

- 2 **Iran Conflict**
Threatens global oil supply.
- 3 **Affordable Housing**
One setback blocks 40,000 units.

- 4 **Column**
Lions Roar.
- 9 **Word Puzzle**
Find the words.

McClure tunnel to close on Wednesday as part of ongoing PCH repairs

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Caltrans will close one lane of northbound Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) this week for scheduled maintenance as the agency continues work along the length of the road following last year's Palisades Fire.

Caltrans said lane closures and speed restrictions will remain in effect along PCH and Topanga Canyon Boulevard through March 15 as repair crews continue work in fire damaged areas.

On PCH between Temescal Canyon Road in Pacific Palisades and Sunset Boulevard, the speed limit is reduced to 35 mph with cones and signage in place. From Sunset Boulevard to Carbon Beach Terrace in Malibu, the roadway remains an active work zone subject

to single-lane closures and a 25 mph speed limit. Crews may set up single-lane closures on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Several more specific closures are planned or already underway along the corridor:

Near Corral Canyon Road, bridge repairs will require one lane of PCH to be closed in each direction from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Between Carbon Canyon Road and Topanga Canyon Boulevard, a Southern California Edison trenching operation will close one northbound lane from 4 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends, and 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily. One southbound lane will be closed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 4 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends, and 9 p.m.

SEE MCCLURE PAGE 6



Caltrans image

PCH: Lane closures continue as crews repair fire-damaged stretches of the iconic coastal highway.

Reimagining Downtown Santa Monica: charting a path to action

MICHELLE EDGAR
Special to the Daily Press

The Ground Floor Gallery and event space on 1217 Second Street in Santa Monica, a room filled with civic leaders, entrepreneurs, developers, and innovators gathered on Wednesday to tackle a question increasingly shaping the future of DTSM and our city.

California Affordable Lodging Solutions (CALs), a nonprofit focused on bridging the public and private sectors around affordable hospitality and economic development, co-hosted the second installment of its Downtown Leadership Forum series with the

City of Santa Monica. Opened by Mayor Caroline Torosis, the forum brought together placemaking experts, elected officials, capital markets leaders, creative entrepreneurs, and technology founders to discuss how the city can restore momentum to its downtown core while positioning itself for the next generation of industries.

The forum featured two panels. The first, "What Brings People Back," moderated by Doug Higgins of CALs, focused on placemaking and the broader vision for Downtown Santa Monica. Panelists included Peter Fisher, co-founder and chief creative officer of Metropolis, Santa Monica Councilmember

Barry Snell, Christian Irwin, senior vice president of leasing at Prism Places, and Craig Lewis, director of placemaking at Arcadis.

The second panel, "What Actually Changes Downtown: Deals, Capital and Execution," moderated by Andrew Swerdloff of CALs, featured Scott Painter, founder and CEO of Autonomy and TrueCar, Corvas Brinkerhoff, CEO of Submersive and co-founder of Meow Wolf, Jason Chouluchas, managing director at Bank OZK, Rohit Shukla, founder and CEO of the Larta Institute, and Jake Zacuto, managing director of the Zacuto

SEE DTSM PAGE 7

California lawmakers unveil 13-Bill wildfire prevention package

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

California legislators announced a 13-bill wildfire prevention package last week aimed at addressing the state's escalating megafire crisis through home hardening, beneficial fire programs and new firefighting technologies.

The joint legislative effort, unveiled by Megafire Action and a group of lawmakers, comes as communities devastated by recent wildfires continue struggling to recover.

Sen. Ben Allen, who represents

the Pacific Palisades and Malibu communities devastated by wildfires last January, described the ongoing hardship facing his constituents.

"Tens of thousands of families remain displaced from their homes. They're fighting with their insurance for days on end and picking up their entire lives," Allen said. "They're moving from place to place, trying to figure out where to relocate their kids. Some of them have had to move several times over, even over the course of the past year, because of all the instability."

SEE WILDFIRE PAGE 6

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Crude oil prices spike as a broadening Iran war threatens both transport routes and production

Oil prices continued to soar on Monday as the Iran war intensified, threatening production and shipping in the Middle East and straining energy supplies worldwide.

The price of Brent crude, the international benchmark, briefly surged to \$119.50 per barrel on Monday — its highest level since the summer after Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022. West Texas Intermediate, which is produced in the United States, also soared to \$119.48 per barrel at one point.

Those prices fell to just under the \$100 later Monday. But barrels of Brent and U.S. crude are still 36% and 42% more expensive, respectively, than they were before the U.S. and Israel launched the war against Iran on Feb. 28.

The conflict, now in its second week, is ensnaring countries and infrastructure critical to the production and transportation of oil and gas worldwide. And there's no end in sight. On Monday, Iran named Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei to succeed his late father as supreme leader — a new sign of defiance from the country's leaders as the U.S. and Israel continue heavy bombardment.

Fears of attacks have all but stopped tanker traffic in the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway off Iran's coast where a fifth of the world's oil sails through on a typical day. Major oil producers in the region like Iraq, Kuwait and the UAE have cut production due to export constraints because they are running out of storage space. Iran, Israel and the U.S. have all struck oil and gas facilities since the war started, worsening supply concerns.

"The first week the crisis was a transportation issue, which could conceivably be resolved quickly," Jim Burkhard, vice president and global head of crude oil research at S&P Global Energy said in an analysis Monday. But production and storage concerns are increasingly piling up, he explained, and restoration "will be a massive technical exercise that could last weeks or more."

The war's toll on civilian targets and the energy sector grew over the weekend as oil depots in Tehran smoldered following Sunday strikes by Israel. Meanwhile, across the Persian Gulf, nearby Bahrain accused Iran of striking a desalination plant vital to drinking water supplies. Bahrain's national oil company declared force majeure for its shipments after an Iranian attack set its refinery complex ablaze. The legal declaration releases the company of contractual obligations because

of extraordinary circumstances.

The war has also disrupted critical supply chains. Roughly 15 million barrels of crude oil — about 20% of the world's oil — typically are shipped every day through the Strait of Hormuz, according to independent research firm Rystad Energy. The threat of Iranian missile and drone attacks has all but stopped tankers carrying oil and gas from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Iran from traveling through the strait.

Some energy experts warn all of this could contribute to higher oil prices in the near future. If the Strait of Hormuz, in particular, remains closed for only a few weeks oil and gas strategists at Macquarie Research said the price of crude could push to a \$150 per barrel or higher. That would top previous peaks of around \$147 reached just ahead of the 2008 financial crisis.

Others, however, expect disruptions to be more short-lived. Oxford Economics researchers predict prices will fall to an average of \$80 a barrel for the quarter, but noted Monday that the "risk of a more prolonged crisis has clearly increased."

In response to soaring prices, there has also been discussions of dipping into emergency oil stockpiles in the U.S. and elsewhere. But on Monday, the Group of Seven major industrialized powers said it had decided against using their strategic reserves, at least for now.

"We're not there yet," French Finance Minister Roland Lescure said after chairing a meeting of his G7 counterparts. Still, he told reporters in Brussels that the group was "ready to take necessary and coordinated steps in order to stabilize markets, such as strategic stockpiling."

On Saturday, President Donald Trump downplayed the idea of turning to America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve, maintaining U.S. supplies were ample and prices would soon fall.

Yet the surge in costs for oil and natural gas is still pushing fuel prices higher, cascading through a range of industries — and particularly travel and household energy spending for consumers. Experts like Burkhard note that Asian economies are especially vulnerable, due to the region's heavy reliance on imports from the Middle East.

SEE OIL PAGE 5

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California has 40,000 affordable housing units ready to break ground. One setback is holding them up

The apartment building planned on East Morris Avenue in Modesto is exactly the kind of thing that California's political leaders want to see a whole lot more of: The project promises 44 units of affordable housing — half reserved for people without homes. It's received zoning approval, weathered public feedback, earned the support of local elected officials and sits beside a busy bus line. Once built, the project promises on-site mental health services, job training and Zumba classes.

What the project lacks is money. Having quilted together a financial patchwork of local government and corporate grants, private debt, and a plot of land donated by a foundation, it remains just shy of the total needed to break ground.

Six years and 13 funding applications after it was first proposed, the Morris Village project sits ready, but waiting.

An estimated 39,880 affordable units across California are stuck in financial purgatory, according to a new report by Enterprise Community Partners, a national nonprofit that funds, consults and advocates for affordable housing. That's 461 "shovel-ready developments" that, like the one on East Morris, are fully designed, legally green-lit and backed with a significant — but still insufficient — amount of money.

Many have "been sitting for a year or two waiting for funding," said Justine Marcus, policy director for Enterprise's Northern California office and one of the report's co-authors. "There's no exit route right now. It's a bottleneck."

For many developers and affordable housing advocates, that bottleneck represents an especially frustrating inconsistency of California public policy. Lawmakers are desperate to see the state build more homes — of all kinds, but especially for people with the least ability to pay the state's exorbitant rents. State housing regulators have ordered local governments to plan for the construction of an additional 2.5 million units by the end of the decade. One million of those are supposed to be for people making less than 80% of each region's median income.

As a general rule, that's a population of hard-up renters that the private market has been unable to profitably serve at scale. To fill that gap, non-profit low-income housing developers typically turn to taxpayer-funded support. At the moment, according to the report, there isn't enough of that to go around.

Enterprise took publicly available but hard-to-parse applicant lists from seven subsidy programs administered by various wings of California's state government going back three years. With a combination of number crunching and a little inference, the report estimates that clearing the current backlog would require an extra \$4.1 billion, split between state administered grants, low-cost loans and tax write-offs.

Once awarded, this final layer of state subsidy has to be spent in relatively short order. That means this list of 39,880 units comprise a group of affordable housing projects that are

all but ready to go, said Marcus. "They kinda have to have their (stuff) together."

Case in point: Two-thirds of the projects on the list have already received support from at least one other state program. Those dollars aren't awarded to just any developer, said Betsy McGovern-Garcia, vice president of Self-Help Enterprises, one of two non-profits behind Morris Village.

"These are all projects that are close to amenities," she said. "These are all projects providing resident services. These are all projects that are financially feasible...They are all meeting the bar for what we want to see as a state out of our affordable housing community."

In February, McGovern-Garcia and her colleagues applied for a final round of financial support from the state "to close the gap" and finally start construction.

"We are optimistic this might be our round," she said in an interview, her fingers crossed.

A MOVING BOTTLENECK

California has seen gridlock in affordable housing production before, but the precise location of the traffic jam has changed over time.

When Nevada Merriman was leading a team of affordable developers in Silicon Valley a decade ago, she said local approval was the major hold-up. Getting the legal okay to build low-income housing on a particular site in a particular town required developers to run a gauntlet of planning department and city council meetings, win over hostile neighbors with costly concessions, community meetings and design revisions and to fend off the ever-present possibility of litigation. Because relatively few projects survived that ordeal, the competition for funding on the other side wasn't especially stiff, said Merriman, who is now policy advocate for MidPen Housing, an affordable developer in San Mateo County.

That began to change earlier this decade. California lawmakers began passing laws overriding these local impediments — especially for affordable projects. All of a sudden more projects were clearing those early regulatory hurdles and competing for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, the federal government's signature affordable housing construction subsidy. The bottleneck moved further up the road.

But then that too began to change late last year. Buried in President Donald Trump's signature tax bill from 2025 was a significant boost to the tax credit program. (Specifically, the law increased the total supply of one type of credit while allowing another kind to be spread out over twice as many projects).

Which brings us to the latest bottleneck. Now projects can get through local approval. They can more easily acquire the final and most important layer of federal financing. But project sponsors typically can't apply for that until all other financial holes are plugged.



Surf report WATER TEMP: 58.5

TUESDAY | **SURF:** 1-2ft
POOR TO FAIR | Knee to thigh

Bump in mid period NW swell mix and lower tide through a good chunk of the day. Modest NW swell mix bumps up from the previous few days and should be rideable for the right gear. New SSW swell creeps in, mainly shows late day. E/SE wind in the AM trends variable to light southerly in the afternoon. PM window likely cleaner for many breaks.

WEDNESDAY | **SURF:** 2-3ft+
FAIR | Thigh to stomach

Selective SSW swell on the rise for the summer magnets. Most size west of Dume. Summer magnets and combo breaks west of Dume are the go as long period SSW swell nudges in through the day and modest NW swell mix continues. The summer points are best late day but should be rideable in the morning. Just expect to wait on the sets. Wind looks light through the morning.

Weather

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 65.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east southeast after midnight.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 73. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest 10 to 15 mph in the morning.
Wednesday Night: Clear, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2026/03/10	Tue	01:30 AM	4.26	H
2026/03/10	Tue	10:42 AM	0.98	L
2026/03/11	Wed	02:52 AM	4.03	H
2026/03/11	Wed	12:14 PM	0.66	L
2026/03/12	Thu	04:51 AM	4.09	H
2026/03/12	Thu	1:05 PM	0.27	L
2026/03/12	Thu	8:42 PM	3.25	H
2026/03/13	Fri	12:13 AM	2.90	L
2026/03/13	Fri	06:05 AM	4.40	H
2026/03/13	Fri	1:41 PM	-0.07	L
2026/03/13	Fri	8:37 PM	3.44	H
2026/03/14	Sat	01:01 AM	2.48	L
2026/03/14	Sat	06:57 AM	4.77	H
2026/03/14	Sat	2:09 PM	-0.34	L
2026/03/14	Sat	8:45 PM	3.69	H
2026/03/15	Sun	01:38 AM	2.00	L
2026/03/15	Sun	07:38 AM	5.10	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: 3/7
17 18 30 50 68
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 46 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/8
4 14 15 23 29

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/6
8 19 26 38 42
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 533 M

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/8
EVENING: 7 8 5
Draw Date: 3/8
MIDDAY: 2 6 8

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 3/7
2 22 34 35 44
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 9 M

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/8
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:42.95

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Petition to Admin Estate

DBA

Name Change

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF KONRAD LUTHER RUCKER Case No. 26STPB02292. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of KONRAD LUTHER RUCKER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Kenneth Andre Shelton. in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Kenneth Andre Shelton be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 03/26/2026 at 8:30 AM in Dept. 2D located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, or 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. Attorney for Petitioner: CHRISTINA M KRAUSS ESQ SBN 316537, KRAUSS LAW GROUP APC, 4141 BALL ROAD SUITE 260, CYPRESS CA 90630, 714-527-1115. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 03/10/2026, 03/17/2026, 03/24/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026021531. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ELEMENTAL EMPOWERMENT, ELEMENTAL FREEDOM, AERO VISION DYNAMICS, 3114 1/2 WASHINGTON BLVD., MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): GREGORY SCOTT FRANCES, 3114 1/2 WASHINGTON BLVD., MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292; LANICE BAILEY, 3114 1/2 WASHINGTON BLVD., MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292. This business is conducted by: a General Partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ GREGORY SCOTT FRANCES, GENERAL PARTNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/29/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 02/17/2026, 02/24/2026, 03/03/2026, 03/10/2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00113. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Kal Emrys Kestis for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Kal Emrys Kestis filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Kal Emrys Kestis to Calamine Emrys Gilroy. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: 04/24/2026, Time: 8:30a, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS. Date: 03/06/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 03/10/2026, 03/17/2026, 03/24/2026, 03/31/2026

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

On-Call Signage and Striping Contractors SP2785

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, OpenGov or <https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca> They must be received by the specified date and time. Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via OpenGov immediately after bid close time.

PRE-BID JOB WALK: Not Applicable

**PROJECT ESTIMATE: ANNUAL AMOUNT: \$50,000 to \$1,000,000
5-YEAR AMOUNT: up to \$5,000,000**

CONTRACT DAYS: 5-Year on-call agreement

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: Not Applicable

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: <https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca>. The Contractor is required to have a C-32 license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

LIONS ROAR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

With our membership gains over the past year, the Santa Monica Pacific Palisades Lions have been holding what we call "craft talks," where new members share a little about themselves. These talks may take the form of a brief 5–10 minute conversation or, in some cases, include slide presentations with photos of family, friends, and personal milestones.

This past Wednesday, we flipped the idea and invited long-time members to take a few minutes to share about themselves—what first drew them to Lions service and an interesting fact about their lives. While some stories were familiar to our longer-term members, many new details came to light, and laughter filled the room as members learned more about one another.

Spring promises to be a busy season for the Lions. Upcoming activities include the Santa Monica Arts & Literacy Festival on Saturday, April 25 at Virginia Avenue Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., our Arbor Day tree planting tentatively scheduled for April 29, and our Memorial Day commemoration at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Also keeping us busy this spring is planning for our first comedy fundraiser—the Santa Monica Pacific Palisades Lions Club Comedy Night—on Sunday, May 17, from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Crow at Bergamot Station Arts Center. Known for showcasing emerging comedic talent, The Crow will feature five to six comedians for a family-friendly evening of entertainment.

Tickets are \$75, or \$125 for VIP seating, which includes reserved seats near the front and two beverage tickets for The Crowbar. The bar serves beer and nonalcoholic beverages, and snacks such as chips and cookies will also be available for purchase. Tickets may be purchased through Eventbrite, crowcomedy.com, or at the box office.

To keep the focus on the fun, there will be no auction or raffle. All funds raised through ticket sales and generous donations will support Westside nonprofits and Lions signature programs.

Mark your calendars now for our first Comedy Night at The Crow, located at 2525 Michigan Ave., Unit F4, Santa Monica. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun and memorable evening. If you have questions about the event, please contact Kingsley Fife at 310-367-2679 or smplionsclub@gmail.com.

You can also reach out to Kingsley if you would like more information about becoming a Lion and getting involved with the projects and programs we support in Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades. Consider joining us as our guest at our next Lions Club dinner meeting on Wednesday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 1040 Pico Boulevard. RSVP to Kingsley at the contact information above.

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OIL

FROM PAGE 2

Iran exports roughly 1.6 million barrels of oil a day, mostly to China, which has called for an immediate end to the fighting. Beijing may need to look elsewhere for supply if Iran's exports are disrupted, another factor that could increase energy prices. In a briefing Monday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun said China would "take necessary measures to safeguard its own energy security."

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung also warned Monday of strict penalties for refiners and gas stations caught hoarding or colluding on prices, saying it would be wise to find alternatives to supplies that must travel through the Strait of Hormuz.

Across Southeast Asia, the spike in prices has led to long lines outside filling stations.

But price hikes are spreading worldwide. Higher energy costs can push overall inflation higher, straining household budgets and denting the consumer spending that is the

dominant engine behind some big economies, including the U.S. Those worries have spilled into financial markets, pulling share prices sharply lower since the war began.

The U.S. is now a net exporter of oil, so it will "suffer less from a rally in Brent and WTI above \$100" than Europe or Asia, FxPro chief market analyst Alex Kuptsikevich noted Monday. Still, he stressed that past rapid surges in oil prices have contributed to U.S. recessions.

Gas prices have already climbed for American drivers. On Monday, the average U.S. price of a gallon of regular gasoline rose to \$3.48, up nearly 50 cents from a week earlier, according to AAA motor club. Diesel, used heavily in shipping, sold for about \$4.66 a gallon, a weekly increase of more than 80 cents.

By ALEX VEIGA, ELAINE KURTENBACH and WYATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS AP Business Writers. Kurtenbach reported from Bangkok. Associated Press journalist John Leicester in Paris contributed.

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 3

"We're looking for state sources to fill that gap," said Merriman. "We want to make sure we don't leave those federal sources on the table."

MidPen currently has 1,198 units spread across seven developments waiting for that last bit of funding, she said. "Should there be a source...there's a pipeline that is ready to go."

California's last major infusion of public affordable housing dollars came in the form of a voter-approved bond in 2018. That well has run dry. A hodgepodge of funding streams remain.

Adding together funding that has already been approved by legislators but not yet spent and a variety of other state and federal sources, California's Housing and Community Development department says at least \$1.8 billion should be available for affordable developer applicants this year. Gov. Gavin Newsom's budget proposal for the coming fiscal year doesn't include any new discretionary spending beyond that.

Boosters of more funding have reasons to be optimistic. Newsom has taken such an austere posture in early budget negotiations before only to have the Legislature successfully pour hundreds of millions of dollars of affordable housing subsidies back into the final budget agreement.

California lawmakers are also considering a record-breaking \$10 billion affordable housing bond for the 2026 ballot. If a majority of voters go for that, "we'd be off to the races," said Merriman.

CUTTING COSTS

One way to get more affordable housing built is by spending more money. The other is trying to make the existing money go further by cutting costs.

The cost of affordable housing construction is notoriously high in California: A 2025 study estimated that tax credit-financed projects here cost two- to four-times the amount of comparable projects in Colorado and Texas.

There is no single reason for this disparity. Land costs in California are significantly higher. So too, often, is the cost of labor. Regulatory barriers like restrictive zoning, slow permitting and stiff impact fees are frequently named as culprits. Sometimes old-fashioned construction methods and materials get blamed.

But there's also the cost of just waiting around.

A typical affordable development in California will have two or three public funding sources, with some drawing on six or more. Many of these sources are awarded on their own timelines. Each has its own program-specific requirements that can take time to meet. Some are conditional on the receipt of another. As time goes by, developers still have to make payroll, pay interest on pre-construction loans and watch as inflation drives construction costs up further. As delays compound, funding sources that have already been secured might expire, setting things back further.

Each additional funding source delays the start of construction on a project by an average of four months, adding an extra \$20,460 per unit, according to an analysis by the Turner Center for Housing Innovation at UC Berkeley.

The Newsom administration is currently tinkering under the hood of California's affordable housing finance system in an effort to speed things up.

Last year, the governor proposed the creation of the state's first ever cabinet-level housing agency. The California Housing and Homelessness Agency is scheduled to take over the state's disparate housing loan and grant programs. The governor's office also proposed legislative language that would force the new agency and the Treasurer's Office to operate in tandem, giving affordable housing developers a single place to apply for the state's various funding programs — and to cut out some of the time they spend stuck in line.

Ben Christopher, CalMatters Housing Reporter

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MCCLURE

FROM PAGE 1

to 6 a.m. daily.

South of Las Flores Canyon Road to Sunset Boulevard, crews will repair fire-damaged roadway, drainage and electrical systems, and slopes, with lane closures as needed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

Just south of Big Rock Drive, catchment wall construction will close one northbound lane from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. The closure extends less than half a mile.

Between Coastline Drive and Porto Marina Way, retaining wall work near Getty Villa will close one northbound lane from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

Just south of Topanga Canyon Boulevard to Sunset Boulevard, slope repair and culvert cleanup will reduce northbound traffic to one lane from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, as needed.

In Santa Monica, an inlet replacement project between the McClure Tunnel and California Incline will close one northbound lane from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

Work zones between Trancas Canyon Road and Guernsey Avenue, in the Ventura County Line to Carbon Beach Terrace section, may also see possible nighttime closures.

On Topanga Canyon Boulevard (State Route 27) from PCH to Grand View Drive, crews restored daytime access March 2. The road is now open without restrictions from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, but is closed to the public from midnight to 5 a.m. One-lane traffic control with a pilot car is in effect between postmiles 2.5 and 2.8 from 8 p.m. to midnight when crews are working.

Further north on SR-27, between Old Topanga Canyon Road and Happy Trail, SCE trenching work requires one-lane traffic control from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. SCE electrical work between Highvale Trail and Happy Trail will additionally require one-lane control from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights.

All closures are weather-permitting and subject to change. Officials warned that fines are doubled in work zones. Motorists are advised to allow extra time, use alternate routes where possible and exercise caution.

Updated information is available at dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-7/district-7-projects/d7-palisades-fire-repairs. Current traffic conditions can be viewed on the Caltrans Quickmap at <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>.

editor@smdp.com

WILDFIRE

FROM PAGE 1

Allen said many residents remain uncertain whether they can return to their communities because of the backbreaking costs of rebuilding. Beyond current insurance battles, he said constituents worry about future coverage.

“They’re also worried about rebuilding just to have no insurance available to them in the end, which would then continue to make it so that living is unaffordable,” Allen said.

The legislative package addresses wildfire resilience on three fronts: expanding beneficial fire to restore landscapes, providing homeowners with resources for defensible space and home hardening, and accelerating adoption of new firefighting technologies.

Eric Horne, director of California Megafire Action, framed the effort as both a tribute and a commitment.

“We honor the victims and survivors of the Los Angeles wildfires and countless other conflagrations, not only by helping communities recover, but by committing ourselves to make government work better for Californians before disaster strikes,” Horne said.

Allen is sponsoring SB 894, which would establish the California Wildfire Resilience Loan Program modeled after the state’s existing Go Green Energy Financing Program. The measure would help property owners finance upgrades including roofing, windows, siding and vegetation screens on vents.

“Home hardening and fire mitigation retrofitting is not cheap, and the high costs end up preventing a lot of people from making these needed structural improvements,” Allen said.

He noted that home hardening investments can reduce a structure’s fire risk by over 35 percent.

Assembly Member Steve Bennett is carrying six bills in the package, including AB 1934, which would establish a home hardening certification program. He said roughly 5 million California homes sit in high-fire-risk areas.

Sen. Josh Becker introduced SB 973, which would direct CAL FIRE to develop standardized wildfire risk assessment guidelines and formally expand the wildfire county coordinator program. That initiative, a partnership between CAL FIRE and the California Fire Safe Council since 2021, has secured more than \$104 million for local mitigation projects and reached nearly 1 million residents with wildfire resilience education.

The package also includes measures supporting beneficial fire programs. Assembly Member Damon Connolly introduced AB 1891, which would direct 10 percent of California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund allocations to CAL FIRE toward beneficial fire capacity. Assembly Member Chris Rogers introduced AB 1699, the Good Fire Act, addressing liability and operational barriers to prescribed burns.

Matt Weiner, CEO and founder of Megafire Action, said the package represents a coordinated effort to treat the crisis with appropriate urgency.

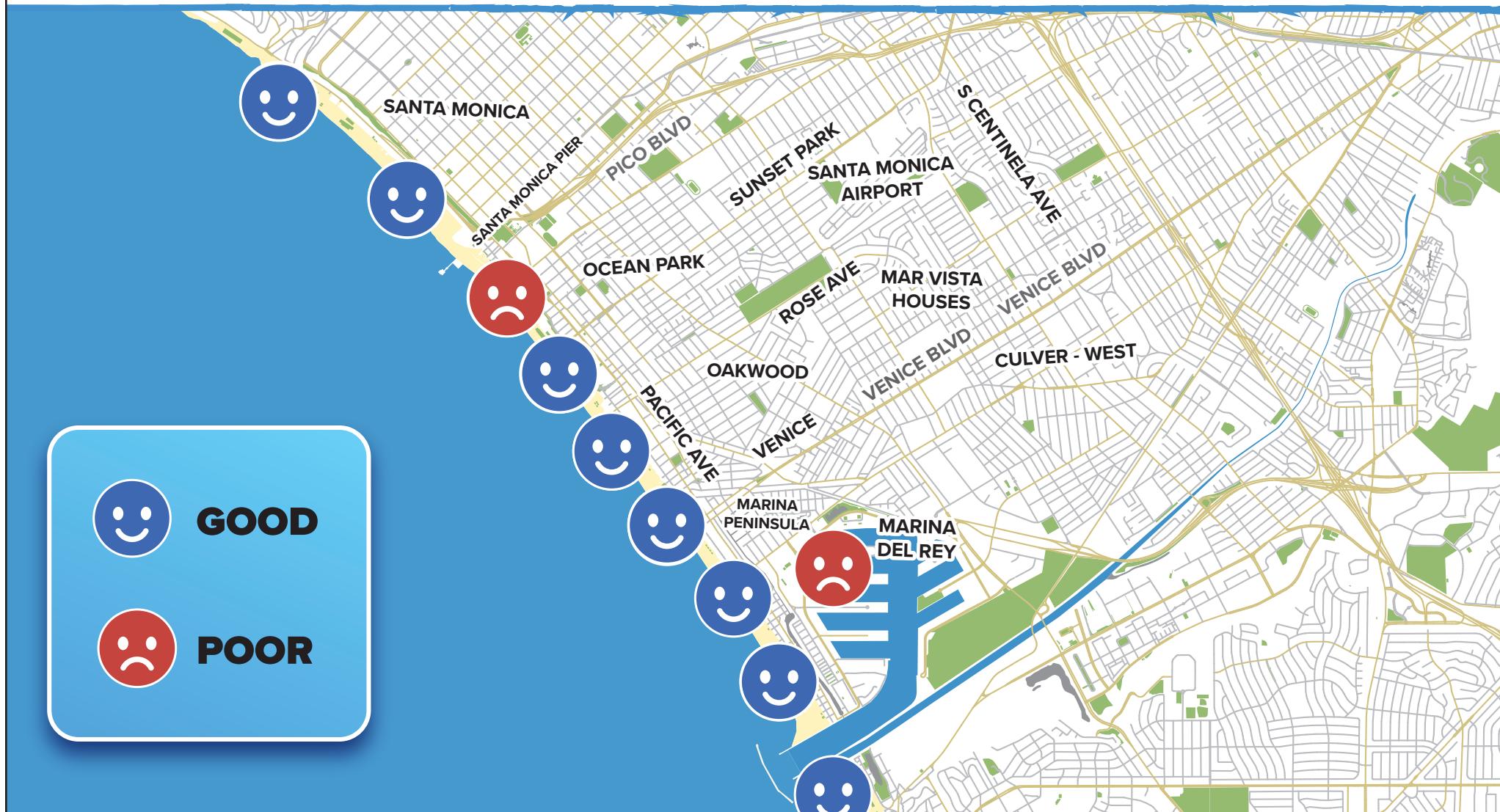
“We saw so much good work happening and a real need for additional capacity to both formulate policy and then advocate to get that policy enacted across the finish line,” Weiner said.

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HEAL THE BAY BEACH GRADES



DTSM

FROM PAGE 1

Group.

Mayor Torosis opened the forum by noting that the city is moving in the right direction on its downtown realignment plan, with progress on public safety, cleanliness, and addressing homelessness. Councilmember Lana Negrete offered a candid perspective on the steps already underway to make Santa Monica a more welcoming and frictionless place for businesses to operate and grow.

Participants welcomed the direction, but pressed for greater transparency and accountability. A clear consensus emerged around the idea of a public facing scorecard tracking key realignment metrics, including police presence, the status of the planned downtown police substation, and measurable outcomes tied to homelessness spending. Panelists suggested that an accessible digital dashboard could allow residents, business owners, and city leadership to track progress in real time.

Craig Lewis, a placemaking expert with three decades of experience and director of placemaking at Arcadis, delivered one of the forum's most practical frameworks for revitalization. Drawing on successful downtown transformations from Greenville, South Carolina to Campus Martius Park in Detroit, Lewis emphasized that revitalization rarely happens through a single large project. "It's singles and doubles, not home runs," he said, emphasizing incremental activation, consistent programming, and attention to the pedestrian experience.

Lewis stressed the importance of creating compact areas of energy where visitors and residents repeatedly build positive memories. In cities that have successfully revitalized their downtowns, small but consistent improvements to walkability, programming, and public space have compounded into long term transformation.

Councilmember Snell reinforced the city's commitment to supporting private sector initiatives and signaled political will to reduce the friction that has historically slowed business investment. Fisher of Metropolis, one of downtown Santa Monica's largest employers and a company focused on mobility innovation and the seamless urban experience, noted that the talent and companies already exist locally.

Irwin of Prism Places brought the leasing and retail perspective, pointing to the opportunity to rethink how commercial space is activated in an era where experience increasingly drives foot traffic more than traditional retail. The message from the first panel was clear: Santa Monica's assets remain strong, and the next phase will depend on visible, sustained activation.

Scott Painter, one of Santa Monica's most prolific entrepreneurs who has built multiple companies in the city including Autonomy and TrueCar, offered a founder's perspective on what it takes to attract and retain talent. "When we recruit talent, people are looking for places that feel alive," Painter said. "They want a neighborhood that is safe, vibrant, and full of culture. That's what attracts the professionals who build companies."

Hybrid work has intensified that dynamic. If employees are not tied to the office every



Michelle Edgar

CALS: The organization is working to support access to coastal destinations by creating strong communities with vibrant economies.

day, cities increasingly compete on quality of life and cultural energy. Several panelists noted that while Venice has seen retail rents rise and cultural activity rebound, Santa Monica's downtown is still working to regain that same momentum.

Painter argued that the city has an opportunity to adopt a more customer oriented mindset when it comes to doing business. From leasing office space to opening a new storefront, every interaction with the city should be streamlined, digital first, and easy to navigate.

Corvas Brinkerhoff, co-founder of Meow Wolf and a creator known for immersive art experiences that have attracted millions of visitors, spoke about the role of culture and creativity in shaping thriving cities. "If you look at cities that become magnetic," Brinkerhoff said, "it starts with interesting creative people doing something authentic. Then the rest of the ecosystem follows."

His current venture Submersive is a next generation immersive wellness destination that blends thermal bathing, art, and technology driven sensory environments. The first location is underway in Austin, and Brinkerhoff noted that Santa Monica is among the cities being evaluated for a second site.

Another major theme was Santa Monica's potential to lead in emerging industries as a coastal center for innovation. Rohit Shukla, whose Larta Institute has helped more than 10,000 companies commercialize technology innovations and secure more than \$20 billion in follow on capital, argued that the

city sits at the center of a powerful but underutilized ecosystem. He pointed to the proximity of UCLA, USC, Santa Monica College, and regional hospital systems such as St. John's Health Center as fertile ground for collaboration between research institutions, entrepreneurs, and investors.

"Santa Monica could become a centerpiece for climate and ocean technology," Shukla said. "But it requires an intentional strategy to bring the ecosystem together."

Panelists discussed the idea of creating a Downtown Innovation Center in a vacant space that could function as a hybrid destination where companies showcase technology, residents learn about emerging tools such as artificial intelligence, and entrepreneurs collaborate. Such a space could operate through a public private partnership and highlight Santa Monica's growing presence in climate technology, mobility innovation, and applied artificial intelligence.

Real estate dynamics were also central to the discussion. Chouluchas described a market undergoing structural change as the office sector adapts to hybrid work. Demand has shifted toward higher quality buildings, leaving older office properties facing declining occupancy. "The office market has experienced a flight to quality," he said. "Many older assets will have to be reimaged."

Conversions to residential, medical office, or innovation oriented space may become more common as cities rethink how commercial districts function. Access to debt financing has improved compared with recent years, Chouluchas added, which could open

the door for redevelopment opportunities if regulatory barriers can be reduced.

The forum concluded with a call for near term pilots that can quickly bring energy back to downtown. Ideas included pop up markets, cultural programming, immersive art installations, wellness activations, and technology showcases that allow entrepreneurs to test concepts in vacant storefronts.

Flexible short-term leases, panelists noted, could allow businesses to experiment without the risk of long term commitments while bringing immediate activity to underutilized spaces.

CALS plans to synthesize the forum's discussions into a white paper outlining recommendations for the city's planning and economic development teams, as well as private sector stakeholders. "Santa Monica has the talent, the capital, and the creative energy," said Swerdloff. "What it needs is a structured bridge between the private sector and a public process that must move faster, and that is exactly why CALS exists."

The message that emerged from the forum was consistent that Santa Monica retains the ingredients that made it one of Southern California's most dynamic coastal cities. What comes next will depend on collaboration between public leadership, private investment, and the creative community. Revitalization, participants agreed, will not come from a single project. It will come from consistent action that makes downtown feel alive again.

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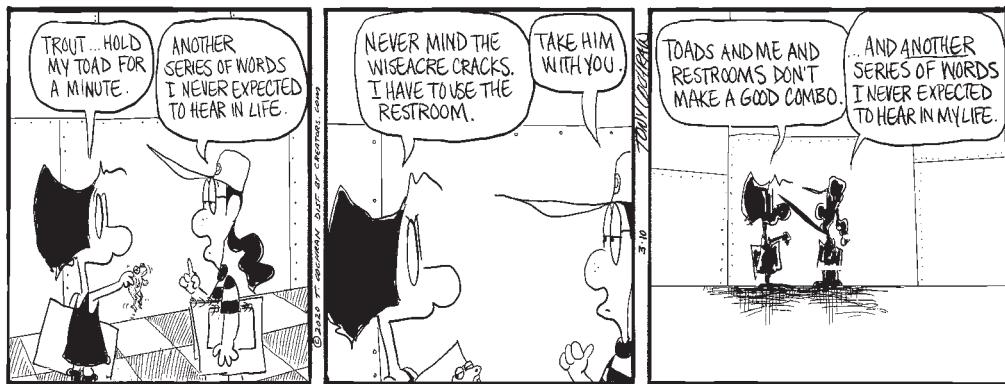
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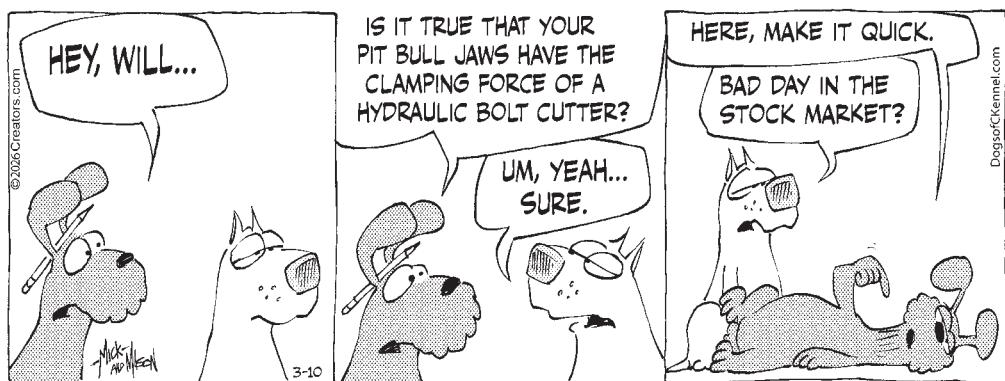
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



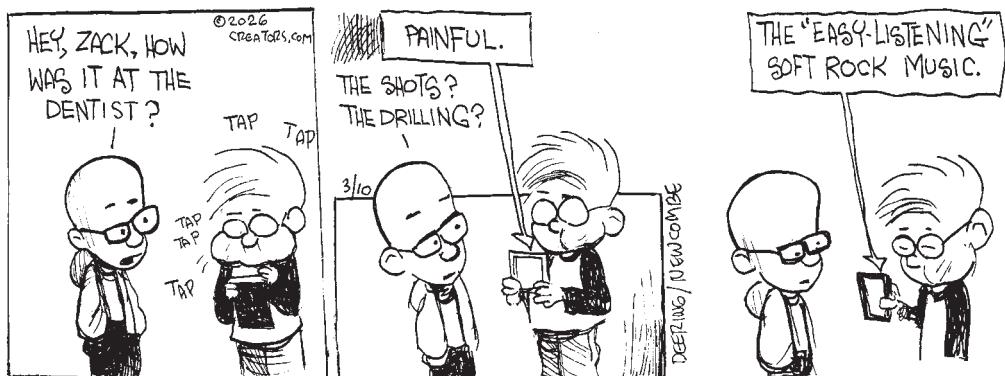
Dogs of C-Kennel

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

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Big night out



- | | | | |
|---------------|---------|------------|----------|
| Aida | Date | Maitre | Rage |
| Alcohol | Dawn | Melba | Saga |
| Alto | Drama | Mezzo | Sails |
| Aria | Duet | Mozart | Seats |
| Bass | Elation | Music | Solo |
| Bill | Elektra | Nightclub | Song |
| Carmen | Encore | Note | Steps |
| Choir | Event | Performing | Tenor |
| Clap | Famous | Piano | Vocalist |
| Controversial | Halls | Pits | Wonder |
| Crowd | Jigs | Podium | |
| Curtain | Lift | Pubs | |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 10)

It's your Year of the Gilded Lens, when you see through pretense and straight to the jewel of things - a sight that brings beauty and depth to even casual moments and guides your exquisite decisions. More highlights: A professional pivot that looks modest puts you in a power position. Love deepens into devotion that remakes your standards. Dinners stretch into jolly midnights with new allies. Capricorn and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 7, 30, 44 and 1.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People light up around you and it's OK to notice! They smile, they laugh, and they give you a number of other signs of connection - what a rush. At this point, brightening someone's day is your favorite sport.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Today, the joy of teamwork will eclipse any gains you might have had with an individual win. So when you devote yourself to the support of the team, you give yourself over to your own uplift.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Because most addictions are to comfort, you may deliberately accept discomfort to weaken bad habits and strengthen healthy ones. You'll open yourself to new experiences that aren't accessible from within the cycle of comfort-seeking.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll need to influence the group before your plans can move forward. One effective way is to anchor your idea in emotion. The simplest way to do that is to shape it into a story and tell it well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Mutuality can feel like terrific luck, especially when you've had relationships where the feelings weren't mutual - and who hasn't? Celebrate the beautiful alchemy alive in a relationship. It's something special.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your tolerance for obliviousness will be low. People walk around unaware that others exist, lingering in the center of aisles, ignoring the traffic around them and are seemingly asleep to the world outside their bubble, which seems to be tempting you to pop it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You could pretty much say relationships are your main event. You invest real time, real energy, real thought into keeping them strong and humming. When the people you care about are thriving, you feel it in your whole body.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've given plenty of thought to the problem and now you'll take action - not because you finally figured out the right move, but because perhaps what couldn't be worked out in theory can be easily worked out in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You picture love as seamless and involving things like great chemistry, perfect timing and effortless understanding. But you experience love as logistics, habits, moods, differences and the occasional ego bruise - still totally worth it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Because you want the best out of people, praise what they do, not what they are. Effort is controllable. Talent is accidental. You'll call out things like hustle, follow-through and improvement. People will feel seen for their work, and they will work better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're having a hard time figuring out what a certain person wants, but it will be much easier for you to get once you understand where they are coming from - something that only takes a few good questions to learn.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're in a productive groove. You'll probably knock out twice what you did yesterday and spot a shortcut while you're at it. One smart adjustment today could turn into a whole new way you operate.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Newsday Crossword

TWO PAIR by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Launder
- 5 Young girl
- 9 Numbers read by bettors
- 13 Reddish hair coloring
- 14 Woodwind instrument
- 15 Baby bird's sound
- 16 Western movie
- 17 ___ mater (what alumni attended)
- 18 Reveal a secret
- 19 Golf course's charges
- 21 ___ Beta Kappa
- 22 Snoring symbols
- 23 Clothing ensemble
- 26 Least risky
- 29 Have a discussion (with)
- 31 Slip up
- 32 Corn plant's stem
- 34 Triple-layer cookies
- 37 Best pair in poker
- 39 Racetrack shapes
- 41 Viral Web post
- 42 Glossy brightness
- 44 Sir ___ Newton
- 46 Buddhist meditation
- 47 Cavalry horses
- 49 Needing immediate attention
- 51 Fluid-transfer tube
- 53 Suffix for prank or young
- 54 Before, in verse
- 55 Most of a month
- 61 Creator of verses
- 63 Umbrella weather
- 64 Intends (to)

- 65 Fraction of a foot
- 66 Swiss mountains
- 67 Follow, as advice
- 68 Very pale
- 69 Sit for a portrait
- 70 Sparrow's home

DOWN

- 1 Be clad in
- 2 Start a poker pot
- 3 Say "Achoo!"
- 4 Group of straps on a horse
- 5 Goofs off
- 6 Ready, willing and ___
- 7 A few of
- 8 Add salt or pepper to
- 9 Choose, with "for"

- 10 Extreme cold weather
- 11 New ___, India
- 12 Break in two
- 13 Large pig
- 20 Brief quarrel
- 24 Sci-fi saucer, for short
- 25 School semester
- 26 Salty waters
- 27 Curve of a foot
- 28 First Amendment right
- 29 Group being taught
- 30 State n. of Texas
- 33 Enthusiastic
- 35 Prophetic sign
- 36 Mailed out
- 38 Cain and Abel's

- brother
- 40 Pan-fry
- 43 Prefix denoting modern
- 45 Guy working on a ship
- 48 Lure into wrongdoing
- 50 Where Athenians live
- 51 Brown photo tint
- 52 Steam-emitting appliances
- 53 Good judgment
- 56 Angelic topper
- 57 Tears in paper
- 58 Dines on
- 59 Necktie securer
- 60 Tax form ID
- 62 "Love ___ neighbor"

Sudoku

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14					15			
16						17					18			
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26	27	28					29	30						
31				32		33				34			35	36
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42				43		44				45		46		
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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



TUESDAY | MARCH 10

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>

WOMEN'S TENNIS - LA MISSION COLLEGE

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Ocean View Park 2701 Barnard Way Santa Monica. Matches held at Ocean View Park. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/women-s-tennis-la-mission-college/18044851/2026-03-10T13>

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>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

5:30 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica. 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. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/city-council-meeting/13799967/2026-03-10T17>

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>

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 11

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>

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 12

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>

AUTHOR TALK WITH KATE QUINN

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. You're invited to join us for a virtual conversation with acclaimed author Kate Quinn about her latest fantastical work, The Astral Library, which poses the question: Have you ever wished you could live inside a book? Welcome to the Astral Library, where books are not just objects, but doors to new worlds, new lives, and new futures. Alexandria "Alix" Watson has learned one lesson from her barren childhood in the foster-care system: unlike people, books will never let you down. Working three dead-end jobs to make ends meet and knowing college is a pipe dream, Alix takes nightly refuge in the high-vaulted reading room at the Boston Public Library, escaping into her favorite fantasy novels

and dreaming of far-off lands. Until the day she stumbles through a hidden door and meets the Librarian: the ageless, acerbic guardian of a hidden library where the desperate and the lost escape to new lives...inside their favorite books. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-talk-with-kate-quinn/18044858/2026-03-12T16>

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>

FRIDAY | MARCH 13

NEW EXHIBITION EXPLORES FOOD FAMILY AND INTERCULTURAL TRADITIONS

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica History Museum 1350 Seventh Street Santa Monica. Food & Family: African American and Intercultural Traditions in Santa Monica explores the evolution of African American and intercultural food traditions in Southern California, tracing the impact of the Great Migration and global immigration on Santa Monica's culinary landscape. Through the lens of shared meals, recipes, and community gatherings, the exhibition examines how food fosters a sense of belonging, connection, and cultural continuity. Drawn from the archives of the Quinn Research Center and the Santa Monica History Museum, Food & Family features photographs, oral histories, cookbooks, utensils, maps, and other materials that reveal how everyday cooking helped define home and identity for generations of Santa Monica residents. \$0.00 to \$5.00 Free for kids, students, seniors and SNAP/EBT cardholders. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/new-exhibition-explores-food-family-and-intercultural-traditions/17896831/2026-03-13T11>

WALK-IN TUTORING WITH LAURIE

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Walk-In Tutoring With Lee Walk-in tutoring is available for any adult who needs help with internet searches, filling out forms, English conversation, reading, writing, resumes, and applications, studying for citizenship. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/walk-in-tutoring-with-laurie/17128550/2026-03-13T13>

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Campus Events

20
26

SPRING & SUMMER



Photo by Amy Williams

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Exciting events happening at SMC!

Santa Monica College has a lively lineup of events scheduled, so mark your calendar!

- Art Shows
- Dance Performances & Master Classes
- Intercollegiate Athletic Competitions
- Music Concerts
- Planetarium Shows
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- Theatre Arts Performances
- And Much More!

Visit smc.edu/events for more information.