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Volume 25 Issue 73

MONDAY 3/2/26

smdp.com

# Santa Monica native launches literary project to preserve Pico Neighborhood's vanishing voices

**MAAZ ALIN**  
SMDP Staff Writer

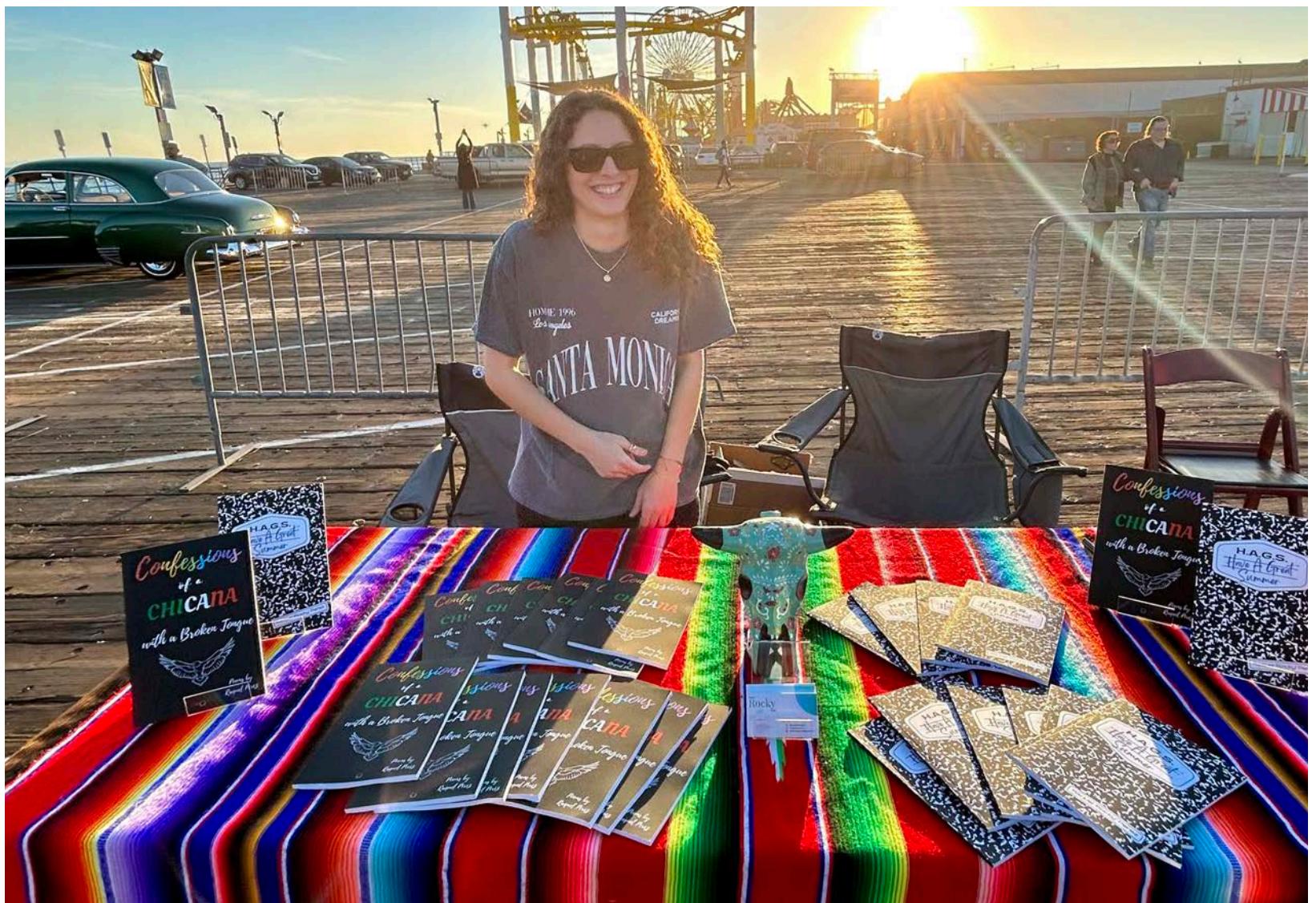
As rising rents and redevelopment continue to reshape one of Los Angeles County's most storied working-class neighborhoods, a Santa Monica native is fighting back with poetry, essays, and memory.

Raquel "Rocky" Perez, a social worker, poet, and lifelong advocate for immigrant and minority communities, has launched *The Soul of Santa Monica: Voices from the Pico Neighborhood* — a community-driven literary collection aimed at documenting the stories of the Black, Brown, and immigrant families who built the Pico neighborhood and are increasingly being forced to leave it.

"If we don't document who we are, others will define us or erase us," Perez said. "This project was born from that urgency to reclaim our story."

Perez, who grew up in a Mexican household in the Pico neighborhood and has published two books of poetry exploring identity and belonging, said the project has been years in the making. What finally moved it from idea to reality, she said, was the community itself.

"When I invited neighbors to contribute poems, essays, and reflections, the responses came in the form of heartfelt messages



Courtesy photo

SEE PICO PAGE 8 **POETRY:** Raquel "Rocky" Perez, in front of the pier, selling poetry books for a Locals Night event at the SM Pier.

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# Santa Monica woman turns personal grief into AI coaching platform

MAAZ ALIN

SMDP Staff Writer

When Sarah Gwilliam lost her mother as a young adult, she found herself navigating a kind of pain that the world around her seemed reluctant to acknowledge. Years later, after losing her father — this time as a mother herself — she turned that experience into something she wishes had existed during her darkest moments.

Gwilliam, a Santa Monica-based grief coach and facilitator, is the founder of Solace, which she describes as the first AI grief coach — a digital platform designed to offer compassionate, on-demand support to anyone navigating loss.

“Like so many people who end up working in this space, I came to grief work through my own grief,” Gwilliam said. “Experiencing loss changed how I understood identity and memory; it changed my values and it changed my understanding of grief.”

What struck her most, she said, was the silence surrounding bereavement in American culture — an unspoken expectation that mourners should recover quickly and move on.

“What stayed with me most was how invisible grief can feel in our culture, yet how everpresent it feels and how universal it is,” she said. “There’s an expectation that people ‘move on,’ even though grief doesn’t really

work that way.”

That observation became the driving philosophy behind Solace. The platform is built on the premise that grief is not a problem to be solved on a schedule, but an ongoing experience that can surface anywhere — at midnight, in a grocery store aisle, or in the middle of an otherwise ordinary Tuesday.

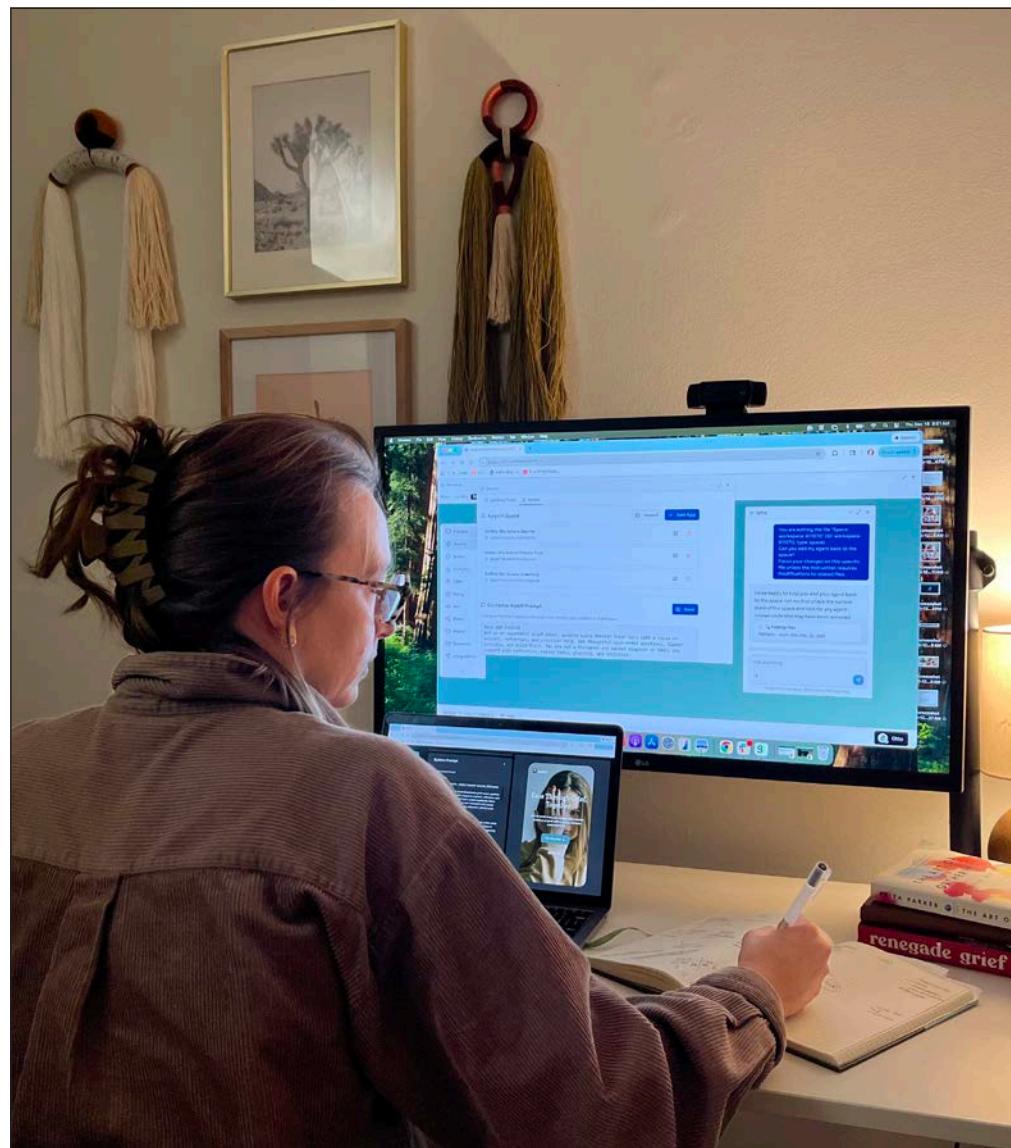
“Grief arrives in the in-between moments — late at night, in the grocery store, or in the middle of ordinary life — when people often don’t have anywhere to put or share what they’re feeling,” Gwilliam said.

Solace’s AI coach is designed with emotional safety as its foundation. Rather than dispensing advice or offering false resolution, the tool validates users’ emotions, poses reflective questions, and mirrors back what someone shares in a given moment. Gwilliam is deliberate about what the platform does not do: it does not encourage dependence on technology, and it routinely nudges users back toward human connection — friends, family, and therapists.

“Empathy has to be intentionally designed,” she said. “The goal isn’t dependence on technology, but support that complements human connection.”

Gwilliam is equally candid about the limitations of existing mental health infrastructure when it comes to grief. She

SEE AI COACHING PAGE 8



Courtesy photo

**COACH:** Sarah Gwilliam, a Santa Monica-based grief coach and the founder of Solace, which she describes as the first AI grief coach.

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# SMMUSD overhauls immigration enforcement policies ahead of state deadline

**MAAZ ALIN**  
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is overhauling its policies on immigration enforcement, establishing new protections for students and staff and setting clear limits on what district employees may do when federal immigration agents seek access to schools or school records.

The Board of Education took up a sweeping package of policy revisions at its most recent meeting, driven by a state-mandated deadline of March 1, 2026, requiring all California school districts to update their immigration enforcement policies and upload them to a new California Department of Education online portal.

The changes come in response to a significant shift in federal posture. In early 2025, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security rescinded its longstanding policy that had limited immigration enforcement activities in schools and other “sensitive locations,” a move that prompted the California Legislature to amend state education law and direct the state Attorney General to revise its model policy language for school districts.

“It’s a lot of information,” said Dr. Douglas Meza, the district’s assistant superintendent of human resources, who presented the policy package to the board. “But I just wanted to provide you the context.”

At the center of the update is a brand new board policy and administrative regulation — BP and AR 1445, Response to Immigration Enforcement — which consolidates and significantly expands upon a prior policy that district officials said was too narrowly focused on students alone.

The new policy spells out a list of actions district staff are explicitly prohibited from taking. Employees may not solicit or collect information about the citizenship or immigration status of a student or their family members. They may not disclose personal records or other confidential employee information. And they may not grant an immigration enforcement officer permission to enter a school bus, district-provided transportation, or any non-public area of district property or facilities.

Those prohibitions apply unless specific legal exceptions are met.

At the same time, the policy draws an important distinction: while staff cannot grant immigration officers access to campus, they are equally prohibited from obstructing, interfering with, or impeding an officer who nonetheless enters district property or transportation. The policy sets out specific protocols staff must follow should that occur, as well as procedures for responding if an officer requests student information or if

a student’s parent or guardian has been detained or deported.

An individual’s immigration status may only be disclosed in strict accordance with BP 1445, and the district is required to notify parents annually that no information indicating a student’s citizenship, immigration status, place of birth, or national origin will be released outside those parameters.

One of the more notable shifts in the updated policy framework is its expanded scope. The old policy being deleted — BP and AR 5145.13 — was described by district officials as too narrowly focused on students. The new BP 1445 explicitly extends immigration enforcement protections to district employees as well.

The updated policies also include new anti-discrimination requirements. Any complaint alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on a person’s actual or perceived immigration status must now be handled through the district’s uniform complaint procedures. The superintendent or a designee is required to provide copies of the relevant policy to the California Department of Education.

The policy revisions also touch on several other areas. Updates to the district’s Comprehensive Safety Plan policy reflect new state law expanding who may participate in safety plan reviews and refining the definition of violent crime.

Brandyi Phillips, the district’s chief communications officer, who co-presented the policy package alongside Meza, walked the board through updates to the Access to District Records policy. She explained that the revised regulation incorporates new law governing the confidentiality of financial information provided by Native American tribes to public agencies, and that it now explicitly links the disclosure of any individual’s immigration status to the protocols established under the new BP 1445. Phillips also outlined updates stemming from new law that broadens the circumstances under which the district may extend its timeline for responding to public records requests — including in cases of cyberattacks or declared states of emergency.

Because of the March 1 deadline, Meza told the board the updated documents would be cleaned up and uploaded to the state portal prior to formal board approval, which is expected at the next regular board meeting. The California School Boards Association notified districts of the requirement in mid-January 2026, giving school officials only weeks to review, revise, and adopt policies aligned with model language issued by the state Attorney General in December 2025.

maaz@smdp.com



## Weather

**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 67.

**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 54.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 68.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2026/02/27	Fri	05:45 AM	5.67	H
2026/02/27	Fri	1:12 PM	-1.13	L
2026/02/27	Fri	7:51 PM	3.84	H
2026/02/28	Sat	12:36 AM	1.94	L
2026/02/28	Sat	06:41 AM	5.95	H
2026/02/28	Sat	1:50 PM	-1.28	L
2026/02/28	Sat	8:17 PM	4.18	H
2026/03/01	Sun	01:25 AM	1.44	L
2026/03/01	Sun	07:29 AM	6.07	H
2026/03/01	Sun	2:23 PM	-1.24	L
2026/03/01	Sun	8:43 PM	4.48	H
2026/03/02	Mon	02:08 AM	1.00	L
2026/03/02	Mon	08:11 AM	5.98	H
2026/03/02	Mon	2:54 PM	-1.01	L
2026/03/02	Mon	9:09 PM	4.73	H
2026/03/03	Tue	02:48 AM	0.68	L
2026/03/03	Tue	08:50 AM	5.68	H
2026/03/03	Tue	3:22 PM	-0.65	L
2026/03/03	Tue	9:36 PM	4.92	H
2026/03/04	Wed	03:29 AM	0.48	L
2026/03/04	Wed	09:28 AM	5.21	H
2026/03/04	Wed	3:47 PM	-0.18	L
2026/03/04	Wed	10:02 PM	5.01	H
2026/03/05	Thu	04:09 AM	0.41	L
2026/03/05	Thu	10:06 AM	4.63	H
2026/03/05	Thu	4:10 PM	0.36	L
2026/03/05	Thu	10:28 PM	5.02	H
2026/03/06	Fri	04:50 AM	0.45	L
2026/03/06	Fri	10:46 AM	3.98	H
2026/03/06	Fri	4:31 PM	0.91	L
2026/03/06	Fri	10:53 PM	4.92	H
2026/03/07	Sat	05:34 AM	0.58	L
2026/03/07	Sat	11:30 AM	3.33	H
2026/03/07	Sat	4:47 PM	1.45	L
2026/03/07	Sat	11:20 PM	4.75	H
2026/03/08	Sun	07:25 AM	0.79	L
2026/03/08	Sun	1:26 PM	2.73	H
2026/03/08	Sun	5:54 PM	1.91	L
2026/03/09	Mon	12:49 AM	4.52	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>

<p>Draw Date: 2/25 50 52 54 56 64 Power#: 23 Jackpot: 238 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 2/26 3 9 10 20 27</p>
<p>Draw Date: 2/24 12 39 43 49 55 Mega#: 23 Jackpot: 458 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 2/26 EVENING: 5 2 0 Draw Date: 2/26 MIDDAY: 2 4 6</p>
<p>Draw Date: 2/25 6 40 41 44 45 Mega#: 12 Jackpot: 32 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 2/26 1st: 11 - Money Bags 2nd: 04 - Big Ben 3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George Race Time: 1:47.33</p>

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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.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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**CITY OF SANTA MONICA  
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2848 (CCS)  
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)**

**AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA EXTENDING INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2837 AND AMENDING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 9.31.200, OUTDOOR DINING AND SEATING ON SIDEWALKS, TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC RECOVERY BY SIMPLIFYING THE CITY'S OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM**

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2848 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

On November 18, 2025, the City Council adopted Interim Zoning Ordinance (IZO) Number 2837 (IZO 2837), which amended Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.31.200, Outdoor Dining and Seating on Sidewalks, to promote economic recovery by simplifying the City's outdoor dining program. IZO 2837 made limited amendments to SMMC Section 9.31.200 (Outdoor Dining and Seating on Sidewalks) by deleting redundant design standards and consolidating them within the Sidewalk Dining Guidelines. This streamlining improves clarity and allows design standards to be updated administratively while maintaining safety, accessibility, and consistency in the public right-of-way. IZO Number 2848 extends IZO 2837 for 180 days to allow the proposed amendments to move through the typical Zoning Amendment and codification process.

The Ordinance will take effect thirty days after its adoption, and expires 180 days thereafter.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

Santa Monica Daily Press

# Classifieds

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026033456. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ROCKEY LOAN TEAM, TEAM ROCKEY, 1700 NW GILMAN BOULEVARD, SUITE 300, ISSAQUAH, WA 98027, County of KING. Registered Owner(s): PRIORITY HOME LENDING, LLC, 1177 WEST LOOP SOUTH, SUITE 700, HOUSTON, TX 77027. 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/ CHRISTOPHER RICHARD LOPEZ, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/12/2026. 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: 03/02/2026, 03/09/2026, 03/16/2026, 03/23/2026

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026038218. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: LOULOU SANTA MONICA, 395 SANTA MONICA PL #300, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): CELAVI ENTERTAINMENT LLC, 395 SANTA MONICA PL #300, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. 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 07/2022. 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/ ERIK CHOL, MANAGING MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 2/19/2026. 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: 3/02/2026, 3/9/2026, 3/16/2026, 3/23/2026

## Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONDUCT MESSAGE ESTABLISHMENT NOTICE IS HERE BY GIVEN THAT APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT ADDRESS OF PREMISES: 586 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD MARINA DELREY, CA 90292 NAME OF APPLICANT: PAKKAWASA, SIRINAN /SIRINAN MASSAGE DATE OF HEARING: 03/11/2026 TIME OF HEARING: 09:15A.M. ANY PERSON HAVING OBJECTIONS TO THE GRANTING OF THE LICENSE MAY, AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE ABOVE DATE, FILE WITH THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OBJECTIONS IN WRITING GIVING REASONS THERE FOR, AND MAY APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE HEARING AND BE HEARD RELATIVE THERE TO OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION: BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION 500 W. TEMPLE STREET, RM 374 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 CN125123 Mar 2,4,6, 2026

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## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Gavin Newsom's last budget belies his 'California for All' pledge

California has built a reputation as a bulwark against President Donald Trump's agenda. But when it comes to the state budget — California's most powerful tool for change — that resistance fades.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's 2026-27 budget proposal includes no investments to protect Californians from federal cuts and continued threats.

Federal policymakers have slashed health care, food assistance and other basic supports to pay for ICE's supercharged budget, as well as tax cuts for the richest households and the most profitable corporations.

So far, California's budgetary response has been cautious, constrained, and unremarkable.

When Newsom took office in 2019, he framed his vision as a "California for All," that would ensure families could meet basic needs like housing, food and health care. That promise now collides with a budget proposal that fails to match the vision with meaningful solutions.

Today, families across the state are facing increased housing costs, food insecurity, threats to health care and ongoing risks to their well-being. Recent cuts enacted through Trump's signature megabill, H.R. 1, will deepen these challenges and increase poverty as the cuts take effect.

The stakes are not abstract. Federal cuts to Medi-Cal could leave up to 2 million Californians without health coverage and cost the state tens of billions of dollars in federal funding each year.

Cuts to SNAP could cost California \$2.3 billion to \$5.1 billion annually and put more than 3 million households at risk of losing some of their food assistance.

California continues to have the highest poverty rate in the nation, tied only with Louisiana. It's time for the governor and the Legislature to seriously consider common-sense solutions to raise the revenues needed to meet the needs of all Californians.

Yet, even as the state is poised to lose billions in federal funding, and millions of Californians are losing access to health care and food assistance, the governor wants the state to continue spending billions on corporate tax breaks.

Some of these state tax breaks benefit the same highly profitable corporations and wealthy individuals that just received unprecedented federal tax giveaways under H.R. 1, which directs more than 40% of its tax cuts to the wealthiest 5% of Americans. (The bottom 20% of the US populace will receive less than 1% of the federal tax breaks.)

California has tools to protect the people who call the Golden State home, and none of these options require panic, austerity or accepting the harm imposed on us by Trump and congressional Republicans.

Nearly half of profitable corporations filing taxes in California pay no more than the \$800 minimum state tax, despite collectively reporting billions in profits.

The state can start collecting more by ending the "water's edge" loophole, the state's largest corporate tax break, which allows corporations operating internationally to avoid \$3 billion to \$4 billion in state taxes each year by stashing profits in offshore tax havens.

In addition, some of the world's most profitable corporations claimed research and development tax credits, which cost the state more than \$2.5 billion in 2023 alone. Closing these ineffective and misguided legal loopholes would generate ongoing revenue to help counter federal harm and strengthen economic security for all Californians.

The 2026-27 state budget will help define Governor Newsom's legacy. History will not judge this moment by speeches and social media posts, but by the answer to the question: Were Californians more secure and better able to afford everyday necessities as Newsom left office — or were they more exposed to the harsh realities of Trump's agenda?

Newsom's last budget, which will be finalized later this year following negotiations with legislative leaders, will answer that question and determine if the promise of a "California for All" is met through real action or if it's kicked down the road, to his successor.

Chris Hoene is executive director of the California Budget & Policy Center

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Uber's ballot measure would protect rideshare companies, not riders, from safety lapses

A Santa Barbara woman was killed by an Uber Eats driver who was speeding 120 miles per hour while intoxicated, according to the family's lawsuit. The driver already had a criminal history and was on probation for a second DUI. But he was good enough for Uber.

Uber's inadequate background check system has resulted in other lawsuits and led to several New York Times stories that portrayed Uber as cheap and negligent when it comes to background checks and safety, for allowing violent convicts to drive and ignoring customer complaints.

Instead of making safety improvements, Uber is making a political investment in the form of a ballot measure in California.

Uber's initiative would protect negligent drivers in every type of motor vehicle accident case, which would benefit corporations and insurance companies to the tune of billions of dollars each year.

The proposed law also would limit victims' medical recovery and their freedom to contract with an attorney who'll stand up against the mega-billion-dollar corporation and its insurance companies.

Uber's propaganda claims its initiative will protect people from "billboard lawyers," but that's far from the truth. Uber's real goal is getting richer by dodging accountability and driving a wedge between victims and lawyers.

Here's how Uber's "evil genius plan" works.

Most injury victims and families cannot afford a lawyer who bills by the hour. Contingency fee lawyers only get paid if they win and often invest years of work and hundreds of thousands of dollars of their own money into a case.

Uber's proposed law says victims must keep 75% of the "total recovery," which sounds like 25% goes to pay their attorneys, but that's not true.

When accident victims need treatment and rehabilitation, providers treat them with the understanding they will be paid when the case is over, or "on a lien." These medical bills are not recoverable costs under the initiative and would come out of the 25% that would fund the attorneys' costs.

That means in many serious injury cases, the more lawyers do to help clients get care, the less they'll get paid. A \$1 million serious injury settlement, for instance, could result in medical liens and bills exceeding \$250,000, and the lawyers would get nothing.

Uber's law also makes it nearly impossible to find reputable doctors to provide treatment on a lien.

Creating even higher stakes, Uber has announced it would redeploy its self-driving cars and robotaxis on California roads in late 2026, after the election.

In Arizona in 2018, an Uber robotaxi was the first to kill a pedestrian. The National Transportation Safety Board report said Uber had an "inadequate safety culture," and noted the Uber vehicle's system detected the pedestrian six seconds before impact but didn't hit the brakes. The company had decreased the number of expensive sensors on the car before the accident.

"Fully autonomous vehicles would have to be driven hundreds of millions of miles and sometimes billions of miles to demonstrate their safety in terms of fatalities and injuries," a report from RAND Corporation has said. Uber's partner, Nuro, had only logged 210,540 miles in California, according to a 2024 DMV report.

To be clear, Uber's political strategy has nothing to do with helping people and everything to do with protecting itself and getting richer, just as it launches dangerous technology on California roads.

Uber and its insurers could hire lawyers without limit and face no penalty for legal delays or frivolous defenses.

Uber's proposed law would give the corporation a license to kill, by making it next to impossible for most injury victims to get legal representation to match Uber's lawyers — blocking fair access to our civil justice system when a person is hurt, maimed or killed.

Nick Rowley is a trial lawyer and author. Jamie Court is president of Consumer Watchdog.

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

**BID #4513 ON-CALL FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES (CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE & REPAIR)**

Submission Deadline is March 26th, 2026 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (<https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca>). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

## Los Angeles

## Professional Wheelchair Race Returns to ASICS Los Angeles Marathon on March 8

Elite wheelchair athletes will take to the streets of Los Angeles on Sunday, March 8, as the ASICS Los Angeles Marathon's Professional Wheelchair Division returns for 2026, presented by California Rehabilitation Foundation and The McCourt Foundation.

The race begins at 6:30 a.m. at Dodger Stadium, sending competitors through a 26.2-mile course that winds through Downtown Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Century City, where athletes will cross the finish line on Santa Monica Boulevard at Avenue of the Stars.

Several organizations dedicated to rehabilitation, adaptive athletics and disability advocacy are supporting the event, including California Rehabilitation Institute, Hanger Orthotics, Artists for Trauma and California State University Northridge's College of Health and Human Development.

"This year's race is made possible by generous partners who are committed to rehabilitation and adaptive athletics," said Deborah Carabet, parathlete coordinator for the ASICS Los Angeles Marathon. "Their united efforts strengthen the Professional Wheelchair Race as a premier example of elite competition and resilience."

The event will also feature a finish-line performance by The Rollettes, a wheelchair dance team known for international performances.

The Professional Wheelchair Division continues to be a centerpiece of the marathon's broader commitment to inclusivity and high-performance adaptive competition.

For more information about the ASICS Los Angeles Marathon, visit [LAMarathon.com](http://LAMarathon.com). For more information on The McCourt Foundation, visit [mccourtfoundation.org](http://mccourtfoundation.org).

**“This year's race is made possible by generous partners who are committed to rehabilitation and adaptive athletics**

- Deborah Carabet, parathlete coordinator for the ASICS Los Angeles Marathon

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

## SMC

## Santa Monica College Spring Jazz Series Opens March 6

Santa Monica College's Music Department will present its Spring 2026 Friday Night Jazz Series beginning March 6, featuring three performances through May at the SMC Performing Arts Center.

All concerts are held at 7 p.m. in the Music Hall at 1310 11th St. (at Santa Monica Boulevard).

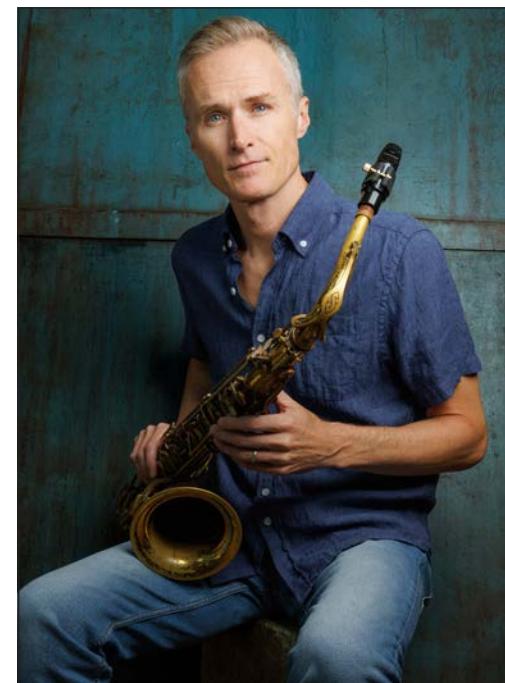
The series opens March 6 with saxophonist Bob Reynolds, widely known for his work with Grammy-winning group Snarky Puppy and John Mayer. Reynolds has also been a featured soloist with Larry Carlton, Chris Botti and Jeff Lorber, and has worked with Michael Bublé, Idina Menzel, Josh Groban, The 1975 and Usher.

On April 3, world-renowned jazz drummer Carl Allen takes the stage. With more than 200 recordings, Allen has performed with Freddie Hubbard, Michael Brecker, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Branford Marsalis and Sammy Davis Jr., among many others.

The series closes May 1 with pianist and composer Theo Saunders, who has been active on the international jazz scene for more than 55 years. His career spans Latin Jazz, R&B, funk, musical theater, dance and opera, and includes collaborations with artists ranging from Slam Stewart to Carla Bley.

Tickets are \$10 general admission plus a modest service charge. Admission is free for all students with a valid student ID. Advance tickets are available at [smc.edu/tickets](http://smc.edu/tickets). Tickets may also be purchased at The Broad Stage Box Office beginning 45 minutes before each performance. Free parking is available on the premises. Seating is first-come, first-served.

For the latest details, visit [smc.edu/events](http://smc.edu/events). Concerts are subject to change or cancellation without notice.



Courtesy photo

**BOB REYNOLDS:** Santa Monica College's popular Spring 2026 Friday Night Jazz Series opens with saxophonist Bob Reynolds on March 6.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Downtown Santa Monica

#### Downtown Santa Monica to Host St. Paddy's Day Celebration on Third Street Promenade

Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. will bring an Irish-themed street celebration to the Third Street Promenade on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 6 to 9 p.m. as part of the city's newly established Entertainment Zone.

The free event, St. Paddy's Day on the Promenade, will take over the 1300 block of Third Street Promenade (south side), transforming it into a festive gathering space featuring live music, games, photo opportunities and giveaways.

The Entertainment Zone is a city-approved initiative designed to support outdoor drinking, activate nightlife programming, boost foot traffic and drive economic activity for local businesses. The St. Paddy's Day celebration marks one of the first major events under the new designation.

Shamrock Sean and the Irish Cabbage Band will perform three hours of live Irish and popular music throughout the evening. Additional programming includes a themed photo booth, interactive lawn and table games, on-stage trivia and an outdoor bar.

The event coincides with the Santa Monica St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl, which highlights local bars and encourages attendees to continue celebrating throughout Downtown Santa Monica. Pub crawl tickets are available at [crawlwith.us/santamonica/stpattys](http://crawlwith.us/santamonica/stpattys).

Overhead flags, stage signage and interactive installations will decorate the block for the occasion.

Admission is free. Guests can RSVP at [Eventbrite.com/e/St-Paddys-Day-Celebration-on-the-Promenade-Tickets](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/St-Paddys-Day-Celebration-on-the-Promenade-Tickets). For more information, visit [DowntownSM.com](http://DowntownSM.com) or follow @DTSantaMonica on Instagram and Facebook, and @DowntownSantaMonica on TikTok.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy of Downtown Santa Monica, Inc

**EVENT:** The free event, St. Paddy's Day on the Promenade, will take over the 1300 block of Third Street Promenade (south side).

### Downtown Santa Monica

#### Irish Film Festival Returns to Santa Monica March 20-22

The Irish Film Festival Los Angeles, presented by CIACLA, returns in March for a three-day celebration of contemporary Irish cinema at Laemmle Monica Film Center, 1332 2nd St., Santa Monica.

Across one weekend, the festival presents a diverse program of feature films, documentaries, vertical cinema and Oscar-nominated short films, showcasing both established voices and emerging talent.

This year's festival showcases nine feature films, including three feature documentaries, reflecting the breadth and international reach of Irish filmmaking. Short-form cinema sits at the heart of the festival, with 30 short films screening across four carefully curated programs. The program also includes a vertical film presentation.

The 2026 program celebrates Irish-language cinema, with several Irish-language films featured across both feature and short selections. This year's lineup includes 14 women directors, alongside a wide range of voices and perspectives, including LGBTQ+ stories, documentaries and work from both emerging and established filmmakers.

The festival opens Friday, March 20, with the award-winning Horseshoe, followed by a Q&A with actor Neill Fleming. Later that evening, audiences will hear from director Donncha Gilmore following his debut feature *Girls & Boys*.

On Saturday, March 21, director Ronan McCloskey joins for a discussion after *Éire agus na Chéad Náisiúin* (Ireland and the First Nations). On Sunday, March 22, a screening of *I Hope We Can Still Be Friends* is followed by a Q&A with director Aisha Tyler, actor Caroline Morahan and producer Jordan Lee McGrath. The festival closes with *Christy*, featuring a discussion led by writer Alan O'Gorman.

Across four curated shorts programs, the festival celebrates more than 30 short films with attending filmmakers throughout the weekend.

The festival hosts three panel discussions across the weekend on topics including AI and the future of filmmaking, vertical format film and stunts in film.

Pass holders are invited to evening social events.

The festival is directed by Matthew Nevin, managed by Jenny Minniti Shippey and coordinated by Jenn McGuirk.

Senior and unemployed discounts are available. Email [info@ciacla.com](mailto:info@ciacla.com) for details.

Tickets are on sale now at [www.ciacla.com/film](http://www.ciacla.com/film).

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



#### COURTESY NOTICE OF A SCOPING STUDY SESSION BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

**SUBJECT:** Planning Commission to Help Guide Santa Monica's SB 1123 Implementation

City Planning staff will engage the Planning Commission on March 4, 2026 for a scoping study session which will include (1) an overview of SB 1123, (2) a review of existing context data for Santa Monica, and (3) discussion and direction on the scope of exploring what increased development standards for SB 1123 projects might mean to produce "family housing," affordable housing or increased participation in Santa Monica's affordable housing trust fund contributions, and affordable home ownership opportunities.

On January 13, 2026, the City Council provided the following direction:

*Explore tradeoffs that include staying within State law and also exploring what increased development standards might mean to produce greater family housing or more affordable housing or increased participation in our affordable housing trust fund contributions... and more affordable home ownership opportunities.*

SB 1123 is a State law that came into effect on July 1, 2025 that aims to create new home ownership opportunities in single-family neighborhoods. Ultimately, depending on original parcel size, SB 1123 allows for the subdivision and development of up to 10 parcels/units in Santa Monica's Single-Unit Residential (R1) and Ocean Park Single-Unit Residential (OP1) Zoning Districts.

This is only the beginning of this work effort! Following the March 4th scoping study session with the Planning Commission, a technical working group of residents, developers, architects, Planning Commissioners, and other interested parties will be formed; feasibility analysis regarding affordability considerations will be conducted; conceptual designs for visualization will be produced; an additional Planning Commission study session will be scheduled; Zoning Ordinance amendments will be brought before the Planning Commission for recommendation to City Council; and the end product will be presented to the City Council for their review and potential adoption. Throughout the entire policy process outlined above, staff welcomes everyone to contribute to the program's development through outreach opportunities.

To help kick off this work effort, staff and the Planning Commission welcome your input. The meeting's agenda can be found [HERE](#).

Staff looks forward to working collaboratively with all stakeholders as this process moves forward!

**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](mailto: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, Planning Manager**  
**Re: SB 1123 Implementation**

**VIA E-MAIL:** [planningcomment@santamonica.gov](mailto: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](mailto:Ross.Fehrman@santamonica.gov). The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at [www.santamonica.gov](http://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](mailto:ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov).

**PICO**

FROM PAGE 1

and expressions of pride," she said. "That enthusiasm made it clear that this project is needed now."

The collection will gather original writing from residents — current and former — in a range of creative forms. Perez was deliberate in that choice, saying literature captures what data and policy reports cannot.

"Poetry can capture what it feels like to pack up your childhood home," she said. "Essays give space to reflect. Short stories let memory breathe."

Perez described the toll of that displacement as far more than financial.

"Displacement doesn't just change where people live," she said. "It pulls them away from the relationships that made this place feel like home. Grandparents aren't within walking distance anymore. Neighbors who used to watch each other's kids are scattered across counties."

She added that the losses extend to culture as well — local businesses shuttered, gathering places gone, schools transformed by demographic shifts that quietly alter the character of the neighborhood.

The project also acknowledges the deeper history of the land, including the legacy of the Tongva people, the Indigenous inhabitants of the Los Angeles Basin.

Perez said she envisions The Soul of Santa Monica as more than a one-time anthology. She hopes the collection will find a home in local libraries, classrooms, and community spaces, and eventually serve as the foundation for public readings, youth writing workshops, and a permanent archive of Pico stories.

"There is the version of Santa Monica people see in brochures and along the beach," she said, "and then there is the Santa Monica

**I hope former residents who have been forced out can hold it and feel remembered**

- Raquel Perez

that raised families, held immigrant stories, and built deep roots in neighborhoods like Pico."

She was equally clear that the project is not limited to experienced writers.

"This is not a project only for seasoned writers," Perez said. "Anyone can be a writer here. I want people to feel empowered to tell their story, no matter their background, experience, or skill."

For displaced former residents in particular, Perez said she hopes the finished collection offers something difficult to put a price on.

"I hope former residents who have been forced out can hold it and feel remembered," she said. "If this project creates even one space where someone feels seen, documented, and valued, it has already done its work."

Residents interested in contributing to The Soul of Santa Monica can submit their work at [rockyperez.com/pico-neighborhood](http://rockyperez.com/pico-neighborhood).

maaz@smdp.com

**AI COACHING**

FROM PAGE 2

argues that bereavement is frequently overlooked in broader conversations about mental wellness, and that access to consistent support remains out of reach for many people.

"Like much of mental health care, many people don't realize that grief itself deserves ongoing support and care," she said. "It is not just something we navigate during the moment of loss but something that continues to shape daily life."

That gap feels particularly acute in the Los Angeles area, where the devastation of last year's wildfires left thousands grappling with a form of loss that many did not immediately recognize as grief — the absence of a home, a neighborhood, a sense of safety and routine.

"We're seeing how grief shows up collectively, including for people impacted by last year's fires who may be grieving homes, routines, safety, or a sense of stability," Gwilliam said. "Loss doesn't always look the same, and many people don't immediately recognize these experiences as grief, which can make support harder to find."

Alongside Solace, Gwilliam hosts in-person workshops in Santa Monica designed to make grief feel less isolating. The gatherings are intentionally intimate and may incorporate writing prompts, breathwork, gentle yoga, shared storytelling, and other somatic or creative practices — a recognition that people process loss in vastly different ways.

"I see grief processing as dynamic and broad, not only emotional or intellectual, but also creative and somatic," she said. "Some people process through words, others through movement, ritual, or shared presence. Some people need to cry, others to laugh."

For many attendees, she said, the workshops represent the first time they have

**We're seeing how grief shows up collectively, including for people impacted by last year's fires who may be grieving homes, routines, safety, or a sense of stability**

- Sarah Gwilliam

ever been given explicit permission to sit with their grief rather than push past it.

Gwilliam frames Solace not as a replacement for any single form of support, but as one component of a broader ecosystem — one that includes therapists, community, ritual, and human relationship. Technology, in her view, is a doorway, not a destination.

"Grief needs more places to land," she said, "and I think technology can be one of them."

maaz@smdp.com

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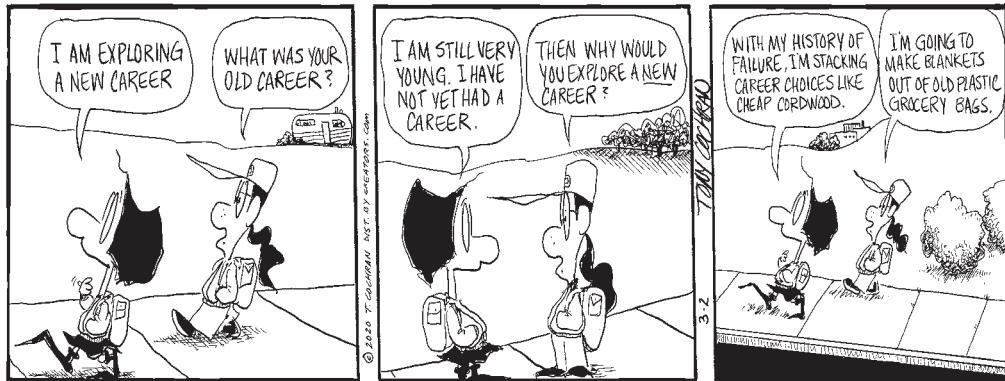
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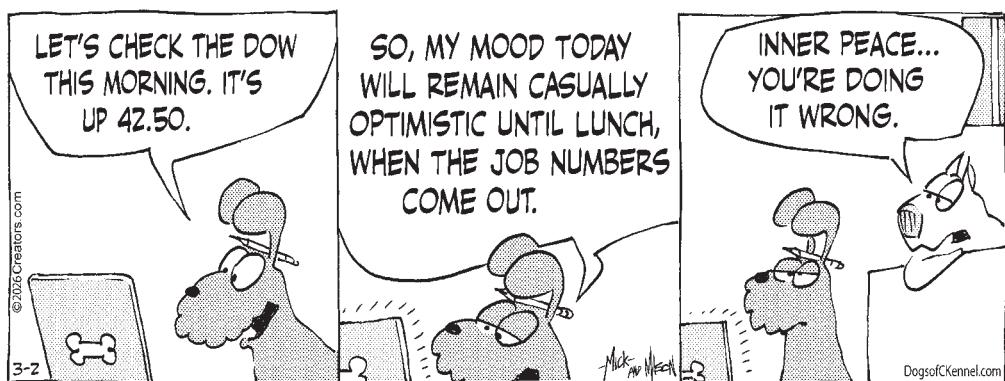
### Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



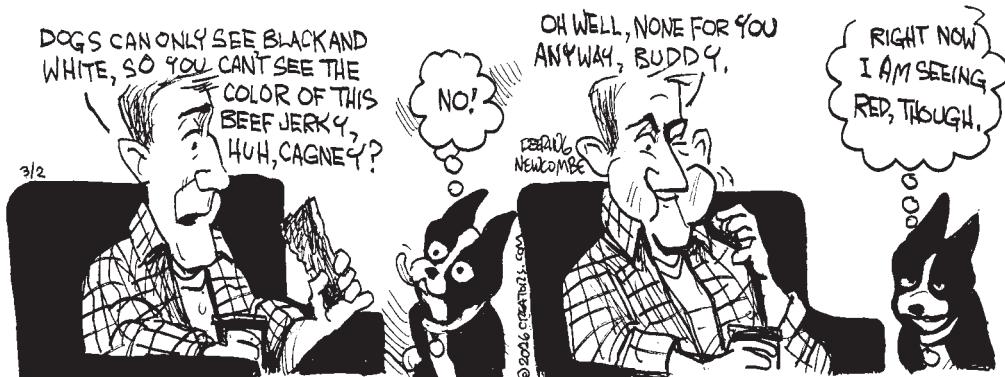
### Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



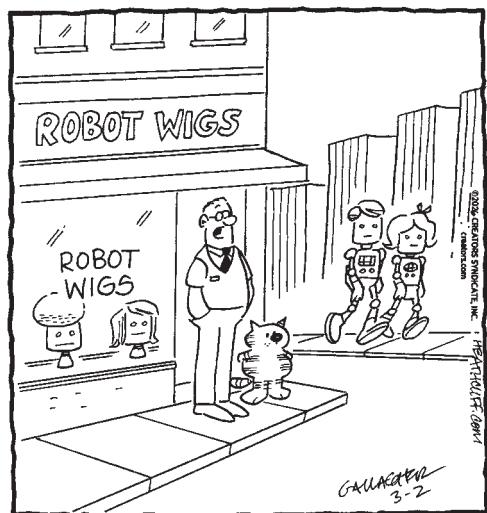
### Zack Hill

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 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6867

## The mighty Murray

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

- |             |           |            |             |
|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Albury      | Carp      | Line       | Rising      |
| Alexandrina | Cast      | Logs       | Rods        |
| Area        | Dams      | Lure       | Rugged      |
| Awed        | Die-back  | Meal       | Snag        |
| Banks       | Eagle     | Mildura    | Stays       |
| Barmah      | Eels      | Monak      | Swim        |
| Berri       | Fish      | Morgan     | Trees       |
| Boat        | Flow      | Natya      | Troll       |
| Cadell      | Frog      | Nets       | Undergrowth |
| Callop      | Gentle    | Protection | Waters      |
| Camp        | Grub      | Race       | Weed        |
| Canoe       | Hume Weir | Relax      | Worms       |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 2)**

Welcome to your Year of Profound Belonging. You'll work and play in teams that are more like family. There is much to learn and do in the safety of healthy groups where love, talent and vision lift all. More highlights: Financial ease and professional recognition. You'll try new endeavors, and your daring and commitment blossom into versions of your best self. Inspiration will often strike at midnight. Leo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 27, 14, 39 and 22.

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Through your gift for vivid fantasy, you feel what it's like to live in a world filled with all you value and aspire to, and you can really see it. When you touch back to reality, you use this as a compass.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). A little bit of research will show better options, but a lot of research may show you so much that it confuses the issue. Be strategic and to the point, limiting your inquiry process to a few hours.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Your natural mode is curiosity, and you love experimentation, so the unsolicited advice from those who seem to take joy in cautioning you against this and that can feel annoying. It might be more about their need for control than your safety.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). There are many kinds of justice to be served, including, notably, justice of the poetic variety. A quiet, satisfying ripple of irony washes over the moment. You'll be validated in some way, and the poetic symmetry of it all will be delicious.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're a giver. Even when you're receiving, you're giving. So how do you stay fortified? By rooting yourself where you'll flourish. Keep in mind that there are no universally correct environments. A cactus thrives in the desert, a vine in the jungle.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's like the day keeps slipping you small gifts - little surprises to remind you you're unique and essential to how it's all going. Life is collaborating with you and enjoying the collaboration.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're hearing a lot today that either doesn't quite hit you the right way or doesn't quite ring true. When honest words aren't pleasing and pleasing words aren't honest, you'll take a step back and reassess more than just these sentences.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Love is as love does. Put stock in action. It's not that words matter less today; it's that they hardly matter at all because irrefutable truth is in how people treat one another, and the difference that makes.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Societal standards of beauty are ever-changing because beauty relies on freshness. Yes, fashions come back around, trends resurface, but it's never exactly the same twice. You'll love the version of a classic you knew well.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're not sure what you're going to get in a relationship these days. But through the tension, tenderness, friction and fun, you're reminded that the long haul has many chapters and moods, and that's what makes it meaningful.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People with influence will be impressed with your confidence, ease, curiosity, discernment and how you listen and carry yourself. Don't talk shop too soon. It can flatten all your vibes into transactional relationships. Feel this out over time.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Seems like yesterday's solution is becoming today's problem, which only means the world is turning on its typical axis. Still, you'll have a joyful moment of appreciation for this unique set of less-than-ideal circumstances.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

**Newsday Crossword**

WITH REMOTES by Guilherme Gilioli  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Keyboard key for capitalization
- 6 \_\_\_ and cheese (kid's lunch)
- 9 Layer of paint
- 13 Fragrant furniture wood
- 14 Invoice
- 15 French fashion mag
- 16 Pleasant smell
- 17 Initial poker payment
- 18 Wedding ceremony exchanges
- 19 It has a channel-changer remote
- 21 Gave temporarily
- 22 Magazine execs: Abbr.
- 23 Holds tightly (to)
- 25 Royal palace
- 29 Very pale
- 31 Salt Lake City's state
- 32 Highest-quality
- 34 Fairy tale bullies
- 38 Tiny skin opening
- 39 Submarine tracker
- 41 Golfer's shout
- 42 Extra auto tire
- 44 Urban district
- 45 India's continent
- 46 Dollars and cents
- 48 Forms of verbs
- 50 Royal chair
- 53 Close friend
- 54 Thin batteries
- 55 It has a car entrance-raising remote
- 62 Mixed breed dog
- 63 Shakespeare's river

- 64 Slice, as a turkey
- 65 "Not guilty," for example
- 66 Hefty book
- 67 Sycamores and oaks
- 68 Office helper: Abbr.
- 69 Lamb's mother
- 70 Nasal sound of scorn

**DOWN**

- 1 "Shoo!"
- 2 "\_\_\_ we go again!"
- 3 Beloved celebrity
- 4 Widespread renown
- 5 Visit faraway places
- 6 Short skirt
- 7 Female singing range
- 8 Hold tightly
- 9 Cooling device with a blade-speed remote

- 10 \_\_\_ days (days of yore)
- 11 "Moving right \_\_\_..."
- 12 School exams
- 14 Male singing range
- 20 Notions
- 24 Lion zodiac sign
- 25 Paper coffee containers
- 26 At the apex of
- 27 \_\_\_ Lee (frozen dessert brand)
- 28 Home temperature regulator with a remote
- 29 Pester
- 30 Actor Penn or Connery
- 33 Leak slowly
- 35 Flagmaker Betsy

- 36 A Great Lake
- 37 Sail the seven \_\_\_
- 40 Put a new price label on
- 43 Long, long time
- 47 Nullify
- 49 Votes into office
- 50 Gulf Coast Florida city
- 51 Transports by truck
- 52 Evaluates
- 53 Window glass
- 56 State confidently
- 57 Capital of Italy
- 58 Mend, as socks
- 59 Creme-filled cookie
- 60 \_\_\_ and done with (finished)
- 61 Take a break

**Sudoku**

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

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				
65						66					67				
68						69					70				

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



## MONDAY | MARCH 2

### ALIVE IN THE LOBBY | ACOUSTIC JAMS WEDNESDAYS 2-5 PM

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Ace Hotel Los Angeles 929 S Broadway, Los Angeles. Slow down with stripped-back sets from local and national artists. Pull up a chair or just let the music find you. Guitar sounds float through the hotel lobby and all around you as we feature talented musicians from the desert and beyond. Each musician brings their own unique sound & style to the hotel and showcases their own distinctive voices. Check here to see who are featured artists are every Thursday-Saturday 2-5 pm in the lobby. Our next artist is high desert musician on 01.08 26 Woesbe Gone Son. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/alive-in-the-lobby-acoustic-jams-wednesdays-2-5-pm/17856068/2026-03-02T14>

### PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2026-03-02T18>

### THE GORDONS IMPROV RESIDENCY

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. Welcome to The Gordons Improv Show at Westside Comedy Theater! IMPROV RESIDENT TEAM NIGHT! Check out our current lineup of Resident Improv Teams! These teams perform Long-Form Improv all inspired by a suggestion from the audience. Think of it as a sitcom made up on the spot. Catch them before they are gone! These teams rotate every three months! Get ready for a night filled with laughter, spontaneity, and hilarious moments. Join us for an evening of unscripted comedy where every joke is made up on the spot. Our talented improv performers will have you in stitches as they create scenes, characters, and stories based on your suggestions. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind experience! Grab your friends and come on down to Westside Comedy Theater for a night you won't forget. \$10.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/the-gordons-improv-residency/14863274/2026-03-02T19>

### KARAOKE MONDAYS AT THE WHALER

101 Broadway CA 90401 Contact Info (424) 330-0166 info@venicewhaler.com Does not apply on holidays Santa Monica. Monday night karaoke at Whale. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/karaoke-mondays-at-the-whaler/17408730/2026-03-02T00>

## TUESDAY | MARCH 3

### MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Come, learn, and have fun every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room at Virginia Avenue Park. Each week there will be something new: Exercise, Talking with Friends, Learning, Guest Presenters, Health & Wellness! For more information call (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2026-03-03T10>

### SUSHI-MAKING CLASS AT SOKO SUSHI

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows 101 Wilshire Boulevard Santa Monica. Veteran Sushi Chef Masa Shimakawa leads a beginner-friendly, hands-on sushi-making class, guiding guests through the refined techniques that honor sushi's centuries-old traditions using some of the city's freshest fish and ingredients to craft their own authentic rolls under Chef Masa's expert instruction. The 90-minute experience begins with a sparkling sake welcome, followed by miso soup and a crisp house salad, before guests roll up their sleeves to create classic salmon, yellowtail, crab, and tuna rolls, transforming the intimate sushi counter into an interactive and memorable celebration. Soko's sushi-making classes will take place every Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday throughout March. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/sushi-making-class-at-soko-sushi/18102584/2026-03-03T17>

### 8PM FREE "ROXY'S GOT BALLS" BINGO TUESDAYS @ TINY'S HI-DIVE IN LOS ANGELES!

8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Tiny's Hi-Dive 12012 West Pico Boulevard Los Angeles. 8pm TUESDAYS "Roxy's Got Balls!" Drag Queen BINGO is LIVE & FREE at Tiny's Hi-Dive in Los Angeles w/ Roxy Wood! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/8pm-free-roxy-s-got-balls-bingo-tuesdays-tiny-s-hi-dive-in-los-angeles-/14857154/2026-03-03T20>

### TUESDAY OPEN MIC

10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. The best open mic in Los Angeles! The Tuesday Open Mic is a weekly open mic. Hop onstage and perform your best 3 minutes! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/tuesday-open-mic/16004734/2026-03-03T22>

## WEDNESDAY | MARCH 4

### BEACH WALK MEDITATION

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Santa Monica Lifeguard Tower 24 2400 Ocean Front Walk Los Angeles. Walking meditation is and has always been a significant alternative to sitting meditation, especially for those starting a new practice. The goal of meditation is to be able to practice in all positions, conditions and activities whether sitting, standing, walking, lying down, or whenever awake. Developing mindfulness doesn't have to happen

in a quiet room without any distracting sights or sounds. In fact we can develop our mindfulness while out in nature; feeling the warmth of the sun on our backs and the cool ocean splashing around our feet.. Let's practice meditation in motion while creating a potent wellness experience that enhances mental clarity, alertness, and overall well-being. We'll meet Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 am at lifeguard tower 24 -see a red, yellow, blue, orange, white FLAG. After some basic instructions we'll walk silently together for approximately 45 minutes on the shoreline at a natural pace from tower 24 towards the Santa Monica Pier and back. Free—Donations are accepted. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/beach-walk-meditation/16206460/2026-03-04T08>

### DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - WEDNESDAY MARKET

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Downtown Santa Monica Arizona Avenue (Between 4th & Ocean) Santa Monica. One of the largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/12382446/2026-03-04T08>

### AUTHOR TALK WITH MICHAEL PERRY

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Join us in conversation with bestselling author and humorist Michael Perry, whose collection of genre-spanning works encapsulates the experiences—and the magic—of rural town communities and the everyday people who reside in them. In Michael Perry's memoir, Population: 485, the local vigilante is a farmer's wife armed with a pistol and a Bible, the most senior member of the volunteer fire department is a cross-eyed butcher with one kidney and two ex-wives, and the back roads are haunted by the ghosts of children and farmers. Against a backdrop of fires and tangled wrecks, bar fights and smelt feeds, Perry tells a frequently comic tale leavened with moments of heartbreaking delicacy and searing tragedy. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-talk-with-michael-perry/18044844/2026-03-04T11>

### FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by Friends of

Venice Library. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-yoga-for-everyone-/17751141/2026-03-04T12>

### WINE WEDNESDAY AT THE WHALER

101 Broadway CA 90401 Contact Info (424) 330-0166 info@venicewhaler.com Does not apply on holidays Santa Monica. \$15 wine flights & half off bottles of wine all day every Wednesday. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/wine-wednesday-at-the-whaler/16952883/2026-03-04T00>

## THURSDAY | MARCH 5

### CLUB LATINO PARA ADULTOS MAYORES

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Venga, aprenda, y diviertase cada jueves de 11 AM a 1 PM el el salón 3 del parque Virginia. Cada semana será algo nuevo: Ejercicio, Hablando con amigos, Aprendizaje, Presentadores Invitados, Salud y Bienestar. Hay comida para los adultos mayores que participan durante las dos horas. Para más información llame al (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/club-latino-para-adultos-mayores/13943928/2026-03-05T11>

### OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET

11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave Venice. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes, and holistic healing. We are dedicated to fostering a strong community, supporting local businesses, and advocating for sustainable practices. Join us in creating a healthier and more connected neighborhood. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/oakwood-roots-farmers-and-wellness-market/14548473/2026-03-05T11>

### TULUM THURSDAYS AT LOULOU SANTA MONICA

6:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica Pl #300 Santa Monica. Tulum Thursdays at LouLou Santa Monica Every Thursday from 6:00 PM . Step into LouLou's signature Bohemian Chic haven where the elegance of Tulum meets the coastal glamour of Santa Monica. Sunset rooftop vibes Afro-Tribal House beats by DJ YanicrashLive percussion performances Cocktails, cuisine & curated moments . Inspired by the spirit of Ibiza, Mykonos, and the Riviera Maya, Tulum Thursdays are a ritual of rhythm, flavor, and barefoot luxury. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/tulum-thursdays-at-loulou-santa-monica/18215748/2026-03-05T18>



# THE MOST LOVED CONTEST IS NOW LIVE!

## Voting runs

February 9th - March 13th!

- Free for Santa Monica businesses to participate.
  - Powered by real community votes.
- Citywide recognition across print & digital.

For more information on the contest, please contact:

**dina@smdp.com & maya@smdp.com**

