2 **Trump orders**
Creating fear.

3 **$25M**
To sue Trump administration.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

4 **Wildfire Czar**
Will work for free.

7 **Karate dreams**
Still alive.

Volume 24 Issue 59 TUESDAY 2/11/25 smdp.com

Affordable housing project at 14th, Wilshire receives ARB approval

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

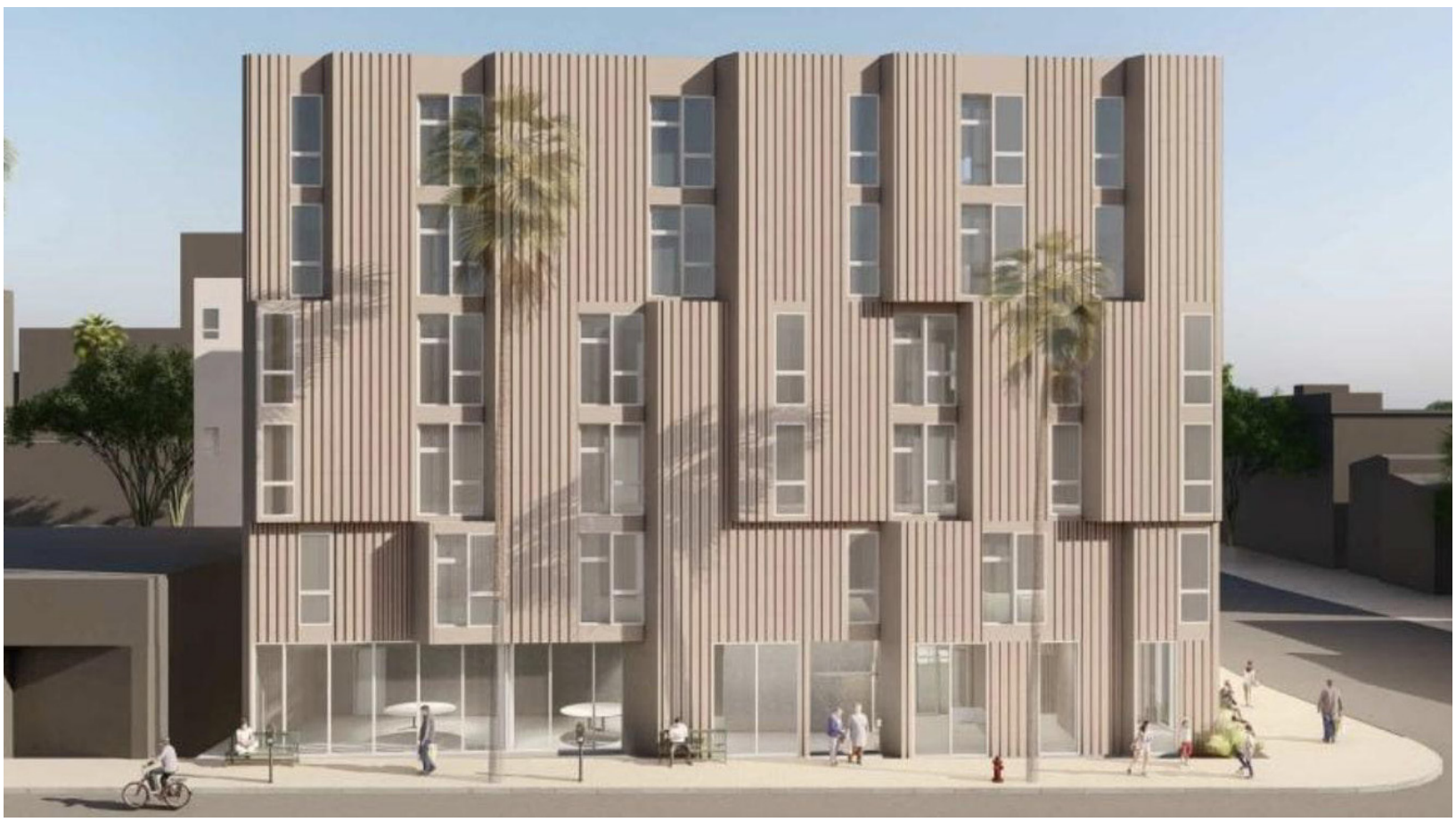
An affordable housing push in Mid-City received a key recommendation this past week.

At the Feb. 3 meeting of the Santa Monica Architectural Review Board (ARB), the board supported the project design of a 100% affordable housing endeavor at 1217 14th St. The project, proposed on two parcels from 1211-1217 14th St. and 1402 Wilshire Blvd., would have 82 senior affordable and senior permanent supportive housing units.

The board meeting comes after Santa Monica City Council authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Disposition and Development Agreement and Ground Lease with Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (HCHC) in December. The ARB approved the project with one condition, which is to include more landscape on the upper floors.

Of the 82 units, 40 of them will be one-bedroom used for permanent supportive housing, 40

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 11



Courtesy Graphic

HOUSING: The senior affordable housing project at 14th and Wilshire recently received Architectural Review Board approval.

Unknown woman killed on the beach

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department is asking for help solving the suspicious death of a woman discovered on the Santa Monica Beach.

According to SMPD, a city employee found an unresponsive individual at about 7 a.m. on Monday morning near the waterline on the 1500 block of the beach.

"Upon arrival, officers located a female victim in a sleeping bag, displaying visible trauma to her face. The Santa Monica Fire Department arrived shortly after and pronounced the victim deceased at the scene," said SMPD in a statement. "At this time, the identity of the victim has not been determined. The circumstances surrounding the victim's death are under investigation by SMPD."

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Peter Zamfirov at Peter.Zamfirov@santamonica.gov, Sergeant Alfonso Lozano at Alfonso.Lozano@santamonica.gov or the Watch Commander 24 hours at 310-458-8427.

editor@smdp.com

Reparations & Landback Program set to dominate Tuesday's City Council meeting

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Today's City Council meeting could be another long night as the agenda is positively filled to bursting point.

Among the Special Agenda Items is a proclamation for Library Lover's Month and a commendation for City Manager David White, who is soon set to depart our fair city at the end of February.

A total of 10 Consent Calendar Items include the approval of accepting an Environmental Protection Agency Grant and subsequently purchasing four new street sweepers and a second reading and adoption of ordinance amending the Santa Monica Municipal Code concerning use of the City seal and other City symbols.

The number of Closed Session list of items is mercifully short, so fingers crossed that might reduce the length of this meeting. However, the Item 7 Study Session will almost certainly create discussion and quite possibly dominate public input.

Staff will recommend that Council provide direction on the key areas of focus for a City Reparations & Landback Program to study the historical harms done to Santa Monica's marginalized communities and provide recommendations on

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 6



PUBLIC NOTICE

If your child attended Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) or went to Memorial Park or Virginia Park during the late 1980s to early 2000s, your child may have come in contact with and been sexually abused by Eric Uller, who masqueraded as a police officer.

- Over almost 30 years, he sexually abused hundreds of boys and girls.
- Victims were often too scared or ashamed to tell their parents.
- Many victims have moved away and don't know they have a right to make a claim.
- Share this notice. There may still be time to file a claim.



McGEE | LERER & ASSOCIATES Personal Injury Attorneys + Sexual Abuse

www.mcgeelerer.com | (310) 231-9717 | Free confidential consultation

Ad. No guarantee of outcome. Each case is different.

Trump's executive orders on immigration are creating 'fear'. What you need to know about them

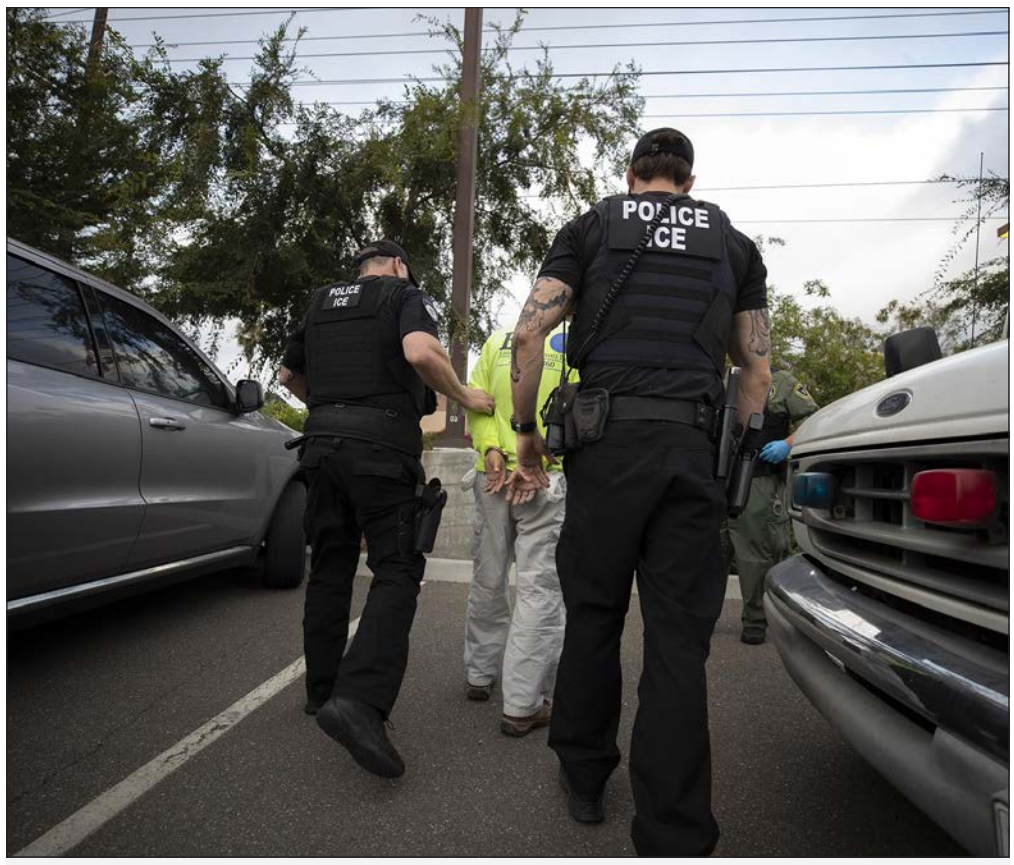


Photo by Gregory Bull, AP Photo

IMMIGRATION: A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer escorts a man in handcuffs during an operation in Escondido on July 8, 2019.

President Donald Trump returned to office last month with a major show of force on immigration, issuing numerous orders and directives to dramatically crack down on enforcement.

They've sparked glee from his supporters, condemnation from his opponents, fear from immigrant communities amid nationwide raids — and also plenty of false alarms.

The flurry of new policies — some pushing long-held legal boundaries — are part of a "shock and awe" strategy meant to amplify the promises of a military-assisted mass deportation, experts said. Among the administration's goals is for fearful immigrants to "voluntarily depart."

"The big issue is this basically full-court press (from the administration) on immigration enforcement and the fear it's generated," said UC Davis immigration law professor Kevin Johnson. "(The fear) probably is the biggest impact of all."

The uncertainty over immigrants' futures has led communities to question whether workers should continue to show up to businesses, children to school and patients to doctors' offices — and whether there will be economic disruptions and school funding consequences as a result.

Many immigrants are staying home. Others have little choice but to continue their routines.

In Kern County, an immigrant citrus picker who spoke on the condition that her name not be used because she fears deportation said like many of her coworkers, she stayed home for a day in the wake of a Border Patrol operation last month — conducted before Trump took office — that seemed to target farmworkers.

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 8

Roofing Supply









Bourget Bros. is your roof repair headquarters, with a complete supply of adhesives, tapes, sheeting and all the required tools.







Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404 • (310) 450-6556
bourgetbros.com

TAXES
ALL FORMS, ALL TYPES, ALL STATES
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 • Santa Monica 90401

Newsom OK's a $25 million fund for California to sue the Trump administration



Photo by Leah Millis, Reuters

GOVERNMENT: Governor of California Gavin Newsom talks to U.S. President Donald Trump upon Trump's arrival to tour areas impacted or destroyed by the southern California wildfires at Los Angeles International Airport in Los Angeles on Jan. 24, 2025.

BY ALEXEI KOSEFF

Gov. Gavin Newsom has approved $25 million for anticipated legal challenges against the Trump administration, positioning California to once again lead the resistance to the MAGA movement — just as the state is seeking federal assistance for the Los Angeles region's recovery from devastating fires.

When Newsom first unveiled what came to be known as the state's "Trump-proofing" plan, he did so with a high-profile announcement just two days after the November election. But he signed the funding bill today in decidedly more low-key fashion, eschewing a public ceremony and issuing only a brief press release late on a Friday afternoon, a traditional dumping ground for news. It included no signing statement from the governor.

The decision to underplay what initially seemed to be a major priority for Newsom — one set to catapult him to the forefront of the Democratic ranks as the party struggled to respond to President Donald Trump's re-election — underscores the awkward position that the governor now finds himself in.

Earlier this week, Newsom flew to Washington, D.C., to lobby for disaster aid, which Trump and other Republican leaders have repeatedly threatened to withhold unless California overhauls its water and elections policies. Newsom told the Los Angeles Times that he discussed the legal funding with the president during a lengthy meeting at the White House on Wednesday, though he declined to share how Trump responded when Newsom warned that he would sign the bill.

"As you would expect," the governor said. "I won't get into it. But it's why it was an extended period of conversation."

Newsom returned from his trip touting "a strong path forward for disaster aid," but with no firm commitments from the federal government to help Los Angeles, which experienced tens of billions of dollars in damage. Congressional Republicans appear to still be adamant about setting conditions for any aid.

Though not unexpected, it means Newsom will likely have to continue playing nice with Trump for at least a while longer, even as other Democrats across the country increasingly speak out against the president.

In California, Attorney General Rob Bonta, whose office will receive the $25 million lawsuit fund, has recently taken the lead. He sued twice during Trump's first two weeks in office, over executive orders to eliminate birthright citizenship and freeze all federal funding.

Newsom signed a second bill today that provides another $25 million for legal services for people caught up in the Trump administration's crackdown on immigration.

Republicans have fiercely criticized both measures, which received final approval from the Legislature on Monday, arguing that they unnecessarily poke at Trump when the state needs his help.

"This slush fund isn't about solving any real problems — it's a political stunt designed to distract from the urgent issues our state faces and it won't bode well for fire victims," Senate Republican Leader Brian Jones of San Diego said in a statement.

SEE **NEWSOM** PAGE 11



Weather

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 57.
Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming north after midnight.
Wednesday: Rain likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 55. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.
Wednesday Night: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a low around 51. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/02/11	Tue	02:02 AM	1.73	L
2025/02/11	Tue	08:07 AM	6.13	H
2025/02/11	Tue	3:10 PM	-1.17	L
2025/02/11	Tue	9:32 PM	4.14	H
2025/02/12	Wed	02:39 AM	1.50	L
2025/02/12	Wed	08:43 AM	5.98	H
2025/02/12	Wed	3:38 PM	-0.94	L
2025/02/12	Wed	9:58 PM	4.26	H
2025/02/13	Thu	03:16 AM	1.33	L
2025/02/13	Thu	09:17 AM	5.66	H
2025/02/13	Thu	4:04 PM	-0.60	L
2025/02/13	Thu	10:23 PM	4.35	H
2025/02/14	Fri	03:52 AM	1.24	L
2025/02/14	Fri	09:49 AM	5.21	H
2025/02/14	Fri	4:27 PM	-0.18	L
2025/02/14	Fri	10:47 PM	4.42	H
2025/02/15	Sat	04:30 AM	1.22	L
2025/02/15	Sat	10:23 AM	4.66	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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/8
23 44 57 60 62
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 142 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/7
4 24 32 41 55
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 110 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/8
2 6 27 41 47
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 24 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/9
3 7 32 33 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/10
MIDDAY: 5 5 4
Draw Date: 2/9
EVENING: 6 5 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/9
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:47.46

INSIDE
THE DAILY PRESS
PODCAST
smdp.com/pod
ALSO AVAILABLE ON

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

Thomas Leffler
thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
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.

Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

LA County Opens Small Business Relief Funds

Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles launched comprehensive relief efforts last week, opening applications for small business and worker assistance funds to support communities devastated by January's wildfires.

The initiative offers two primary grant options: a Small Business Relief Fund providing $2,000 to $25,000 for businesses and nonprofits, and a Worker Relief Fund offering $2,000 in direct cash assistance to workers who lost employment or income.

> These relief funds are crucial in supporting those severely impacted by the January 2025 windstorm and wildfires
> - Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor

Eligible businesses must have annual revenues under $6 million and fewer than 100 employees. Priority will be given to businesses completely destroyed and workers permanently unemployed due to workplace closures.

"These relief funds are crucial in supporting those severely impacted by the January 2025 windstorm and wildfires," said Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. The funds are made possible through philanthropic contributions from Wells Fargo, R&S Kayne Foundation, Prologis, and the Hilton Foundation.

Applications are open through February 24, with fund distribution beginning in mid-March. Multilingual support and technical assistance will be available at various community centers.

SUBMITTED BY ANGELA HERRERA PEREZ

LOS ANGELES

Returning Home After La County Wildfires

Los Angeles County officials issued comprehensive safety guidelines for residents returning to fire-damaged areas, emphasizing potential health and environmental risks.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers are conducting a two-phase debris removal process. In Phase 1, the EPA has been surveying and removing household hazardous materials, including paints, solvents, batteries, and pesticides.

Phase 2 involves the Army Corps of Engineers removing fire-damaged debris from private properties. Residents must complete a Right-of-Entry form to participate, with property owners having the option to manage cleanup independently while following local, state, and federal requirements.

Key safety recommendations include:

- Use personal protective equipment
- Inspect property for structural damage
- Check utility systems carefully
- Avoid moving large or unstable materials alone
- Consult professionals for comprehensive property assessment

FEMA is offering free individualized mitigation plans to help residents rebuild with increased wildfire resilience. Homeowners are advised to verify contractor credentials and obtain necessary permits before reconstruction.

SUBMITTED BY FEMA

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Notice of Provisional Appointment to the Santa Monica Community College District Board of Trustees Pursuant to Education Code Section 5092

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a vacancy occurred on the Board of Trustees of the Santa Monica Community College District, effective December 12, 2024, as a result of the election of Trustee Barry Snell to the Santa Monica City Council. On February 4, 2025, the Board of Trustees provisionally appointed Dr. Luis Barrera Castañón to fill this vacancy. The appointment confers all powers and duties of a governing board member.

The registered voters of the district may, within 30 days from the date of the provisional appointment, petition for the conduct of a special election to fill the vacancy. In accordance with Education Code Section 5092, unless a petition calling for a special election, containing a sufficient number of signatures, is filed in the office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools within 30 days of the date of the provisional appointment, it shall become an effective appointment.

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery
Superintendent/President
Santa Monica Community College District

LA wildfire recovery czar will work for free after backlash to proposed $500K salary for 3 months

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steve Soboroff, a longtime fixture in Los Angeles civic life who is now serving as chief recovery officer for the city's wildfire comeback, won't take a salary after facing backlash over plans to pay him $500,000. He would have been paid through charitable donations, not with taxpayer money.

Soboroff had defended the proposed salary of half-a-million dollars for 3 months of work, saying his expertise as a residential property developer made him worth the price. But after criticisms mounted from elected officials and residents, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass reversed course over the weekend and said Soboroff would receive no compensation.

"Steve is always there for LA. I spoke to him today and asked him to modify his agreement and work for free. He said yes. We agree that we don't need anything distracting from the recovery work we're doing," Bass said in a statement Saturday. She had named him to the recovery czar position on Jan. 17.

A message seeking comment was left for Soboroff on Monday.

Soboroff, 76, raised his family in the Pacific Palisades area, where nearly 7,000 homes were destroyed by last month's inferno. His son, NBC News journalist Jacob Soboroff, reported from the devastated neighborhood where he grew up.

He was initially tasked with leading the first phase of the city's wildfire rebuilding effort. On Friday though, Bass suggested that the scope of his work could be diminished, saying he would focus primarily on rebuilding the Palisades' historic business district. Soboroff disputed that notion, saying he is regularly interacting with federal agencies.

In addition to developing thousands of homes over decades, Soboroff served on the city's Board of Police Commissioners and on the city commission that oversees the Department of Recreation and Parks — both volunteer positions.

Before the salary reversal, he told the Los Angeles Times that he put aside other real estate and environmental consulting work to take on the role of the city's recovery officer.

> I've been doing this for 35 years for free on some of the biggest civic projects for the city of Los Angeles. But nobody ever asked me to drop everything. This time they did
> - Steve Soboroff

"I've been doing this for 35 years for free on some of the biggest civic projects for the city of Los Angeles. But nobody ever asked me to drop everything. This time they did," Soboroff said. "And I said OK, under the condition that my pay not be taken out of city money, or from any wildfire survivors who would otherwise benefit from that money."

It wasn't clear which charitable organizations would have covered his pay. Los Angeles City Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, who sits on the committee overseeing the recovery, called the proposed salary "obscene."

Soboroff's original salary was first reported by the Times.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP # 439 FILM PERMIT COORDINATOR PERMIT PROCESS IMPROVEMENT, MARKETING/OUTREACH, NOTIFICATION, MONITORING, AND COMPLIANT REFERRAL SERVICES**
- **Submission Deadline Is March 3, 2025 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

Hollywood Producer Convicted Of Murder In Fentanyl Deaths

Hollywood producer David Pearce was convicted last week of first-degree murder in the fentanyl overdose deaths of two women and sexual assaults against seven others, prosecutors announced.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman said Pearce, 41, was found guilty of killing Christy Giles and Hilda Marcela Cabrales-Arzola in a premeditated crime that unfolded after a warehouse party in November 2021. The jury convicted Pearce of two counts of first-degree murder, three counts of forcible rape, and multiple other sexual assault charges spanning 14 years.

Court documents revealed a chilling sequence of events. On November 13, 2021, Pearce met the victims at an East Los Angeles warehouse party along with Brandt Walter Osborn and Michael Ansbach. Within hours, the group returned to Pearce's Beverly Hills apartment, where he allegedly administered gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and fentanyl to the victims.

Giles died immediately after being dropped at a local hospital. Cabrales-Arzola, just shy of her 27th birthday, died 11 days later after being hospitalized. Prosecutors presented testimony from seven victims detailing Pearce's pattern of drug-facilitated sexual assaults.

The case, investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department and prosecuted by the Sex Crimes Division, exposed a serial predator's systematic abuse. Seven women testified about Pearce's violent tendencies, providing crucial evidence of his long-standing criminal behavior.

Pearce faces 148 years to life in prison and will be required to register as a sex offender for life. Sentencing is scheduled for March 13.

SUBMITTED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

LOS ANGELES

Two Men Arrested In Extensive Smuggling Scheme

Federal prosecutors have arrested two Hacienda Heights men in connection with a sophisticated international smuggling operation that has intercepted more than $1.3 billion in contraband entering the United States through Los Angeles-area ports.

Zhongliang Wang, 39, and Chenyu Zhao, 31, are charged with conspiracy and illegally removing goods from customs custody. Prosecutors allege the pair masterminded an intricate scheme to divert shipping containers, unload contraband, and replace cargo to deceive U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials.

According to court documents, the defendants operated a complex network involving multiple warehouses in the City of Industry. Their method involved strategically redirecting containers selected for secondary inspection to unauthorized locations, where they would remove high-value contraband and replace it with filler cargo.

A search of one warehouse revealed the scope of their operation: significant quantities of counterfeit luxury goods, including high-end handbags and footwear, and approximately 19.5 kilograms of enobosarm, an illicit steroid.

Acting United States Attorney Joseph McNally emphasized the significance of the arrest, stating, "Protecting our nation's borders from illegal smuggling is a top priority. These arrests highlight law enforcement's unrelenting efforts to dismantle criminal networks exploiting our trade system."

Investigators discovered that Wang and Zhao paid substantially above-market rates to trucking contractors. In one instance, Wang allegedly paid $15,000 to divert a single cargo container in December 2024.

If convicted, the defendants could face up to five years in federal prison for conspiracy counts and an additional ten years for breaking customs seals.

SUBMITTED BY CONNOR WILLIAMS

LOS ANGELES

La County Deputy Convicted Of Civil Rights Violation

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Trevor James Kirk was found guilty of a federal civil rights violation for using excessive force against a woman during a routine supermarket investigation in Lancaster.

The three-day trial revealed detailed testimony about Kirk's actions on June 24, 2023. While responding to a possible robbery at a WinCo Foods supermarket, Kirk and another deputy detained a male suspect. The female witness, identified as J.H., began recording the incident on her cellphone.

According to court evidence, Kirk approached J.H. without warning, attempting to seize her phone. When she turned away, he violently threw her face-first to the ground, grabbed her arm, and placed his knee on her shoulder and neck. Despite her protests that she could not breathe, Kirk pepper-sprayed her twice.

J.H. suffered blunt-force head trauma and injuries to her head, arms, and wrist. Medical records documented the extent of her injuries from the encounter.

United States District Judge Stephen V. Wilson will sentence Kirk on April 21. He faces a maximum of 10 years in federal prison for the civil rights violation.

The FBI investigated the case, with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department assisting in the investigation.

SUBMITTED BY CONNOR WILLIAMS

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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) 736-2589
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM
WILSHIRE BLVD. 15TH ST. 14TH ST. ARIZONA AVE.

YALE JEWELERS
VOTE FOR
Yale Jewelers
for your Most Loved Jewelry store!

2839 Wilshire Blvd
Santa Monica,
CA 90403
(310) 829-0605
www.yalejewelers.com
MOST LOVED 2025 Santa Monica
smdp.com/vote

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

how to address those harms.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Santa Monica as a city and, as the Staff Reports suggests, this is a perfect opportunity for self-reflection on both the collective accomplishments in addition to the harms we've created along the way.

On January 23, 2024, the Council directed staff to survey reparations efforts in other jurisdictions, identify any potential legal issues with pursuing our own reparative efforts, and report back to the City Council. On February 13, 2024, the Council directed staff to consider a series of recommendations, including adopting a city-wide land acknowledgment initiative and a restorative justice approach to repair harm of past actions of the City of Santa Monica impacting diverse groups from various heritages and cultures.

Following engagement with the community to develop the City's equity plan (which will come to Council later this spring) and the evaluation of different jurisdictions' reparations programs, staff intend to launch a comprehensive Reparations & Landback process. This 18 month operation will be centered around a "task force of community members and experts" who will explore and recognize the "multiple historical injustices faced by marginalized communities" in Santa Monica as well as identify priorities and recommendations for how to repair those harms.

At the conclusion of this process, the Council will be presented with the Task Force's recommendations and the opportunity to adopt the policy framework for the City's Reparations Program.



Courtesy photo

COUNCIL: The meeting today will feature discussions of reparations.

Interestingly, the issue of gifts and gratuities once again raises its head, this time as a Resolution, should councilmembers decide to allocate time to it. Staff will recommend the City Council adopt the resolution adopting a policy regarding acceptance of gifts by members of Council.

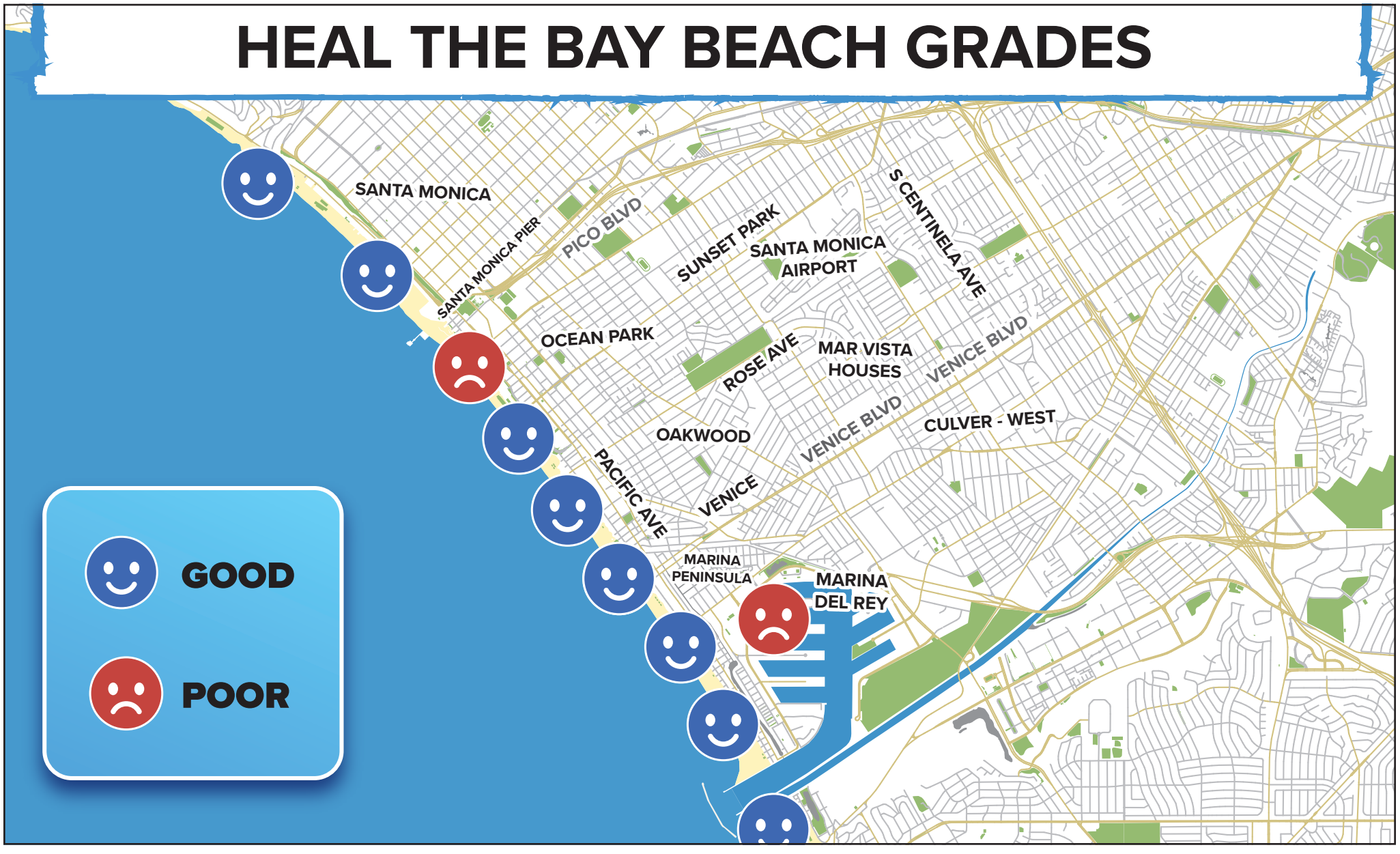
Finally, a total of 14 Discussion Items are listed on the agenda, many of which are the acceptance of resignations and confirmation of new vacancies on a number of boards and commissions, including the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Santa Monica Pier Corporation, Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, the Architectural Review Board and the Human Services Commission.

There is also a plan to establish and appoint a temporary ad hoc Council committee for the City Manager recruitment process.

Another particularly interesting item, should councilmembers have time to get around to it, is a request of Councilmember Jesse Zwick, Mayor Lana Negrete, and Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis that the City Council direct the City Manager and City Attorney to expedite the issuance of building permits in Santa Monica without reducing building integrity and still adhering to life and safety requirements through the development of a Voluntary Self-Certification Pilot Program for non-structural commercial tenant improvements, single-family home improvements, and accessory dwelling units.

According to the Staff Report, the Self-Certification Program "shall allow licensed professionals who agree to self-certify that building plans are compliant with all California codes and local ordinances to bypass the normal plan review process and get approval for permits in one to five business days" facilitating the city's economic recovery and reducing the workload on plan check professionals, allowing them to focus on the more complex projects that require their attention.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



10-year-old Palisades girl keeps karate dream alive despite destruction of her dojo



Courtesy photo

KARATE KID: The students have found a new place for practice following the fire.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Despite the devastating loss of her home and her dojo, 10-year-old Eden Savoian secured two bronze medals during an international karate contest held in Las Vegas last weekend and is committed to continue martial arts in a dojo in Santa Monica.

Eden, a green belt in the Japanese Yoshukai style of karate, has only been training for a year and half and was formally a student at Gerry Blanck's Martial Arts Center in Pacific Palisades. However, since that too was tragically destroyed, she has now found a home at MuDo Integrated Martial Art, 1828 Lincoln Blvd.

Eden and her father used to live in the Castellammare area of Pacific Palisades and Eden went to school in Calabasas. However, now Blanck's dojo has found a home, for a while at least, in Santa Monica, Eden can't get there as easily.

"When we still lived in Palisades, I went almost every day if I could and I practised at home a lot too," Eden told the Daily Press. "I'm just really upset because I used to be able to come every day. Now I want to be able to come on Saturdays because I can't drive all the way from school."

Amongst the countless, priceless personal possessions the family lost were her own, specialized breaking boards and a coveted karate medal from her first tournament.

"When the house burned down we lost everything and Eden lost all her karate stuff like her medals and belts, and the only thing that I got out of the house was a couple of iPads and some clothes, everything is pretty much gone," said Eden's father, Alan.

Called the International Martial Arts Competition, it was held at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino on Saturday, February 1, 2025.

"Eden was all set to go, she'd been planning it for some time, she's all excited and everything," said Sensei Gerry Blanck. "And then her whole house burned down and everything, along with my studio in the Palisades. But she still wanted to go, but she didn't have a uniform or anything."

Blanck says that at first he was concerned about her attending the event given everything that had just happened and the fact that he hadn't been able to train as much recently. Eden remained undeterred and Blanck organized a new uniform, belt and nunchucks for her.

"You know, not winning would be so hard, after everything she's put in … But she got two bronze medals," he said, adding, "And they even replaced her very first medal, that she won last year, that got lost in the fire."

Over 180 other competitors had also lost their homes in the recent disaster. "I'm here to represent my other dojo classmates and friends, many also lost their homes," Eden said at the event.

"She really likes it. You know, she loves the challenge, and she loves the discipline and the different belts and everything. It gives them something to work towards," Alan said, adding, "It's like a big family, and everyone's friends and everyone knows each other, and so it's just like a really cool family and a great community."

scott.snowden@smdp.com

FIX YOUR CREDIT CONSULTING
Better Credit.
Better Life.
We are a top rated and fully bonded credit repair consulting company. We are extremely aggressive and also teach you how to maintain good credit. After reviewing your credit report, our Credit Consultants determine a customized fee based on your situation.
5 stars on yelp

Give Us A Call Today! (877) 212-2450
fixyourcreditconsulting.com



TRUMP

FROM PAGE 2

But she has bills to pay, so she's continued going to work and sending her child to daycare. Rumors of immigration authority sightings have also continued to spread, including one that prompted the contractor she works for to keep her crew in the orange grove at the end of a recent workday. The contractor didn't release them to go home until checking that the roads were clear, she said.

"Everybody goes out with fear," she said. "But one has needs. And my needs are bigger than the fear."

Trump's actions have the potential to drastically remake the immigration landscape. Here's what's changed so far and how California is responding.

TARGETING BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

One of Trump's first-day executive orders sought to end the century-plus-old practice of granting citizenship to all children born on U.S. soil even if their parents are undocumented. Courts have affirmed the 14th Amendment's guarantee of birthright citizenship since 1898, in the case of a San Francisco man whose parents were from China.

Two federal judges, responding to separate lawsuits, quickly halted the order.

A third lawsuit, brought by 18 states including California and the city of San Francisco, was heard in a Massachusetts federal court last Friday. Attorney General Rob Bonta's office says the executive order would strip citizenship rights from about 24,500 children who are born in California each year.

EXPANDING ICE'S REACH

The administration has directed the Immigration and Customs Enforcement to expand use of a process called "expedited removal": deportations that are allowed to bypass immigration courts, where a judge would normally decide the merit of allowing someone to stay in the country. In the past, immigrants without legal status and who do not make an asylum claim can be placed in this process if they're arrested within 14 days of entering the country, and within 100 miles of the border.

That already covered most of California. The new order expands the process to the entire country, and to immigrants arrested within two years of entering.

"That could have a huge effect" on the number of people authorities can arrest and put in the fast-tracked deportation process far from the border, said UCLA law professor Ahilan Arulanantham.

Immigration courts have a longstanding backlog that in late 2024 rose to 3.5 million cases.

Other Trump actions could also dramatically increase those cases:

He revoked a policy prohibiting agents from making arrests in "sensitive locations" such as churches, schools and hospitals;

And he signed the Laken Riley Act, a GOP bill that had some Democratic support, directing ICE to detain and deport immigrants who are charged — not just convicted — with certain crimes.

Experts say much of how this is carried out still depends on how much Congress is willing to allow ICE to spend. The agency, which operates on about $9 billion a year, estimates it needs $27 billion to carry out the Laken Riley Act, NPR has reported.

The reach of ICE's recent activity is also unclear. The agency in the last week of January posted daily arrest numbers on the social media platform X, showing nationwide an average of about 800 arrests a day. That's far higher than daily arrests during the Biden administration, which averaged about 300 in 2024, according to ICE.

But it's not clear how many people have been held in detention, released with immigration court cases pending, or deported: ICE spokesperson Richard Beam said those figures aren't available, nor was a state-by-state breakdown.

The agency also would not provide figures of how many of those arrested have the criminal convictions the administration says it's targeting. An NBC News report in late January found for one of the days, nearly half of those arrested were nonviolent offenders or had no criminal record.

CANCELLING LEGAL IMMIGRATION PATHS

In addition to targeting immigrants without legal status, Trump is revoking pathways for immigrants to arrive legally, often on humanitarian grounds.

Trump suspended refugee admissions in one Day-One order. In other actions, he's gone after the temporary legal statuses of immigrants whom the Biden administration allowed to enter. Trump's administration has called those statuses another way to allow illegal immigration under the guise of government support.

For example, his Homeland Security department canceled the temporary status of about 300,000 Venezuelans that had allowed them protections from deportation and work permits. That status, intended to protect people from tumultuous home countries, expires in April, and another 250,000 protected Venezuelans' status expires in September.

The administration also is preparing, according to the New York Times, to strip the temporary legal status of immigrants from four countries (Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Haiti) that the Biden administration had allowed to enter — and gain work permits — if they found American sponsors, as a way to curb illegal border crossings.

Similarly, on Day One, Trump ended a Biden-era program allowing migrants at the border to schedule appointments to be temporarily allowed into the U.S. with work permits while they wait for immigration cases to be decided.

Because many of those immigrants are newer arrivals, Kathleen Bush-Joseph, policy analyst at the Migration Policy Institute said, they're particularly likely to be put in the fast-tracked deportation process.

TRYING TO SECURE LOCAL COOPERATION

The administration is again trying to overturn local and state sanctuary laws, meaning we're likely to see a return to the California-versus-federal showdown from the first Trump administration on how much the state can be required to help immigration agents.

Those fights, Arulanantham said, "really are fundamental to balance of power between the federal government and states with respect to how immigration enforcement plays out on the ground."

From the arresting immigration agents to the detention bed space to the judges considering whether to order deportations, the Trump administration doesn't have nearly the capacity to carry out the level of crackdown he vows.

So his orders seek to sign on more local police as partners in the effort. The administration is also suing Chicago and Cook County over their non-cooperation policies, accusing the cities of "thwarting" enforcement, and has threatened to prosecute local officials who fail to cooperate with immigration agents.

On her first day as attorney general, Pam Bondi ordered the Justice Department to once again pause grants for sanctuary cities and states. That could include California, which in 2017 passed a law barring police and sheriffs from arresting or detaining immigrants on behalf of federal agents.

In the previous iteration of this standoff, California won in court when the federal government tried to withhold funding. On Friday, San Francisco and Santa Clara counties renewed the fight, suing Trump over his latest threats.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta on Friday said he hadn't seen any interruptions to grants yet, but "if that happens, we will sue."

California conservative sheriffs are now in an odd position between a blue state and a red federal administration. Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco, in a video Thursday, sought to quell fears and "misinformation" among constituents that his agency was involved in immigration enforcement. Yet in the same video, he said he hoped to assist ICE "within the confines of the sanctuary state laws" with arresting undocumented immigrants who are being held in his jails.

CALIFORNIA'S RESPONSE

The Legislature this week passed $50 million in a special session Gov. Gavin Newsom called to help "Trump-proof" the state — $25 million for the state Department of Justice to sue the federal administration on a variety of matters including immigration, and $25 million toward legal aid to represent immigrants in deportation proceedings.

Democratic lawmakers have introduced a series of bills seeking to discourage the presence of immigration authorities near or at schools.

Newsom has scaled back his own criticisms of the president in recent weeks as he seeks to secure federal wildfire aid.

Bonta has continued to push back with a series of press statements encouraging immigrants to know their rights, and advising school employees they don't have to assist immigration agents in apprehending immigrant students.

California notched some big wins in court opposing many policies during the last Trump administration, including halting the Muslim ban and Trump's efforts to undo temporary legal status for immigrants who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

But Bush-Joseph noted the Supreme Court in 2023 limited the states' powers to challenge presidential immigration policies when Texas and other red states tried to sue Biden.

"The inverse can be true under the Trump administration if blue states try to bring lawsuits," Bush-Joseph said.

By Jeanne Kuang. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

Thank you for buying local.

Buy Local SANTA MONICA

buylocalsantamonica.com ™

It makes a difference!

Get the local news that matters to you!

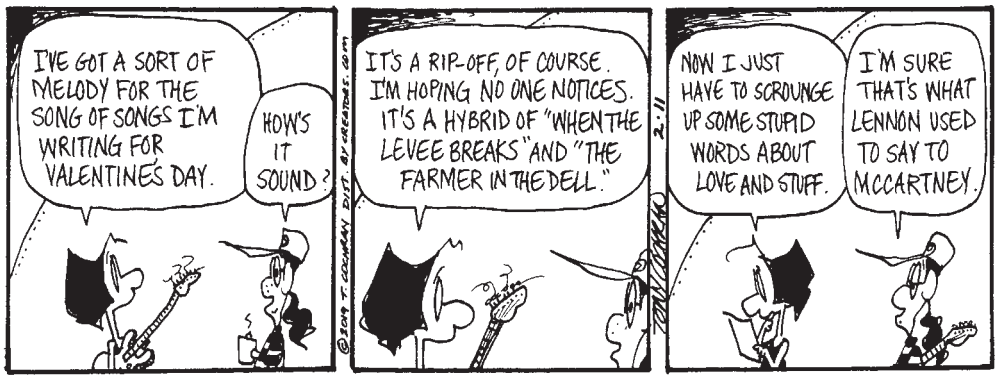
Sign up for The CURRENT

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

POWERED BY smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

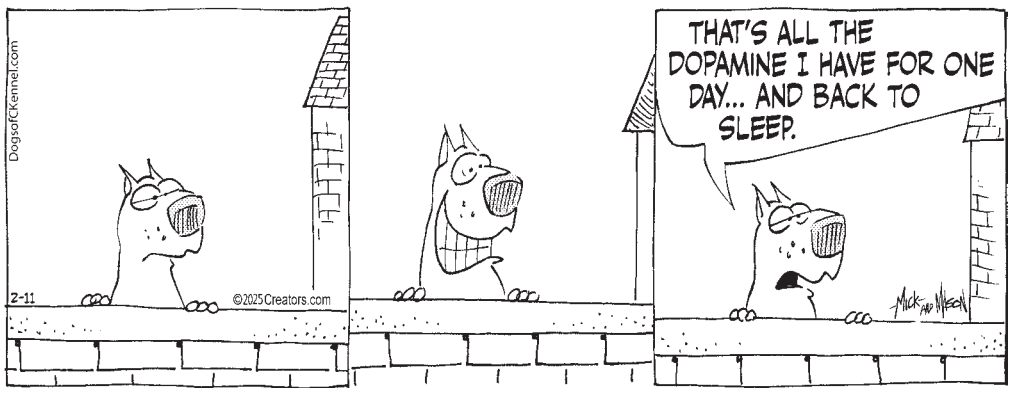
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



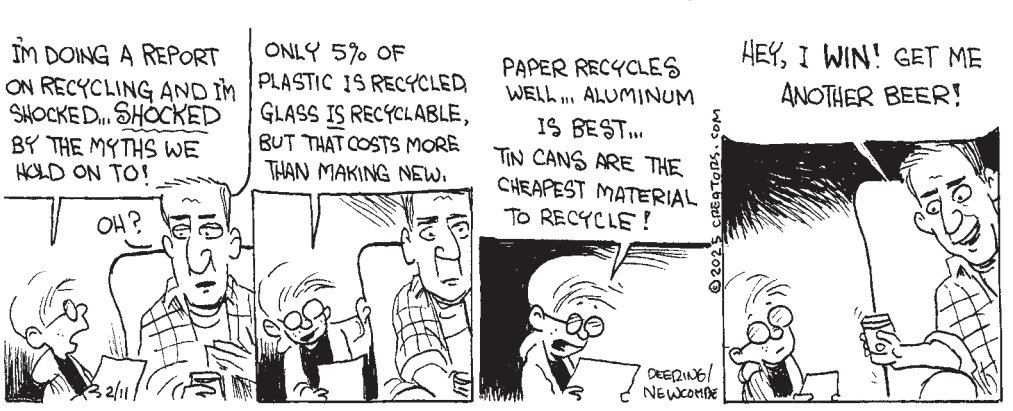
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I USED TO BE A MEMBER, BUT I DIDN'T LIKE THE BEARD."

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 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6483

Ski season

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

Ankle
Anorak
Blast
Blue
Bogs
Cabins
Caps
Cosy
Cough
Dams
Dark
Drop
Edges
Freezing
Gates
Grey
Hats
Hire
Huts
Iced
Lakes
Legs
Lone
Lost
Melt
Murray
Neve
NSW
Numb
Peaks
Pies
Play
Rain
Rugs
Runs
Slacks
Sled
Slick
Slope
Slush
Snow
Soup
Stem
Storm
Sunny
Tavern
Thredbo
Tin Mine Falls
Toddy
Urge
Vehicle
Warm
Wind
Yaouk

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
The cool sounds of nostalgia

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 11)

You show up strong and make extraordinary things happen, claiming yourself in ways that many people never even dare to. Healthy choices keep you vibrant, in control and checking off goals right and left. More highlights: Your appreciation of design, nature and beauty will have you involved in fascinating projects. You'll spot and bank on the next big thing. Your social life is tender and adventurous. Pisces and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 3, 33, 20 and 15.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You sense small shifts in mood or the energy in a room and react to them early on instead of waiting to see what develops. In doing so, you'll prevent small issues from becoming big ones, or you'll avoid obstacles and unwanted dynamics.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't need anyone to tell you what to buy or how to optimize your work or life. You're a tastemaker in your own right - something you'll enjoy about yourself today as you make extremely pleasing choices.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you were an infant, you did not will yourself to grow teeth. Similarly, you will not have to willfully commandeer the next phase of your development. What you experience is nature's own rhythm of renewal.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Heroes are human, too. Though you admire someone's stellar qualities, you've an even deeper appreciation for their humanity. You don't really know someone until you understand their vulnerabilities and shortcomings.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Prioritize your own needs. You deserve to pursue what you love, even when it doesn't fit the expectations of others. What you experience today will fuel your creativity and, ultimately, your ability to support others in a more genuine way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sometimes life pulls the curtains closed in front of you, just to make the reveal later a bit more dramatic. So, if you don't have a clear picture of the future, chalk it up to the spirit of suspense. You can bet this is going to be good.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). However you get a charge out of life, honor it. Sometimes what gives the spark seems like a shallow source, but if it's a part of how you experience vitality, excitement and connection, it's OK to honor that as a real need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Out of maturity, you accept that people are into their own journey and it takes something extra to get them to pay attention to yours. You're seeking connection, even as the people in your life may be slow to catch on. They will, though. Give it a beat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Like the sky watching clouds drift - some light and puffy, others dark and heavy - you observe thoughts passing through your mind, all the while realizing that none demand action. Very soon, the winds will shift, clearing the way for a fresh reset.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Too many options are a terrible thing to have. It's called "the tyranny of choice" and not "the luxury of choice" for a reason. It is possible to experience total freedom in three to five solid options. Having a thousand options makes you a prisoner of the decision-making process.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are a partner with the universe, assembling a team to build your dream. Don't just look for talent; seek visionaries, dreamers and doers. Seek people who bring out the best in you and in one another. Seek people who have that "it" factor, just like you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not exactly where you want to be, but there's a unique advantage to your current position. This vantage point offers insights and opportunities you'd miss from anywhere else. Leverage what's here to make your next move sharper and smarter.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

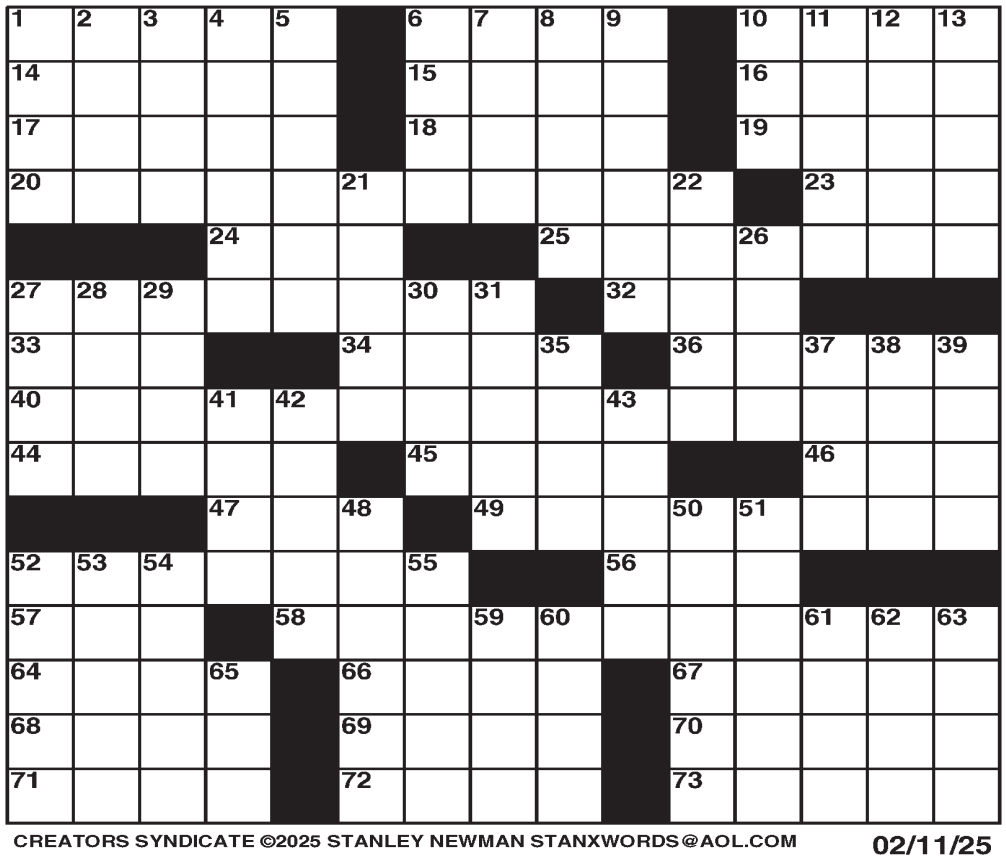
T-SHIRT STORE by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 In need of a bath
6 Hollywood headliner
10 Epic tale
14 Be wild about
15 Sharpen
16 Oil cartel
17 Tourney rounds with four squads
18 Cheerios grains
19 Desire to have
20 Comfortable compromise
23 __ de Janeiro
24 Pastureland
25 Rattling noise
27 Create a new look for
32 Make a knot in
33 Rowboat implement
34 Menageries
36 Tango or rumba
40 Began modestly
44 Up and about
45 Distort, as facts
46 Scottish hat
47 Short-lived fashion
49 Train stops
52 Wheel on an automobile
56 Convent resident
57 Pub beverage
58 Spending extravagantly
64 Highway or byway
66 Golfer's shout
67 "This __ your fault!"
68 Just a single time
69 Bout enders, for short
70 Chinese lap dogs
71 New York baseballers
72 Dispatched
73 Movie excerpt

DOWN

1 Short footrace
2 Notion
3 Play friskily
4 Multiply by three
5 Emphatic agreement
6 Sneaker or moccasin
7 Frog's cousin
8 Playful prank
9 Outcome
10 Piglet's mom
11 In separate places
12 Aladdin's magical pal
13 Cast member
21 Color of corn
22 Hotel-room cleaners
26 Sports squad
27 Civil rights icon Parks
28 Consumes
29 "Darn it!"
30 Mount Olympus dwellers
31 Cozy corners
35 Bird-feeder alternative to seed
37 Western defense grp.
38 Big family
39 Shade trees
41 Difference of opinion
42 Hiker's path
43 Nasal accent
48 Snow buildups
50 Dutch flowers
51 Very shortly
52 Billiards bounce
53 Without help
54 Give feedback
55 Bring back memories of
59 Metal in steel
60 Bird's dwelling
61 Leaf-gathering tool
62 Little valley
63 "If all __ fails..."
65 __ Moines, IA



CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2025 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

02/11/25

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

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

for affordable senior housing, with a pair of two-bedrooms added into the mix for on-site personnel. In October, HCHC Executive Director Sarah Letts said that prior feedback on the project led to prioritizing serving seniors aged 55 and above.

Public comment has been rampant about the project over the past year. The October meeting also had some residents asking about safety for the senior site, with the HCHC team responding that staffing on-site will include a paid security guard on nights and weekends during the first year of operations.

The six-story building will have subterranean parking for 42 vehicles, however, the removal of a current parking lot on the parcels was still a sore subject for some public commenters.

"The decision not to replace the already overcrowded 14th Street public lot will only exacerbate parking issues for both residents and local businesses," resident Giacomo Valentini said. "Please note that many storefronts along that stretch of the street are currently unused, a situation we all hope will change soon. But new businesses will put additional pressure on an already precarious parking situation. This will undoubtedly create significant challenges for the entire neighborhood and represents poor planning."

Despite the issue, other commenters were supportive of the project, stating that after January's Palisades Fire, the housing crisis will only get worse and the city needs housing now more than ever.

> The decision not to replace the already overcrowded 14th Street public lot will only exacerbate parking issues for both residents and local businesses
>
> - Giacomo Valentini

The ARB approval comes a month after the project's sister endeavor, an affordable housing complex at 1217 Euclid St., passed through the board. The HCHC project is a six-story building featuring 48 one, two and three-bedroom apartments, as well as subterranean parking for 40 vehicles.

thomas@smdp.com

NEWSOM

FROM PAGE 3

When Newsom called for a special legislative session in November to "safeguard California values," the money was supposed to be appropriated before Trump took office last month. But with dozens of new members getting their bearings, hesitation among Democrats about how much to lean into opposing a president who gained some ground in California this election, and the holidays looming, the Legislature was slow to take action. By the time members returned to Sacramento in January to begin work, the fires were breaking out in Los Angeles and the focus of the entire state government shifted.

Seeking to repair his relationship with the president — whom he spoke with for the first time in years when Trump briefly visited Los Angeles last month to survey the fire damage — Newsom has taken pains to distance himself from the "Trump-proofing" label.

But he and other Democratic leaders in California continue to defend the funding, which they contend is a sensible precautionary measure given Trump's history of attacking California and the policies that it supports. The state sued more than 120 times during his first term, winning about two-thirds of the cases.

"Our job, above all else, is to protect our residents," Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, a Salinas Democrat, said in a floor speech before Monday's vote. "And let me be blunt: Right now, Californians are being threatened by an out-of-control administration in Washington that doesn't care about the Constitution, that thinks there are no limits to its power."

"We must ensure that our residents receive the federal services, the federal benefits, that they have contributed to and that they deserve," he added. "Given the many executive orders that have been issued over the past two weeks, I can say with clarity: We do not trust President Donald Trump."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.





TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 11

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB
10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Patio Room, Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Come learn and have fun each week with something new like exercise, talking with friends, learning, guest presenters and health & wellness. For more information, call 310-458-8688.

TUESDAY TALES
10:30 - 11 a.m. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St. This fun and engaging weekly series features stories, songs and rhymes and travels to a different library location each week. Free tickets are available at 10:15 a.m. For ages 2-5.

ART BANK UNVEILING
4 - 5 p.m. Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. Join artist Gary Tyler for the unveiling of "In Memoriam of an Ashanti Warrior, 1996." This textile work wad completed in 2024 and acquired for the municipal Art Bank with the support of Frieze Los Angeles.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica: Housing Authority, Parking Authority, Public Financing, Redevelopment Successor Agency, Audit Subcommittee.

LIBRARY LOVERS MONTH TRIVIA NIGHT
6 - 7 p.m. Solidarity Restaurant, 1414 Lincoln Blvd. Celebrate Library Lovers' Month and flex your literary knowledge with a trivia contest. Compete individually or as a team to win prizes and show your love for your local library.

WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 12

COMPUTER BASICS
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Computer Training Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Join for a free hands-on introduction to using email to send messages, files and photos.

SIMPLE STRATEGIES TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE
1 - 2 p.m. Virtual. Conversations around body safety should happen in every family and can be done with ease and without fear or discomfort. Come discover how you can start this conversation with your child today. To register, visit: https://www.santamonica.gov/events/4p37ye0tx7x8156869h449vp-wk/202502121300.

COOKIES & CARD CRAFTING FOR KIDS
3:30 - 5 p.m. Youth Activity Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Make a Valentine's card for your loved ones and decorate cookies. All materials provided. For ages 2-10.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
4:30 - 6 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Join the adventure for one-shot sessions with characters you have created or pick-up a readymade character for the day's journey. All materials provided. Ages 9-14.

LITERARY LOUNGE
6:15 - 7:30 p.m. Tutoring Center, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Discover the joy of social reading at the Literary Lounge; a space for bibliophiles to bond over books, with music and refreshments. Bring your own book or choose one from a collection of staff favorites.

WICKS & WINE
6:30 - 9 p.m. AJA Vineyards, 1417 2nd St. Join for a fun evening of candle making and wine tasting. Unleash your creativity as you craft your own custom scented candle, sip on some delicious wines and socialize with friends. Tickets $65, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wicks-wine-at-aja-vineyards-tickets-1218666055979.

AN EVENING WITH DUCKHORN VINEYARDS
7 - 9 p.m. Marina Del Rey Hotel, 13534 Bali Way, Marina del Rey. This Valentine's season, treat yourself (and maybe someone special) to an unforgettable evening featuring the world-renowned Duckhorn Portfolio. Ticket includes welcome glass of Sparkling Rose and a three-course dinner paired with Duckhorn wines. Tickets $75, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-duckhorn-vineyards-at-marina-del-rey-hotel-tickets-1092815463469.

ORIGINAL UNDERSTUDIES
8 - 9 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater, 1323-A 3rd St. Promenade. The Bear Supply Hour is now Original Understudies, a cast of both fresh and veteran comedians in fast-paced sketch and long form improv. Every show features special guests creating a high-octane, one-of-a-kind improvised spectacle. Tickets $10, to purchase visit: https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pe.c/11565659.

THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 13

UPDATE ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH
12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Monica Moore, from the Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Research and Care at UCLA, discusses the latest findings related to the symptoms and causes of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Learn about the latest treatments available and research being conducted to find a cure.

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
6 - 8 p.m. Community Room, Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. This is a special meeting of the Library Board and Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Agenda and minutes are available at: https://www.santamonica.gov/santa-monica-public-library-board.

RENT CONTROL BOARD
7 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations.


santa monica
orto
Vote for Orto as your Most Loved Italian Santa Monica Restaurant!
MOST LOVED
2025
Santa Monica
502 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90401 (424) 433-8100