



Union-Tribune

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TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 23, 2021

STATE SEES POSITIVE SIGNS IN COVID-19 NUMBERS

Infection rates decline, but officials encourage residents to be vigilant

U-T NEWS SERVICES

SACRAMENTO

California now has one of the lowest coronavirus infection rates in the country, with 1.9 percent of people testing positive for the disease in the last week as the nation's most populous state has so far avoided the uptick feared heading into the end-of-year holidays.

Coronavirus hospitalizations in the state have fallen about 14 percent in the last month — a trend state data models forecast will continue for the next month — but Gov. Gavin Newsom on Monday continued to sound the alarm about the potential for another winter spike that could overwhelm hospitals in some areas.

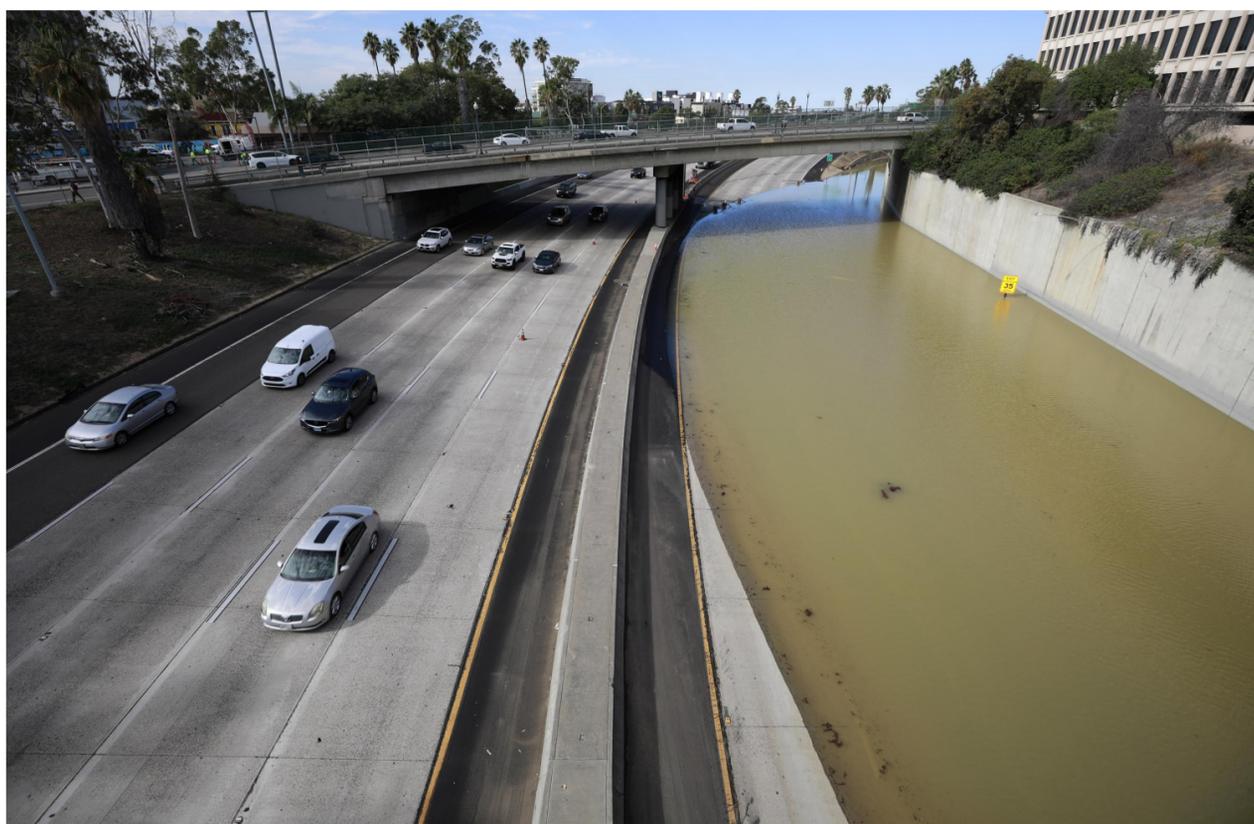
Visiting a coronavirus vaccination clinic in San Francisco, Newsom urged people to wear masks and get COVID shots ahead of the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend. He pointed to at least 27 states that have seen at least a 10 percent increase in cases in the past week.

"Ask the governor of Michigan (or) Colorado how they are doing," Newsom said. "States are struggling because people are taking down their guard or claiming 'mission accomplished.' I don't want to see that happen here in California."

Newsom has struck a more cautious tone compared with the spring when he lifted many of California's pandemic restrictions and told people who were vaccinated they could stop wearing masks and socially distancing in some places. But a summer surge prompted some local governments to bring back mask mandates and other restrictions, creating a dizzying patchwork of policies across the state. Los Angeles, San Francisco and Berkeley are requiring patrons of indoor restaurants, bars and gyms to show proof of vaccination as a condition to enter.

Last winter brought the deadliest surge of the pandemic to California and while a repeat isn't expected because so many people are vaccinated the state still could see a lesser surge as people gather indoors for the holidays. That possibility prompted Santa Cruz County to reinstate its mask requirement on Sunday, just a few days after neighboring Monterey County lifted its mandate.

"Unfortunately, a potential winter surge appears to be a significant threat to the health and safety of our community," said SEE COVID-19 • A6



K.C. ALFRED U-T

All northbound lanes of Interstate 5 near the Hawthorn Street exit were flooded Monday after a nearby water main break Sunday in downtown San Diego. It followed another water main break Sunday near Cortez Hill.

WATER MAIN RUPTURE SHUTS DOWN I-5 NORTH

Separate downtown break causes pavement to cave in at 11th Avenue and A Street

BY KAREN KUCHER & TERI FIGUEROA

A stretch of freeway through downtown San Diego was underwater most of Monday, flooded when an aging water main broke along a hillside and sent a torrent of water gushing onto the roadway for several hours.

The infrastructure failure — one of two old pipes to burst within blocks of each other Sunday — forced all northbound lanes of Interstate 5 near Fourth Avenue to shut, snarling traffic far beyond

downtown and sending travelers seeking alternate routes to San Diego International Airport at the start of the busy Thanksgiving travel week.

The other broken pipe, at 11th Avenue at A Street, cut off water for businesses and several residents, prompting city officials to bring in a water wagon and hand out bottled water. Service to all customers was restored by Monday evening.

It took several hours for crews to get valves on the 62-year-old pipe alongside the freeway to

properly close after it burst on a hillside near the transition road from state Route 163 to Fourth Avenue, Mayor Todd Gloria said.

Once they finally got the valves shut, it took several more hours for the water to clear out of the pipes — and as it did, rushing water continued to spew onto the slope and freeway through early Monday afternoon.

With water no longer jetting from the 24-inch-diameter pipe, Caltrans crews started clearing the roadway — not just pumping the water and cleaning debris, but

assessing any damage the flooding may have caused.

The stability of the soaked slope will also have to be assessed before repair work on the pipe can begin.

The water was so deep near First Avenue that a car was submerged, said California Highway Patrol Officer Jim Bettencourt. As the water level dropped late Monday afternoon and into the evening, a Caltrans freeway camera revealed more and more of the vehicle.

SEE WATER • A8

CITY SCRAMBLING TO REPLACE ITS WATER PIPES

Underground main that broke downtown Sunday is 76 years old

BY JOSHUA EMERSON SMITH

A water main that ruptured Sunday, spewing untold gallons of water into downtown San Diego, is part of an antiquated system of pipes long overdue for replacement.

The underground pipe — which created a large sinkhole at

11th Avenue and A Street — is 76 years old and made of cast iron, city officials said Monday. A second pipe that also burst Sunday, flooding northbound Interstate 5, was made of reinforced concrete.

Following a string of ruptures in recent years, the city has been steadily replacing its cast-iron water pipes, some of which are more than 100 years old, with more durable tubes made of polyvinyl chloride, better known as PVC. The city has replaced roughly 180 miles of pipeline since 2013.

"We'll continue to do our best to

switch out the oldest pipes, the cast-iron pipes that we know fail with regularity," said Mayor Todd Gloria at a news event Monday where construction crews worked on the broken pipe.

The city has roughly 55 miles of cast-iron pipeline remaining, and officials estimate the last sections will be upgraded by 2025.

The city experienced 33 water main breaks in 2020, down from a high of 131 in 2010. The city has averaged nearly 80 major ruptures a year over the last decade.

Those incidents include a pipe

that broke near Idaho Street and Polk Avenue in 2018, flooding homes and businesses in North Park, as well as a series of ruptures in Mission Valley the previous year that opened a sinkhole on I-5, leaving hundreds of motorists stranded for over an hour.

Gloria said he supports investing in aging pipes but also has concerns about adding to the already high cost of water in San Diego. The city is bracing for water rates to climb sharply as it continues to build out its wastewater recycling

SEE PIPES • A8

SUV DRIVER ACCUSED OF KILLING 5 AT WIS. PARADE HAS RECORD

Suspect released on bail last week after allegedly using vehicle as weapon

THE WASHINGTON POST

WAUKESHA, Wis.

The driver accused of plowing his SUV through a Christmas parade in this suburban Milwaukee city on Sunday will face five counts of intentional homicide, police said Monday, after the crash left five dead, 48 injured and a community reeling in a violent end to a cherished holiday celebration.

Before driving into the crowd, the suspect, Darrell E. Brooks Jr., had been at the scene of an alleged altercation involving a knife, but



JEFFREY PHELPS AP

Mourners attend a vigil Monday in downtown Waukesha, Wis., a day after an SUV driver plowed into a Christmas parade.

sped away in the red SUV when police arrived, a law enforcement official said.

Brooks, 39, was allegedly behind the wheel when it drove into the parade route. At a news conference Monday afternoon, authorities said that Brooks was the "one subject" and that he "drove right through the barricades and the officers" at the scene.

Waukesha Police Chief Dan Thompson identified those killed as Tamara Durand, 52; Jane Kulich, 52; LeAnna Owen, 71; Virginia Sorenson, 79; and Wilhelm Hospel, 81.

Four dozen others were injured, including two children who were in critical condition, Thompson said.

SEE PARADE • A7

LARGE GROUPS DETAINED IN CROSSINGS AT BORDER

Two people arrested; migrants mostly from Brazil and Venezuela

BY WENDY FRY

The San Diego-area Border Patrol says it arrested two people in Mexico during an operation targeting a human smuggling organization allegedly responsible for bringing large groups of mostly Venezuelan and Brazilian migrants to the Tijuana-San Diego border.

The operation began after Border Patrol agents began encountering "unusually sized" groups of migrants from Brazil, Venezuela and Portugal, the agency said.

Between Oct. 28 and Nov. 9, San Diego Border Patrol says it detained five groups of migrants, mostly from Brazil and Venezuela, that contained 43, 49, 73, 84 and 93 people.

Overall, the number of mi-

grants taken into U.S. custody along the border with Mexico decreased for the third month in a row in October, after a sharp increase this summer, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection data released Nov. 15. CBP reported more than 164,000 apprehensions along the entire U.S.-Mexico border in October, which is a 23 percent drop from July.

Large groups of people from Brazil and Venezuela began arriving in Tijuana earlier this fall, according to José María García, the director of the Juventud 2000 shelter in the Zona Norte neighborhood of Tijuana.

García said that on Nov. 11, a group of approximately 150 Brazilians and Venezuelans arrived at Juventud 2000, only asking for food before calling for taxis to leave the shelter located right next to the border. He said a language barrier prevented him from fully interviewing members of the group.

"These 150 arrived, and within SEE MIGRANTS • A6

HEALTH

STILL IN THE GAME

Nearly silenced by ALS, former NFL player and author Tim Green thrives by telling his story. E1



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Local

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DIANE BELL

Columnist

Pregnant teen grows up to foster more than 300 kids

A call came in to Kathleen and Calvin Byrd at their home last week: Can you take in this toddler?

Yes, of course.

In no time, the Chula Vista couple, who have been married 52 years, added another person to their family.

It's not an unusual scenario for them. What is unusual is that she is now 73 and Calvin will be 80 in three months. They were taking in a toddler.

"We are dinosaurs," she laughs. She has lost count, but says they've given temporary homes to more than 300 and as many as 350 infants, toddlers and teens over the past 48 years. They are slowing down, though: "At this point, we have to do the math."

Two weeks earlier, a young boy in their care had been placed with family members, leaving them empty nesters. "My husband said, 'Oh my God, I can unlock the pantry.' It was just he and I and our 80-pound lab. Now we've locked everything back up because we have another toddler."

In past years, they have had as many as six foster kids at one time, along with their own kids, in their six-bedroom home in Chula Vista. They like to limit the fosters to one now, unless someone is in need. There always seems to be room in their house and their hearts for more, if necessary.

Alfredo Guardado, assistant director of county child welfare services, says the county appreciates the Byrds' dedication and the service they've provided over the years. The county recognized them in 2014 for having fostered more than 300 children, and they've taken in many more since.

In 1993, the Child Welfare League of America honored them with the Outstanding Foster Parent Award for its U.S. western region.

Kathleen's story began as a teen taking Advanced

SEE BELL • B4



K.C. ALFRED U-T PHOTOS

HAVING A BALL WITH SHOPPING

Above, Kearny High juniors Noe Flores (left) and Denson Pantal talk with San Diego police Officer Christian Nimmons during the Komet's with Cops shopping event Monday at Dick's Sporting Goods on Sports Arena Boulevard. Right, Kearny High juniors Jeanette Hernandez (left) and Darla Perez hang out with San Diego police Officers Delliha Lopez (left) and Leticia Ruelas. Nine student athletes from Kearny High teamed up with officers to have lunch and go on a \$150 shopping spree at the store, courtesy of the sporting goods chain.



JOURNALIST DEFENDS HIS USE OF DISPUTED 'FOOTNOTE 15'

City attorney seeking to dismiss defamation case brought by local reporter

BY JEFF MCDONALD

SAN DIEGO

A journalist suing San Diego's city attorney said in a recent sworn statement that a highly placed and knowledgeable source in City Hall confirmed the veracity of a disputed footnote in a report explaining how San Diego taxpayers ended up paying millions of dollars for the Ash Street

building lease.

NBC 7 producer Dorian Hargrove, who is suing City Attorney Mara Elliott and her top lieutenant for defamation, said the truth about the footnote will emerge if his lawsuit is permitted to move forward in federal court.

"The discovery allowable in the matter will reveal that the footnote at issue was added as a draft of the subject report by a person within the city of San Diego with detailed knowledge of facts disclosed herein that were not known or knowable at the time," Hargrove declared under penalty of perjury.

Hargrove also said in his declaration that Elliott abused her authority by attacking him personally and accused her of influencing NBC 7 to remove him from future coverage of City Hall.

"NBC 7 was instructed and/or compelled to take the specific actions taken against me and to publicly retaliate against me by Elliott acting through her surrogates," he said in his declaration.

The filing came in response to a motion filed by the city asking a judge to dismiss Hargrove's lawsuit.

Lawyers defending the city told the court that Hargrove's case lacks

merit and said the defendants are protected from liability under the legal theory of qualified immunity, which protects public officials from the threat of civil litigation for doing their job.

They also said they had nothing to do with the disciplinary measures imposed by NBC 7 against Hargrove.

"Defendants did not ask, and had no ability to compel NBC 7 to suspend plaintiff from his employment or to prohibit him from reporting on matters involving City Hall," the city's lawyer wrote in a filing this week.

SEE FOOTNOTE • B4

Carrying a heavy heart into the holiday week



CHARLES T. CLARK

Columnist

With the holiday approaching, I thought I would spend this past week-end staying off excitement.

I'm typically a person who really enjoys the Thanksgiving holiday, even with the misgivings I have about the history of it. Give me a day with family, eating well, playing games, reflecting on what you're grateful for, all while football plays in the background, and I find it easy to appreciate the moment.

It also kicks off the Christmas season in full force, which is my family's favorite time of year. Let's just say my mom is one of those people who already have their trees and decorations up.

This weekend I just found myself struggling to get into the spirit of the holiday, though, and I doubt I'm the only one.

Don't get me wrong, there are plenty of things I'm personally grateful for. I've been fortunate with a lot of what's happened in my life over the past year.

Throughout the weekend I just felt tired and I guess overwhelmed because we all had one hell of a week.

I mean these last few years overall have been strange, challenging, chaotic and deeply traumatic for many of us in so many ways. But this last week in



JEFFREY PHELPS AP

Police tape cordons off a street in Waukesha, Wis., after an SUV plowed into a Christmas parade on Sunday.

particular really hammered home a sense of being on a razor's edge.

For the first time the U.S. was added to a list of "backsliding democracies" by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, a Stockholm-based think tank that uses 50 years of democratic indicators in about 160 countries to make its assessments. The organization's secretary-general, Kevin Casas-Zamora, pointed to "the increasing tendency to contest credible election results, the efforts to suppress participation (in elections), and the runaway polarization" in our country as concerning.

And of course there have been two prominent legal cases — the Kyle Rittenhouse trial

and the trial of the three men from Georgia who killed Ahmaud Arbery — which certainly hit on some sensitive topics. Rittenhouse was tried for shooting and killing two men and wounding a third at a protest against police violence in Kenosha, Wis., a town he had to cross state lines to reach. Three White men — Travis McMichael, his father, Greg McMichael, and their neighbor William "Roddie" Bryan — are on trial for shooting Arbery, a Black man who was jogging in coastal Georgia last year.

In the case that concluded Friday with an acquittal, the Rittenhouse case, it is probably unsurprising that I do not believe justice was served.

But even setting that aside,

along with the overall racial component of the two cases, both should pose some very disturbing questions about our country's tolerance for vigilante violence and how it may be handled going forward. These questions have long existed but take on even greater relevance now, when Americans across the political spectrum are proving more willing to deploy violence against those they disagree with.

As if that wasn't enough, we had a series of coordinated, large-scale, smash-and-grab robberies in the Bay Area over the weekend, including one Saturday that involved some 80 people robbing a Nordstrom, according to police.

And on Sunday we also saw a tragedy unfold in Waukesha, Wis., when someone drove an SUV into a Christmas parade, killing at least five people and injuring 48.

Frankly, I was stunned to find out Monday that police believe that the suspect was fleeing the scene of a domestic dispute rather than conducting an intentional act of terrorism. The fact that I find myself both surprised and relieved by that motive probably says something troubling about our country's state of affairs related to domestic terror, given how seemingly commonplace it has become for folks to use vehicles as weapons against crowds of people — particularly protesters.

I bring this all up not to do a

SEE CLARK • B4

DRIVE WILL DISTRIBUTE HOLIDAY MEALS TO HOMELESS

Volunteers are asked to prepare an extra dish for annual Gobble Gobble Give

BY GARY WARTH

VISTA

Hundreds of people will cook a little extra this Thanksgiving and surprise homeless people with a meal as part of a nationwide project that includes Vista and several other cities.

Participants in the annual Gobble Gobble Give are asked to bring a casserole-size dish to the cannabis dispensary Tradecraft Farms, 732 E. Vista Way, at 9 a.m. Thursday. Volunteers will assemble packages in Thanksgiving meals that will be delivered to people living without shelter in the area.

Barry Walker, owner of Tradecraft Farms and founder of Gobble Gobble Give, said the event is returning after a one-year hiatus because of the pandemic, but it remains scaled back to just seven cities rather than the usual 23 in 11 states. The annual event grew out of a spur-of-the-moment giveaway about 23 years ago in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Silver Lake, he said.

"I was squatting in an abandoned place," he said. "There was power, so I

SEE MEALS • B4

LOCAL REPORTS

CRIME, COURTS & PUBLIC SAFETY

Man sent to prison in woman's fentanyl death

SAN DIEGO

A federal judge on Monday sentenced a San Diego man to nearly 14 years in prison for selling fentanyl that led to the fatal overdose of an 18-year-old woman last year.

Brandon Jacob Shepherd, 26, pleaded guilty in April to charges of fentanyl distribution and conspiracy to distribute fentanyl. U.S. District Judge Cynthia Bashant sentenced him to 13 years and 11 months in custody.

According to prosecutors from the San Diego-area U.S. Attorney's Office, Shepherd and three other men who have previously been sentenced were "engaged in an ongoing fentanyl distribution scheme."

In January 2020, Shepherd and one of his co-defendants coordinated a sale of fentanyl to the victim. That night, the trio smoked the fentanyl together in a hotel room where Shepherd was staying and using to distribute drugs.

The victim overdosed that night, but did not die, prosecutors said. When the co-defendant took the victim home, Shepherd provided her with fentanyl resin. Days later, she smoked the fentanyl resin and overdosed again, prosecutors said. This time she died.

According to a defense sentencing document, Shepherd sold drugs to support his own addiction. Shepherd and his family members wrote in letters to the judge that he became hooked on opioids around age 15 or 16 after being prescribed pain medications for a skateboarding accident.

Shepherd offered condolences to the victim's family and accepted responsibility for her death in his letter to the judge.

alex.riggins@sduiontribune.com

Gas station clerk robbed at gunpoint in Mira Mesa

MIRA MESA

A gunman wearing a red bandana over his face robbed a gas station clerk in Mira Mesa on Sunday afternoon, San Diego police said.

The man looked around the gas station store on Mira Mesa Boulevard near Greenford Drive about 2:50 p.m. before he walked up to the clerk and pulled out a black handgun, which he pointed at the clerk, police said.

He demanded money from the register and the clerk complied.

The gunman put the money in a bag and ran away, police said. The clerk was unhurt.

The robber was described as Black, in his late 20s, 5 feet 10 inches tall and 180 pounds. He was wearing black shorts, a hoodie and a hat, along with the red bandana, police said.

david.hernandez@sduiontribune.com

Trial ordered for teen charged in DUI deaths of father and son

SAN DIEGO

A 19-year-old driver accused of being under the influence of drugs and speeding when he plowed into another car on a Poway road — killing a father and his 13-year-old son — was ordered Monday to stand trial on felony charges.

Donald Lee Farmer, who prosecutors allege was under the influence of marijuana and Xanax at the time of the crash, is charged with gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated in the deaths of Stephen Pirolli, 54, and his son, Stephen Pirolli Jr.

Farmer's Mercedes sedan broad-

sided the Pirollis' Toyota sedan around 7 p.m. Feb. 12 on Espola Road. The elder Pirolli died at the scene, while his son was taken to Rady Children's Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

According to testimony from a preliminary hearing in San Diego Superior Court, Stephen had attended baseball practice that night at Poway High School. The father and son were turning left out of a parking lot at the school when they were struck.

Sheriff's Deputy Nathaniel Bier testified that reconstruction of the crash scene indicated Farmer was driving around 90 mph. The speed limit on that stretch of Espola Road is 45 mph.

Deputy Ryan Christy testified that Farmer told him he was driving around 45-50 mph at the time. He told Christy that the Pirollis' vehicle was driving in the lane to his right when their car suddenly made a U-turn in front of him.

Farmer had a learner's permit, but not a driver's license at the time. Under California law, drivers with learner's permits may drive only while a driver's license holder who is at least 25 years old is riding with them.

Farmer was alone in the car. One witness told Christy that he pulled Farmer out of his car. Farmer allegedly asked the witness to get his marijuana out of the car.

Bier testified that 10 to 15 THC cartridges used in e-cigarettes were found inside Farmer's trunk and that more cartridges were found dumped in nearby bushes. Christy testified that Farmer said he had smoked marijuana and taken Xanax that morning.

Farmer was arrested in May.

Union-Tribune staff contributed to this report. City News Service

THEATER REVIEW

'YELLOW HOUSE' IS A DARK STUDY OF VAN GOGH'S AWAKENING

BY PAM KRAGEN

When most people think of Vincent Van Gogh's paintings, they remember only the richly colored and thickly textured landscapes and still lifes that he created during the two years before his death by suicide in southern France in 1890.

Kimber Lee's play "to the yellow house," which made its world premiere Sunday at La Jolla Playhouse, opens just weeks after the Dutch painter has arrived — haunted and destitute — in the southern town of Arles in 1888. But the play doesn't linger there for long. Instead it travels back in time to Paris, where Van Gogh moved in 1886 with the hope of improving his painting skills and becoming a celebrated artist, at last.

Lee's play isn't about Van Gogh's artistic awakening in Arles and Auvers-sur-Oise, but about those two troubled years in Paris, where he struggled to make a breakthrough, create a circle of like-minded painters, host his first show and have a successful romantic relationship.

If that sounds like a lot of story, it is. The two-hour, 45-minute play directed by Neel Keller feels overstuffed with subplots, and its overall mood is gray and gloomy.

Where the play sparkles is the tender and symbiotic relationship that Lee builds between Vincent and his younger brother, Theo, a successful Paris art dealer who doubts his brother's talent but has always supported him financially and emotionally.

Paco Tolson's heartbreaking performance as Vincent honestly represents the artist's famously combative personality and antisocial behavior, described in the play as that of a man who has just gotten out of prison after 10 years. As Theo, Frankie J. Alvarez is loving, sympathetic and warm but ready to cut the apron strings.

Deidrie Henry also shines as Agostino Segorati, the real-life proprietress of a Montmartre cafe where a love-struck Vincent had his first show. Also entertaining is Marco Barricelli, who plays a very different trio of real-life painters who Vincent met in Paris: Fernand Cormon, his disengaged and disapproving painting teacher; academist painter Jean-Léon Gérôme, who

'to the yellow house'

When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays; 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; 7 p.m. Sundays. Through Dec. 12.

Where: La Jolla Playhouse's Mandell Weiss Theatre, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla

Tickets: \$25 to \$80

Phone: (858) 550-1010

Online: lajollaplayhouse.org

COVID policy: Proof of full vaccination or negative COVID-19 PCR test result within 72 hours of show-time required. Masks required indoors.

distrusted the new schools of art; and Paul Gauguin, the post-impressionist who was Vincent's last remaining friend. There are also appearances by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (Alton Albu) and Émile Bernard (DeLeon Dallas), who were fellow students in Cormon's salon. Brooke Ishibashi energetically plays a pair of female characters in Paris and Arles whose characters add little to the play.

Takeshi Kata's stunning scenic design is a two-story scaffolding-style frame overlaid with huge, heavily textured canvases on which projection designer Nicholas Hussong projects sketches and paintings of 1880s Paris in gray, black and muted colors. David Israel Reynoso's richly detailed costumes look like they stepped right out of paintings, Masha Tsimring's lighting is dark and moody, Justin Ellington's original music is haunting, and Palmer Hefferan designed sound.

Lee infuses her play with humor and historical detail that made me want to learn more, which is always a good thing. Her goal with "to the yellow house" was to show how Van Gogh never gave up despite repeated setbacks and rejections. But it was disappointing to not get at least a taste of the glorious swirling blue cosmos, the bold and chunky yellow wheat fields and the sensual purple irises that Vincent discovered in the end.

pam.kragen@sduiontribune.com

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Covering the Kennedy assassination, 58 years ago

Within minutes after an assassin killed President John F. Kennedy 58 years ago, on Nov. 22, 1963, Union staff writer Peter Kaye and columnist Lew Scarr flew to Dallas to cover the story. Kaye wrote a straight news report. Scarr spoke to eyewitnesses and filed this report from the scene of the tragedy.

From *The San Diego Union*, Saturday, Nov. 23, 1963:

3 SHOTS RING OUT IN THE TEXAS SUN

By Lew Scarr, San Diego Union Staff Writer

DALLAS — Dealey Plaza, commemorated here as the birthplace of Dallas, was bathed in noon hour sunshine yesterday.

The people of Texas stood four deep along Main Street and Houston and Elm streets.

The flashing temperature and time sign atop the Texas School Book Building at Elm and Houston read 74 degrees at 12:27 p.m.

The presidential motorcade, on its way to a luncheon speech at the Trad Mart, turned right off Main onto Houston.

A father standing on the grass at Dealey Plaza lifted his young son up so he could see President Kennedy. Then he took the boy's hand and ran across the plaza so he could get another look.

Just as he reached Elm Street, he heard a shot and saw the President slump in his car. Then he heard two more shots and threw his son to the ground.

The time sign on the book warehouse now flashed 12:30. The sign is on the roof just above the sixth floor, southwest corner of the building from where the fatal shot was fired.

Elm Street at this point becomes a one-way on-ramp for the Stemmons Freeway (route to Denton). President Kennedy was shot as his car moved in the middle lane about 50 yards from the School Book building.

A bullet from a Mauser, a high-powered German rifle, passed through the President's head, struck a concrete slab in Dealey Plaza and ricocheted down the freeway.

The shot was not particularly difficult for a person accustomed to using a rifle. The fatal shots were fired directly over the tops of some trees which offered the sniper some cover.

A few hours after the shooting, a Texas blue norther swept into Dallas.

The temperature had dipped to 45 degrees as Detective J.B. Hicks of Dallas County Sheriff's Crime Lab left the book



cartridges were found near the window, too, Hicks said. He said he used his shovel to dig for spent bullets in the parkway, but was unsuccessful.

Lee Harvey Oswald, 24, native of Fort Worth and admitted left-wing fanatic, was arrested. Oswald has worked for the book-bindingery for 30 days as a clerk.

2 INTERVIEWED

Two sheriff's deputies who helped capture Oswald were interviewed by this reporter.

Bill Courson was off duty and at home when he got a call to the Texas Theater in Oak Cliff, about 2½ miles south of the slaying scene.

The suspect had been seen ducking into the theater. Courson and Deputy Jim Ramsey were two of about 50 officers who stormed the theater.

Ramsey said he saw the suspect making his way through the empty seats. He and 10 other officers subdued Oswald after what he said was a furious two-minute fight.

HISTORICAL PHOTOS AND ARTICLES FROM THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE ARCHIVES ARE COMPILED BY MERRIE MONTEAGUDO. SEARCH THE U-T HISTORIC ARCHIVES AT SANDIEGOUNIONTRIBUNE.NEWSBANK.COM



BILL WECHTER

WHO WANTS MORE PIE?

Mama's Kitchen volunteers Myra Lousteau (center) and Tracy McFarland stack pies on Monday at a warehouse in San Diego to prepare for distribution for Thanksgiving. Lousteau and McFarland were among about 20 volunteers getting together 3,000 pies for those in need.



RICH SOUBLET II

From left, Brooke Ishibashi, Deidrie Henry and Paco Tolson in La Jolla Playhouse's "to the yellow house."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021.

Today's highlight in history

On Nov. 23, 1971, the People's Republic of China was seated in the U.N. Security Council.

On this date

In 1889, the first jukebox made its debut in San Francisco, at the Palais Royale Saloon. (The coin-operated device consisted of four listening tubes attached to an Edison phonograph.)

In 1914, the seven-month U.S. military occupation of Veracruz, Mexico, ended.

In 1936, Life, the photojournalism magazine created by Henry R. Luce, was first published.

In 1963, President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed Nov. 25 a day of national mourning following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

In 1980, some 2,600 people were killed by a series of

earthquakes that devastated southern Italy.

In 1996, a commandeered Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 767 crashed into the water off the Comoros Islands, killing 125 of the 175 people on board, including all three hijackers.

In 2003, five U.S. soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

In 2006, former KGB spy Alexander Litvinenko died in London from radiation poisoning after making a deathbed statement blaming Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Today's birthdays

Actor Franco Nero is 80. Screenwriter Joe Eszterhas is 77. Actor-writer Bruce Vilanch is 74. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is 71. Singer Bruce Hornsby is 67. Actor Maxwell Caulfield is 62. Actor John Henton is 61. TV personality Robin Roberts ("Good Morning America") is 61. Actor Lucas Grabeel is 37. TV personality Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is 34. Actor-singer Miley Cyrus is 29.

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