to hold Nancy Pelosi hostage and "break her kneecaps" if the Democratic lawmaker lied to him while he questioned her about what he viewed as government corruption. She was in Washington at the time of the assault.

In online rants before the attack, DePape echoed tenets of QAnon, a pro-Trump conspiracy theory that has been linked to killings and other crimes. A core belief for QAnon adherents is that Trump has tried to expose a Satan-worshipping, child sex trafficking cabal of prominent Democrats and Hollywood elites.

Trump has amplified social media accounts that promote QAnon, which grew from the far-right fringes of the internet to become a fixture of mainstream Republican politics.

Many rioters who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, espoused QAnon's apocalyptic beliefs online before traveling to the nation's capital for Trump's "Stop the Steal" rally that day. A message board formerly known as TheDonald.win was buzzing with plans for violence days before the siege.

Before QAnon, many Trump supporters embraced the debunked "Pizzagate" conspiracy theory that prominent Democrats were running a child sex trafficking ring out of a Washington pizzeria's (nonexistent) basement. In 2017, a North Carolina man was sentenced to prison for firing a rifle inside the restaurant.

In his 2024 campaign, Trump has ramped up his combative rhetoric with talk of retribution against his enemies. He recently joked about the hammer attack on Paul Pelosi and suggested that retired Gen. Mark Milley, a former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, should be executed for treason.

Threats against lawmakers and election officials are rampant, with targets spanning the nation's political divide: A California man awaits trial on charges that he plotted to kill Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, a Trump nominee, at his Maryland home.

Trump's loss to Democrat Joe Biden in the 2020 election did not end the spread of QAnon-influenced conspiracy theories or its unrealized prophecies. The leaderless movement's ever-changing ideology often adopts beliefs from other conspiracy theories.

"It's been really good at evolving with the times and current events," said Sheehan Kane, data collection manager for the University of Maryland-based Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, or START.

In a 2021 article, Kane and START senior researcher Michael Jensen examined QAnon-inspired crimes committed by 125 adherents since the conspiracy theory originated on the 4chan imageboard in 2017. They found that more "extremist offenders" were connected to QAnon than any other extremist group or movement in the United States.

"In 2020, millions of people were radicalized on behalf of this conspiracy theory. It's really hard to tell who is going to mobilize on behalf of a conspiracy theory," Kane said.

DePape, the Paul Pelosi attacker, testified that his interest in right-wing conspiracy theories started with GamerGate, an online harassment campaign against feminists in the video game industry. Beginning in 2014, misogynistic gamers terrorized female game developers and other women in the industry with rape and death threats.

Brianna Wu, one of GamerGate's original targets, said she wasn't surprised to hear it linked to a politically motivated attack nearly a decade later. Wu said GamerGate emerged from the same online recesses that spawned far-right conspiracy theories such as Pizzagate and QAnon.

"This is a pattern of radicalization that we're seeing over and over and over in every single bit of politics," Wu said. "This is not a right-versus-left issue. This is a radicalization issue that is happening online. We need a policy response."

DePape testified that he went to Nancy Pelosi's home with plans to interrogate her about Russian interference in the 2016 election. He said he intended to wear an inflatable unicorn costume while recording it and then upload the video to the internet.

DePape allegedly told authorities that his other targets included a women's and queer studies professor at the University of Michigan. He told jurors that he heard about the professor while listening to a conservative commentator.

DePape's spiral into conspiracy theories is a textbook tale of radicalization, according to experts on extremism who say that the mainstreaming of false, bigoted and harmful ideas on radio shows, cable news, social media websites and other public online forums has made them far more accessible.

SEE **POLITICS** PAGE 11

ChatGPT-maker OpenAI fires CEO Sam Altman, the face of the AI boom, for lack of candor with company

MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology writer

ChatGPT-maker Open AI said Friday it has pushed out its co-founder and CEO Sam Altman after a review found he was "not consistently candid in his communications" with the board of directors.

"The board no longer has confidence in his ability to continue leading OpenAI," the artificial intelligence company said in a statement.

In the year since Altman catapulted ChatGPT to global fame, he has become Silicon Valley's sought-after voice on the promise and potential dangers of artificial intelligence and his sudden and mostly unexplained exit brought uncertainty to the industry's future.

Mira Murati, OpenAI's chief technology officer, will take over as interim CEO effective immediately, the company said, while it searches for a permanent replacement.

The announcement also said another OpenAI co-founder and top executive, Greg Brockman, the board's chairman, would step down from that role but remain at the company, where he serves as president. But later on X, formerly Twitter, Brockman posted a message he sent to OpenAI employees in which he wrote, "based on today's news, i quit."

In another X post on Friday night, Brockman said Altman was asked to join a video meeting at noon Friday with the company's board members, minus Brockman, during which OpenAI co-founder and Chief Scientist Ilya Sutskever informed Altman he was being fired.

"Sam and I are shocked and saddened by what the board did today," Brockman wrote, adding that he was informed of his removal from the board in a separate call with Sutskever a short time later.

OpenAI declined to answer questions on what Altman's alleged lack of candor was about. The statement said his behavior was hindering the board's ability to exercise its responsibilities.

Altman posted Friday on X: "i loved my time at openai. it was transformative for me personally, and hopefully the world a little bit. most of all i loved working with such talented people. will have more to say about what's next later."

In another post on X early Saturday morning, he called what happened a "weird experience" and thanked his followers for the "outpouring of love."

"it has been sorta like reading your own eulogy while you're still alive," Altman wrote.

The Associated Press and OpenAI have a licensing and technology agreement allowing OpenAI access to part of the AP's text archives.

Altman helped start OpenAI as a nonprofit research laboratory in 2015. But it was ChatGPT's explosion into public consciousness that thrust Altman into the spotlight as a face of generative AI — technology that can produce novel imagery, passages of text and other media. On a world tour this year, he was mobbed by a crowd of adoring fans at an event in London.

He's sat with multiple heads of state to discuss AI's potential and perils. Just Thursday, he took part in a CEO summit at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation conference in San Francisco, where OpenAI is based.

He predicted AI will prove to be "the greatest leap forward of any of the big technological revolutions we've had so far." He also acknowledged the need for guardrails, calling attention to the existential dangers future AI could pose.

Some computer scientists have criticized that focus on far-off risks as distracting from the real-world limitations and harms of current AI products. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission has launched an investigation into whether OpenAI violated consumer protection laws by scraping public data and publishing false information through its chatbot.

The company said its board consists of OpenAI's chief scientist, Ilya Sutskever, and three nonemployees: Quora CEO Adam D'Angelo, tech entrepreneur Tasha McCauley and Helen Toner of the Georgetown Center for Security and Emerging Technology.

OpenAI's key business partner, Microsoft, which has invested billions of dollars into the startup and helped provide the computing power to run its AI systems, said that the transition won't affect its relationship.

"We have a long-term partnership with OpenAI and Microsoft remains committed to Mira and their team as we bring this next era of AI to our customers," said an emailed Microsoft statement.

While not trained as an AI engineer, Altman, now 38, has been seen as a Silicon Valley wunderkind since his early 20s. He was recruited in 2014 to take lead of the startup incubator YCombinator.

OpenAI started out as a nonprofit when it launched with financial backing from Tesla CEO Elon Musk and others. Its stated aims were to "advance digital intelligence in the way that is most likely to benefit humanity as a whole, unconstrained by a need to generate financial return."

That changed in 2018 when it incorporated a for-profit business Open AI LP, and shifted nearly all its staff into the business, not long after releasing its first generation of the GPT large language model for mimicking human writing. Around the same time, Musk, who had co-chaired its board with Altman, resigned from the board in a move that OpenAI said would eliminate a "potential future conflict for Elon" due to Tesla's work on building self-driving systems.

SEE AI PAGE 11

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Los Angeles freeway is fully reopened after arson fire, just in time for Monday morning's rush hour

CHRISTOPHER WEBER AND STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Los Angeles drivers returned to a much more normal commute Monday when an elevated stretch of a major freeway reopened well ahead of original estimates following a raging arson fire that shut down the roadway for more than a week.

The section of Interstate 10 south of downtown reopened Sunday night, and authorities assured commuters that the freeway is safe after emergency work to shore up the structure until permanent repairs of scorched support columns can be completed.

"Yes, the 10 is open," declared Laura Rubio-Cornejo, general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, during a morning briefing on the status of the interstate, which carries about 300,000 vehicles a day and connects to other major routes.

The early morning inferno on Nov. 11 was fed by flammable materials stored under the roadway in violation of a company's lease.

Initial worst-case scenarios raised the possibility that the section of freeway might have to be demolished and rebuilt. Officials then said tests showed it could be repaired in three to five weeks and that, with massive bracing in place, traffic could return much sooner.

Officials said last week that all lanes were expected to reopen by Tuesday, but moved it up after significant progress during around-the-clock work.

"It wasn't just speed that we were after. We wanted to make sure this thing was safe," Gov. Gavin Newsom said at a Sunday news conference, joined by Vice President Kamala Harris, U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla and Mayor Karen Bass.

"This is a great day in our city," Bass said. "Let me thank everyone who worked 24 hours to make this effort happen."

Most of the repair work will be done underneath the road deck, but future lane closures were possible, officials said. Some freeway ramps and nearby streets remained closed, but traffic officers were deployed in the area to direct traffic.

The Federal Highway Administration last week provided $3 million in "quick release" funds to repair the damage and said additional funds would be available from its emergency relief program.

Investigators have not said how the fire was started. On Saturday, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the state fire marshal's office said they're seeking help locating a "person of interest" and released two photos on social media showing a man in his 30s with a brace on his right knee and apparent burn injuries on his left leg.

State investigators had identified fire and safety hazards at a leased storage space under the interstate several times before it burned in the fire, documents show. The California Department of Transportation, or Caltrans, released the documents Friday.

The blaze was fed by pallets, cars, construction materials, hand sanitizer and other items being stored under the freeway as part of a program that now is under scrutiny. Newsom has said the state will reassess the practice of leasing such lands.

Apex Development Inc. has leased the land under I-10 since 2008. Although one condition of the contract stipulated that it not allow the storage of flammable or hazardous materials there, state inspectors have visited the site six times since early 2020 and flagged problematic conditions for years.

"This is a filthy unmaintained lease," inspector Daryl Myatt wrote in a 2022 report after a surprise inspection discovered solvents, oils, fuels and other items barred by the agreement. "This area has been utilized since the mid-1970s and looks like it."

Owners of two of the companies that subleased the property said they also had warned of a fire danger and other hazards related to homeless people living under the freeway. Newsom previously said that while subleasing can be legal if the company received permission from state and federal regulators, Apex did not.

In September, state officials filed a lawsuit against Apex saying it owes $78,000 in unpaid rent. A hearing is scheduled next year.

The state's most recent spot inspection, a little more than a month before the Nov. 11 fire, found "numerous lease violations," but the documents released Friday didn't elaborate.

Caltrans had "informed Apex Development of the need to address violations, especially those creating safety hazards," the agency said in a statement.

Mainak D'Attaray, an attorney for Apex Development, said Wednesday that the company is not to blame for the fire, adding the company hasn't been able to access the premises since October.

"Apex rented and improved the rundown yard and made substantial capital investments during the period that it had possession of the yard," D'Attaray's statement added. "Caltrans inspected the premises periodically, at least once a year, and CalTrans was fully aware of the sublessees and their operations. Even the State of California's Fire Marshall inspected the premises."

D'Attaray did not respond to a request for comment Saturday.

Izzy Gardon, a spokesperson for the governor, last week disagreed with D'Attaray's statement that Apex is not to blame. Gardon said that Cal Fire believes it was caused by arson "in a fenced-off area that Apex was responsible for maintaining while they continued to assert rights under the lease."

No injuries were reported in the fire, but at least 16 homeless people living in an encampment there were taken to shelters.

Associated Press writer Sophia Tareen contributed from Chicago.

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By West LA Baby Boomers Insurance Services (Broker-Multiple Plans Presented)

10 a.m. Tuesday, November 28th
By CHM Insurance Services (Broker-Multiple Plans Presented)

10 a.m. Wednesday, November 29th
By United Healthcare

Enrollment in a plan may be limited to certain times of the year unless you qualify for a special election/enrollment period or you are in your Medicare Initial Election Period. Not all plans offer all benefits mentioned. This ad is not from the government. It's from eHealth, an insurance agency selling plans from many insurance companies. For accommodations of persons with special needs at workshops, call 1-866-909-3627 (TTY/TDD 711). A licensed insurance agent will be present with information and applications. CHM Insurance Services, West LA Baby Boomer Insurance Services, Clear Financial Insurance Services, AGA, Avanti Insurance Solutions, Inc., and Paul Davis Insurance Services represent various Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) with Medicare contracts. Workshops are provided by the entities noted and are not affiliated with eHealth.

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 2

Prep, who have scorched opponents en route to a 12-1 record in 2023. The Kares have relied on a dominant defense and balanced running game throughout the season, scoring 34.2 points per contest and holding opponents to 14.8 points per game. The team's offense relies on a two-headed monster in the running game, racking up 1,108 yards from sophomore Noah Penunuri and another 888 from junior Nate Curtis. On defense, the Karen have four players with at least 55 tackles this season.

Action between the Vikings and Kares begins at 7 p.m. on Friday at Samohi. The Vikings are 3-3 at home this season, while the Kares are 5-1 on the road.

SAMOHI FOOTBALL:

Friday, November 17- Vikings at Kaiser, CIF Southern Section Division 9 Semi-Finals

Samohi wins 35-21

Passing:

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 5-9, 71 yds, 14.2 YPC, TD

Rushing:

Caden McCallum (#5, Senior): 29 carries, 240 yds, 8.3 YPC, 3 TD

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 11 carries, 26 yds, TD

Isaiah Fernandez (#22, Sophomore): 2 carries, 27 yds, 13.5 YPC

Receiving:

Griffin Seals (#15, Senior): 3 rec, 59 yds, 19.7 YPC, TD

Charles Cravings (#3, Junior): 1 rec, 9 yds, 9.0 YPC

Caden McCallum (#5, Senior): 1 rec, 3 yds, 3.0 YPC

Defense:

Caden McCallum (#5, Senior): 10 tackles (6 solo, 4 asst)

Jayden Montanez (#71, Senior): 10 tackles (4 solo, 6 asst), 2 Tackles For Loss, 0.5 Sack, Pass Deflection

Manny Lares (#24, Junior): 6 tackles (5 solo, 1 asst), Pass Deflection

Charles Cravings (#3, Junior): 4 tackles (2 solo, 2 asst), Pass Deflection, Forced Fumble

Amir Jahromi (#57, Senior): 4 tackles (1 solo, 3 asst), 1 Tackle For Loss, 0.5 Sack

David Solid-Valdovinos (#9, Senior): 3 tackles (2 solo, 1 asst)

Jeremy Guerrero (#10, Junior): 3 tackles (1 solo, 2 asst), Forced Fumble

Darian Hawkins (#20, Sophomore): 2 tackles (1 solo, 1 asst)

Isaiah Fernandez (#22, Sophomore): 2 tackles (2 asst)

Theo Naessens-Dowling (#4, Senior): 1 tackle (1 solo)

Carlos Gonzalez-Melchor (#44, Senior): 1 tackle (1 asst), Fumble Recovery

Samuel Reynoso (#45, Junior): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Maui Williams (#51, Freshman): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Beto Villasnor (#79, Senior): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Paco Vandenbrook (#89, Senior): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Ryland Hawkins (#75, Senior): 1 tackle (1 asst), Fumble Recovery

Aaron Heirigs (#49, Sophomore): 1 tackle (1 asst)

Payton Seals (#14, Sophomore): Fumble Recovery

Special Teams:

Osbaldo Rivera (#18, Junior): 5-5 PAT

Wyatt Brown (#7, Sophomore): 3 Punts, 112 yds, 37.3 YPP

Jeremy Guerrero (#10, Junior): 2 Kickoff Returns, 54 yds, 27.0 YPR

Manny Lares (#24, Junior): 1 Kickoff Return, 20 yds, 20.0 YPR

Next Game: Friday, November 24- Vikings vs Rio Hondo Prep, CIF Southern Section Division 9 Championship

SAMOHI GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY:

Saturday, November 18- CIF Southern Section Finals, Mt. San Antonio College

3-Mile Division 1 Race:

Santiago (Corona)- 49

Traduce Hills- 65

Saugus- 156

Vista Murrieta- 157

Great Oak- 157

Crescenta Valley- 174

Redondo Union- 207

Huntington Beach- 210

Martin Luther King- 241

San Clemente- 241

Poly (Long Beach)- 243

Mira Costa- 248

Santa Monica- 261

Phoebe Benun (Junior): 16:45.9, 7th overall

Hawene Alomayehu (Senior): 18:28.4, 52nd overall

Cleo Topp (Junior): 18:39.7, 67th overall

Matilde Martinez (Senior): 18:50.0, 72nd overall

Crystal Gaitan (Sophomore): 19:16.1, 89th overall

Selin Kocataskin (Freshman): 19:19.6, 93rd overall

Next Meet: Phoebe Benun qualified for CIF State Meet, Saturday, November 24 in Fresno

SAMOHI BOYS BASKETBALL:

Tuesday, November 14- Vikings vs Los Angeles

Vikings win 60-37

Saturday, November 18- Vikings at Cerritos

Vikings win 53-50

Jayden Xu (#5, Junior): 21 points

Anton Berge Wells (#32, Senior): 13 points

Brenton Banister (#1, Junior): 5 points

Xavier Seldon (#10, Junior): 5 points

Holden Hendrickson (#15, Senior): 4 points

Onieli Thruston (#2, Sophomore): 3 points

Miles Price (#22, Junior): 2 points

Vikings Record: 2-0

Next Game: Tuesday, November 20- Vikings at Oaks Christian

Samohi Girls Basketball:

Wednesday, November 15- Lady Vikings vs Leuzinger

Leuzinger wins 60-27

Thursday, November 16- Lady Vikings vs San Pedro

Lady Vikings win 57-12

Friday, November 17- Lady Vikings vs Hamilton

Hamilton wins 76-24

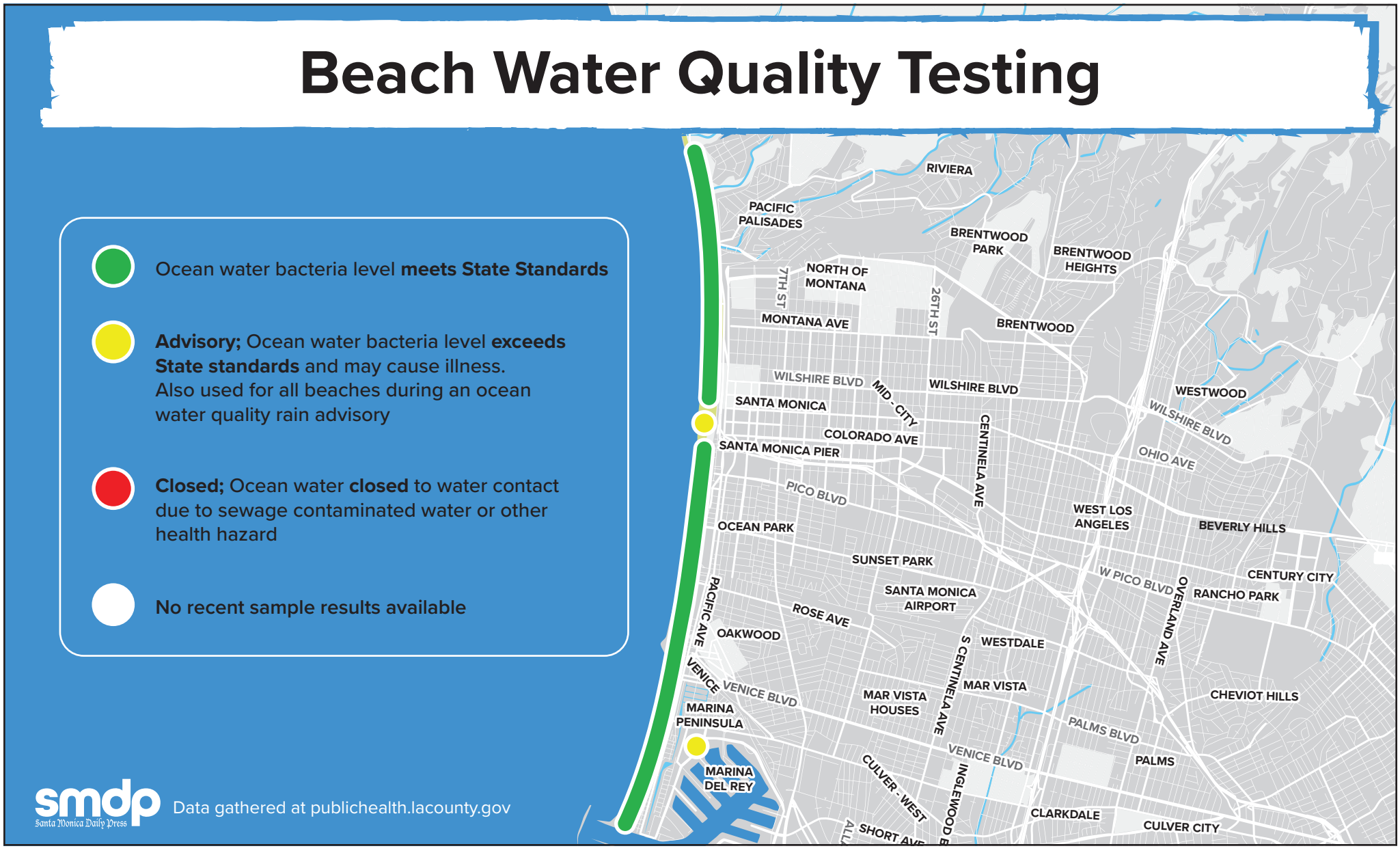
Saturday, November 18- Lady Vikings vs Alemany

Alemany wins 51-21

Lady Vikings Record: 1-3

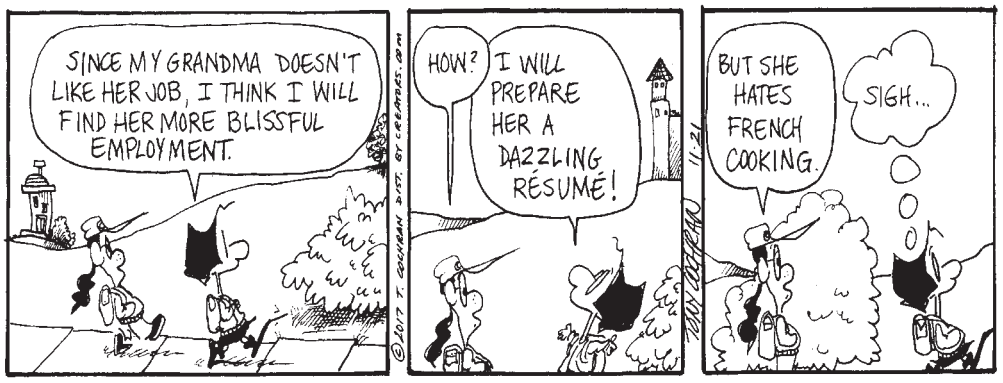
Next Game: Tuesday, November 28- Lady Vikings vs Granada Hills Charter

thomas@smdp.com



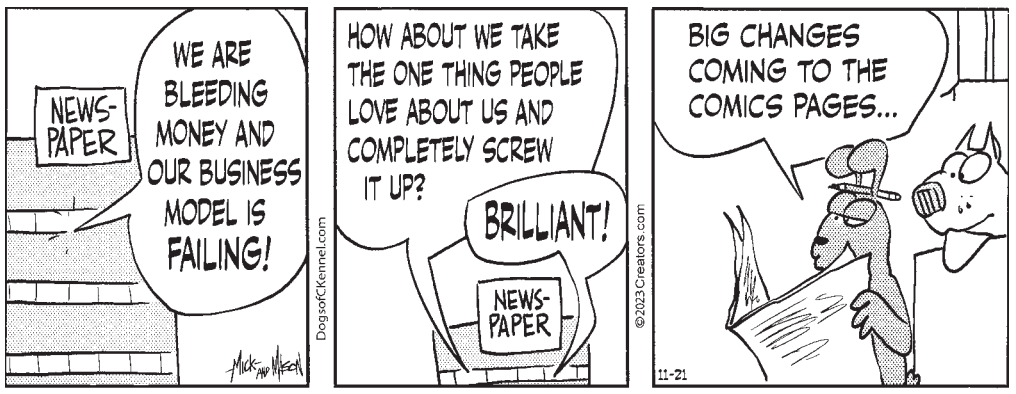
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

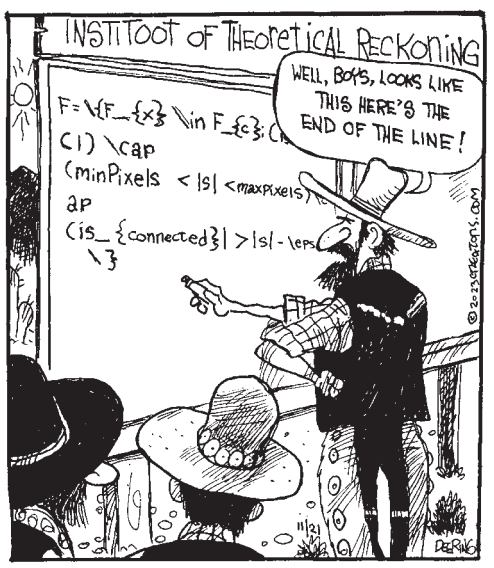
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY LOVE VAN SLUG."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6035

Weather forecast

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

Air conditioning	Freeze	Lows	Star
Alert	Frost	Maps	Steamy
Aurora	Global	Measure	Swim
Aware	Gripe	Melt	Tempest
Change	Gusts	Mild	Thaw
Coast	Hail	Misty	Thunder
Cool	Haze	Moon	Tides
Cycle	Heat	Path	Tired
Damp	Hot	Radio	Vane
Drier	Humid	Rain	Veldt
Fine	Inland	Sleet	Wave
Flood	Intensify	Smog	Weekly
	Latitude	Snow	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 21)

Your creativity knows no bounds this year and a never-ending well of innovation is available for tapping. And since your heart is full of compassion, you'll often apply your talent solving the troubles of those around you. More highlights: a lucrative sale, the loyalty and poetry of an avid admirer, and numbers such as grades and scores to celebrate. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 24, 19, 40 and 6.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Of all the things in life to be wasted, time is the most precious. You'll spend yours especially well and enjoy the lovely mood that comes with knowing you are making the most of every delicious moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There are hard-to influence people standing between you and what you want, but your charms are like a super-power. Go in with a strategy, but be ready to change your plan and rely on your instinct.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). How well do your short-term aims align with the big picture? If they are off by a lot, motivation and morale will suffer. If they are off by a little, it will feel like there's friction holding you back. Take the time for a reset, and tinker until you get the plan right.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When your work requires you to exercise your strengths and use your talents, it will not be drudgery. You will find joy in the task, and so will those around you because your energy is contagious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In attempting to make things feel right, you'll make them look right, too. So while you weren't going for "magazine lovely", that will be the result of your efforts to harmonize emotional and aesthetic elements of your environment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll assert a quiet, persistent and ego-less influence. It's more important to you to see a project move forward or help a person in their development than it is to get your way or forward your name.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When others do not yet recognize the specialness of your contributions, you'll consider yourself lucky. This freedom to experiment as you wish without worrying about meeting anyone's expectation is a gift!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Ambition is a demanding boss. Balance your drive with self-care, including such things as rest, silliness and time with friends, doing nothing in particular. This is the sustainable approach that will prevent burnout.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't worry about starting things off on the right foot. Just lean forward and use whichever foot naturally juts out to keep you from falling. All progress will be like walking -- tilt, catch yourself, repeat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While you do have innate talent for reading people, no one is perpetually or universally adept at human interaction. It's called "social *skill*" because it can be learned. Smoothness takes time and practice.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll receive undivided attention with a focus on the things you most want to be seen and most crave acknowledgment for. You'll love connection with someone who cares about the same things as you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A wish went unmet and now you don't want it nearly as much. Chasing led you to the place you are now, and all the appeal of this thing belongs in the past. You're headed toward a future with much more to offer you.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

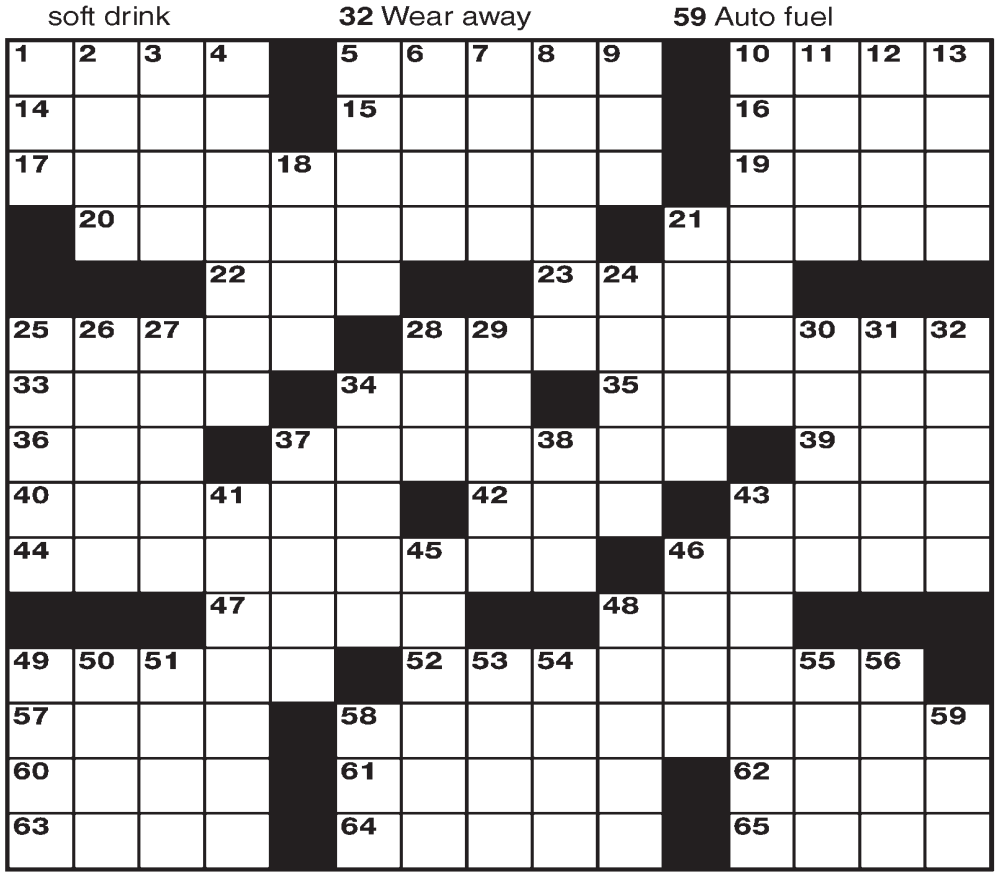
FROM SIDE TO SIDE by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Hair on an eyelid
5 Don't play fair
10 Napper's spot
14 Regarding, in memos
15 Mrs. George W. Bush
16 Located above
17 Side __ (driver's vision aid)
19 Consider to be
20 In no particular order
21 Trousers
22 Sheepskin boot brand
23 On the summit of
25 Diploma recipients, for short
28 __ side (shove out of the way)
33 Any formal ceremony
34 Family room
35 Nanny from another country
36 Long __ (way back)
37 Grenades and swords
39 Boxing match ender, for short
40 Islamic ruler
42 Annoy
43 Are unable to do without
44 Side-__ (very funny)
46 Concise in wording
47 Disorganized jumble
48 Day after Wed.
49 Runner in the lead
52 "Oh, really?"
57 Triple-decker cookie
58 __ side (bad way to get out of bed)
60 __-addressed stamped envelope
61 Goes bad, as milk
62 Operatic solo
63 Fifty percent
64 Excessive, as force
65 Allows

DOWN

1 Washroom, briefly
2 India's continent
3 Editor's "don't delete"
4 "Very impolite!"
5 Stick (to), as wet paper to glass
6 Difficult
7 Money in Italy and France
8 Enticing smells
9 Paving goo
10 Any carbonated soft drink
11 Baker's appliance
12 Twelve-inch measures
13 Limbs inside sleeves
18 Periodicals, for short
21 Acronym for the Oval Office VIP
24 Show gratitude to
25 Lawn growth
26 Assemble haphazardly
27 Coral reef island
28 Veggie in a pod
29 Remove, as a corsage
30 Wild West movie
31 Alternatives to Reeboks
32 Wear away
34 Minor fender flaws
37 What fills a reservoir
38 Nonprofit's URL ender
41 A few days' break from work
43 Not taking sides
45 Knows all about
46 Start to melt
48 The things here
49 Luxurious
50 Square footage
51 Mobile phone
53 Buttonlike earring
54 Drive-__ window
55 With achy muscles
56 "Put a lid __!"
58 Columbus campus: Abbr.
59 Auto fuel



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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

FARM

FROM PAGE 1

Will Rogers students are incorporated in practices like cover crops, tree intercropping, compost from the school's food scraps, and the planting of pollinator flowers that are drought-resistant.

"Our farm is a place where children engage in math, science and other subjects, through firsthand experience working on the farm," Will Rogers Principal Lila Daruty said at a recent meeting of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education. "Many families … join us on the farm, and there is so much to do and learn there."

During the early goings of the 2023-24 school year, the farm has attracted the attention of more people than ever, gaining quite a crowd for the school's fall festival. Along with a food market from outside vendors, locals were able to trek through the farm which features three native plant gardens, a reflection garden, a dwarf fruit tree orchard, a composting station and an outdoor classroom.

Will Rogers also hosts family farming and beautification days on Saturday mornings, a chance for parents to become involved with the upkeep of the area and see what their children have been learning. At the latest beautification day on Nov. 4, volunteers organized the farm's tool shed, planted succulents, and installed medallions decorated by Will Rogers students on the farm's gate.

thomas@smdp.com

POLITICS

FROM PAGE 4

The problem is exacerbated by lax content moderation on social media and a growing "conspiracy-creating cottage industry" looking to use extreme rhetoric to cash in or widen their audience, said American University professor Brian Hughes, associate director of the Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Lab.

"Some of the people in that wide audience are going to be people like DePape, who are intentionally going to commit an act of violence based on this false and harmful information that they've been served," Hughes said.

Conspiracy theories are alluring by design, driving some who are susceptible to them to completely immerse themselves, said Amarnath Amarasingam, an extremism researcher and professor at Queen's University in Canada. DePape testified that before the attack, he frequently played video games for hours on end while listening to political podcasts.

Repeatedly hearing that the political opponents or government leaders are responsible for evil acts give believers a scapegoat for their troubles and a "moral mission" to do something about it, Amarasingam said.

American election years are often characterized by violence, said Ware, of the Council on Foreign Relations, whether it's hate crimes in response to a particular candidate's identity or violent reactions to unfavorable results. "So we should absolutely expect such incidents in 2024," he said.

Trump's return to the ballot next year, as well as his current legal battles, are sure to amplify politicized rhetoric and could drive more extremist violence, experts said.

"Donald Trump has a knack for tacitly endorsing violence without saying anything that's really a clear endorsement of it, necessarily," Hughes said.

To combat potential violence, Americans should try to turn down the temperature of political rhetoric and look out for loved ones who may be spiraling down a path toward radicalization, experts said.

"Spending hours and hours consuming conspiracy theory material is intoxicating," Hughes said. "It anesthetizes you from the worries of your day to day life in the same way that certain drugs do. And I think that we need to reorient our thinking a little bit in that direction, so that we can begin to view this as the public health problem that it really is."

Associated Press writer Olga R. Rodriguez in San Francisco contributed to this report.

AI

FROM PAGE 5

While OpenAI's board has preserved its nonprofit governance structure, the startup it oversees has increasingly sought to capitalize on its technology by tailoring its popular chatbot to business customers.

At its first developer conference last week, Altman was the main speaker showcasing a vision for a future of AI agents that could help people with a variety of tasks. Days later, he announced the company would have to pause new subscriptions to its premium version of ChatGPT because it had exceeded capacity.

Altman's exit "is indeed shocking as he has been the face of" generative AI technology, said Gartner analyst Arun Chandrasekaran.

He said OpenAI still has a "deep bench of technical leaders" but its next executives will have to steer it through the challenges of scaling the business and meeting the expectations of regulators and society.

Wedbush analyst Dan Ives said he sees Altman's firing as a "black eye" for OpenAI and one that's likely to have ripple effects across Silicon Valley and Wall Street. He also speculated Altman's exit might complicate things for Microsoft.

"Altman goes from a friend to potentially a foe," Ives said.

Altman has a number of possible next steps. Even while running OpenAI, he placed large bets on several other ambitious projects.

Among them are Helion Energy, for developing fusion reactors that could produce prodigious amounts of energy from the hydrogen in seawater, and Retro Biosciences, which aims to add 10 years to the human lifespan using biotechnology. Altman also co-founded Worldcoin, a biometric and cryptocurrency project that's been scanning people's eyeballs with the goal of creating a vast digital identity and financial network.

Associated Press business writers Haleluya Hadero in New York, Kelvin Chan in London and Michael Liedtke and David Hamilton in San Francisco contributed to this report.



TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 21

GAME DAY FOR TEENS

Celebrate International Games Month by playing board games at the library. Explore new adventures, solve murders, and give your heart to a princess. Teen session for ages 10-18. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 4 - 6 p.m.

DROP-IN EVENT: HANDS-ONLY CPR

Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 2 - 4 p.m.

AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

The Audit Subcommittee meets quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday starting at 6:00 P.M. This meeting will be held in-person at the Santa Monica Institute Training Room, 330 Olympic Drive, 2nd Floor (Plaza Level). 6 p.m.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION

This community-led, monthly book discussion group currently meets online/virtually via Zoom. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. October's selection is The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson. November's is The Last Party by Claire Mackintosh. 7 - 8 p.m.

THE NO CHASERS

The No Chasers are hailed as one of the greatest cover groups around SoCal. Their charm is summed up in one sentence "All young people, playing old music." Though most of their set includes classics from the 50s - 70s, they can pull out goodies from all genres and decades, from Beatles to Pink Floyd and Elvis to Ed Sheeran. The No Chasers have been professionally active since 2018 and include musicians who also write and gig in other bands together. Doors open at 8 p.m. at Harvelle's Santa Monica. Show starts at 9:30PM. Tickets available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum.

WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 22

PRIDE NIGHT | | WEDNESDAYS ON ICE

Celebrate the season with your chosen family at Ice at Santa Monica. Join them for a festive night celebrating Santa Monica's LGBTQ+ community. $20

ANIMAL FEEDING DEMONSTRATIONS

Swim by and visit the Heal the Bay Aquarium at 1600 Ocean Front Walk, Santa Monica, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to observe local marine animals, and watch live feeding demonstrations by Aquarium staff.

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 23

THANKSGIVING IN VENICE 2023- COME HELP FEED THE HOMELESS

For the past 11 years, a large group of volunteers ranging from all ages... come together to feed, clothed, handout toiletries and many smiles to the less fortunate community of Venice Beach. We successfully have had over 300 volunteers each event and served over 4000 people who may not have a family to spend the holidays with, and are living on the streets. Rose Ave. $10. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thanksgiving-in-venice-2023-come-help-feed-the-homeless-tickets-704950555087

THANKSGIVING AT HARVELLE'S

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. After a long day of turkey, football and family, what you really need is drink! Come join us for a flammable home made egg nog and tunes spun by Charlie X! Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th St,

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 24

REVIVAL PRESENTS 5 BANDS FOR 5 BUCKS

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Harvelle's Santa Monica
1432 4th St,

KARL DENSON'S TINY UNIVERSE

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West, 1717 Lincoln Blvd, 8 p.m. $40

COMING OUT WEST: LGBTQ+ ELDERS SHARE THEIR STORIES

Santa Monica History Museum and The Outwords Archive present an exhibition of oral histories, ephemera, and historical objects from LGBTQ+ elders with ties to Los Angeles and the Santa Monica Bay area. Featured in the exhibition are celebrated members of the LGBTQ+ community: Jewel Thais-Williams, proprietor of the renowned LGBTQ club Jewel's Catch One. Chuck Williams, namesake of the venerated Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. Judy Abdo, former Santa Monica city councilperson and one of the nation's first out-lesbian mayors. L Frank, Tongva-Ajachmem artist, writer, activist and tribal scholar. Event takes place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Santa Monica History Museum, 1350 7th Street, Santa Monica. $5, free for kids, seniors, students, active duty military members and SNAP cards.

COMEDY SHOW: THE IRL SHOW

Finally, a pro-level stand-up comedy show for high school teens 13 and up. Catch comics from Comedy Central, HBO, and late-night TV doing their best PG-13 material. Talk to the comics after the show to meet and learn from the best! Begins at The Crow, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Santa Monica at 8 p.m. with 7 p.m. free teen open mic. Tickets $10 with student ID, $15 general admission.

SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 25

EAST PICO SAFETY PROJECT POP UP AT TRADER JOE'S

The East Pico Safety Project Team will be at the Santa Monica Mobile Food Pantry at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave., collecting feedback about people's lived experiences on East Pico Boulevard between 28th Street/Stewart Street and Centinela Avenue. The project will explore improvements to maximize safety by implementing quick build improvements along the corridor. Trader Joes, 3212 Pico Boulevard, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SATURDAY NIGHT VIBES AT TAVERN ON MAIN

Tavern on Main knows that everybody's been working for the weekend! Keep those vibes going with killer cocktails, food and hot tunes provided by a variety of seriously talented DJs every Saturday from 9pm to 1am Tavern on Main, 2907 Main St

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