

2 **Democrats Demands**

Immigration & Funding.

3 **Around Town**

Super Bowl Weekend.



7 **What's Up Westside**

Cool things to do.

9 **Word Puzzle**

Find the words.

Volume 25 Issue 57

THURSDAY 2/5/26

smdp.com

County funds stalled Venice housing project as it cuts \$200 million in homeless services

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath announced \$3 million in new funding for the halted Venice Dell housing project this week, just hours after the Board of Supervisors approved nearly \$200 million in cuts to homeless services countywide.

The announcement caught Los Angeles city officials off guard. Councilmember Traci Park's office said it learned of the county's funding decision not through formal notification but from one of Horvath's social media posts, and said it was moving ahead with proposals centered around transit for the Venice site following last year's decision by the City of Los Angeles not to pursue housing there.

In her video, Horvath framed the county's move as a contrast with the city's posture toward the long-running project, accusing Los Angeles of spending millions to obstruct affordable housing.

"The city has now spent over \$1 million fighting affordable housing projects," Horvath said. "While they're fighting housing, we're funding it."

The timing drew immediate scrutiny from critics of the project. Hours before Horvath's announcement, supervisors unanimously approved cuts that reduce outreach and navigation services by \$27 million, close 13 Pathway Home motel sites and reduce the number of encampment resolutions involving motel placements from 30 to 10 next fiscal year, according to the county's

SEE VENICE PAGE 7

A divided SMC Board approves layoffs after hearing hours of criticism over their leadership



Maya Furukawa

SMC: The school is facing a fiscal crisis as it will deplete its reserves by next fiscal year.

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Prompted by a projected \$16.7 million deficit that will empty reserves by next year, Santa Monica College's Board of Trustees voted Tuesday night to approve layoffs of approximately 70 staff after critics spent hours lambasting the board for what they said were years of incompetence and failed leadership.

The board passed a pair of amended votes that authorized the layoffs of classified (non-teaching) staff and management positions. Impacted employees will receive notices by a March 15 deadline though some positions may eventually be retained.

The layoffs come as the college confronts a financial crisis that has seen its fund balance plummet

from \$43.9 million in 2021-22 to a projected \$13.1 million this year, well below recommended reserve levels. Without intervention, projections show a negative fund balance by 2026-27. The Board has been losing millions of dollars per year due to a steady decline in enrollment and state funding changes that froze SMC's allocation while expenses continued rising.

Critics testified that the crisis was not sudden but the predictable result of decisions made after years of documented warnings dating back about a decade.

"What Santa Monica College is facing today is not a sudden crisis. It is a predictable result of choices made after years of documented warnings," said Cindy Ordaz, representing the California School Employees Association. "The deficit

that we are facing and discussing today did not appear overnight. It is the delayed consequence of decisions made after those warnings were issued."

She said the administration and board made no meaningful attempt to restructure after two rounds of retirement and criticized the board for decisions to expand management costs, both through hiring and raises, while the college hemorrhaged cash.

"Accountability that was consistently deferred to some version of future growth," she said. "That's not fiscal strategy. That is risk deferral, or, as some might say, just kicking the can down the road."

Multiple speakers criticized the timing and scope of a 7% management salary increase

SEE SMC PAGE 11

Lawyers for patients of UCLA doctor say clients shaken by court overturning his sex abuse conviction

Two years after a former University of California, Los Angeles, gynecologist was convicted of sex abuse and sentenced to 11 years in prison, an attorney working to prepare an appeal of the case stumbled across an astounding find for the defense counsel.

A note by the jury's foreperson, a designated spokesperson for the jury, had been sent to the judge expressing concern that one of the jurors did not have sufficient English to carry out his duties. The juror was an alternate who was brought in after another juror had a medical issue and two days before the verdict. The judge never shared that information with the prosecution or defense attorneys.

"That note was never turned over to us ever," said Leonard Levine, the defense attorney of Dr. James Heaps. "We were shocked."

A California appeals court on Monday found the mistake violated Heaps' Sixth Amendment rights and ordered the case to be retried. Lawyers for patients who accused Heaps say the decision to overturn his conviction has left them devastated, and legal experts say they are puzzled by the type of judicial error that transpired. Levine said he believes Heaps will be exonerated when retried.

"In my 30 years of trial and appeals work, excluding the defense from a jury question is unheard of," said Dmitry Gorin, a former prosecutor and criminal defense specialist.

ATTORNEYS FOR FORMER PATIENTS CRITICIZE OUTCOME

Courtney Thom, who represents

SEE UCLA PAGE 5

**Get your business
in front of the westside community!**



Contact
dina@smdp.com
(310) 573-8342

Today!

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

JAKLE, ALEXANDER & PATTON, LLP

We're thrilled to have the support of our clients, friends, and local community.
WE LOVE SANTA MONICA!



2001 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 420, Santa Monica, CA 90403 | (310) 395-6555

PHYSICAL THERAPYWORKS

Most Loved Winner
Physical Therapy Clinic
6 Years In A Row!

At PHYSICAL THERAPYWORKS
We don't just treat injuries,
we help you move forward.

Discover the PHYSICAL THERAPYWORKS Difference

Whether bouncing back from an injury or improving mobility and strength, we use proven techniques and innovative approaches to get you back to what you love -- **stronger and more confident than before.**

29 years of helping patients feel their BEST!

Whether bouncing back from an injury or improving mobility and strength, we use proven techniques and innovative approaches to get you back to what you love -- **stronger and more confident than before.**

Ask about PTWorks+ !

719 Santa Monica Blvd. | (310) 260-9039 | physicaltherapyworks.com

What Democrats are demanding in the fight over Immigration and Customs Enforcement funding

Despite rare negotiations between Democrats and President Donald Trump, a bipartisan agreement on new restrictions for federal immigration enforcement in the next two weeks will be exceedingly difficult — or even “an impossibility,” as Republican Senate Majority Leader John Thune said.

Congress is discussing potential new rules for Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection after officers shot and killed two Minneapolis protesters in January. The negotiations come amid some bipartisan sentiment that Congress should step in to de-escalate tensions over the enforcement operations that have rocked Minnesota and other states.

President Donald Trump last week agreed to a Democratic request that funding for the Department of Homeland Security be separated from a larger spending bill and extended at current levels for two weeks while the two parties discuss possible requirements for the federal agents. House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., said this weekend that he was at the White House when Trump spoke with Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York and that they were “on the path to get agreement.”

But it’s unclear if the president or enough congressional Republicans will agree to any of the Democrats’ larger demands that the officers unmask and identify themselves, obtain judicial warrants in certain cases and work with local authorities, among other asks. Republicans have already pushed back.

And House GOP lawmakers are demanding that some of their own priorities be added to the Homeland Security spending bill, including legislation that would require proof of citizenship before Americans register to vote. South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham and other Republican senators are pushing for restrictions on sanctuary cities that they say don’t do enough to crack down on illegal immigration. There’s no clear definition of sanctuary jurisdictions, but the term is generally applied to state and local governments that limit cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

It’s also uncertain if Democrats who are furious over the Trump administration’s increasingly aggressive immigration enforcement operations would be willing to compromise.

“We don’t need promises. We need law,” Schumer said, adding that Democrats would present Republicans with a “serious, detailed proposal” soon.

A look at Democrats’ demands and what Republicans are saying about them:

AGREEMENT ON BODY CAMERAS

Republicans say they are open to officer-worn body cameras, a change that was already in the underlying Homeland Security spending bill. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem backed that up on Monday when she ordered body-worn cameras to be issued to every Homeland Security officer on the ground in Minneapolis, including those from ICE. She said the policy would expand nationwide as funding becomes available.

The bill already directed \$20 million to outfit immigration enforcement agents with

body-worn cameras.

Gil Kerlikowske, who served as commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection from 2014 to 2017, said that most agents are “very supportive” of cameras because they could help exonerate officers. But he added that complex questions remain, including when footage should be released and when cameras must be activated.

“When do you turn it on? And if you got into a problem and didn’t have it on, are you going to be disciplined? It’s really pretty complex,” he said.

Schumer said Tuesday that the body cameras “need to stay on.”

DISAGREEMENT ON MASKING

As videos and photos of aggressive immigration tactics and high-profile shootings circulate nationwide, agents covering their faces with masks has become a flashpoint. Democrats argue that removing the masks would increase accountability. Republicans warn it could expose agents to harassment and threats.

“State law enforcement, local folks don’t do it,” said Rep. Bennie Thompson, the top Democrat on the Committee for Homeland Security. “I mean, what’s so special about an ICE law enforcement agency that they have to wear a mask?”

But Republicans appear unlikely to agree.

“Unlike your local law enforcement in your hometown, ICE agents are being doxed and targeted. We have evidence of that,” Johnson said on Tuesday. He added that if you “unmask them and you put all their identifying information on their uniform, they will obviously be targeted.”

Immigration officers are already required to identify themselves “as soon as it is practical and safe to do so,” according to federal regulations. ICE officials insist those rules are being followed.

Critics, however, question how closely officers adhere to the regulations.

“We just see routinely that that’s not happening,” said Nithya Nathan Pineau, a policy attorney with the Immigrant Legal Resource Center.

JUDICIAL VS. ADMINISTRATIVE WARRANTS

Democrats have also demanded stricter use of judicial warrants and an end to roving patrols of agents who are targeting people in the streets and in their homes. Schumer said Tuesday that they want “arrest warrants and an end to racial profiling.”

Most immigration arrests are carried out under administrative warrants, internal documents issued by immigration authorities that authorize the arrest of a specific person but do not permit officers to forcibly enter private homes or other non-public spaces without consent. Traditionally, only warrants signed by judges carry that authority.

But an internal ICE memo obtained by The Associated Press last month authorizes ICE officers to use force to enter a residence based solely on a more narrow administrative warrant to arrest someone with a final order of removal, a move that advocates say collides

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Super Bowl Weekend!

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Super Bowl party options galore, Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, Pump Station's 5-Year Anniversary Event, and much more!

British Vocal Ensemble to Perform 'Queen of Hearts' Concert at St. Matthew's Church in Pacific Palisades: The Gesualdo Six, an acclaimed British vocal ensemble, will perform Renaissance music from influential European queens on Friday, Feb. 6, marking the venue's first concert since the 2025 fires. smdp.com/british-vocal-ensemble-to-perform-queen-of-hearts-concert-at-st-matthews-church/

Pump Station's 5-Year Anniversary Event: They are celebrating 5 years on Main St. all week with raffle prizes and other events and having a big in-store event on Saturday, Feb. 7, 1 - 5p.m., 2727 Main St. pumpstation.com/pages/5-year-anniversary-event-details-raffle-prizes

Winter Pruning Workshop at The Learning Garden: This hands-on Fruit Tree Pruning workshop is for anyone who has ever stood beneath a fruit tree wondering: Am I helping... or about to make a very expensive mistake? Saturday, Feb. 7, 1p.m., 13000 Venice Blvd. thelearninggarden.substack.com/p/saturday-27-winter-pruning-workshop

Super Bowl Singles Party: Get off the couch and into the game with fellow fans at this lively singles-friendly watch party, complete with multiple TVs and bar games to keep the energy high between plays. It's perfect for mingling, cheering and enjoying the game in a festive setting. Sunday, Feb 8, Starting at 3p.m., Weary Livers Bar, 2819 Pico Blvd. <https://www.losangelesfunevents.com/event-details/super-bowl-singles-party-2026-no-cover>

Jameson's Santa Monica Super Bowl Watch Party: Experience the energy of Super Bowl at this premier Main Street sports hub, known for its lively atmosphere and numerous HD screens. Fans can enjoy a full menu of pub favorites alongside game-day specials. Sunday, Feb. 8, Starting at 11a.m., 2702 Main St. santamonica.jamesonsirishpub.com

Super Bowl at 1212 Santa Monica: Catch every touchdown and halftime moment in style with this curated experience at this popular downtown bar, where your food & beverage minimum secures your table for game day. Expect great vibes, screens tuned to the big game, and an upbeat sports crowd. Sunday, Feb 8, Starting at 2:30p.m. 1212 3rd St. Promenade allevents.in/santa-monica/superbowl-sunday-at-1212-santa-monica/10000512069422427

Super Bowl On The Beach: Take the big game to the sand with a beachfront party featuring a 20-foot LED screen, food and drink specials, firepits and live entertainment to keep the celebration going from kickoff to kickoff. Tickets and VIP sections are available for those who want to elevate the experience. Sunday, Feb 8, Starting at 3p.m., Perry's Beach Club, 930 Pacific Coast Hwy. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/super-bowl-on-the-beach-perrys-beach-club-sunday-28-tickets-1980415874191>

Big Game Night at The Misfit: Expect a lively crowd on game day with drinks, bar bites and plenty of screens — ideal for fans who want a spirited Super Bowl atmosphere. Tap into the social energy early, as spots fill fast on Sundays like this. Sunday, Feb 8, Starting at 3p.m., 225 Santa Monica Blvd. themisfitbar.com

Watch & Cheer at Big Dean's: This beloved beachfront bar and grill draws crowds during big sports events with strong game-day vibes, cold drinks and great views on big screens. Perfect for fans looking for casual eats, drinks and a communal cheering experience. Sunday, Feb 8, Starting at 3p.m., 1615 Ocean Front Walk bigdeanoceanfrontcafe.com

Viceroy's Big Game Cabana Experience: Enjoy a luxurious Super Bowl viewing from your own private poolside cabana. This upscale watch party features premium food options and an exclusive coastal atmosphere for discerning fans. Sunday, Feb. 8, Starting at 2p.m., 1819 Ocean Ave. viceroyhotelsandresorts.com/santa-monica

Classic Sports Bar Gameday at Barney's: Catch every play on over 40 television screens and multiple projectors throughout this iconic Promenade staple. Expect a raucous atmosphere, extensive beer lists, and classic bar bites from kickoff until the final whistle. Sunday, Feb. 8, Doors open at 9a.m., 1351 3rd Street Promenade barneysbeanery.com/locations/santa-monica

Seaside Super Bowl at The Bungalow: The beachside lounge is bringing in extra LED screens and a giant projector for an epic gameday experience. Guests can enjoy coastal views alongside drink specials and classic gameday snacks throughout the entire afternoon. Sunday, Feb. 8, Starting at 3p.m., 101 Wilshire Blvd. <https://thebungalow.com/santa-monica/>

Fia Super Bowl All Day Brunch Party: They will have the Game on a big projection image on the wall and will be running their regular full a la carte brunch menu from noon to 8pm, plus some game day specials like chicken parmesan sandwiches, wagyu meatball heroes and special Fia Tacos. 2454 Wilshire Blvd. fiarestaurant.com



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 61.5

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIRSURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Waves rebound as overlapping WNW swell moves in, most size in PM. Winds looking light, best in AM. Surf picking up as the first in another good run of WNW swells starts to fill in, showing best over the afternoon, with widespread chest to shoulder high waves. Standouts get better sets before dark. Offshores due much of the morning, followed by a light afternoon W sea breeze.

FRIDAY
FAIR TO GOODSURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Solid surf off peaking swell, rivaling size from Monday. Wind currently looks favorable, AM best. Long period WNW swell runs over-top of the mid to long period WNW swell from Thursday. That swell mix tops out in the afternoon, putting lots of spots in chest to head high+ waves, while better breaks are going overhead. The beachbreaks will be a bit walled at times. Conditions look nice, with light offshore morning winds, turning light WSW onshore in the afternoon.

Weather

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 80. North northeast wind around 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 69. East northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south in the afternoon.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 55.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2026/02/05	Thu	05:14 AM	1.24	L
2026/02/05	Thu	11:03 AM	4.55	H
2026/02/05	Thu	5:26 PM	0.32	L
2026/02/05	Thu	11:59 PM	4.63	H
2026/02/06	Fri	06:06 AM	1.34	L
2026/02/06	Fri	11:48 AM	3.73	H
2026/02/06	Fri	5:48 PM	0.98	L
2026/02/07	Sat	12:33 AM	4.56	H
2026/02/07	Sat	07:11 AM	1.46	L
2026/02/07	Sat	12:44 PM	2.95	H
2026/02/07	Sat	6:03 PM	1.60	L
2026/02/08	Sun	01:13 AM	4.45	H
2026/02/08	Sun	08:52 AM	1.45	L
2026/02/08	Sun	2:36 PM	2.35	H

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>



Draw Date: 2/2
3 8 31 60 65
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 80 M



Draw Date: 2/3
5 6 13 15 23
Fantasy 5



Draw Date: 2/3
5 11 22 25 69
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 346 M



Draw Date: 2/3
EVENING: 9 0 1
Draw Date: 2/3
MIDDAY: 9 9 5



Draw Date: 1/31
6 24 29 32 41
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 25 M



Draw Date: 2/3
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:40:51

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
legal@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING
MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

2219A Main St Santa Monica,
CA 90405
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913



AWARD WINNER



The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC
© 2023 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

Get the local news that matters to you!

Sign up for **The CURRENT**



SMDP's free daily newsletter for all your Santa Monica news & events!

POWERED BY

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Planning Commission Recommendation to the City Council Regarding Amendments to the Text of the City's Zoning Ordinance to Align Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.31.125, Duplexes and Lot Splits on Parcels Zoned for Single-Unit Residential, and other applicable sections as necessary with State Law as Modified by Santa Monica's 6th Cycle Housing Element.

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider a resolution recommending to the City Council that the Council adopt amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance to modify the City's implementation for the allowance of duplexes and lot splits on parcels zoned for single-unit residential to align with State law requirements, as modified by Santa Monica's certified 6th Cycle Housing Element for parcels greater than 10,000 square feet.

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Ross Fehrman, AICP, Acting Planning Manager**
Re: **Duplex and Lot Splits**

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this proposed amendment, please contact Ross Fehrman by e-mail at Ross.Fehrman@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov.

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 3

Super Bowl Fiesta at Lanea: Tackle the big game with \$3 tacos and all-day drink specials at this lively downtown spot. This party features multiple high-definition screens and a high-energy crowd focused on the halftime show and heavy hits. Sunday, Feb. 8, Starting at 1p.m., 217 Broadway gotolanea.com

Floral Arrangement Class at the YMCA: The local YMCA is coming in clutch with an affordable and unique date night idea! They're hosting a succulent-making class, and spots are limited—so grab yours before it fills up. Perfect for couples, friends, or anyone looking to try something new together. Feb. 11, 4:30 - 5:30p.m., 1260 Third Street Promenade. Email kayla@ymcasm.org for more information.

Sushi Class at Soko Sushi: Discover the art of sushi with a new hands-on sushi-making class led by Chef Masa Shimakawa. This 90-minute, beginner-friendly experience begins with a sparkling sake welcome drink, followed by miso soup and salad, and guided instruction on crafting classic salmon, yellowtail, crab, and tuna rolls. Feb. 10, 11, & 12, 5 - 6p.m., 101 Wilshire Blvd. sokosantamonica.com

ONGOING: "Two Bit Circus" Pop-Up; Museum of Illusions; The CUBE VR; Splatter Studio

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Locals Discount Program is Back! The SaMo Public Library has launched a Community Discount Program. Local participating businesses include Fitoor, Junior Cookies, Luke's Lobster, & Offhand Wine Bar, Shake Shack. Check out the full list [here](#) and expect more to come!

Abbot Kinney First Friday Food Truck Fest: About two dozen food trucks are expected to line the street for the monthly event. Friday, Feb. 6, starting at 5p.m. <https://www.abbotkinneyblvd.com/>

Jyan Isaac Bread Launches Lunch & Brunch: Lunch is served Monday through Friday, featuring pizzas (whole and by the slice), sandwiches, and salads, including their take on a chicken katsu sando on shokupan/Texas toast, a crispy rice cobb salad featuring cured and smoked bacon and chile marinated tofu, and a market veggie pizza. Brunch is available Saturdays and Sundays with elevated brunch staples such as their take on a breakfast burrito, French toast, and duck confit hash. 1620 Ocean Park Blvd. instagram.com/jyanisaacbread

A Chili Crisp Crab Melt at Luke's Lobster: Luke's Lobster kicks off 2026 with heat, launching its first limited-time special of the year in collaboration with cult-favorite Fly By Jing. The Chili Crisp Crab Melt turns up the flavor with 2 oz of sweet Jonah crab, gooey cheddar, crunchy cabbage, and a bold chili crisp mayo made with Fly By Jing's Xtra Spicy Sichuan Chili Crisp, all pressed on classic white bread and served with chips (\$18). Snag it for a limited time. 200 Santa Monica Blvd. lukeslobster.com/pages/new-at-lukes-chili-crisp-crab-melt

Celebrating National Croissant Day at Petitgrain Boulangerie: This NBC4 video story profiles the SaMo hit bakery to learn how "drawing on her Paris upbringing and classical French pastry training, founder Clémence de Lutz shares how she brought time-honored techniques and California ingredients together in her cozy seaside bakery. Learn what makes an authentic croissant and how the French really enjoy their favorite flaky staple." nbclosangeles.com/video/california-live/croissant/3838911/

LA Bakery Half Marathon Walk: It is designed to be a fun, low-pressure fitness event that swaps podiums for pastries, inviting participants to walk a half marathon route with bakery stops along the way. Designed for all ages and paces, it blends community spirit, light exercise, and sweet rewards—making it more about enjoying the journey than racing the clock. Lottery for 100 participants is Friday, Feb. 6 and the event is on Feb. 22, 7a.m. instagram.com/labakerywalk

Saturday is Ice Cream for Breakfast Day: YUP...that's a day! The holiday dates back to the 1960s, when Florence Rappaport declared it "Ice Cream for Breakfast Day" to entertain her six kids. Jeni's embraced the tradition by opening at 9a.m. that day and encouraging guests to show up in pajamas. They will be debuting a newly reimagined House Coffee flavor, offering Maple Soaked Pancakes ice cream along with special breakfast-inspired menu pairings, in-shop surprises, including kids' activity sheets, stickers, and festive extras, and a chance to win free ice cream and coffee for a year. Saturday, Feb. 7, 64 Winward Ave., Venice jenis.com/pages/ice-cream-for-breakfast-day

Further Afield: What A Wonderful World - An Audiovisual Poem: Beginning this Friday, the Julia Stoschek Foundation takes over all six floors of the Variety Arts Theater with What A Wonderful World: An Audiovisual Poem, marking the first U.S. presentation of the renowned collection. The immersive exhibition blurs the boundaries between art and cinema, pairing major video works by artists like Marina Abramović, Doug Aitken, Paul McCarthy, and Wolfgang Tillmans with silent and classic films by pioneers including Alice Guy-Blaché, Georges Méliès, Luis Buñuel, and Walt Disney, turning viewers into active participants in a sensory journey. Open Wednesday through Sunday from 5 p.m. to midnight, it's free to attend—with complimentary popcorn. Runs through March 20. jsf.la

Looking Ahead: NBA All-Star Weekend (2/13–15); Lunar New Year at Santa Monica Place (2/21); Frieze LA Art Show (2/26 - 3/1)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Super Bowl Weekend!

UCLA

FROM PAGE 1

more than 200 of Heaps' former patients, said there is no question that jury note should have been shared with attorneys, but said the defense "exploited" the error to overturn Heaps' conviction.

"When that happens, a common defense

" "

When that happens, a common defense tactic is they delay, delay, delay, the second trial

- Courtney Thom

" "

tactic is they delay, delay, delay, the second trial," Thom said. "What does this say to survivors of sexual abuse? Who wants to come forward with their abuse if this is their path to justice?"

Thom's firm won more than \$240 million for Heaps' accusers in a settlement with the University of California system. UCLA patients said Heaps groped them, made suggestive comments or conducted unnecessarily invasive exams. Overall, the university has paid nearly \$700 million to settle lawsuits.

The Los Angeles District Attorney's office said it plans to retry Heaps as soon as possible. Once that happens, his defense attorney Levine said he will ask that his client be released on bond just as he was before the first trial.

FOREPERSON HAD CONCERN ABOUT ALTERNATE JUROR

Heaps' trial spanned more than two months in 2022 and included testimony from several of his former patients. He was accused of sexually assaulting hundreds of patients during his 35-year career. He pleaded not guilty to 21 felony counts in the sexual assaults of seven women between 2009 and 2018.

An hour after a juror was replaced by an alternate, juror number 15, during deliberations, the foreperson sent a note to the judge that read, "We have observed that the language barrier with Juror (No.) 15 is

preventing us from properly deliberating. Juror (No.) 15 was not able to understand calls to vote guilty or not guilty, and expressed to us that his limited English interfered with his understanding of the testimony."

It also appeared that "his mind is already made up," the note read.

Later on, when the judicial assistant spoke to the juror in Spanish, the juror said, "They think that I don't understand English, but I do." He insisted he could continue deliberating.

The next day, the foreperson told the judicial assistant that the note no longer needed to be addressed, according to court filings.

Heaps was convicted in October 2022 of three counts of sexual battery by fraud and two counts of sexual penetration of two patients. The jury found him not guilty of seven of the 21 counts and was deadlocked on the remaining charges.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michael Carter, who oversaw the trial, told the appeals court that when he received an email about the jury note, he told his judicial assistant to ask the jury if they could continue to deliberate. He was informed that the jurors said yes.

The next day, Carter asked the judicial assistant about the note and was told the note had been "withdrawn."

"I did not notify the parties nor did I inquire with the jury about the 'Note to Judge,'" Carter said in a written declaration. He did not explain why.

MISTAKE VIOLATED DEFENDANT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

If the note had been simply disclosed in court, Heaps' defense attorneys would have had the opportunity to question whether that juror was qualified to serve or call for a mistrial, said Robert Little, a Los Angeles attorney specializing in appellate law.

Usually any potential juror who did not speak adequate English is dismissed during the jury selection process, Little said.

"Mistakes are made in courtrooms and during trials every day," Little said. "The question in any given appeal ... is whether that particular error was harmless, or was it prejudicial."

The three-judge panel found "the trial court's handling of the note deprived defendant of his constitutional right to counsel at a critical stage of his trial."

Another attorney for 200 former patients in the case, John Manly, said in a statement the overturning of the conviction "sends a message that victims, especially women and children, do not matter."

"These brave survivors suffered through a four-year ordeal of prosecution and trial resulting in an 11-year prison sentence for this monster," Manly said. "Now they are being told that they must start over."

By JAIME DING and JULIE WATSON Associated Press. Watson reported from San Diego.

TAXES

ALL FORMS, ALL TYPES, ALL STATES

BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS

SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA

(310) 395-9922

100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1753 • Santa Monica 90401

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

YOUR CHOICE

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

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES

- *Nitrous Oxide available
- *No interest payment plans
- *Emergencies can be seen today
- *Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
\$20 EXAM INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

OR

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
\$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

AND OF COURSE WE DO

- Invisalign
- Periodontist on Staff
- Oral Surgeon on Staff
- Cosmetics and Implants
- Zoom bleaching
- and more

SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY

DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th St. Suite #703

(310) 393.8284

WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM



Come visit us in Sunset Park on 17th St & Ocean Park
2601 17th St, Suite B, Santa Monica

sun moon rain
positivity over plastic

**Thank You
Santa
Monica**



sunmoonrain.com • @sunmoonrainlifestyle

EVENTS THIS WEEK FEB.5 - FEB.12

Thursday, February 05, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica.

Author Talk with Vanessa Riley

Join us for an unforgettable experience as we chat online with Vanessa Riley about her newest book, Fire Sword and Sea, based on the folk story of the female pirate Jacquette Delahaye. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-talk-with-vanessa-riley/17839307/2026-02-05T16>

Thursday, February 05, 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

The Crow 2525 Michigan Avenue #Unit F4 Santa Monica.

Night Class Comedy Show

Class in session! Part comedy show. Part podcast interview. All fun. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/night-class-comedy-show/17911873/2026-02-05T20>

PACIFIC
PALISADES

SANTA MONICA

OCEAN
PARK

VENICE

Saturday, February 07, 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

930 Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica.

Perry's Beach Club | SATURDAY 2/7

Happy Hour 3pm-4pm | \$2 Off Bites | 50% off Cocktails | FIREPITS SPACE HEATERS WIND BLOCKERS. \$23.18. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/perry-s-beach-club-saturday-2-7/18001427/2026-02-07T15>

Saturday, February 07, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Hosteling Intl. 1436 2nd Street Santa Monica.

Downtown Walking Tour

Join the Santa Monica Conservancy's Downtown Walking Tour. Discover downtown Santa Monica's architectural gems, history, and culture. From Art Deco to Victorian and Romanesque Revival, you'll explore the various styles that fill the streets of Santa Monica. Explore downtown's diverse architectural heritage, including Bay Cities Guaranty Building, El Miro Theater, Georgian Hotel, Gussie Moran House, Keller Block and more! The Downtown Walking Tour is FREE for Conservancy members, FREE for guests staying at Hostelling International, and \$10 for the general public. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/downtown-walking-tour/15830816/2026-02-07T10>

Friday, February 06, 9:00 p.m.

Harvelle's Santa Monica 1432 4th St, Santa Monica.

Ryan Presents; the 90s!

with LITTLE SISTER , SASSY CHASSIS and OUR NAME IS JONAS Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:00PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tix available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Please note, we are 21 and over only!. Visit:

Friday, February 06, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South 2600 Bernard Way Santa Monica.

Guided Mindful Meditation

Please join every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 10 am for a 45 minute fully guided mindfulness meditation which will include a short loving friendliness meditation at the end. Give yourself the love and attention you deserve by developing your mind, finding peace and creating community. Whether you're new to meditation or a seasoned practitioner everyone is always welcomed. Please bring a cushion or chair. We will meet at the Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South across from the Ocean View Park basketball court. Use these coordinate 33.999050,-118.484385 and look for the Mobile Community Meditation Center banner attached to the tree. Please try to arrive 5 minutes early to set up. And don't forget to check the schedule for any cancellations. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/guided-mindful-meditation/16994548/2026-02-06T10>

Sunday, February 08, 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Circular Library 1221 Abbot Kinney Boulevard Venice.

Craft Café & Supply Swap with Peo Vee

Join Peo Vee for our monthly Craft Café & Supply Swap! Every second Sunday at Circular Library, we invite upcyclers and sustainable crafting enthusiasts to gather, swap supplies, and create together. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/craft-caf-supply-swap-with-peo-vee/17776352/2026-02-08T14>

Check out
more events at:
[smdp.com/events](https://www.smdp.com/events)

VENICE

FROM PAGE 1

Department of Homeless Services and Housing.

County officials cited rising costs, expiring federal pandemic funds and a budget shortfall exceeding \$270 million despite voter approval of Measure A, a 2024 sales tax increase marketed as a way to expand homelessness services.

Despite the cuts, Horvath said the county is issuing nearly \$44 million in Affordable Housing Trust Fund loans to six projects developing 687 units across Los Angeles County, including \$3 million for Venice Dell. She described the project as bringing 120 affordable units to the Westside "where they are desperately needed."

The Venice Dell Community Housing Project is a proposed 100% affordable housing complex planned for a 2.6-acre city-owned lot in Venice about 800 feet from Venice Beach. The development would provide approximately 120 apartments for formerly homeless and low-income residents, along with on-site supportive services.

The design includes replacing all 196 public parking spaces in a new garage to preserve beach access, plus new retail space and maintained access to the adjacent Grand Canal boat launch. Nonprofit developers Venice Community Housing and Hollywood Community Housing Corp. were selected through a 2016 city initiative to build housing on surplus public land. Venice Community Housing previously applied for the County money triggering the recent allocation.

The project has become mired in political and legal limbo despite securing key approvals over its eight-year history.

The California Coastal Commission unanimously approved the 120-unit project and a needed Venice land-use plan amendment after developers agreed to modifications addressing coastal access and design concerns.

However, one day earlier, Los Angeles' Board of Transportation Commissioners voted not to transfer the city lot to the developers, instead recommending the site be used for parking and mobility services with housing built on a different parcel. Park said the project was dead at that time as there was no lot to build it on if the city of Los Angeles withheld the land.

In October 2025, the City Council at Park's urging directed staff to study relocating the affordable housing to a smaller city-owned site, Lot 701, while turning Lot 731 into a

"mobility hub" with parking, shuttles and bike infrastructure.

Park's proposal is for a transit-focused facility that would create transportation infrastructure ahead of the 2028 Olympics. Under that approach, the housing component would be studied for relocation to the adjacent Lot 701, which is already zoned for residential use.

Project supporters call that move a political ploy and note the alternate site has not undergone any of the entitlement or environmental review that Venice Dell already completed.

The approved Venice Dell development already has \$42.5 million in conditional state funding secured — a competitive award from California's housing department — which is tied specifically to the original site. State housing officials have formally warned Los Angeles that further delaying or effectively denying this project could put the city out of compliance with its state-mandated Housing Element and jeopardize the \$42 million in funding.

It has also underscored growing tension between city and county leadership. Horvath was notably absent from Mayor Karen Bass' State of the City address Monday, an event themed around unity and collaboration. The omission has drawn attention as speculation grows that Horvath may abandon her current campaign for re-election as supervisor and instead enter the 2026 mayoral race — potentially challenging Bass in the June primary.

In a statement, Horvath defended the county's approach.

"This year marks a pivot for homelessness spending in Los Angeles County," Horvath said. "We are taking our responsibility seriously — moving funds out of LAHSA into the Department of Homeless Services and Housing, built on accountability, transparency and rigorous oversight."

She said the county must do more with less amid federal neglect and state cuts, backed by Measure A investments in local cities and affordable housing.

"We have prioritized what is most essential: direct services matched with housing solutions," Horvath said. "We will continue to focus on accountability, stretching every local dollar to its greatest impact, holding cities accountable for building housing and ensuring these investments reach the people who need them most."

Reporting from the Westside Current contributed to this report.

Thank you for buying local.

Buy Local SANTA MONICA



It makes a difference!



THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 5

CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviertase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Cada semana será algo nuevo: Ejercicio, Hablando con amigos, Aprendizaje, Presentadores Invitados, Salud y Bienestar. Hay comida para los adultos mayores que participan durante las dos horas. Para más información llame al (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/club-latino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2026-01-08T11>

OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave Venice. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes, and holistic healing. We are dedicated to fostering a strong community, supporting local businesses, and advocating for sustainable practices. Join us in creating a healthier and more connected neighborhood. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/oakwood-roots-farmers-and-wellness-market/14548473/2026-01-22T11>

BOOK RELEASE FOR THE INVASION OF PANTOMIME BY TIM XONNELLY

7:30 p.m. Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd. Venice. Please join us to celebrate the release of SoCal/Berkeley poet Tim Xonnelly's new book, The Invasion of Pantomime. In these poems, Xonnelly reflects upon the surreal quality of the COVID pandemic and entering his seventh decade in an increasingly repressive and violent culture in works replete with dream imagery and queer pride. Also reading will be acclaimed authors antmen pimentel mendoza (My Boyfriend Apocalypse) and Roberto F Santiago (Like Sugar). Of The Invasion of Pantomime, Kirk Read says, "Tim Xonnelly's voice is reassuring. No matter how much technocracy encroaches, there are poets wandering the aisles of Costco or navigating the world of online hookups.... All is not lost. There are still poets being poets. This collection is tender and weird and utterly endearing." Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/book-release-for-the-invasion-of-pantomime-by-tim-xonnelly/17913859/2026-02-05T19>

CHASING MONARCHS

7:30 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St Santa Monica. Fifty years after the startling discovery that monarch butterflies spend winters in the forests of Mexico, photographer and National Geographic Explorer Jaime Rojo reveals this winged wonder of the insect world in new ways with never-before-seen visuals. Tag along with conservationists and citizen scientists who are helping this species avoid catastrophic threats, all through Jaime's beautiful photos and videos. \$125.00 to \$1,000.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/chasing-monarchs/16112586/2026-02-05T19>

TRAKTR RECORDS PRESENTS

8:30 p.m. Harvelle's Santa Monica 1432 4th St, Santa Monica. With JAKAI, MOKAY, P.O.P., JTAPP and AUXIN Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 8:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Please note, we are 21 and over only! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/traktr-records-presents/17821024/2026-02-05T20>

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 6

HISTORY MUSEUM CELEBRATES FOOD & FAMILY

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica History Museum 1350 Seventh Street Santa Monica. Explore the evolution of African American and intercultural food traditions in Southern California, tracing the impact of the Great Migration and global immigration on Santa Monica's culinary landscape. Through the lens of shared meals, recipes, and community gatherings, the exhibition examines how food fosters a sense of belonging, connection, and cultural continuity. Drawn from the archives of the Quinn Research Center and the Santa Monica History Museum, Food & Family features photographs, oral histories, cookbooks, utensils, maps, and other materials that reveal how everyday cooking helped define home and identity for generations of Santa Monica residents. Opening Reception 2pm-4pm on January 24 includes free admission. \$0.00 to \$5.00Free for Children, Students, Seniors, SNAP/EBT card holders. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/new-exhibition-at-the-history-museum-celebrates-food-family/17896821/2026-02-06T11>

DATE NIGHT FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Viola Floral Studios 1639 11th St. Suite 162 Santa Monica. Celebrate Valentine's Day early! Say goodbye to 'What should we do?' on date night! Strengthen your bond by crafting a stunning flower arrangement together. Surprise each other with your creativity and appreciation for beauty in this romantic in-person workshop. Ideal for new couples getting to know each other or those seeking fresh date night ideas. Limited to 8 couples; price is per couple. Level: Beginner. Viola Floral Studio: 1639 11th St. Suite 162, Santa Monica. Convenient parking in the back of the building. Please note that all workshops are non-refundable, but if something comes up, feel free to send a friend in your place — flower joy is always transferable. We'll be starting promptly at 6pm, so plan to arrive by 5:45pm to settle in, sip something refreshing, and get ready to bloom. Kit Included. Everything is taken care of by our amazing team, including fresh flowers, vases, floral shears, and guided instructions to create a stunning floral arrangement. Expect to leave with a flower masterpiece crafted by your own hands, enriched with newfound knowledge of florals and design. \$225.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/date-night-flower-arranging-workshop/17600940/2026-02-06T18>

ELECTRIC LODGE PRESENTS: HIGH VOLTAGE

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Electric Lodge 1416 Electric Avenue Los Angeles. Electric Lodge presents: High Voltage. Join us for High Voltage, an electrifying evening of performance! First Friday of each month. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/electric-lodge-presents-high-voltage/15774947/2026-02-06T20>

WATERSIDE
marina del rey

Here's to Love

*An invitation to shop, dine and
create moments worth keeping.*

BACIO DI LATTE • BARNES & NOBLE
BLUERMERCURY • BRIGHTON COLLECTIBLES
CRUMBL • L'OCCITANE • PAPER SOURCE
SEE'S CANDIES • SEPHORA
SUGARFISH BY SUSHI NOZAWA
and more

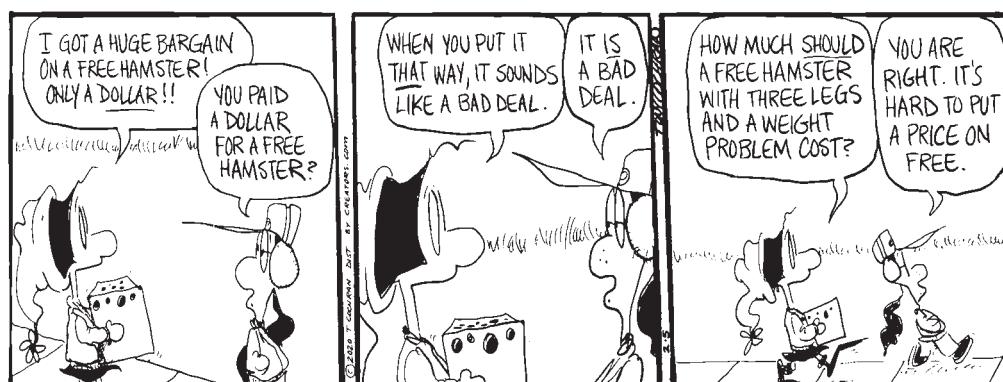
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM

Caruso

SHOPWATERSIDE.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

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 6842

Beach alternatives



Ambush	Care	Frogs	Miami	Rent
Aril	Cool	Goanna	Microclimate	Smell
Assets	Damp	Green	Mist	Soil
Bats	Dance	Gums	Mulch	Surf
Bees	Dark	Iluka	Ocean	Swim
Bike	Dawn	Island	Open	Timber
Bleak	Fern	Keno	Owls	Train
Booth	Fig	Koalas	Paddle	Trip
Brown	Flora	Lakes	Racing	Unit
Cabs	Flume	Laze	Raft	Vine
Canopy	Fresh	Leech	Real	Wind

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Needs more chili powder

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.

To advertise, email legal@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737


Santa Monica Daily Press



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 5)

Welcome to your Year of Incredible Noticing, when your detective-level observations steer you to win hearts, make shrewd investments and often save the day. More highlights: You settle into relationships that heal the past and have you loving in new ways. You create ripples of goodness as you protect and preserve what's precious. High quality "problems" that signal you've finally made it. Capricorn and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 38, 1, 14 and 45.



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your internal compass will not falter. Even when signals seem faint or confusing, your instincts map the path. Trust the process of testing, refining and acting. Every step will confirm what you already intuitively know.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Maybe you don't think of curiosity as part of your beauty routine or your confidence arsenal, but it is definitely a huge reason you are so charismatic. Your curiosity is magnetic. Your attentiveness simply radiates and draws experiences to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ideas tend to come to you in their own time. Today, peace will be the same way. It will blow in like a breeze and alight on your world. The environment clears to make room for more oxygen.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). All delays, detours and false starts will be advantageous to the journey, so don't bother being frustrated. The timing is perfect even when it seems like it's not. Release expectation and accept what comes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There were times you felt fragile, but that was not really the truth. What's true is that you are overqualified for the life you are currently running, and your body, mind and imagination don't want you to pretend otherwise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're the ballast. The ballast keeps everyone from tipping into the ocean. The boat can't go anywhere without it. It's an honor, even though some days you'd rather be the sail - big, proud and seen. This day is coming.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). Complexity doesn't overwhelm you because you know the secret - it's just layers, and you can only be on one plane at a time. First you're handling this, then you're investigating that, and before you know it a pattern is learned, a contradiction anticipated, a nuance understood.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). For most creatures in the world, behavior is a direct reaction to stimuli. Humans are exceptional: We can deliberately separate thought from action, imagine futures, and plan across time and abstract domains. Today, you use this feature to its fullest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sometimes you feel like a gas station. If they pull into your world and fuel themselves for the rest of the journey, remember: Your value isn't measured by how long others stay, but by the energy you generate and where you are headed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Anyone who makes it seem like contributing to your joy is burdensome or that your happiness must be justified or rationed is just plain wrong. Let your delight come guilt free. Want and want more, like there's no such thing as "too much."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). We all like being accepted "as-is," but today has a way of challenging the idea, perhaps by disrupting the status quo so you can discover a new version of you. Challenge could even become an exciting, addicting rhythm - a lifestyle!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Most people assemble a workable life out of partial fits, shared histories, habit, convenience and goodwill. That's how human life usually arranges itself. Every time you choose intention over default, you're doing something extraordinary.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD



Newsday Crossword

LOST ART by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Just darling
5 Lamb tenders
9 Major seller of sofas
13 Tech patron
14 Long-gone bird
15 Hogwarts professor
16 Pregame lineup
19 Overlooks
20 Girder handler
21 Tiki party staple
22 Pot slips
23 Battles of will
31 Made one's way
(through) laboriously
32 Vertical
transportation giant
33 "As I suspected!"
34 Dual-power
35 Pastel purple
37 Almighty, in Arles
38 Indecisive outcome
39 Peseta successor
40 Czar opponent
41 Players without a
wind
45 Actress Drescher
46 Time delay
47 Ashcan School artist
49 Ancestry
54 Undercover
procedures
56 Post for an usher
57 Novelist Murdoch
58 Break (off)

59 Koala color

60 Deltas' neighbors

61 Chopped down

DOWN

1 Tooth's pointed tip
2 Logo seen at Ashe
Stadium
3 Afternoon receptions
4 Isn't flawless
5 GE cofounder
6 Hit the jackpot
7 Keyed up
8 Soak (up)
9 As a backup
10 Actress in four
Brooks films
11 Saber cousin
12 Prefix like atmo-
15 Walks vainly
17 Rather weak
18 Culturally classic
22 Little bit
23 Hard smacks
24 Not stated
25 Certain viper
26 Diversions, for short
27 Sportscast
commentary
28 Model of virtue
29 Her and his
30 Gym amenity
35 Swiss lake
36 Nutrient in spinach

37 ___ Moines

39 Opposite of pacify

40 Reputable

42 "I wish!"

43 Spiritual leader

44 Pester

47 Move a little

48 Young Simpson

49 "Take this from me!"

50 Nickname akin to
Lettie

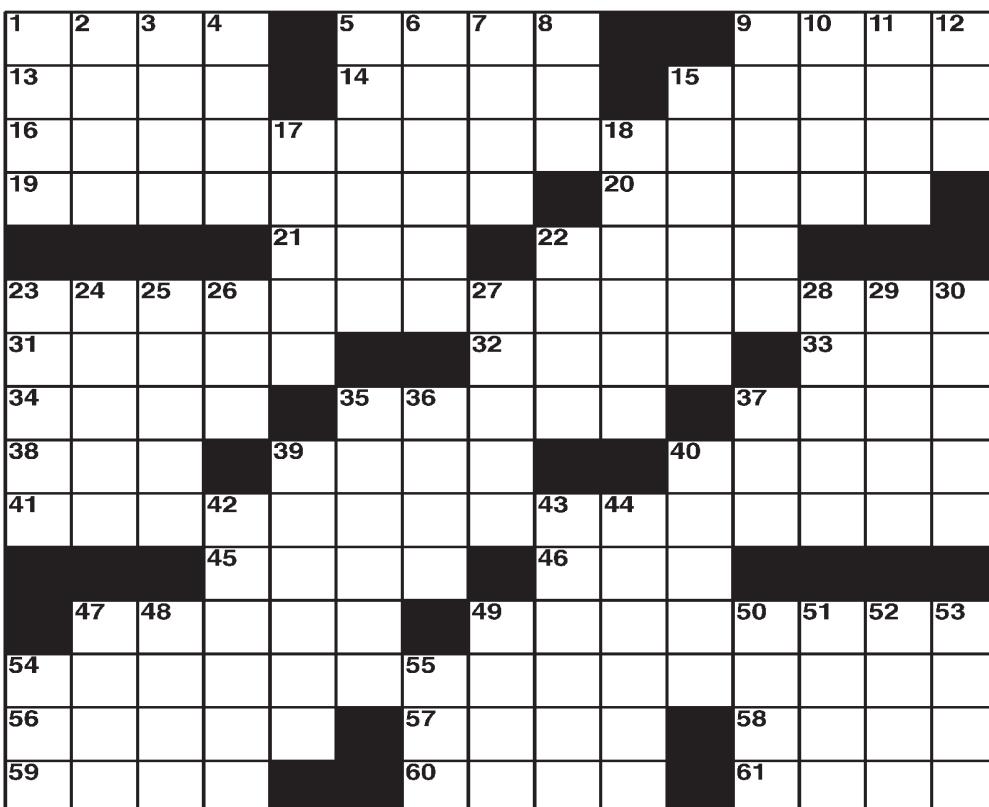
51 First-class

52 Work on bark

53 What's watched in
many a bar

54 Begin to tire

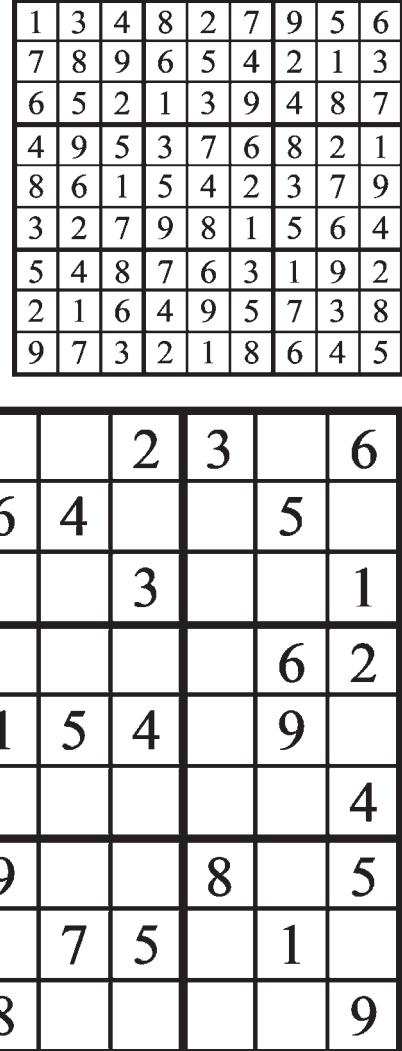
55 Dot on a domino



Sudoku

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S 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.



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

SMC

FROM PAGE 1

approved by the board in March 2023 while the college faced structural deficits.

Using public salary data, Ordaz calculated that the increase translated to approximately \$27,000 annually for the superintendent president, earning over \$380,000 per year, and about \$21,000 annually for vice presidents earning over \$280,000.

"These were not theoretical increases. They were paid in 2023 while we were having the structural deficit that we're just blaming and hanging everything on today, and they became pensionable compensation," Ordaz said.

By contrast, she noted that the lowest-paid classified employees earning around \$50,000 to \$55,000 annually would have received roughly \$290 to \$320 per month from a 7% increase.

"One month of a 7% raise for a single executive management position equals six to eight months of a 7% raise for a front line classified worker," Ordaz said. "Classified staff did not ask for a 7% raise. We were simply asking for our contractual me too, which is less than 1%."

Faculty Association President Peter Morse called the situation "the continuation of a failed approach" that has already resulted in hundreds of faculty being laid off and thousands of students turned away.

"The college leadership appears to continually take the wrong turn and not learn from past mistakes," Morse said. "SMC deserves better."

Associated Students President Ailsa Ortiz expressed deep concern about proposed reductions to student-facing services, particularly tutoring and counseling.

"Approximately one-third of Instructional Support Services, specifically tutoring, are proposed for reductions," Ortiz said. "Many of the positions listed for elimination represent what could be considered as low hanging fruit—rolls that generate immediate savings on paper, but at a disproportionate cost to students when compared to potential reductions at the executive or higher administrative level."

Ortiz noted that Santa Monica College has been the number one transfer institution in California for Black and Latino students, a success metric that directly aligns with equity components of the student-centered funding formula.

"When instructional support and counseling are reduced, it becomes increasingly clear that culturally responsive and identity affirming programs are likely to be disproportionately impacted," she said.

The board itself was divided on both taking responsibility for the years-long crisis and how to address it now.

Trustee Rob Rader, who voted against both resolutions, argued for shared sacrifice across all employee groups rather than targeting specific positions for elimination.

"I don't feel right about making only certain members bear so much of that burden," Rader said. "I think now we are looking at an institution-wide issue that we need to ask all employee groups to take cuts."

Rader proposed a graduated approach where employees making over \$150,000 would take higher percentage cuts than those making less, citing the pandemic when classified staff agreed to cuts to prevent layoffs.

Trustee Nancy Greenstein, who voted against the bulk of the cuts, said she wanted to "see how we can rework it and take some of the burden, particularly off the classified, because it does seem very unfair."

Trustee Tom Peters, who worked at the

college for 15 years before joining the board, supported the resolutions with amendments to spread the impact.

"Management has to look at the possibility of losing their jobs too, and some reshuffling even at the highest levels in this college should take a sacrifice," Peters said.

Trustee Luis Barrera Castanon, who was student body president during previous cuts 20 years ago, said the decision begins a necessary process.

"We need to start this process in order to open those decisions, start that conversation and figure out how do we move forward as a college and how are we going to survive for the next 100 years," Barrera Castanon said.

Trustee Margaret Quinones-Perez opposed the cuts. As the longest-sitting board member she strongly defended the past decision to approve salary increases.

"I don't apologize and I don't regret the pay raises that our employees deserve, and I am not going to ask them to cut their health benefits, and I'm not going to ask them to change their retirement," Quinones-Perez said. "We need to right size this, and we'll do it from the top."

Quinones-Perez rejected criticism that the board had kicked the can down the road, saying she did "the right thing that needed to happen for our employees."

"This is not our money. This is the college's money. This is the employee's money," she said.

Rader pushed back on Quinones-Perez's position, arguing that asking employees to adjust health benefits was preferable to complete job losses.

"Asking people to go from PERS platinum to PERS gold is something that, rather than asking 50 families to lose all of their health benefits, is something that I'm comfortable with," Rader said.

He said the current situation was a textbook example of kicking the can down the road and the board had plenty of blame to accept for not preempting the slow-moving disaster earlier but that some of the recently elected members had inherited a problem they did not cause.

"It was disclosed to us multiple times that our salary structure was such that we were going to spend all the one time money in the reserves. And sure enough, it happened," he said.

Board Chair Sion Roy, who voted for the cuts, said he approached the decision with awareness of the human impact.

"These are numbers on a piece of paper. These are people. These are our people who live in our community, people our neighbors, people who have their own families that rely on them," Roy said. "There's nothing positive to be said. And I'm sorry that it's come to this."

According to a statement from Superintendent/President Kathryn E. Jeffery, she will work with senior leadership over the next couple of weeks to review all classified management and academic administrator positions for potential restructuring.

Additional management and administrator positions will be identified for possible reduction and presented to the Board of Trustees. Affected employees will receive official notice outlining the process and providing resources.

"Like other higher education institutions facing similar budgetary pressures, SMC has to take the necessary steps to safeguard our fiscal viability," Jeffery stated. "Difficult conversations lie ahead, and our students will continue to remain at the center of every conversation related to our fiscal challenges."

editor@smdp.com

ICE

FROM PAGE 2

with Fourth Amendment protections.

Democrats have not made clear how broadly they want judicial warrants used. House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York said that Democrats want to see "an end to the targeting of sensitive locations like houses of worship, schools and hospitals."

Johnson said Tuesday that Democrats are trying to "add an entirely new layer" by seeking warrants signed by a judge rather than the administrative warrants that are signed by the department. "We can't do that," he said.

The speaker has said that an end to roving patrols is a potential area of agreement, but he did not give details.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND MORE ACCOUNTABILITY

Democrats have also called for a uniform code of conduct for all ICE and federal agents similar to that for state and local law enforcement officers.

Federal officials blocked state investigators from accessing evidence after protester Renee Good was shot and killed by an ICE

agent on Jan. 7. Gov. Tim Walz, a Democrat, demanded that the state be allowed to take part, saying that it would be "very difficult for Minnesotans" to accept that an investigation excluding the state could be fair.

HOPING FOR A MIRACLE

Any deal Democrats strike on the Department of Homeland Security is unlikely to satisfy everyone in the party. Rep. Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts said she would never support an agreement that didn't require unmasking.

"I ran for Congress in 2018 on abolish ICE," Pressley said. "My position has not changed."

Thune, of South Dakota, has repeatedly said it's an "impossibility" to negotiate and pass something so complicated in two weeks. He said any talks should be between Democrats and Trump.

"I don't think it's very realistic," Thune said Tuesday about finding quick agreement. "But there's always miracles, right?"

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and JOEY CAPPELETTI Associated Press. Associated Press writer Rebecca Santana contributed to this report.

Classifieds

DBA

DBA

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025286593. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BUDDHABILITY, CULTURE OF PEACE PRESS, 606 WILSHIRE BLVD., SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL-USA, 606 WILSHIRE BLVD., SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 03/2010. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /s/ MICHAEL BYNUM, VICE PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/29/2025. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/15/2026, 01/22/2026, 01/29/2026, 02/05/2026, 02/12/2026, 02/19/2026, 02/26/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026015156. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: LEGACY IN PROGRESS, 2801 OCEAN PARK BLVD #2419, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): ALICIA COLLINS, 2801 OCEAN PARK BLVD #2419, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /s/ Alicia Collins, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/21/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/29/2026, 02/05/2026, 02/12/2026, 02/19/2026, 02/26/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026020214. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: RAVENWOOD INTELLIGENCE COOPERATIVE, RAVENWOOD INTELLIGENCE, RAVENWOOD INTEL, RAVENWOOD, 100 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE 700, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. AI#ON B2026001784S. Registered Owner(s): RAVENWOOD INTELLIGENCE COOPERATIVE, INC., 100 WILSHIRE BLVD SUITE 700, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /s/ PHILIP M FIELDS, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/28/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 02/05/2026, 02/12/2026, 02/19/2026, 02/26/2026

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25STCP03988. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 N. Hill St., LA, CA 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse. Petition of Zachary Jamison Karon for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Zachary Jamison Karon filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Zachary Jamison Karon to Jamison Rockmore. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: 03/09/2026, Time: 8:30am, Dept: 45, Room: 529. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS. Date: 10/14/2025. Virginia Keeny, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/15/2026, 01/22/2026, 01/29/2026, 02/05/2026

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401



Saint John's
Health Center
Providence

Better is a
state-of-the-art gym to
build a stronger brain.

The FitBrainSM gym at Saint John's is pioneering treatments in brain fitness by using innovative technology to gamify physical and cognitive tasks, improving mind-body connection and helping to prevent or slow down the effects of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Sessions at the FitBrain gym are tailored to each patient's individual goals and have been shown to positively impact processing speed and executive functions, as well as enhance balance and mood.

It's just one of the many ways we treat you for the better.

Everything for the
Better.TM