

**Election 2024**

# New Faces Aren't All That Prevail

## Klopfenstein leads as GG mayor; 3 HB incumbents are swept out

Returns in local elections in our West Orange County area are showing success to many new faces and returns to familiar places by others.

As of 3 a.m. Wednesday, based on results posted by the Orange County Registrar of Voters, here are some of the outcomes.

State Senator Janet Nguyen (R-36th District) has defeated Frances Marquez for the First District seat on the Orange County Board of Supervisors. She had previously held that post from 2007 to 2014.

Rep. Michelle Steel (Republican) has kept her 45th District seat in the House of Representatives, defeating Democrat Derek Tran.

Republican Scott Baugh is leading in the 47th District House race over Dave Min, a Democrat. Baugh had served in the state Assembly 1995-2000.

In **Garden Grove**, Councilmember Stephanie Klopfenstein appears to be the winner of the mayor's post, leading former council member Diedre Thu-Ha Nguyen by about 1,500 votes.

The city council will have three new members: Phillip Nguyen (District 2), Yesenia Muneton (District 5) and Tri Lam (District 6), all of them relatively unknown.

In **Huntington Beach**, the three liberal members of the city council appear to have been swept from office. The winners are Chad Williams, Butch Twining and Don Kennedy, unseating incumbents Natalie Moser, Dan Kalmick and Rhonda Bolton.

Incumbent Hong Alyce Van has been defeated by Victor Barrios for the **Stanton** City Council District 2 seat, and John Douglas Warren has won in District 4.

In **Westminster**, Carlos Manzo successfully defended his District 2 city council seat. New to the District 3 post will be Mark Nguyen.

Ballot measures submitted to voters show Measure

Continued on page 2



**“STRAWBERRY ZEST”** is newest landmark for Garden Grove. The sculpture – created by Jennifer Stewart – was unveiled Monday at the fire station on Valley View Street. (Orange County Tribune photo).

## New sculpture adds ‘Zest’ to West G. Grove streetscape

By **Jim Tortolano**  
Orange County Tribune

On a more modest scale, West Garden Grove – indeed, all of Garden Grove – now has its Statue of Liberty, its Hollywood Sign, its Golden Gate Bridge.

It’s called the “Strawberry Zest.”

On Monday, a sculpture depicting Garden Grove – a strawberry – arising from its roots as part of agricultural Orange County was unveiled at its permanent home in front of a fire station on Valley View Street,

a short distance south of Chapman Ave.

A crowd of dignitaries, community leaders and curious passersby watched as the wraps came off the 960-pound creation shining in the sun.

“Public art is transformative,” said Mayor Steve Jones. “A casual glance at an amazing piece like this can take us away to a different place entirely.”

It has, he said, the power to take the passersby away from the “daily grind of life.”

The audience applauded and cheered as the tarp

was pulled away on the work by local artist and restaurant owner Jennifer Stewart, who conceived of the design, did the sculpting work and shepherded it from conception to completion.

“I just want to say thank you to all the people here, all the people who supported me,” said Stewart.

“A couple of days ago when they lowered this [960-pound] monster into place, it was quite the nail-biting experience, but they” – city public works crews – “were very patient

Continued on page 2

# 'Zest' unveiled on Valley View

Continued from page 1

with me and very supportive.” Jones also complimented City Councilmember George Brietigam for his “five years” of work on the project, which was originally inspired by his predecessor, Councilmember Kris Beard.

“Zest” isn’t just for the west side. A smaller version will be on display in an alcove in City Hall, and there’s been discussion of using the design for promotional purposes such as logos, signs and other branding uses.

# Local election results

Continued from page 1

U – a charter amendment that would require a public vote to approve certain developments in Huntington Beach – winning, as

well as Measure HH, which will impose term limits on Stanton’s mayor.

Tri Ta, Republican, has successfully defended his 70th District State Assembly seat, defeating Democrat Jimmy Pham by a wide margin.

Results for the **Garden Grove Unified School District** show incumbent Teri Rocco a winner over challenger Nicholas Dibs in Trustee Area 1, and incumbent Dina Nguyen (Trustee Area 5) over Khai Dao.

For the **Huntington Beach City School District** Trustee Area 1, Brian Burley has a small lead over Cindy Barrios.

In the **Ocean View School District**, incumbent Gina Clayton-Tarvin and Keri Corsage are leading in the race for two seats with David Clifford a close third.

In the **Huntington Beach Union High School District**, Susan Henry defeated LeeAnn Corral in the Trustee Area 3 race.



DOGS AND CATS AGREE:

## “We love Dr. Leung!”

- Looking for a veterinarian who is:
- compassionate? • experienced?
- fair-priced? • conveniently-located?

**Alamitos Animal Hospital** is a full-service facility and will treat urgent and routine medical, surgical, and dental issues. Albert Leung is experienced in all types of conditions and treatments. Beyond first-rate pet care, we make our clinic comfortable, kid-friendly, and a very calm environment so your pet – and you – can relax in the waiting room.



**7122 Garden Grove Blvd., Westminster**  
(just west of Knott and Goldenwest)  
Call (714) 893-3591 or go to:  
**Alamitosanimalhospital.com**  
Open Monday through Saturday

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

# You have friends in Real Estate



The team of **Scott and Rebecca Weimer** will put their 74 years of combined experience and expertise to work for you. They are caring, honest, knowledgeable, hard-working and ethical. They’ve put the client’s best interests first since 1978.

They offer diversified real estate sales and services with the personal touch.



# Weimer & Associates

AN INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

714-534-0992

12866 Main St,  
Suite 100, Garden Grove  
Garden Grove CA 92840



Save money on your business phone service

Receive multiple quotes from top-rated VoIP providers

(714) 820-9007

# The Tribune

**Jim Tortolano**  
Editor and Publisher  
**Marilyn Lewis Tortolano**  
General Manager

The Orange County Tribune is published on Wednesdays and Saturdays with some exceptions. Address is 9402 Luders Ave., Garden Grove, 92844.

E-mail : orangecountytribune@gmail.com.

www.orangecountytribune.com.  
Phone: (714) 458-1860.

Established Aug. 6, 2016. All opinions expressed in The Tribune, unless otherwise stated, are those of the individual writer or artist and not necessarily those of The Tribune.



**Great Food & Atmosphere for the Whole Family!**

Enjoy our crazy Elvis-themed restaurant serving Awesome Mexican Food!



*In the mood to sing?* Join us for Family Karaoke on Friday & Saturday nights.



**Phuc Long Coffee & Tea**  
Authentic Vietnamese Coffee & Boba Tea

Start your happy day with a cup of coffee  
Start your fun day with a boba milk tea

**10% off**  
When Mention  
O.C. TRIBUNE

phuclongusa | 12936 Main Street  
(933) TEA•BOBA | (933) 932-2822 | Garden Grove, CA 92840

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

# News & Views

## The perils of traveling time in the house

Around the block this election week ...

Whether your candidate(s) won or lost this time around, there's at least one thing worth rejoicing over: your mailbox won't be overflowing with endless redundant and often unfair political advertisements.

Instead, the poor little rectangle (or whichever space yours is) will be soon choked with holiday catalogs and come-ons, along with



**Retorts**  
Jim Tortolano

cards from the few-remaining folks you know who don't use Facebook for their late-year ho-ho-ho's ....

**Up and At-Em Dept.:** The change from daylight savings-time to standard time may have its benefits, but I'm still not sure they outweigh the drawbacks.

If your house is like ours, you'll find you have five or six battery-operated wall clocks that will need to "fall back." Some here are so high up on the wall you need a step-stool or a ladder to reach them.

That's a task that often involves the nail or whatever device used to hold them up falling, tumbling down to the floor, and often then rolling behind some heavy piece of furniture.

Some profaning usually occurs.

And despite all your efforts, there's always at least one clock or wrist-watch or bedside lamp appliance which you forget to change, subjecting you to the risk of being late or early to whichever appointments you have.

In my case, I changed the

Continued on page 8



**SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE** robbers moving a safe from a house on Gardenia Avenue. in Garden Grove on Halloween night (GGPD).

## Not 'safe' to keep cash in home

### Burglar broke into Garden Grove home, took safe

It's pitch black dark on Halloween, and bad guys are out doing bad things.

But these weren't ghosts and goblins, although they were wearing a kind of costume.

A home was burglarized in Garden Grove and a large safe was

taken. According to GGPD Detective Sgt. Willie Holloway, the incident took place in the 13400 block of Gardenia Avenue (near Lewis Street) at around 8:54 p.m. on Thursday night.

A residential burglary alarm alerted police. Arriving officers found that the burglars had forced entry into the house, cut the electrical power and stole the safe which contained "valuable property" including cash.

The suspects left the scene in

a dark gray Chrysler Pacifica minivan with no license plates.

Witnesses described the suspects as adult males wearing black hooded sweatshirts.

One was also wearing gray pants, black and white shoes, a black bandana and black gloves. The other was clad in blue pants, black shoes, a black face mask and black gloves.

Anyone with additional information may call Detective Baker at (714) 741-5837.

## Huntington Beach suffers another housing legal loss

The City of Huntington Beach has suffered yet another courtroom setback in its legal battle with the State of California over housing mandates.

Last week the U.S. Court of Appeals issued a ruling rejecting an appeal from the Surf City's city council's defeat at the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Michael Gates, city attorney for Huntington Beach, has been contending that because it's a charter

city, it is exempt from some state laws and regulations.

"No matter how California categorizes charter cities" stated the appeals court, "they remain subordinate political bodies, not sovereign entities" and that cities had no federal constitution rights against their parent states."

Gates claimed the court's ruling was a "misapprehension of the law," and the city could take further action, including attempting

Continued on page 8

### Get a free e-paper two times a week

Want a free subscription to the e-paper version of The Orange County Tribune?

Send us an e-mail at orange-countytribune@gmail.com and request a subscription.

We cover the cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster.

The Tribune's e-paper offers coverage of national and local news coverage, as well as that of area professional and high school sport.

# NewsUpdate

## Trump Elected for A Second Term

### Most swing states went to former president this time

In defiance of widespread opinion that the 2024 presidential race would be close, Republican nominee former president Donald Trump defeated Democratic nominee Vice Kamala Harris by a relatively wide margin.

As of 3:30 a.m. Wednesday, the Associated Press has “called” 277 electoral votes for Trump and 224 for Harris. To win, a candidate needs 270 votes. Trump, who will be only the second president ever to win nonconsecutive terms, won or is winning all the “swing” states. Grover Cleveland (1884 and 1892) was the first.



**DONALD TRUMP** has won the 2024 presidential election (Shutterstock)

In the popular vote, Trump leads with 51.0 percent to 47.5 percent for Harris.

“We’ve been through so much together, and today you showed up in record numbers to deliver a

victory,” said Trump. “This was something special and we’re going to pay you back.”

Republicans have won control of the Senate and appeared on the way to keeping control of the

House of Representatives, potentially smoothing the path for a reversal of national policies from those of the Biden Administration.

## Israeli defense minister is fired by Netanyahu

In a surprise announcement on Tuesday, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant was fired from his post by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

According to the Associated Press, the two have differed about the conduct of the war in Gaza.

In his announcement, Netanyahu said there was a “crisis of trust” between the two former friends.

The dismissal of Gallant sparked protests in Israel. One such event jammed the streets of Tel Aviv.

In addition to the conflict in Gaza, Israel is also fighting with Islamic militias from Lebanon and has launched military strikes



**BENJAMIN NETANYAHU**

into Iraq.

Among the differences between the two were – reportedly – exemptions from the draft for ultra-Orthodox men, the need for a hostage deal and the idea of an inquiry into the “political and security failures” on Oct. 7, 2023 when Hamas started the conflict by raiding Israel.

### Great Thoughts

“Chance favors the prepared mind.”

– Louis Pasteur, scientist.

## North Korean troops in combat in Ukraine to reclaim Kursk

For the first time, troops from the Democratic Republic of Korea – North Korea – have clashed with Ukrainian troops as allies of Russia.

According to The New York Times, a force estimated at about 10,000 troops are in action in the Kursk region of Russia, where Ukrainians have seized and hold an estimated 250 square miles of territory.

“The first battles with North Korean soldiers mark a new chapter of global instability,” said Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

“Together with the world, we must do everything to ensure that this Russian step toward



**FLAG OF UKRAINE**

expanding the war — this true escalation — becomes a loss.”

The North Korean troops are believed to have been transported by train from eastern Russia’s Pacific coast on a 4,000 mile journey to the battle zone.

### Weather: Sunny and warmish

There will be plenty of sun and relatively warm days for our West Orange County cities right into the weekend. The forecast calls for a daytime high of 76 with an overnight low of 49. Thursday warms slightly to 78 (45) and Friday cools a bit to 77 (46). That trend continues into Saturday with a high of 74 and a low of 49.

# Arts & Living

## An Unconventional War Drama

Film poses more questions from McQueen

By Jake Coyle  
AP Film Writer

“Blitz,” set in London during World War II, might technically be Steve McQueen’s first war movie. But struggle and survival has long marked the filmmaker’s tough and tortured work.

No matter the circumstance — slavery in “12 Years a Slave,” the 1960s-1980s London of West Indian immigrants in “Small Axe,” the Irish hunger strike of “Shame” — McQueen has been drawn to moments of history less for their dramatic extremes than for how they test the morality of those in and around the fight. Did they turn a blind eye? Did they risk themselves? Do we remember?

McQueen’s films tend to ask questions — often uncomfortable ones. That’s been true in his nonfiction work, too. His 2023 short film “Grenfell” captured the aftermath of the tragic Grenfell Tower blaze. Last year’s “Occupied City” compared present-day street addresses in Amsterdam to what happened in those precise locations during the Nazi occupation of WWII.

In that film, McQueen juxtaposed past and present, death and life, and some of the same collisions are found in the 1940-set “Blitz,” which opens Friday in theaters and streams Nov. 22 on Apple TV+. It’s told largely from the perspective of a 9-year-old boy, George (Elliott Heffernan), whose single mother, Rita (a steely Saoirse Ronan), has made the anguished decision to send him to the countryside with thousands of other schoolchildren fleeing the Blitz.

A year into the war, the bombing is already intense, and so is the questionable nature of how



SAOIRSE RONAN and Elliott Heffernan star in “Blitz” (Apple Studios).

### Movie Review

some are responding to the omnipresent danger and the loosening of order. The film opens in a fiery blaze as firefighters wrestle with an out-of-control hose, and a mass of people rush toward the underground to take cover from the bombers overhead. Outside the station, the gates are locked, and the nearby police refuse to open them. It’s an early hint that McQueen’s treatment of the war will be more complicated and unsparing than the average WWII drama.

“Blitz” properly gets underway once Rita leaves George at the train station. The parting is bitter (“I hate you,” George says on the platform) only because their bond is so evidently strong. It’s not long once aboard the train that George sees a chance to flee and hops off. “Blitz” proceeds as George’s odyssey in trying to get home.

It’s an awkwardly condensed tale — the film takes place over one day but feels like a lifetime — that clunkily cuts between

George and Rita. “Blitz” feels stuck between a conventional war drama and something more adventurous and probing. It doesn’t coalesce the way McQueen’s best work does, but the frictions that drive “Blitz” make it a singular and sporadically moving experience.

A representative sequence happens early in the film. George, who’s Black and surely feels some growing anxiety leaving London, climbs into a passing train only to find three young brothers are also stowaways there. After a tense moment, they find camaraderie together. Riding atop the train, they seem almost carefree. But moments later, when they’re fleeing authorities at the trainyard, one of the boys is killed in an instant by a moving train.

Throughout, “Blitz” toggles between moments of tenderness and violence, a back and forth that McQueen suggests isn’t just part of wartime. Following the trainyard moment, the film slides into a flashback of Rita and George’s otherwise unseen Grenadian immigrant father,

### Good ★★★

Marcus (CJ Beckford). On their way home from a joyous night dancing at a jazz club, a man intentionally bumps into Marcus. In the ensuing tussle Marcus is arrested, and later, swiftly deported. In an instant, cruelty and racism can wreck a life just as surely as a Nazi bomb from above.

The film stays close to George as he makes his way closer to home in Stepney Green in the East End. “Blitz” is far less concerned with the aerial bombardment above than the festering prejudices and injustices on the ground.

In the movie’s most Dickens-esque sequence, George is taken in, and held prisoner, by a Fagin-like criminal (Stephen Graham) whose band of thieves steal from the dead and plunder freshly bombed-out flats. There are chillingly ghostly sequences, most of all one set in the Café de Paris. One moment it’s a teeming, multiracial jazz

Continued on page 8

# TheSportsPages

*Hey, let's look at the bright side for Halos*

One of the most famous – and ironic – movie songs of all time is “Always Look On The Bright Side of Life.” Without getting into the surrounding details of that chirpy tune of black humor, it’s all about the virtue of smiling through adversity because there’s probably no way out, anyway.

My attention is drawn to this ditty as the post-season roster shenanigans get underway after the World Series.



**Sports Retorts**  
Jim Tortolano

As you may have read/heard/fearing the Los Angeles Angels swapped pitcher Griffin Canning to the Atlanta Braves for alleged outfielder Jorge Soler.

Here is where the smiles come in. Canning was a sometime-starter for the Halos in 2024. He posted a 6-13 record and had an ERA of 5.19, which is usually translated as “Back to the Bus Leagues.” But considering the quality of the Angels’ pitching staff, that was about par for the course.

In exchange the Angels got Soler, who has bounced around MLB more than the A’s (who aren’t done bouncing). From the Royals to the Braves to the Marlins to the Giants, back to the Braves and now to Anaheim.

He’s labeled a slugger, but only in the world of teams like the Angels. In 2024, he hit 21 home runs and batted .241, which is close to his career mark.

The problem(s) is/are that he’s a below-average hitter – he strikes out twice as often as he walks – and a terrible fielder. As an outfielder, he was ranked 365th of 385 players in MLB, and most of that was in right

Continued on page 7

## Eight Teams Broke Through



**AFTER A ROUGH START**, the Pacifica High football team swept its Omicron League schedule and became the league’s first champion under the realignment of “competitive equity.” The Mariners are one of eight area teams to start CIF-SS playoff action this week. They’ll host La Canada on Friday night at Bolsa Stadium in Division 10 action (Orange County Tribune photos).

Three teams from our West Orange County area schools are seeded in the draws for the CIF-SS football playoffs starting this week.

Eight teams will be in the playoffs.

In Division 3, Edison (6-4) – Alpha League runner-up – is seeded third. In Division 5, Huntington Beach (6-4) – Epsilon League third place – is seeded first. In Division 11, Los Amigos (10-0) – Sigma League champion – is seeded third.

Here are the first round pairings. All games are to be played at 7 p.m. on Friday unless otherwise noted.

Two games will be played on Thursday because of stadium availability issues.

**THURSDAY**  
**Division 14**  
Ganesha at Bolsa Grande  
Saddleback at La Quinta (at Garden Grove High)

**FRIDAY**  
**Division 3**  
North Torrance at Edison  
**Division 5**  
Western at Huntington Beach  
**Division 7**



**LOS AMIGOS** (in white) has the best record among area teams with a 10-0 mark and the Sigma League Championship.

### Prep Sport Spotlight

Yucaipa at Marina  
**Division 10**  
La Canada at Pacifica (at Bolsa Grande High)  
**Division 11**  
Perris at Los Amigos (at Garden Grove High).

**Team Tennis, anyone?**  
The CIF-SS Girls’ Tennis playoffs start on Wednesday.

The only local team seeded is La Quinta, seeded fourth in Division 5.

Here are the bracket matchups involving teams serving our cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster.

**Division 1**  
Huntington Beach at Notre Dame/Sherman Oaks.  
**Division 4**  
Pacifica at Simi Valley  
**Division 5**  
Coachella Valley at Garden Grove

# Free agents not free, but paid off for LA

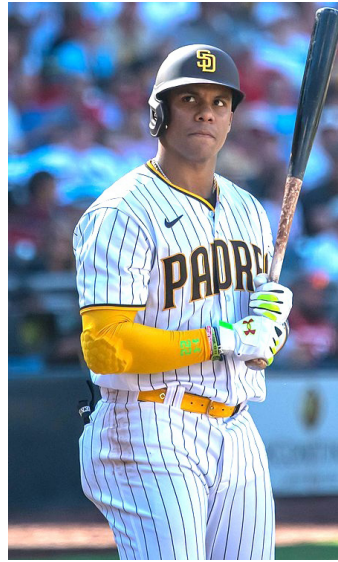
They all want to sign Juan Soto but who can afford him?

By David Brandt  
AP Baseball Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — The Los Angeles Dodgers spent big last offseason before winning big this postseason, taking home a World Series title after committing more than \$1 billion on players like Shohei Ohtani, Yoshinobu Yamamoto and Teoscar Hernández.

Now it's time to see which teams are in the mood to open their wallets for free agents in preparation for the 2025 season. The Ohtani sweepstakes dominated last year's offseason conversations until the Japanese superstar inked an eye-popping \$700 million, 10-year deal last December. With apologies to Juan Soto, there might not be anyone that commands that kind of salary in the coming months, even if this year's class is arguably deeper.

Soto, Willy Adames, Corbin Burnes, Max Fried, Blake



**JUAN SOTO** starred for the San Diego Padres, went to the New York Yankees and is now a free agent (Wikipedia).

Snell, Alex Bregman and Jack Flaherty are among the high-level players who are looking for new teams.

After that, there's another enticing tier of players like the previously mentioned Hernández, Anthony Santander, Jurick-

son Profar, Ha-Seong Kim, Pete Alonso, Christian Walker and Sean Manaea who could provide a big lift for championship-contending teams.

MLB's general managers will meet this week in San Antonio, Texas, in the unofficial opener to the offseason.

There usually aren't a lot of moves during these early November conversations, but the groundwork is often laid for future deals.

Here are some things to watch as MLB free agency opens this week:

Soto shined as a Yankee, but don't expect a NY discount

This class may be deep, but there's no doubt the No. 1 prize is Soto. The four-time All-Star already has 201 career homers, a career .421 on-base percentage and helped lead the New

York Yankees to the World Series before losing in five games to the Dodgers.

He's also just 26 years old.

The Yankees would love to keep Soto, who teamed with Aaron Judge to become a formidable pair for the Bronx Bombers. But it's unclear how much owner Hal Steinbrenner is willing to spend on a player who could command a contract in the range of \$500 million.

Soto didn't tip his hand after New York's disappointing exit in the Fall Classic, but it doesn't sound like he's willing to sign for a discount.

"I'm going to be available for all 30 teams," Soto said. "I don't want to say anybody has any advantage because at the end of the day, we're going to look at what they have and how much they want me."

## Prep Sport Spotlight

Continued from page 6

Western at La Quinta

### Division 6

Los Amigos at Norte Vista

### Division 7

Orange at El Monte  
Santiago at Highland  
Westminster at Edgewood  
Ocean View at St. Monica Prep  
Santa Ana Valley at Magnolia.

### First Flag Football results

In the inaugural season of CIF-SS Girls' Flag Football playoffs, two local teams made it to the "final four" of their division, but no further.

In Division 1, Huntington Beach lost 12-7 to Newport Harbor in the semifinals on Saturday.

In Division 2, Edison lost 19-6 to Trabuco Hills.

## Sports Retorts: Bright side

Continued from page 6

field. You remember right field? When you were a kid, who got sent to right field? Exactly.

Of course, not to worry. Considering the cloud of bad luck that's hovered over the Angels since they retired Mike Scioscia, odds are that Soler will

break a leg on opening day, or perhaps be captured by aliens. Who will probably send him back.

So don't worry. Either way he won't be an embarrassment for long. Always look on the bright side.



## GARDEN GROVE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

What is behind that big old house and windmill on Euclid Street south of Chapman Avenue?

Stop by any 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at 1:30pm and let us show you the history of Garden Grove

Private tours are available by appointment

Stanley Ranch Historic Village  
12174 Euclid Street, Garden Grove 92840  
714-530-8871  
[gardengrovehistsoc@att.net](mailto:gardengrovehistsoc@att.net)

Interested in advertising on our website and/or e-newspaper? Call us at 714-458-1860 or write us at [orangecountytribune@gmail.com](mailto:orangecountytribune@gmail.com).

# Mercurial Rams back in postseason race

By Greg Beacham  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Rams didn't wait until the back half of the regular season to get it together this year.

The Rams' future looked bleak a month ago when they stumbled into their bye week at 1-4. They had an offense broken by injuries to its top two receivers,

and their defense had looked largely hapless under a first-year coordinator.

Three consecutive wins later, the Rams (4-4) are on the rise again. Cooper Kupp and Puka Nacua returned from injury to be the engine on a revitalized offense, while Chris Shula's defense dramatically raised its overall competitiveness and big-play capability.

While the season isn't yet half over, everything feels much different than it did in 2023. Those Rams looked like toast after a 3-6 first half, only to go 7-1 down the stretch to surge into the playoffs.

Coach Sean McVay's team is solving its problems on the run

again this year, but doing it much more quickly — and in ways that look more sustainable, given the improvements of their young players after just eight games.

While the Rams have only won once by more than one score — and that was only because of a last-minute safety securing a 10-point win over Minnesota — they've shown late-game tenacity and the ability to create big plays in every victory.

The Rams squeaked out a 26-20 overtime win at Seattle on Sunday with a series of fortunate big plays that included two red zone interceptions by rookie Kam Kinchens, a 103-yard interception return for a touchdown by

Kinchens, and an OT defensive stop on downs at the Los Angeles 16, followed by a one-handed TD catch by Demarcus Robinson to end it.

"There's no style points in this league," McVay said. "I think we want to do some things a lot cleaner. There's going to be a lot of things we can learn from. ... It's our job to adjust, and I think we were able to do that in the moments that mattered."

The Rams' first year after Aaron Donald's retirement was guaranteed to be a huge transitional time for a team that was built around No. 99 wreaking havoc on opposing offenses for the past decade.



Who helped eradicate the plague of polio?

**Garden Grove Rotary**

Who sponsors a defibrillator program to save lives when heart attacks strike?

**Garden Grove Rotary**

Who recognizes 6th grade students for achievement in academics and scholarship?

**Garden Grove Rotary**

Who sponsors and contributes to training high school students on leadership and citizenship?

**Garden Grove Rotary.**

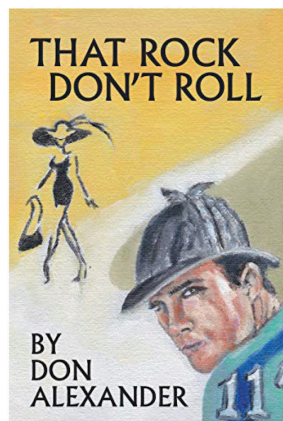
The **Garden Grove Rotary Club** has been serving the community since 1953. The modern club is part of a worldwide service organization of over 1 million men and women.

Interested in doing good work in your town and enjoying fellowship and fun with like-minded leaders in Garden Grove?

Contact us for meeting times and more information. E-mail: journaldon@aol.com. Website: gardengroverotary.com .

## Some serious fun

Murder, corruption, sex, humor, sports and lottery



## That Rock Don't Roll

"A fun story set in the OC that is sometimes tongue-in-cheek and sometimes deadly serious."  
— The Orange County Tribune

Available through Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble for \$19.99. Special offer: For a signed copy, including the cost of shipping and handling, send a check for \$15 payable to Don Alexander, 9814 Bird. Ct, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Include your name and return address.



**Don Alexander** has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

## Motion picture review: 'Blitz'

Continued from page 5

club, the next — as captured in one sweeping, grotesque shot by Yorick Le Saux — it's a bloody ruin.

There are moments of uplift, or at least temporary relief. One comes when Rita, who works in a munitions factory with a Rosie the Riveter headscarf, sings for a BBC radio program from the factory floor. Once Rita learns that George is lost, there's an ill-fitting side plot of her feuding with an unsympathetic boss, arguing with those in charge of the evacuation and her attempting to find George with the help of a police officer (Harris Dickinson, in a role too vague to resonate).

Again and again we see, though, that going against a tide of indif-

ference takes the conviction and courage of individuals.

That includes the activist Mikey Davies (Leigh Gill), who makes a stirring speech in a shelter. And, most of all, it includes a Nigerian ARP warden Ife (Benjamin Clémentine), who George meets outside a store advertising coffee and sugar from Africa with caricatures of Black faces. Clémentine, the talented singer-songwriter, has a radiant presence that warms a fiercely unsentimental film.

## Retorts: How to travel through time in the house

Continued from page 3

clocks in one part of the house and left the other half to the next day, meaning I could travel back and forth in time just by walking from the kitchen to the home office.

Thank You, Vets Dept. Monday is Veterans' Day, paying tribute to those men and women who served in the military.

Whether they braved deadly combat or performed their necessary duties behind the lines, they all deserve our thanks and support.

Where would our country be without them?

## Legal setback

Continued from page 3

to take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

At issue is the Regional Housing Needs Assessment requires Huntington Beach to zone for 13,368 homes as a part of the state-mandated housing element, which Huntington Beach has refused to submit.

San Diego Superior Court judge Katherine Bacal in July ordered the city to comply within one year.