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COLDWELL BANKER
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Goes haywire with new report.
- 3 **Teachers & Schools**
Unable to fix low test scores.



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They're here.
- 7 **February Campaign**
Pier to share love stories.

Volume 25 Issue 58

THE WEEKENDER 2/6-2/8

smdp.com

Super Bowl features Santa Monicans on both teams

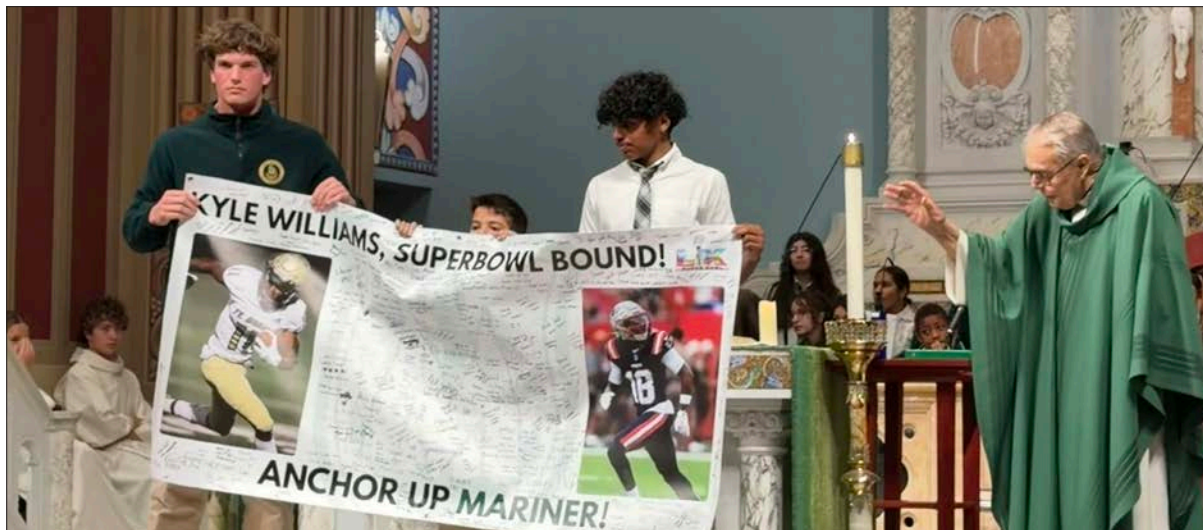
MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

When the New England Patriots and Seattle Seahawks take the field at this year's Super Bowl, at least one player from each team will carry strong ties to Santa Monica.

Wide receiver Kyle Williams starred at Saint Monica Preparatory during his senior year while linebacker Uchenna Nwosu was once employed at a local restaurant.

Williams, a 2025 draft pick for the Patriots, graduated from the school in 2020 after transferring for his final high school season where he made an immediate and lasting impact on the Mariners' program.

The wide receiver's arrival at St. Monica proved transformative for both the player and the school. After attending Hawthorne High and Narbonne High, where he played quarterback and defensive back, Williams switched to wide receiver at St. Monica and became the centerpiece of the Mariners' offense.



SUPER BOWL: St. Monica's blessed a banner for Kyle Williams in anticipation of the big game this weekend.

His debut for the school left no doubt about his abilities. In his first game wearing the Mariner green and gold, Williams returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown. The school's athletic director joked afterward, "Are you impressed now?", acknowledging

Williams was "a little better than the rest of the league."

During the 2019 season, Williams caught 31 passes for 763 yards and nine touchdowns, averaging an impressive 24.6 yards per catch. He helped lead St. Monica to a 7-2 record and a playoff berth. Beyond

receiving, Williams showcased his versatility by returning kicks, making him one of the most dynamic players in the conference.

James Spellman, the school's principal, recalled Williams as kind,

SEE SUPER BOWL PAGE 6

Two fatalities on PCH underscore persistent safety crisis

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Two people died in separate incidents on Malibu roadways this week, highlighting an ongoing traffic safety emergency that has claimed dozens of lives in recent years despite millions of dollars in improvements.

A single-vehicle crash on Malibu

Canyon Road killed one person Wednesday morning after their vehicle went over the side of the road, according to the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The crash occurred around 7:40 a.m. just north of Potter Drive, and the California Highway Patrol said one person was pronounced dead at the scene.

The death came two days after

a pedestrian was struck and killed Monday night on Pacific Coast Highway near Paradise Cove. The Los Angeles County Medical Examiner's Office identified the victim as 31-year-old Norberto Guevara Jr. The crash occurred around 7:30 p.m. near Winding Way and closed all lanes of PCH for several hours. Authorities said the driver stayed at the scene and

cooperated with investigators, who do not suspect drugs, alcohol or speeding played a role.

The fatalities represent the latest in a years-long pattern that has prompted Malibu officials to declare a local emergency for Pacific Coast Highway.

Between 2011 and 2023, roughly

SEE PCH PAGE 6

Voting opens for this year's Most Loved contest

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

It's the most beloved time of the year with the opening of the 2026 Most Loved contest allowing locals to recognize the very best of Santa Monica across more than 100 categories.

The annual "people's choice" competition highlights the city's favorite businesses, offering winners citywide recognition and stronger customer connections.

City economic experts say the contest provides valuable free publicity, with even a nomination boosting a business's visibility.

"Winning often comes down to a few hundred votes so businesses that make that extra effort can boost their chances while also having some fun with their customers around the contest," said SMDP Publisher Ross Furukawa, emphasizing that even small promotional efforts can make a difference.

Winners receive more than bragging rights. They are honored at one of the year's best parties, receive official city commendations and hobnob with the city's movers and shakers. Winners also earn recognition in the annual Most Loved magazine, distributed in hotels, businesses and visitor centers throughout the city.

Free voting runs from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, at

SEE MOST LOVED PAGE 4

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LEONARD HORN

March 22, 1937 - November 12, 2025

Leonard Horn passed away on November 12, 2025, after a brief illness, leaving behind a lifetime shaped by curiosity, etched by travel and punctuated by words (lots and lots of words!).

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Len and his wife, Marilyn traveled to California in 1960. Within 10 minutes of arriving, they knew it was home. Len attended the Art Center in Los Angeles and later graduated from UCLA with a Master of Fine Arts. A creative with a scientific mind, Len designed private airplane interiors and then worked as an automobile accident reconstruction expert.

Travel was important to Len but it was always about the journey, not the destination. Whether crossing streets close to home or borders unknown, he liked the feeling of being slightly changed by a place, of seeing how others lived in that space and thinking carefully about what that meant.

Len did not live loudly, but he lived thoughtfully. We feel his absence in the quiet spaces — on the shelf where his books remain, on the trails he walked, and in the simple, handmade things he left behind.

Len wasn't religious but he knew and understood grace. And the beautiful Santa Monica Canyon thanks him for his decades of steady steps.



IN LOVING MEMORY

He is predeceased by his son Andrew Horn; his mother Concetta "Tina" Horn (née Sciacca); father Jack Horn; and his sister Carol Mateo. He is survived by his devoted wife Marilyn Horn (née Charney); his son Jeremy Horn, daughter in law Silvana Horn (née Focchi) and beloved grandson Luca Horn; and by his brother Leroy Horn and sisters Linda Lee and Roslyn Schaffer.

A gathering to remember him will take place on Friday, February 6, 2026, at the Rustic Canyon Recreation Center in Santa Monica, CA.

Race for L.A. Mayor descends into chaos amid new accusations against Karen Bass

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

The race for Los Angeles mayor has erupted into turmoil as incumbent Karen Bass faces explosive allegations of altering a critical wildfire report, a frontrunning challenger withdrew following a family tragedy and her chief 2022 rival signaled he may jump back into the contest.

The upheaval centers on a Los Angeles Times report published Feb. 4 alleging that Bass directed changes to an official after-action report on the devastating Palisades Fire to downplay failures by the city and fire department. The fire, which struck in January 2025, killed 12 people and destroyed about 6,800 structures in Pacific Palisades.

Within 24 hours of that report, the mayoral race underwent a dramatic reshaping. Former Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Austin Beutner, one of Bass's most prominent critics, announced Feb. 5 he was withdrawing from the race following the death of his 22-year-old daughter. That same week, billionaire developer Rick Caruso, who narrowly lost to Bass in 2022 and had previously announced he would not run in 2026, said he is "reconsidering" entering the race in light of the fire report allegations.

The convergence of events has thrown the June 2 primary into flux just days before the filing deadline, leaving Bass suddenly vulnerable.

The Los Angeles Times reported that Bass interfered with the Palisades Fire after-action report, citing two sources familiar with the mayor's office. According to the sources, Bass told then-interim Fire Chief Ronnie Villanueva that an initial draft documenting Los Angeles Fire Department shortcomings could expose the city to legal liability. She allegedly wanted certain critical findings removed or softened before the document went public.

The sources claimed Bass held onto the original draft until edits were made, though it remains unclear whether she or her staff edited line-by-line or gave general directives to the fire department. The Times investigation built on an earlier review of seven draft versions of the after-action report, which first revealed in December that changes were made prior to the final report's release on Oct. 8, 2025.

Media coverage has highlighted substantial differences between the report's initial draft and the final published version. An early draft stated that the decision not to fully staff and pre-deploy all available engines ahead of forecasted hurricane-force winds "did not align" with LAFD protocols for red flag days. In the final report, this was rewritten to claim the number of engine companies deployed actually "went above and beyond the standard LAFD pre-deployment matrix."

A section originally labeled "failures" was retitled as "primary challenges," and a note indicating that personnel violated national safety guidelines meant to prevent firefighter deaths and injuries was completely removed. Language describing how some fire crews waited over an hour for an assignment during the crisis was deleted.

Perhaps the most significant edit involved a detailed passage criticizing LAFD's preparedness. The draft argued that if the

department had "augmented all available resources as done in years past" — including recalling off-duty firefighters — then all crews could have been deployed, which might have improved the response. This entire passage was removed. In its place, the final report asserted that LAFD "balanced fiscal responsibility with proper preparation" by adhering to its standard predeployment plan.

Fire Chief Jaime Moore, who took over the department in November 2025, acknowledged internally that the after-action report "was edited to reduce criticism" of LAFD leadership.

Bass flatly denied the allegations. In a Feb. 4 statement, her office said the mayor "made no changes" to any draft and only asked the fire department to ensure factual accuracy on technical points like weather conditions and budget figures. Bass emphasized she had been "unequivocal for months" in stating she merely reviewed an early draft and did not alter it.

"There is absolutely no reason why she would request those details be altered or erased when she herself has been critical of the response to the fire — full stop," her office said.

Bass's statement attacked the Los Angeles Times report, calling it "muckraking journalism at its lowest form" and condemning the paper for relying on "third-hand unsourced information."

Caruso seized on the allegations, blasting Bass on social media and in media appearances. He wrote that "Karen Bass actively covered up a report meant to examine the most significant disaster in Los Angeles history... This is a complete loss of public trust and an intentional act of covering up the actions that led to people dying."

In an interview with KNX radio, Caruso called the situation "an outrage."

"For months we've been talking about what we have been labeled firegate," Caruso said. "Now the city has attempted to cover up their failures in responding to the fire, and now we clearly know that this failure goes directly to Mayor Bass, which is, you know, beyond unacceptable because you take an oath in office as a mayor to protect the residents of the city."

Caruso said the intent of an after-action report is "to learn from the mistakes, understand the mistakes that were made, be honest about the stakes, mistakes that were made, just so it doesn't happen again."

"And if you edit it, water it down, whatever you want to eliminate vision, then you're putting everybody at risk again, and it just violates the sacred duty that a elected official has to the residents," he said.

Asked whether Bass should resign if the allegations proved true, Caruso demurred. "I'm not going to go there at this time," he said. "I think everybody should read this report. I'm sure there's going to be more reporting after this. I doubt will be the last story The LA Times has. I think this is something that she really has to look in her own heart and say, what's best for the city."

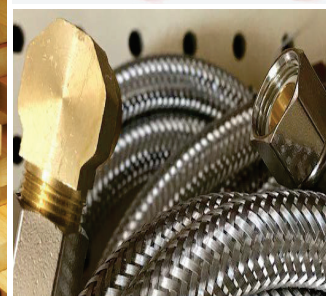
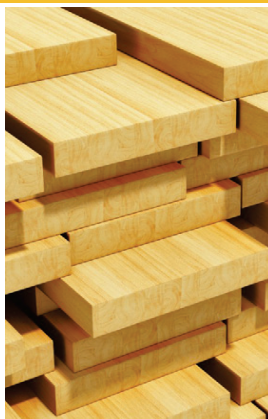
Regarding his potential entry into the race, Caruso acknowledged receiving numerous calls urging him to run. "Well, there's no question I need to process all of this, and honestly, I haven't made a decision, but I'm worried about the city," he said. "There's no secret how much I love the city. I've talked about that for decades,

SEE KAREN BASS PAGE 11

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Here's why California's teachers and schools can't fix low test scores on their own

California's latest standardized test results have triggered the usual alarm: Why are students underperforming?

But the familiar narrative — blaming teachers, curriculum or school culture — misses deeper structural realities behind the numbers.

Just 47% of students met English standards and 36% met math standards, according to the 2024–25 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress results. On the National Assessment of Educational Progress exam, only 29% of California 4th-graders and 25% of 8th-graders scored proficient in reading and math.

These numbers look stark, but in context they reveal far more about the conditions California children are growing up in than the quality of classroom instruction.

California educates a disproportionate share of children experiencing housing insecurity. A 2024 analysis found that 4% of California students were homeless, with some counties reaching 16%. The California Department of Education reports 230,443 homeless students statewide, a 26% increase over five years that mirrors broader trends in affordability, overcrowding and displacement.

Poverty and residential instability suppress academic outcomes across states. Still, California's much higher share of students facing these hardships and attending public schools — rather than being absorbed into private ones — exerts a downward pressure on statewide scores.

Another defining factor is California's substantial English learner population. According to the Public Policy Institute of California, current and former English learner students score 16–17 percentage points lower, on average, than peers who were never classified as English learners.

This is not evidence of system failure; it reflects the time and stability required to learn academic English. California's public schools serve more English learner students than any other state. These students need multi-year support, consistent teaching and predictable housing.

Pandemic recovery, too, remains uneven. California's national assessment results are still below pre-pandemic levels, and the lowest-performing students lost the most ground — an inequity that the Public Policy Institute and CalMatters have repeatedly documented. Chronic absenteeism also has not returned to pre-2020 levels.

Additionally, in some higher-income districts, many of the highest-achieving students now opt out of the state's standardized testing altogether, meaning statewide averages increasingly reflect a more skewed testing pool.

WHO'S NOT TAKING THE TESTS?

The least-discussed factor may be the most important: who is not included in California's test scores.

The state and national tests rely almost entirely on public school samples. Private school students — who are disproportionately affluent, stably housed and high-performing — are not included in state averages. According to the California Department of Education, 494,464 students attend private schools statewide, representing 7.8% of all K–12 students.

In San Francisco, the share reaches nearly 30%. A full county-by-county breakdown is available here.

The exclusion of these students reshapes the public school landscape. Public schools end up serving a much more concentrated population of high-need students, independent of teaching quality. And the fiscal consequences are severe: public-school funding follows enrollment. When families move to private schools, districts lose revenue.

KQED reports that San Francisco Unified's loss of 4,000 students cost the district roughly \$80 million annually, or \$20,000 per student.

Fewer students mean fewer counselors, fewer reading specialists, and fewer supports that help struggling learners succeed. Loss of federal funding also affected English learners and other support services, exacerbating the problem.

IMPROVING THE ODDS

Raising California's test scores requires solving the right problem. Scores are low because a higher proportion of children live in deep poverty, experience housing instability or homelessness, are learning English, or are attending school inconsistently — and because a significant share of higher-income students is not in the testing pool at all.

Test scores improve when children's conditions improve. That means expanding stable, affordable housing; adopting and scaling the science of reading statewide; providing targeted, meaningful support for English learners; reducing chronic absenteeism, and stabilizing district funding in communities experiencing enrollment loss.

California's public schools are doing the most challenging work with the fewest advantages. If we continue judging them without acknowledging who they serve — and who they don't — we will continue diagnosing the wrong problem and offering the wrong solutions.

Jill Stegman is a retired educator and community advocate on California's Central Coast



Surf report WATER TEMP: 62.8

FRIDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 4-6ft
Chest to overhead

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.

SATURDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 4-6ft+
Chest to 1ft overhead

Fading but still punchy surf as swell eases, most size in the morning. Best winds then too. Easing WNW swell is still good for widespread chest to head high+ waves in the morning, as best breaks hit overhead. Surf will taper off during the day along with the fading swell. Light offshores due in the early morning, shifting to a SW sea breeze for the afternoon.



Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south in the afternoon.

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

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 72.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 57.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2026/02/08	Sun	6:01 PM	2.12	L
2026/02/09	Mon	02:07 AM	4.34	H
2026/02/09	Mon	10:49 AM	1.11	L
2026/02/10	Tue	03:24 AM	4.33	H
2026/02/10	Tue	12:02 PM	0.63	L
2026/02/11	Wed	04:40 AM	4.51	H
2026/02/11	Wed	12:47 PM	0.18	L



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: 2/4
27 29 30 37 58
Power#: 15
Jackpot: 102 M



Draw Date: 2/4
9 11 25 26 29



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



Draw Date: 2/4
EVENING: 2 5 0
Draw Date: 2/4
MIDDAY: 1 2 0



Draw Date: 2/4
2 15 17 22 38
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 26 M



Draw Date: 2/4
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:40.30

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AWARD WINNER



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Santa Monica Daily Press

MOST LOVED

FROM PAGE 1

smdp.com/vote.

The Most Loved contest grew out of Santa Monica's Buy Local campaign, which launched in 2010. The contest itself began as a partnership between the City of Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Daily Press and local business districts to encourage residents to shop local and recognize beloved businesses.

In its first year, the contest featured a few dozen categories. By 2025, the competition recognized more than 235 local businesses and generated more than 70,000 votes

The initiative is now a co-production of

the Santa Monica Daily Press and the City of Santa Monica's Buy Local Santa Monica Committee, which represents more than 1,500 businesses employing over 4,000 Santa Monica residents.

City officials regard the contest as one of the most important ways the city, residents and local business community come together to celebrate Santa Monica businesses.

The contest's economic benefits extend beyond recognition. Being named "Most Loved" often drives new customers to businesses, with residents eager to support their favorite local establishments.

Locally owned businesses account for roughly 65% of the city's general fund revenues. City officials emphasize that an

estimated \$7 out of every \$10 spent at a local business stays in the community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures, funding essential services including police, fire, parks and libraries. A portion of every local sale also supports public schools through voter measures.

"The visitors to Santa Monica want to go where the locals go, and what better guide than the Most Loved Santa Monica publication and website," said Jennifer Taylor, the city's economic development administrator.

Beyond economics, the contest has become a cherished part of Santa Monica's culture, fostering civic pride and community engagement. The published rankings serve

as a year-round guide for residents and tourists seeking authentic local experiences.

The awards ceremony has evolved into a festive annual gathering where hundreds of community members, business owners and officials celebrate together. Last year's event at Santa Monica Brew Works drew more than 400 attendees and distributed 111 awards.

Supporting local businesses also provides environmental benefits by reducing the need for long car trips or shipping, lowering traffic congestion and energy use while helping preserve the community's distinctive character.

editor@smdp.com



City of
Santa Monica

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.



City of
Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

Building & Fire-Life Safety Commission
Landmarks Commission
Measure GS Resident Oversight Committee
Personnel Board
Recreation & Parks Commission
Transient Occupancy Tax Advisory Committee

SCHEDULED & UNSCHEDULED VACANCIES

BUILDING & FIRE-LIFE SAFETY COMMISSION:

Two seats available for terms ending **June 30, 2028**

One seat requires the applicant to be a California-registered Fire Protection Engineer

LANDMARKS COMMISSION:

One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2026**

Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident

MEASURE GS RESIDENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

One seat available for a term ending: **June 30, 2029**

Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident and a member of a low-income household (non-deed-restricted or deed-restricted) who meet one of the following requirements:

- Participant from a locally funded rent subsidy program (such as the Preserve Our Diversity [POD] program)
- Individual with mental or physical challenges
- Individual who was formerly homeless

Registered lobbyists and persons working for organizations seeking funding from the Homelessness Prevention and Affordable Housing Fund are ineligible to serve as members.

PERSONNEL BOARD:

One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2027**

Applicant must be either a resident of the City or a resident of Los Angeles County that is employed full-time within the City, or owns real property in the City, or has been issued a business license by the City

RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION:

One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2027**

Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Three seats available for terms ending **June 30, 2027**

Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident or a member representing the homeless behavioral health services community

Applications due by noon, March 17, 2026

Appointments to be made by City Council, **March 24, 2026**. Applicants are encouraged to attend the meeting and speak about their qualifications during public comment.

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

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

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards

All current applications on file will be considered.

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





OPINION

UNMUTED

Devan Sipher

Send comments to
editor@smdp.com

They're here

For people of a certain age, the invocation of unnatural malevolence will always be the two words spoken by a cherubic five-year old in a Spielberg classic film: "They're here."

I strongly believe there's a danger in alarmist rhetoric or over-reaction to political provocations, and in a recent column I wrestled with the challenge of maintaining our vigilance as well as our equilibrium. But the hope for equilibrium was annihilated last week with the death of Alex Pretti. There are brownshirts roving our streets killing citizens, and they're doing so with remorselessness and impunity.

No one knows precisely what happened during the confrontations with Pretti or with Renée Good. Protesters aren't saints, and they rarely behave like Buddhist monks. But when a government leader emulates a Nazi SS officer and espouses hostility to Constitutional law, it's no longer about Cassandra-like warnings of what may happen in the future. It's about halting a perilous descent.

Masked men are seizing citizens from their homes without warrants, let alone due process. We cannot wait this out. We cannot focus on our individual lives for the next three years, in the hope that sanity and decency will eventually prevail. History suggests those are the first casualties in regimes that reward sadists and disparage good samaritans. The President, who is prone to psychological projection, has described the situation as domestic terrorism, and indeed it is. But it's the government terrorizing the people.

There are signs that the President is mitigating his approach, and we can only hope that justice will be restored. But we must remember that the moral paragon replacing Gregory Bovino, the would-be Waffen fashionista, is Tom Homan, the man who was allegedly recorded accepting a \$50,000 bribe in a Cava

takeout bag. Meaning we are still at the mercy of bottom feeders.

So what can we do? Actually, quite a lot, because we, the people, are still the ones in charge. The President serves us, not the reverse, and if enough of us choose to exercise our dormant powers, they are formidable.

We don't need to put our lives at risk, as Ukrainians are doing on the frontlines every day. We don't even need to man barricades, as French students did in 1968. We can do something far easier by just showing up for an hour or so at the next No Kings rally on March 28th.

You can bring your kids. You can bring your grandparents. In Santa Monica, you could have a picnic or a family reunion in Palisades Park while letting Washington know that there is a silent majority that objects to the actions being taken in our name.

Seven million people participated across the country at the No King rallies last October. If each of us contacts all our friends and loved ones who are unsettled by the threat to our democracy, there could possibly be 20 million people standing in solidarity in March. Or 50 million.

We can vote for different people. We can disagree about policies and procedures. But we can't disagree about malice and lawlessness.

There have always been a small number of people who lurk in the shadows, who savor cruelty, and whose only fealty is to greed and power. They've come out from under their rocks, and now they're here. But we're also here, and this can be what unites us.

As Steven Spielberg proved in "Poltergeist," a horror story can have a happy ending.

By Devan Sipher

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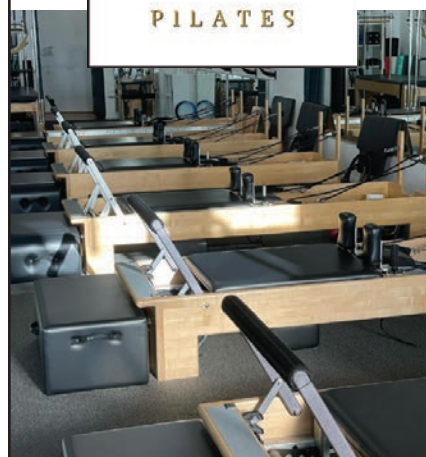
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SUPER BOWL

FROM PAGE 1

polite and focused.

"He was always here early, meeting with counselors, teachers, or working out on the quad with his brother Mychai, who also attended the school, and other peers," Spellman said. "Kyle was approachable and had a great big smile when you engaged him and got him talking."

Spellman described Williams as mature, humble and occasionally shy, but always respectful and eager to help. The receiver had friends across grade levels and could often be found in the student cafe area, laughing with peers.

Williams' performance at St. Monica attracted Division I college recruiters. He earned a three-star recruit rating and a scholarship to UNLV, where he continued to excel. As a freshman, he led the team in receiving and earned conference Freshman of the Year and Freshman All-American honors. He twice made the Mountain West All-Academic Team and graduated with a degree in business.

Spellman expressed hope that Williams learned important lessons during his time at the school.

"I hope Kyle learned that he has God-given talent, a ferocious work ethic, and a kind heart, which all combined made him the young man he is," Spellman said. "I hope he learned that it is okay to be yourself and that there are folks here at Saint Monica that love him and care for him no matter where the road takes him."

The principal added that Williams "is a member of the Mariner family for life."

Williams' success has resonated deeply with current students and alumni. Students from his graduating class have reached out

to Spellman to express happiness for their former classmate. Williams graduated in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, making his success particularly meaningful.

"This is a bright spot they can reflect on as one of their own is on TV, playing in the NFL," Spellman said.

Current students have embraced Williams' journey to the Super Bowl with enthusiasm. They have created banners and short videos to show their support for No. 18. Alumni have sent text messages to Spellman wishing Williams well and expressing pride in having another Mariner reach the NFL.

Spellman said students are in awe that someone who recently sat in the same classrooms and wore the same uniform now plays at football's highest level.

"Inspiration and a direct connection to dreams are dreams, but they can come to fruition through sacrifice, laser focus, and hard work, regardless of where you played ball in high school," he said.

The principal noted that students are eager to watch the Super Bowl and pray for Williams to have a great game. The excitement has united the campus around celebrating one of their own reaching the pinnacle of his profession.

"Students are dreaming and thinking 'what if,' and that is what high school and being young are all about," Spellman said.

Nwosu is a former USC Trojan who entered the 2018. During his career he has earned a reputation for both his pass-rushing and his youth-focused philanthropy.

Mark Verge said he was always a great person when he worked at the OP Cafe and said Nwosu has kept in touch with former co-workers despite his success on the field.

editor@smdp.com

PCH

FROM PAGE 1

170 people were killed or seriously injured on the 21-mile stretch of PCH through Malibu, according to data from the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System.

Speeding is the leading factor in accidents, with Malibu officials noting excessive speed caused 61 fatalities on PCH in the past decade. Police have clocked cars racing at speeds between 107 and 112 mph on the highway, where posted limits range from 45 to 55 mph.

In one headline grabbing case, four Pepperdine University students were fatally struck while standing on a sidewalk in 2023, marking the deadliest pedestrian-vehicle collision in Los Angeles County in more than a decade.

Efforts to police the road are constant. Last week, the Malibu City Council unanimously approved extending the local emergency declaration for Pacific Coast Highway, which has been in effect since November 2023. The declaration must be renewed every 60 days under state law.

Malibu has invested approximately \$39 million in traffic safety projects along PCH over the past decade, including traffic signals, crosswalk installations, raised medians and a Zuma Beach bike route. The city recently completed a \$19 million signal synchronization system linking 12 traffic lights along PCH to coordinate green lights at the speed limit.

The city hired the California Highway Patrol on contract in 2024 to supplement the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on PCH. Three CHP officers now patrol full-time on the highway for the first time since 1991. In the first half of 2024, CHP and sheriff's deputies issued 4,790 traffic citations — 82% more speeding tickets than the prior

year — and Malibu saw a 36% drop in injury crashes.

Because PCH is a state highway, the California Department of Transportation plays a pivotal role in safety improvements. Gov. Gavin Newsom announced a renewed state effort targeting the corridor, and Caltrans invested \$4.2 million under an emergency order for quick fixes including lane separators, high-visibility striping and fresh crosswalk markings.

Caltrans is preparing to pilot quick-build roundabouts at two western Malibu intersections near El Matador Beach and Encinal Canyon, where beach traffic and speeding cars frequently mix with pedestrians. Installation is expected in 2025-26, with officials estimating the roundabouts could reduce crashes by 39%.

In September 2024, California passed Senate Bill 1297 to authorize automated speed cameras on PCH in Malibu. The law permits the city to install five speed camera systems at crash hot spots, with cameras expected to go live by late 2025.

The California Office of Traffic Safety provided \$555,000 in late 2023 to the sheriff's department, Los Angeles Police Department and Santa Monica Police for extra PCH patrols and equipment. The office has earmarked \$460,000 for Malibu in fiscal 2025 specifically for PCH safety enforcement and education.

Federal highway safety grants have supported enforcement and education efforts, including an \$87,000 grant for DUI checkpoints and patrols in summer 2023.

In total over \$50 million in safety upgrades are approved and underway, bringing new guardrails, sidewalks, bike lanes and lighting to the highway.

editor@smdp.com

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Pacific Oaks
COLLEGE



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pier

Santa Monica Pier Invites World to Share Love Stories During February Campaign

From first dates and lifelong friendships to family traditions and once-in-a-lifetime proposals, the Santa Monica Pier has been the backdrop for millions of meaningful moments. This February, the pier invites the community and visitors from around the world to be part of its annual "Month of Love" by sharing the stories that give the pier its sense of magic.

Now open through February, the Month of Love 2026 Story Submission Campaign encourages guests to reflect on memories they've made along the historic pier deck — whether it was holding hands at sunset, sharing an ice cream cone, braving a roller coaster ride with a best friend, celebrating with family or saying "I do" beneath the Ferris wheel lights at Pacific Park.

Submitted stories will be featured throughout February on the Santa Monica Pier's website and social media channels, creating a collective love letter that honors every form of connection. All stories will be shared anonymously, and all types of love are welcome.

"The Pier has always been a place where people come together — across generations, cultures and life moments," said Jim Harris, executive director of the Santa Monica Pier Corporation. "Month of Love is our way of celebrating those connections and inviting people everywhere to be part of the story."

Past submissions have ranged from cross-country proposals at the end of Route 66 to family New Year's celebrations, first dates that turned into lifelong partnerships, honeymoons from around the world and quiet personal moments of reflection by the sea. Together, these stories capture the pier not just as an iconic destination, but also as a place where memories are made and shared.

To submit a story, participants must be signed into a Gmail account. Month of Love 2026 submissions are now open to everyone, and participants are encouraged to share the call with friends and family. For more information and to submit a story, visit <https://www.santamoniciapier.org/month-of-love>.



Sarah Lichtenwalter/Santa Monica Pier Corporation
PIER: 2025 Pier Love Stories - Sarah Lichtenwalter & Husband Wedding - Ferris Wheel.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 6

NEW EXHIBITION AT THE 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 \$5.00 Free 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>

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](https://www.santamonica.gov/events/electric-lodge-presents-high-voltage/15774947/2026-02-06T20)

RYAN PRESENTS; THE 90S!

9:00 p.m. Harvelle's Santa Monica 1432 4th St, Santa Monica. 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, tickets available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Please note, we are 21 and over only!

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 7

REED PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN & MILES MEMORIAL PLAYHOUSE OPEN HOUSE

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Reed Park Community Garden, 1130 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica, 90403. This fabulous place was activated in July of 2025 and is becoming a community destination once again. Come see what it is all about. Celebrate 50 Years of Santa Monica Community Gardens. Start some seeds, tour the pollinator garden, investigate a worm bin, create a pressed flower card and learn how to become a volunteer and help out at this garden or at the wonderful community events. Tour the Historic Miles Memorial Playhouse with the Santa Monica Conservancy. Meet Miles Playhouse Class Instructors and discover new arts and culture offerings starting this year. Sip a cup of coffee, grab a snack, and meet your neighbors. We hope to see you there. To keep track of numbers to expect, please RSVP HERE. More details at [Santamonica.gov/events](https://www.santamonica.gov/events)

CHANGES COMING TO YOUR SANTA MONICA RECYCLING AND TRASH 311 REQUESTS

Effective February 1, 2026, please provide your CITY UTILITY ACCOUNT NUMBER when requesting the following recycling and trash services through 311:

- ✓ Container requests (damaged or missing containers)
- ✓ Rent-a-bin (temporary rental bin)
- ✓ Service level changes (changes in collection frequency, size, number of containers)
- ✓ Start/stop service (move in/move out and container removal due tenant vacancy)
- ✓ Additional pickups

WHY?

Account holders or authorized users should be the ones requesting the above services because some of these changes may affect billing or container placement on the property. This also helps us provide better customer service and response time.

HOW DO I FIND MY ACCOUNT NUMBER?

- Option 1: top left corner of your utility bill
- Option 2: email billing.collections@santamonica.gov

Authorized users may attach account number and written confirmation from account holders to 311 requests.

Starting
Feb 1



Questions? [santamonica.gov](https://www.santamonica.gov)
Services → Recycling and Trash





THE MOST LOVED CONTEST IS BACK!

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February 9th - March 13th!

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For more information on the contest, please contact:

dina@smdp.com & maya@smdp.com



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN

Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

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 23 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6843

Hobart

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

Antarctic	Fish	Oakdowns
Apples	Flow	Old Beach
Artists	Gardens	Port
Bar	Georgian	Reservoir
Cafe	Glenorchy	Ridgeway
Cascade	Gourmet	Sandstone
Catchment	Lanes	Seafood
Charm	Magra	Shot tower
Cider	Markets	Valley
Convicts	MONA	Views
Craft	Music	Walks
Ferry	Neika	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Head for the hills



TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 6)

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You’re trying to be realistic about a relationship, but the fact is that you don’t have enough data to make a prediction. Risk a little more of your time, energy, ego and heart, and what you learn will be a lot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Playmates are not just for children. It’s OK to admit you long for the playfulness born of good chemistry and well-matched intelligence. It’s a surge to your vitality, a boon to your health and worth making a priority.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Success creates expectations, constraints and ongoing responsibilities without necessarily giving you more options or freedoms. So before you embark on the journey, make sure the goal is really worth it. Make sure you really like the kind of success it is.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Those who only hear what they want to hear communicate in a small bubble of their own delusion, cannot learn and will not know the world. The truth is only available to those open to hearing what they don’t want to hear.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your relationship with yourself is the longest, most consistent and rock-solid one you have. Many people never achieve that, even with partners, families and social abundance. It’s the reason you can be so honest now and make changes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In our solar system, one star holds 99% of the mass. Alpha Centauri, our closest stellar neighbor, has three stars, and it spins perfectly. Today reminds you there’s more than one way to run things. Yours works, and theirs does too.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Truly mutual, awake, bonded relationships are rare - not mythically rare, but statistically rare. But this is what you’re looking for. You’ll find it. It’s not a fantasy. It’s out there for you and you won’t confuse substitutes for the real thing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No need to rush to resolution. Let silence work for you. Let distance reorganize perception. The mind keeps answering after you stop pushing. Once that happens, the next step becomes obvious on its own.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There’s something you’re disgruntled about. You’re not bargaining with the universe or shaking your fist at it. You’re describing a problem as you’ve observed it, over time. You’ve approached with discernment, pattern recognition and honesty. All will be addressed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Given the size of your interior world, the breadth of your talent and the range of your appetite for beauty, it would be a shame to waste all that potential on tedious maintenance. Cut the boring tasks short. Go do something generative.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your boundaries are like a skilled conductor’s baton. They set tempo and rhythm. Interactions will unfold within your parameters. People work together in harmony, and powerful chords accompany your experience.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Everyone needs a little change-up now and then. You feel driven to break up the monotony, but only to a certain degree. Too much novelty is destabilizing. So change one variable at a time and see how it feels.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Very, so to speak
- 5 What some chocolate is
- 10 Congo was the last to join it (2018)
- 14 Bering Sea isle
- 15 Deck opening
- 16 Argonauts’ protector
- 17 New Testament self-identification
- 20 Meal for a seal
- 21 Alumnae directory word
- 22 Barnyard sound
- 23 President Barbie portrayer
- 24 Las __, NM
- 26 With 48-Across, the puzzle’s dedication
- 28 Historical record
- 29 Fun time
- 30 Couple in the Superman story
- 31 Torso muscles
- 32 Freeway designation
- 33 American Heart Mo.
- 34 Era not worth remembering
- 39 Major Canadian export
- 40 Sony Music subsidiary
- 41 Tidal adjective
- 43 Tolkien evildoer
- 46 Metaphor for rice
- 47 General manager
- 48 See 26-Across
- 50 Mrs. Cratchit in *Mickey’s Christmas Carol*
- 51 “Go back” key
- 52 ’45 battleground
- 53 N. Eng.’s busiest airport
- 54 Set the pace

- 55 Fairy tale fowl

- 59 Coop group
- 60 Sagan’s “pale blue dot”
- 61 Previously
- 62 Norse epic
- 63 Sorority letter
- 64 Long, long time

DOWN

- 1 Possible mortgage provision
- 2 Wi-Fi alternative
- 3 Filled up around noon
- 4 Clumsy person
- 5 Flats and pumps
- 6 Slog (through)
- 7 “__ time!”
- 8 Foolish people
- 9 Cut short

- 10 Light-dawning remark
- 11 Look through a window
- 12 Aimless
- 13 Aspiring officers
- 18 Freshman in Contracts
- 19 Standing room only
- 25 Surveil security, say
- 26 Was partial to
- 27 Arab League founding member
- 29 Saturn or Jupiter
- 32 Bard’s royal nickname
- 33 OTC overseer
- 35 VIP
- 36 Type of HDTV
- 37 Young sheep or goat
- 38 Conspicuousness

- 42 Telethon commitments
- 43 Get all worked up
- 44 Prepared, as bananas for baby food
- 45 Get promoted
- 46 Triumphant shout
- 47 Puck or pancake
- 49 Feathered predator-to-be
- 50 Color close to caramel
- 53 Certain barnyard attack
- 56 NATO charter member
- 57 Eminem mentor, for short
- 58 Mauna __

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21				22				23	
24				25				26					27	
28							29				30			
31						32				33				
	34				35				36				37	38
				39				40				41		42
43	44	45				46				47				
48					49				50					
51					52				53				54	
55				56				57				58		
59						60						61		
62						63						64		

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

KAREN BASS

FROM PAGE 2

and I do love this city, but, you know, I need to spend some time thinking about this.”

When pressed on whether he was actively considering a run this week, Caruso said, “Well, I’ve got calls today, as you can imagine, and I know there’s been a lot of posts on X and other places as and I’m on, but let’s give me some time.”

The dramatic developments came as Beutner announced his withdrawal from the race, citing the sudden death of his daughter Emily on Jan. 6. The 22-year-old’s death came one month before his announcement.

“My family has experienced the unimaginable loss of our beloved daughter Emily. She was a magical person, the light of our lives. We are still in mourning,” Beutner said, explaining that family needs to be his priority. He noted that a successful mayoral campaign requires “24/7” commitment that he cannot give while grieving.

Beutner had launched his campaign in

October 2025 with a platform focused on homelessness, public safety, reducing housing costs and restoring jobs and economic opportunities. Throughout his brief campaign, he had been one of Bass’s sharpest critics, repeatedly highlighting the city’s handling of the Palisades wildfire.

At a recent Pacific Palisades event, Beutner charged that Bass was allowing a cover-up by watering down the fire department’s after-action report, calling it a blatant attempt to mislead the public. He also criticized Bass for being abroad during the initial crisis and for hiking city fees for services like trash collection and sewer maintenance.

Beutner’s exit removes one of the highest-profile challengers to Bass. The mayor still faces several opponents, including reality TV personality Spencer Pratt, community organizer Rae Chen Huang and tech entrepreneur Adam Miller. Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath and Pacific Palisades activist Maryam Zar have been weighing bids as well.

editor@smdp.com



INVITATION FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

Pursuant to California Education Code 17406, notice is hereby given that subcontractor bids will be received by Blach Construction – 790 The City Drive S, Suite 44 Orange, CA 92868. Bids must be received in accordance with Blach Construction’s instructions by Thursday, March 5th, 2026 at 2PM. It is the bidder’s responsibility to ensure timely delivery via Building Connected.

Project:
Franklin Elementary School – Early Education and Site Improvements – Inc 1 (Temporary Improvements)

Location:
2400 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Scope of Work:
Site demolition, landscaping, irrigation, site utilities, grading, and asphalt paving.

Required Classifications:
C-8 Concrete, C-12 Earthwork and Paving, C-13 Fencing, C-27 Landscaping. C-34 Pipeline (Site Utilities)

Bid Submittal:
Bids must be submitted electronically via BuildingConnected in accordance with Blach Construction’s instructions and received no later than Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

Job Walk (Non-Mandatory): TBD. Information on job walk to be provided though BuildingConnected. The job walk to be held at Franklin Elementary School 2400 Montana Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90403.

Contract Bid Documents: Copies of the bid & contract documents including drawings and specifications are available through Building Connected. Contractors are required to submit Blach Construction prequalification questionnaire in order to be selected for the project. Please reach out to Danny O’Malley with Blach Construction at (408) 886 3691 and danny.omalley@blach.com for access as needed.

Prevailing Wage and Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements: Per Public Contract Code 2601 and 2602 as well as Senate Bill 693, all subcontractors at every tier must adhere to Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements. Additionally, prevailing wage is required on this project. Additional information is provided in Blach Construction’s Bid Documents.

The Contractor and all Subcontractors under the Contractor shall pay all workers on all work performed pursuant to this Contract not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. Of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are also available from the District or on the Internet at: <<http://www.dir.ca.gov>>.

The successful bidder will be required to have the appropriate State of California Contractor’s License to perform the work current at the time of submission to bid.

Classifieds

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00009. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Jasmin Danialian for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Jasmin Danialian filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jasmin Danialian to Jasmin Danialian Tabibian. 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: 02/20/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. 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: 01/07/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026, 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00012. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Mary Elizabeth Loporto-Paris for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Mary Elizabeth Loporto-Paris filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Mary Elizabeth Loporto-Paris to Marybeth Elizabeth Loporto Paris. 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: 02/13/2026, Time: 8:30am, Dept: K. 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: 01/07/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026, 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. NC-120. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Emily Rene Biehl for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Emily Rene Biehl filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Emily Rene Biehl to Emily Rene Biehl Erbach. 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: 02/20/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. 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: 01/09/2026. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026, 02/12/2026, 02/18/2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25STCP04742. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse. Petition of Daniel Adair & Lila Dupree for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25STCP04742. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse. Petition of Daniel Adair & Lila Dupree for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner

Name Change

Daniel Adair & Lila Dupree filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Alfred Hobbes Dupree Adair to Alphinus Hox Dupree Adair. 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: 04/17/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: 45, Room: 629. 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: 12/09/2025. VIRGINIA KEENY, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026, 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2025269201. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: WILSHIRE GOLD; WILSHIRE COINS; GOLD EXCHANGE ON WILSHIRE; WILSHIRE PRECIOUS METALS EXCHANGE, 1312 LINCOLN BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): WILSHIRE COIN EXCHANGE INC, 1312 LINCOLN 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 N/A. 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/ GLENN P SORGENSTEIN, IF CORP OR LLC, PRINT NAME. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/3/2025. 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: 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026, 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.2026017509. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: 1. TAXI TAXI, 2.SKYCAR LIMO, 2230 MICHIGAN AVE 201, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404-3906, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): TMAT CO, 2418 WILSHIRE BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. This business is conducted by: a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. 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/ Ayman Radwan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/27/2026. 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

DBA

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: 02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026, 02/27/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026006089. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: KYLOVO, 2929 PENNSYLVANIA AVE 128, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): THE BIERMANATOR, LLC, 2929 PENNSYLVANIA AVE 128, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. 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/ MATTHEW BIERMAN, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/09/2026. 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: 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026, 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026017092. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MEANT TO BE COFFEE, 10992 ASHTON AVE 308, LOS ANGELES, CA 90024, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): DINKS & DRINKS LLC, 10992 ASHTON AVE 308, LOS ANGELES, CA 90024. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. 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/ SERGEI KOSAREV, MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/23/2026. 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: 01/30/2026, 02/06/2026, 02/13/2026, 02/20/2026

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