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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 95 | THURSDAY 4/3/25 | smdp.com

Malibu's request to form an independent school district is rejected by County officials



Courtesy photo

JOINED: Malibu's bid to break away from Santa Monica failed this week and students in both cities will remain part of the same district. Malibu officials can appeal the decision to the State.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

County officials denied Malibu's request for its own school district on Wednesday during a vote that was as convoluted, delayed, accusatory and frustrating as the petition process itself.

The nail-bitingly close 6-5 vote doesn't actually end the dream for the City of Malibu as the final decision will be made by State regulators at a later date but the County decision will be given to the State alongside the staff reports and studies generated in the years long process.

Wednesday's decision was the result of a decade-long process that began when the City of Malibu submitted a petition through a 2015 resolution to form its own school district separate from Santa Monica.

If approved, the reorganization would create two independent school districts: Malibu Unified and Santa Monica Unified, replacing the current combined district structure that has existed for decades.

Supporters of the split argue that separation would allow each community to govern its schools according to local needs and priorities. Opposition has centered around financial concerns, with questions about how resources, funding, and assets would be divided between the two proposed districts.

The road to Wednesday's vote has been marked by sporadic negotiations between the city of Malibu and the school district to come to a voluntary agreement splitting the district and its assets. The parties engaged in extensive mediation sessions attempting to forge agreements on revenue sharing, operations, and other critical aspects of the potential separation. While tentative agreements were reached, and in some cases made public, they were never formally signed.

Instead the two sides broke off negotiations, with each blaming the other, and the long-gestating county process was rekindled to rule on Malibu's petition for independence.

The County Committee on School District Organization had nine criteria on which to base its decision and the staff report released before the meeting said Malibu could not meet eight of those nine. Malibu's supporters, including five of the 11 individuals on the Committee, rejected that analysis.

They said financial critiques of the deal were faulty because they did not project revenues out far enough, failed to account for steady funding from property tax revenues and improperly classified Santa Monica as being harmed by the loss of Malibu. They also said Malibu was a distinct community that deserved its own schools regardless of the history of a joint district.

Committee Member Charles Davis led the charge in favor of Malibu, levying heavy criticism at the County report including the conclusion that a Malibu district would penalize students of color by centralizing them in the remaining Santa Monica district.

He said Santa Monica students would not suffer financially because Malibu would make some kind of payment to maintain services.

"I hate to get into this debate, but we keep talking about 'underfunded.' Nobody has really ran those numbers. I ran them and they will not be underfunded. Somebody put

SEE **LACOE** PAGE 11



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A judge said Santa Monica's elections diluted Latino votes. Six years later, nothing's changed



Photo by Apu Gomes, Getty Images

VOTING: People stand in line to vote at the Joslyn Park vote center in Santa Monica on Nov. 5, 2024.

It's been six years since a judge ruled that Santa Monica's election system discriminates against Latino voters. In that time, there have been at least three more elections — but the city hasn't had to change the way it runs them.

That's because the coastal Los Angeles County city appealed, and under current law, it's not required to change the process until after all appeals are heard.

Assemblymember Anamarie Avila Farias thinks that needs to change.

"Even after the court determined an at-large election system is unlawful and radically discriminatory, the local body can hold even more elections utilizing their unlawful system by filing an appeal and paying attorneys to delay this process, during which time justice for communities of color is delayed and voters are disenfranchised," the Democrat from Concord said at an Assembly Judiciary Committee hearing last week.

Under "at-large" election systems like Santa Monica's, everyone who lives in a city votes on the same set of candidates. In a district-based election system, a city is divided into districts and voters choose from candidates vying to represent just their neighborhood.

Avila Farias' proposal would mean courts would no longer automatically keep the current election process in place during the appeals process in cases related to the state's voting rights act.

Sylvia Shaw, a lobbyist representing Santa Monica, said the proposal could force cities to repeatedly change their election systems as courts weigh the final outcome of a case.

That could include booting elected officials off the council, or forcing those who want to run to quickly raise money. Shaw said that could deprive voters of having anyone representing them for some period, and would be costly and confusing.

> We're trying to ensure that there's a permanent representative from our neighborhood, and to ensure that candidates of color — in particular, Mexican Americans and Latinos — are able to not only run, but have an ability to win elected office
> - Maria Loya

"It would result in an expensive and potentially temporary overhaul of a voting system that could leave minority voters in the city worse off than under the at-large system," she told the committee.

Maria Loya, a former city council candidate who is a plaintiff in the 2016 case

SEE **VOTING** PAGE 8

Xavier Becerra jumps into crowded race for California governor



Photo by Manuel Orbegozo for CalMatters

RUNNING: U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the first Latino to hold this position, Xavier Becerra, speaks at the California Democratic Party delegation breakfast in Chicago, on Aug. 21, 2024.

As Californians wait to find out whether one prominent veteran of the Biden administration is running for governor, another jumped into the crowded race on Wednesday.

Xavier Becerra, the former attorney general of California and longtime member of Congress who most recently served as secretary of health and human services under President Joe Biden, announced his campaign with a short video in which he promised to "rebuild the California Dream."

"Can we do that today with this affordability crisis?" Becerra said, speaking directly to the camera. "Very tough. But we've taken on these tough fights."

That experience forms the backbone of Becerra's initial pitch to voters, which does not include any specific policy proposals.

In just over a minute, his announcement video runs through highlights from his more than three decades in politics: helping to pass the Affordable Care Act, negotiating with the pharmaceutical industry to lower prescription drug prices and, as attorney general, suing the first Trump administration more than 100 times, a nod to Democratic voters' seething anger against the newly reinstalled president.

Becerra is the second major Democrat to launch a campaign for governor since former President Kamala Harris hinted that she would not make a decision about her own potential bid until this summer. Katie Porter, the former member of Congress from Orange County, entered the race last month.

While the possibility of Harris's candidacy has scrambled the calculations of some already announced contenders, others are promising to continue regardless of her decision. Becerra's campaign confirmed to CalMatters that he plans to seek the governorship even if Harris runs.

"What I can tell you with full confidence is, it doesn't matter who gets in — I'm in," Becerra told The New York Times.

Becerra has more than $1.4 million left from an abandoned re-election bid for attorney general that he can use to launch his gubernatorial campaign. He will need to raise far more to reintroduce himself to voters ahead of the June 2026 primary after four years out of the spotlight of California politics.

Other notable Democrats running to succeed Gov. Gavin Newsom, who terms out at the beginning of 2027, include Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, former state Senate leader Toni Atkins, former Controller Betty Yee and Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco is the highest-profile Republican to enter the race so far.

By Alexei Koseff. This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **52.9**

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: Knee to thigh
1-2FT

SSW swell lingers with enough NW energy lingering to cross it up. Watching winds. Swell-wise we're set up for a modest to fun combo of lingering SSW Southern Hemi swell and easing NW swell mix. Conditions still look on the dicey side, similar to what happened Monday. The points could have easterly wind issues in the morning -- decent for beachbreaks west of Dume. West wind picks up in the afternoon which flips the script, decent for the points and lumpy west of Dume.

FRIDAY
POOR TO FAIR

SURF: Knee to thigh
1-2FT

Fun zone surf in the cards with enough of a combo for some peaks. Conditions look better. New SSW swell coming up and topping out in the afternoon with enough short-period NW leftovers to at least put some fun corners in the water, if not a few peaks. Size in the waist-chest high range with better spots shoulder+ as the SSW builds into the afternoon. Morning winds look they best they have in a few days with lighter/variable to very light S wind along the coast to start the day and onshore W wind doesn't look like it'll be an issue until mid-afternoon.

Weather

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers after 11am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 60.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 64. North wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south southwest in the morning.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 49.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/04/03	Thu	12:54 AM	5.45	H
2025/04/03	Thu	08:49 AM	-0.33	L
2025/04/03	Thu	4:24 PM	2.82	H
2025/04/03	Thu	6:56 PM	2.67	L
2025/04/04	Fri	02:03 AM	4.96	H
2025/04/04	Fri	10:27 AM	-0.22	L
2025/04/04	Fri	6:24 PM	3.16	H
2025/04/04	Fri	9:20 PM	3.01	L
2025/04/05	Sat	03:40 AM	4.59	H
2025/04/05	Sat	11:47 AM	-0.29	L
2025/04/05	Sat	7:11 PM	3.56	H
2025/04/05	Sat	11:39 PM	2.70	L

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: 3/31
12 41 44 52 64
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 30 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/1
11 12 21 29 49
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 43 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/29
1 3 8 14 19
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 14 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/1
2 4 10 23 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/1
EVENING: 5 5 3
Draw Date: 4/1
MIDDAY: 6 4 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/1
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:43.24

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Santa Monica Daily Press

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Easter on the Promenade, Cosetta Grand Opening, & More!

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Easter on the Promenade, Cosetta Grand Opening, Blue Plate Oysterette Community Dinner, and much more!

Wellness & Waves Kickoff: Immerse yourself in wellness every Saturday, April 5 to October 11, from 8-10a.m. at the Santa Monica Pier. Start your Saturday morning under the iconic Santa Monica Yacht Harbor sign with an easy-breezy group run from 8-9 AM. There is also Yoga and Yoga-Pilates Fusion classes at the west end from 9-10 AM. FREE. https://www.santamonicapier.org/wellness-and-waves

Superbloom Beach Club (at the Park): Join Superbloom for a full day of mindfulness, movement, music, and meaningful connection. Superbloom Collective is a community based in authentic connection, self-expression, and service. Saturday, April 5, 12 - 5 p.m., Hotchkiss Park, 2302 Fourth St. https://lu.ma/gncbyisn

Hop Into Easter Fun on Third Street Promenade with Free Photos, Live Entertainment and More: The Easter spirit comes to Third Street Promenade with a festive, family-friendly celebration featuring free photos with the Easter Bunny, live entertainment and interactive activities for all ages. FREE. Sunday, April 6, 12 – 4 p.m., 1200 block of Third Street Promenade https://www.eventbrite.com/e/downtown-santa-monica-celebrates-easter-2025-tickets-1273173539329

Arts Month Reception: Join the local launch of April's Arts, Culture, & Creativity Month with a celebration in partnership with Arts for LA. The event will include a variety of artsy activities. FREE. Sunday, April 6, 2-4 p.m., Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway https://www.eventbrite.com/e/arts-month-celebration-tickets-1261542871689

Live Talks - An Evening with Maria Shriver: The award-winning journalist, New York Times bestselling author and former First Lady of California shares a powerful collection of reflections and original poems that emanate from her hard-earned wisdom, showing readers there is strength and love on the other side of our hardest days. Thursday, April 10, 8:00p.m., New Roads School 3131 Olympic Blvd. https://livetalksla.org/events/maria-shriver/

ONGOING: "Two Bit Circus" Pop-Up; LiteBrite Experience

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Abbot Kinney First Friday Food Truck Fest: About two dozen food trucks are expected to line the street for the monthly event. Friday, April 4, starting at 5:00p.m. https://www.abbotkinneyblvd.com/

Blue Plate Oysterette Community Dinner Series: Join us for a gourmet dinner at sunset for $25. Enjoy a chef-curated meal, mingle with your Santa Monica neighbors, and soak in the sunset from our communal table. This dinner will feature shrimp radiatore pasta with seasonal salad. Monday, April 7, 4 - 6p.m., 1355 Ocean Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bpo-community-dinner-series-tickets-1281400245629

Esters Wine Bar Lebeau-Batiste Champagne Takeover: Meet the winemakers and taste your way through their elegant, expressive Champagnes. Wednesday, April 9, 5 - 8p.m., 1314 7th St. https://www.esterswineshop.com/calendar/

Eater Raves About Cosetta Grand Opening: The Italian-Californian Restaurant and Pizzeria from acclaimed Chef Zach Pollack debuted this week. According to EaterLA, "Pizza, Milaneses, salads, and raw seafood shine at Cosetta, the versatile new California Italian restaurant." 3150 Ocean Park Blvd. https://la.eater.com/2025/4/1/24398968/cosetta-zach-pollack-italian-restaurant-pizza-santa-monica-opening



Courtesy image

SUNDAY: The Easter Bunny will visit Downtown Santa Monica.

Dumpling Giant Din Tai Fung Reaches New Heights at Vibey Santa Monica Rooftop Location: With multiple patios, two indoor dining rooms, and a full bar, the new Din Tai Fung is ready for noodle-and-dumpling fans https://la.eater.com/2025/2/25/24372965/din-tai-fung-santa-monica-opening-photos-food-chinese

Layla Bagels Ranked #2 in LA: The Infatuation raves this shop, stating it is the bagel shop "the Westside has been waiting for: a lovely little counter service spot with great coffee and outrageously delicious bagels piled high with the freshest produce available." 1614 Ocean Park Blvd. https://www.theinfatuation.com/los-angeles/guides/la-best-bagels

Augie's On Main Listed Among Best LA Restaurants for Takeout and Delivery: "For a taste of Josiah Citrin's cooking without paying Michelin-starred-Citrin prices, head over to his casual chicken and burger spot, Augie's on Main. Located on a busy strip of Santa Monica, Augie's offers approachable dishes done well, like Citrin's classic "dirty" chicken, a two-hands-required cheeseburger, hot dogs, and a chopped salad. https://la.eater.com/maps/best-los-angeles-takeout-delivery-food-restaurants

Further Afield: The Gallery is a new downtown dining and entertainment destination and its Signature Dining Experience, Elementa, is a two-hour, five-course entertainment dining extravaganza, taking guests on a multi-sensory journey exploring the five classical elements of nature: Earth, Water, Air, Fire and Aether. Tickets for Elementa start at $200 per person. www.TheGalleryDining.com

Looking Ahead: Looking Ahead: Juniper Market (4/12); Earth Day Celebration (4/22); Main St. Mainopoly (5/25)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Easter on the Promenade, Cosetta Grand Opening, & More!

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OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

McCabe's, Pop, Phil, 'Hands Off!'



Courtesy photo McCabe's

MUSIC: Rick Shea, Tony Gilkyson.

"HANDS OFF!" GLOBAL PROTEST, THIS SATURDAY! – This is the time to show up, with signs and anger but not violence, to support those around the world who will be protesting the chaos, destruction and death the bully baby and his billionaire boss are already wreaking, not just here but worldwide. (If you think that is hyperbole, you are underinformed. Get some accurate information on what is happening with USAID.)

Nearly all protests will be at Tesla dealerships (yes, Santa Monica has one, as well as West LA and Century City), but you should check a source you trust for more information. This IS "something you can do. Pushback and protest are vital, and have already been effective in causing Trump to retreat on some terrible things. By Saturday, his naive notions on tariffs will have us fully in a trade war – with our (former) friends and allies – and you'd better be prepared to pay a lot more for eggs, avocados and cars. I heard a voice recording (unverified) of a man reporting he went to pick up his monthly dose of insulin, for his diabetes, and the price had gone back up to $80, where it had been before Biden ordered the price to drop to $6. And hands off our invaluable artistic freedom too!

This is real, folks, and it is right now. All hands on deck.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONY GILKYSON & RICK SHEA, CINDY LEE BERRYHILL – Berryhill has been on my list for a long time but I always missed her; on the McCabe's website is a quote extolling her musical/philosophical virtues by none other than Van Dyke Parks. 'Nuff said. The other two troubadour composers and primo pickers I have heard many times, both separately and together, and together is a treat, since they both have such a full basket of great songs to choose from. How did they get here, to this hallowed acoustic stage right here in Santa Monica? Shea by way of Wanda Jackson, R.E.M. and Chris Gaffney and the Cold Hard Facts, Gilkyson coming through Dylan, Tom Waits, Dave Alvin and X. All more a recognition of their talents rather than achievements in themselves. Sun 6 p.m., McCabe's, Santa Monica, $24.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday night, 9-11:30, for almost 14 years now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

Next Thurs - VIVALDI'S "THE FOUR SEASONS," MOZART, HAYDN, LA PHIL – Years ago when I was not paying enough attention I used to think "The Four Seasons" was very pretty but not in the heavyweight arena; numerous interpretations by an enormous range of artists has set me straight. When you

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 8

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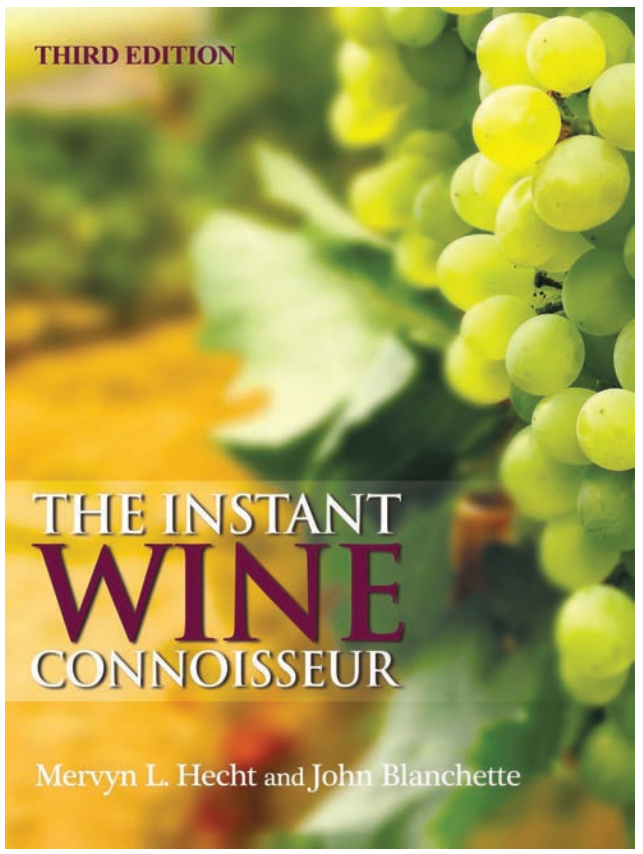


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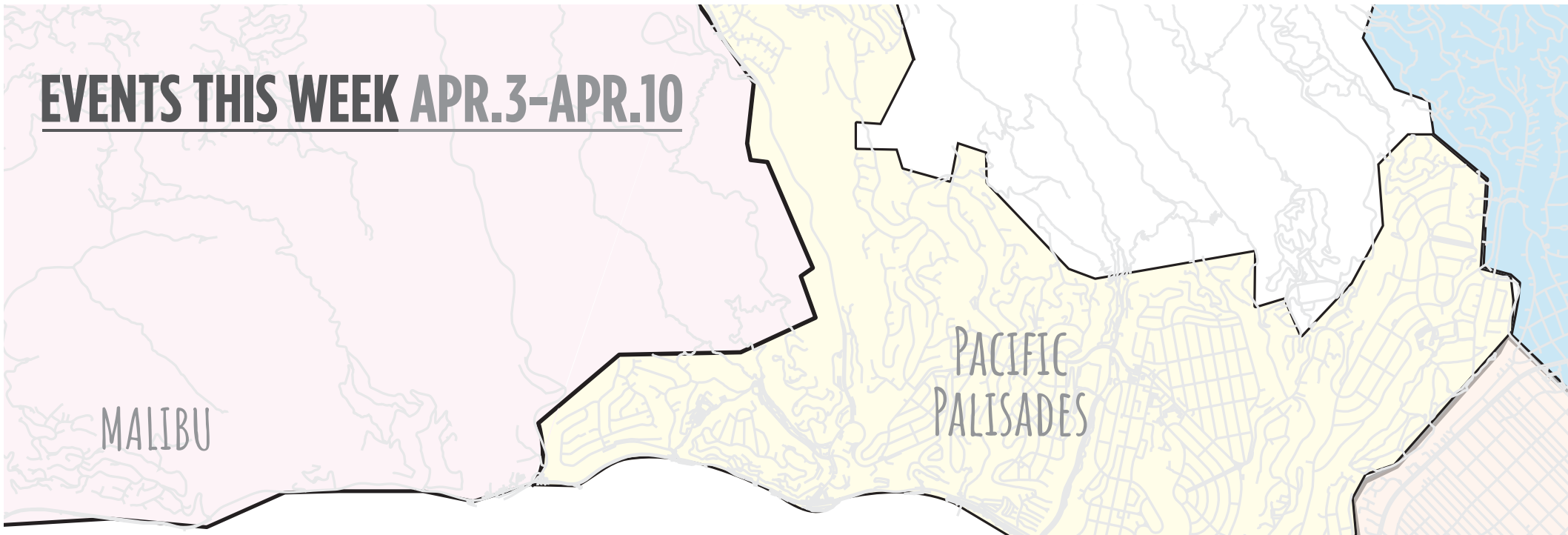
★★★★★ **...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste**



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

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EVENTS THIS WEEK APR.3-APR.10



Friday, April 04, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

1113 Montana Avenue Santa Monica.

Author event! Tess Sanchez x Max Greenfield

In person author event with Tess Sanchez and Max Greenfield at Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/author-event-tess-sanchez-x-max-greenfield/15396378/2025-04-04T18

Friday, April 04, 7:00 p.m.

Aero Theatre 1328 Montana Ave Santa Monica.

Right in the Eye - Live movie-concert of Georges Méliès' films

Right in the Eye invites audiences of all ages on an extraordinary multimedia journey through the imaginative world of Georges Méliès, the legendary filmmaker and cinematographer. Created by Jean François Alcoléa, this live production showcases twelve of Méliès' silent films, accompanied by a spellbinding live score performed by three virtuoso musicians. $14.00 to $19.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/right-in-the-eye-live-movie-concert-of-georges-m-li-s-films/15339535/2025-04-04T19

Friday, April 04, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

St. Augustine's by-the-Sea 1227 4th St Santa Monica.

St. Matthew's Music Guild: Stile Antico

ONE OF BRITAIN'S PREMIERE VOCAL ENSEMBLES, STILE ANTICO IN "THE GOLDEN RENAISSANCE" APRIL 4. St. Matthew's Music Guild continues its fortieth anniversary season on Friday, April 4 at 8:00 pm with Stile Antico, one of the world's most accomplished and innovative vocal ensembles. Due to January's devastating fires in Pacific Palisades, this concert will take place at St. Augustine by-the-Sea Church in Santa Monica. The Music Guild will return to its regular home, St. Matthew's Church in Pacific Palisades, when it is deemed safe to do so. $45.00 —$45/Ticket; Under 16 free. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/st-matthew-s-music-guild-stile-antico/15317617/2025-04-04T20

Thursday, April 03, 9:30 p.m.

Harvelle's Santa Monica 1432 4th St.

Wild Night - A Van Morrison Tribute

Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30PM. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8 PM. 2 drink minimum. Please note, we are 21 and over only!. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/wild-night-a-van-morrison-tribute/15124692/2025-04-03T21

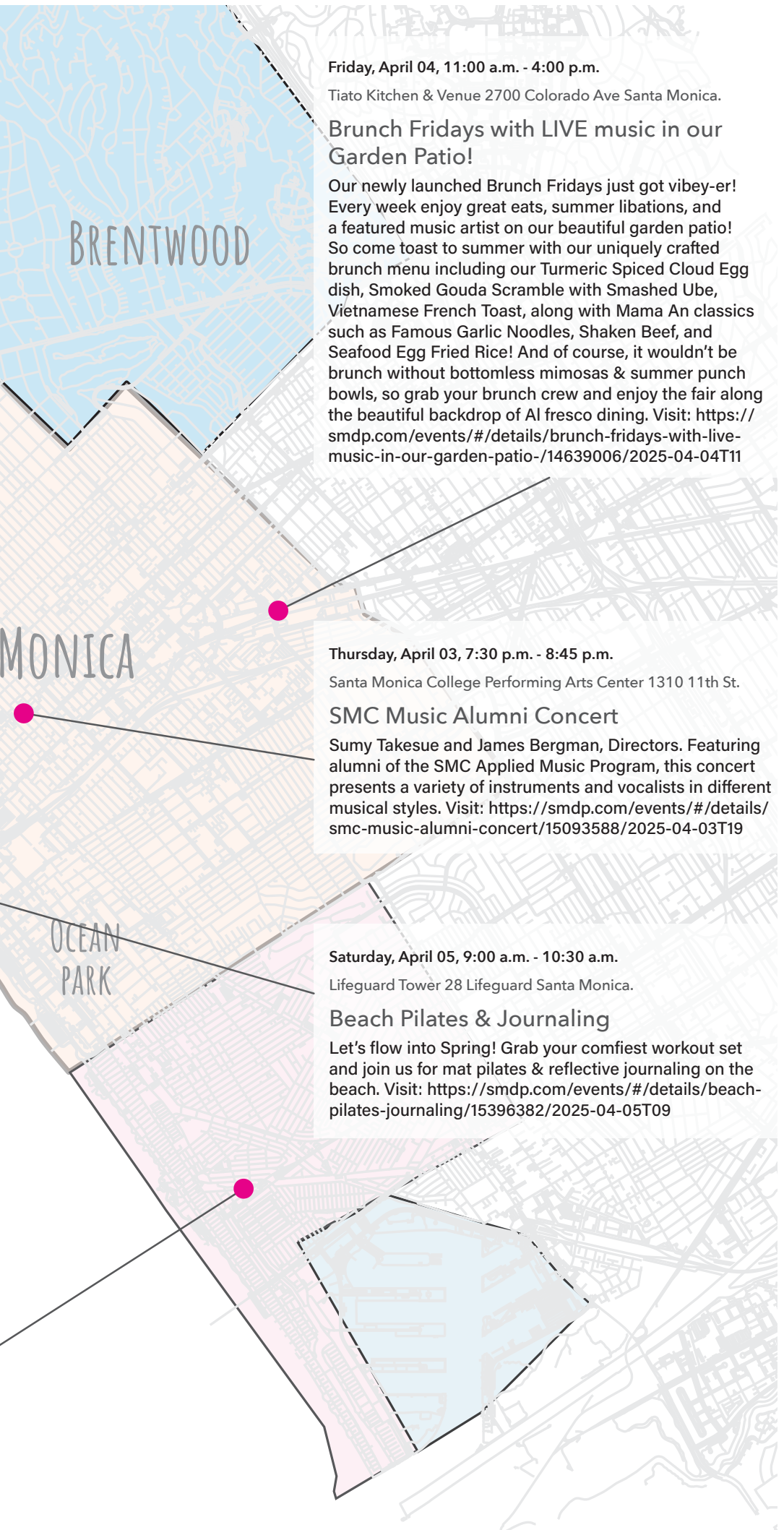
Friday, April 04, 9:45 a.m.

Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice.

Friends of Venice Library: Pilates - Core Work

Develop strength, flexibility and balance through the fusion of Pilates mat movement. All levels welcome. Please be EARLY. Class starts on-time at 9:45am. No entry after the first ten minutes. No class the day before the Friends' Book Sales. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-pilates-core-work/14548475/2025-04-04T09

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events



Friday, April 04, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tiato Kitchen & Venue 2700 Colorado Ave Santa Monica.

Brunch Fridays with LIVE music in our Garden Patio!

Our newly launched Brunch Fridays just got vibey-er! Every week enjoy great eats, summer libations, and a featured music artist on our beautiful garden patio! So come toast to summer with our uniquely crafted brunch menu including our Turmeric Spiced Cloud Egg dish, Smoked Gouda Scramble with Smashed Ube, Vietnamese French Toast, along with Mama An classics such as Famous Garlic Noodles, Shaken Beef, and Seafood Egg Fried Rice! And of course, it wouldn't be brunch without bottomless mimosas & summer punch bowls, so grab your brunch crew and enjoy the fair along the beautiful backdrop of Al fresco dining. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brunch-fridays-with-live-music-in-our-garden-patio-/14639006/2025-04-04T11

Thursday, April 03, 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St.

SMC Music Alumni Concert

Sumy Takesue and James Bergman, Directors. Featuring alumni of the SMC Applied Music Program, this concert presents a variety of instruments and vocalists in different musical styles. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/smc-music-alumni-concert/15093588/2025-04-03T19

Saturday, April 05, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Lifeguard Tower 28 Lifeguard Santa Monica.

Beach Pilates & Journaling

Let's flow into Spring! Grab your comfiest workout set and join us for mat pilates & reflective journaling on the beach. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/beach-pilates-journaling/15396382/2025-04-05T09



THURSDAY | APRIL 3

NOMA MEETING

Pressing residential issues are up for discussion at the North of Montana Avenue Neighborhood Association's meeting this Thursday, April 3 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Heidi Dedrick from the Montana Merchants Association will kick things off with a review of the new businesses and their offerings on Montana Ave., to be followed by SM Code Enforcement Manager Dan Mick with a deep dive into the city's 3-1-1 system and the code issues it's designed to handle; and Mary Sager McFadden, landscape architect with local firm Pamela Burton & Co, will explore the timely issue of how to plan and plant your property to increase its resistance to wildfire. The report of NOMA's nominating committee on the nominees and the upcoming Board elections will bring up the rear, and further information can be found at smnoma.gov. All are invited to attend.

SMC MUSIC ALUMNI CONCERT

7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St. Sumy Takesue and James Bergman, Directors. Featuring alumni of the SMC Applied Music Program, this concert presents a variety of instruments and vocalists in different musical styles. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/smc-music-alumni-concert/15093588/2025-04-03T19

WILD NIGHT - A VAN MORRISON TRIBUTE

9:30 p.m. Harvelle's Santa Monica 1432 4th St. Doors open at 8 PM. Show starts at 9:30 p.m. Online ticket sales end at 7 PM, tics available at the door after 8:00 p.m. 2 drink minimum. Please note, we are 21 and over only! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/wild-night-a-van-morrison-tribute/15124692/2025-04-03T21

FRIDAY | APRIL 4

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: PILATES - CORE WORK

9:45 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Develop strength, flexibility and balance through the fusion of Pilates mat movement. All levels welcome. Please be EARLY. Class starts on-time at 9:45am. No entry after the first ten minutes. No class the day before the Friends' Book Sales. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/friends-of-venice-library-pilates-core-work/14548475/2025-04-04T09

BRUNCH FRIDAYS WITH LIVE MUSIC IN OUR GARDEN PATIO!

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Our newly launched Brunch Fridays just got vibey-er! Every week enjoy great eats, summer libations, and a featured music artist on our beautiful garden patio! So come toast to summer with our uniquely crafted brunch menu including our Turmeric Spiced Cloud Egg dish, Smoked Gouda Scramble with Smashed Ube, Vietnamese French Toast, along with Mama An classics such as Famous Garlic Noodles, Shaken Beef, and Seafood Egg Fried Rice! And of course, it wouldn't be brunch without bottomless mimosas & summer punch bowls, so grab your brunch crew and enjoy the fair along the beautiful backdrop of Al fresco dining. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brunch-fridays-with-live-music-in-our-garden-patio-/14639006/2025-04-04T11

AUTHOR EVENT! TESS SANCHEZ X MAX GREENFIELD

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. 1113 Montana Avenue. In person author event with Tess Sanchez and Max Greenfield at Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/author-event-tess-sanchez-x-max-greenfield/15396378/2025-04-04T18

RIGHT IN THE EYE - LIVE MOVIE-CONCERT OF GEORGES MÉLIÈS' FILMS

7:00 p.m. Aero Theatre 1328 Montana Ave. Right in the Eye invites audiences of all ages on an extraordinary multimedia journey through the imaginative world of Georges Méliès, the legendary filmmaker and cinematographer. Created by Jean François Alcoléa, this live production showcases twelve of Méliès' silent films, accompanied by a spellbinding live score performed by three virtuoso musicians. Using an eclectic array of instruments—ranging from piano, guitar, and percussion to the theremin, aquaphone, and even plastic take-out lids—the music captures the technical brilliance and whimsical creativity that define Méliès' cinematic legacy. $14.00 to $19.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/right-in-the-eye-live-movie-concert-of-georges-m-li-s-films/15339535/2025-04-04T19

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd. The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. We will answer as many questions as possible. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-night-sky-show/14165546/2025-04-04T19

ST. MATTHEW'S MUSIC GUILD: STILE ANTIC

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. St. Augustine's by-the-Sea 1227 4th St. $45.00 —$45/Ticket; Under 16 free. ONE OF BRITAIN'S PREMIERE VOCAL ENSEMBLES, STILE ANTICO IN "THE GOLDEN RENAISSANCE" APRIL 4 St. Matthew's Music Guild continues its fortieth anniversary season on Friday, April 4 at 8:00 pm with Stile Antico, one of the world's most accomplished and innovative vocal ensembles. Due to January's devastating fires in Pacific Palisades, this concert will take place at St. Augustine by-the-Sea Church in Santa Monica. The Music Guild will return to its regular home, St. Matthew's Church in Pacific Palisades, when it is deemed safe to do so. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/st-matthew-s-music-guild-stile-antico/15317617/2025-04-04T20



VOTING

FROM PAGE 2

against Santa Monica, said the city continues to use taxpayer dollars to fight it.

"We're trying to ensure that there's a permanent representative from our neighborhood, and to ensure that candidates of color — in particular, Mexican Americans and Latinos — are able to not only run, but have an ability to win elected office," Loya said.

Kevin Shenkman, an attorney who has fought dozens of cases to force more jurisdictions to switch from at-large to district-based voting, said the issue is not unique to Santa Monica, which is why a change in the law is necessary.

He's trying a similar case against Huntington Beach in August that he expects will be resolved in favor of the plaintiffs, who argue that as in Santa Monica, the city's at-large elections dilute Latino residents' vote and prevent them from being able to elect a candidate of their choice. He thinks that the city will appeal as many times as it can.

"The Latino voters in Huntington Beach shouldn't have to wait for their voting rights while the city of Huntington Beach appeals and appeals and appeals to cling to their power," he said.

That's why the legislation is not just about Santa Monica's 92,000 voters, he said, but about all 39 million California voters.

By Sameea Kamal. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 5

throw in some Amadeus and then a surprise, I guarantee you will not even notice that it is not Dudamel behind the baton. Next Thurs 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, $92-239.

RECOMMENDED:

TOLEDO DIAMOND – His decades-long Sunday night residency at Santa Monica's Harvelle's, the oldest blues bar in LA (almost a century!), is a treasure that you shouldn't assume will always be there. Toledo choreographs (literally) a truly unique show, a blend of '50s hipster jazz and his dancing dames and a most modern smokin' hot band that gets better all the time. Every Sunday 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT'S "POPAGANZA" – This is the annual "Fun-Raiser" for LA's l'il ole opera company that could, and really has, and they launched from our own Miles Playhouse to now widely recognized prominence and acclaim. I've seen many of their productions and became a fan after the first one. The ticket price includes food, drink and the entertainment, with a host of veterans taking stage to recreate some of their past glories. And they will be announcing the lineup for their upcoming 15th season. Probably wise to get your season pass while you are there. They play in many interesting and elegant venues, like this one. Mon 7 p.m. (cocktail hour at 6), The Ebell of Los Angeles, $115.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (also recommended): TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 4/6, 13, 20; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 4/7, 14, 21; TONY GILKYSON & RICK SHEA, CINDY LEE BERRYHILL, McCabe's, 4/6; POPAGANZA, Pacific Opera Project, Ebell, 4/7; VIVALDI "4 SEASONS," MOZART, HAYDN, LA PHIL, Disney Hall, 4/10, 11, 12, 13; DUDAMEL, LA PHIL, GREEN DAY, CHARLI XCX, others, Coachella, 4/12, 19; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin, 4/13; MIGUEL ZENON QUARTET, Jazz Bakery, 4/13.

DOWN THE ROAD (also recommended): PUSSY RIOT, Lodge Room, 4/20; TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 4/20, 27; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 4/21, 28, 5/5, 12, 19, 26; ALBERT LEE, McCabe's, 4/26; LIGHT UP THE BLUES! NEIL YOUNG, STEPHEN STILLS, more, Greek, 4/26; LUCKY STARS, Broadstage, 4/26; LA OPERA'S "AINADAMAR," Dorothy Chandler, 4/26, 5/3, 4, 7, 15, 18; PATRICE RUSHEN, Disney, 5/2; BEETHOVEN with ESA-PEKKA, Disney, 5/2, 3, 4; BEACHLIFE FESTIVAL, PRETENDERS, JACKSON BROWNE, ALANIS MORISSETTE, MARCUS KING, more, Redondo Beach, 5/2, 3, 4; T BONE BURNETTE, McCabe's, 5/8, 9, 10, 11; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14; JACK WHITE, Hwd Palladium, 5/12, 13; WILLIE, DYLAN, others, Hwd Bowl, 5/16; TOPANGA BANJO FIDDLE CONTEST & FOLK FESTIVAL, Gillette Ranch, Calabasas, 5/18; JON BATISTE, Disney, 5/19; GERSHWIN, "Also Sprach Z," LA PHIL, Disney, 5/23, 24; DIEGO FIGUEIREDO/KEN PEPLOWSKI, Jazz Bakery, 5/24; LOVE, Echo, 5/31; RICKY GERVAIS, Hwd Bowl, 5/31; BLUE NOTE JAZZ FEST Day 2, GRACE JONES, STANLEY CLARKE N.4EVER, others, Hwd Bowl, 6/15; RHIANNON GIDDENS, STEVE MARTIN, others, Hwd Bowl, 6,18; DAN NAVARRO, McCabe's, 6/28; JOHN FOGERTY, Hwd Bowl, 7/6; PAUL SIMON, Disney, 7/7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16; ALISON KRAUS, UNION STATION, Greek, 7/13; FATHER JOHN MISTY, LUCINDA WILLIAMS, Greek, 7/25; TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND, Greek, 8/13; FLAMING LIPS, MODEST MOUSE, Greek, 9/4; NEIL YOUNG, Hwd Bowl, 9/15; NINE INCH NAILS, Kia Forum, 9/18, 19; ORIANTHI, Canyon Agoura Hills, 10/3.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 39 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Not even Kauai. Send love and/or hate mail to: therealmrmusic@gmail.com



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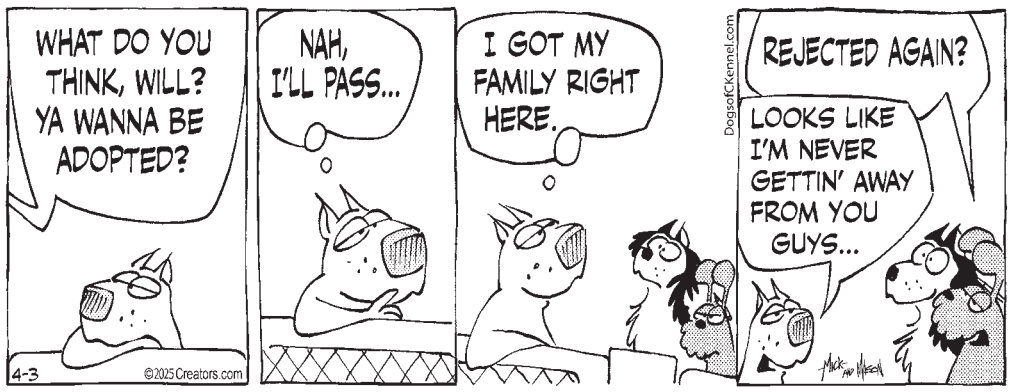
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



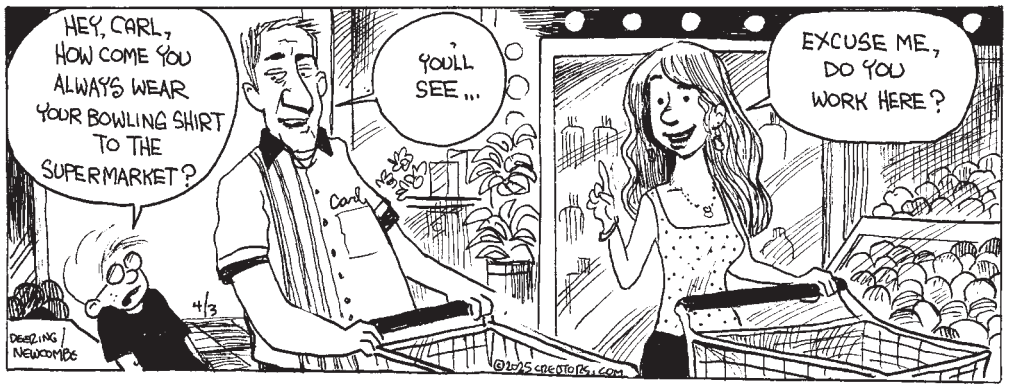
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"ANOTHER ART OPENING."

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6534

Autumnal tones

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

Anemone	Dogwood	Mild	Rake
Apple	Elms	Mist	Reap
April	Falling leaves	Mulberry	Showy
Beech	Fire	Nuts	Skies
Blue	Flowers	Orange	Sleet
Brown	Fresh	Pear	Spectacular
Chilly	Hayride	Pink	Sunshine
Cool	Hues	Plum	Sweep
Cornucopia	March	Pumpkin	Temperate
Crisp	May	Quilt	
Crops		Rain	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Some of our favourite authors

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 3)

Indeed, you are in co-creation with the spirit of magic itself, which has a terrible crush on you this year, and will seek out your playful heart at every turn. A dreamy collaboration will be a dance of ideas -- fluid, spontaneous and fun. You'll create an aesthetic around you as you make, design and embody your plans. More highlights: A peaceful and fulfilling homelife, recognition at work and a hot investment. Leo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 5, 2, 24 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Today holds treasure. Step one: get your hands on a map. It's better than wandering toward the sun; it moves. You need to know what doesn't. Grasp the terrain, the shores, valleys and cliffs so you can navigate to the prize.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're not a substance to be shaped. Don't smoosh yourself to fit the mold today because it will inevitably be at the expense of your own desires. Connect with what you want, add fuel and honor your wish with a first step.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). All contentment will be an outcropping of doing the right thing. Don't worry about pleasing others because doing the right thing will bring its own validation and reward -- one that continues far beyond this point in the journey.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Some people rarely stop to ask, "Am I the problem?" They assume they're not. You, on the other hand, reflect, question and genuinely care about how you impact others. Self-awareness will serve you well today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've made efforts to learn the inner world of others, and others don't always return in kind. But being misunderstood only makes it sweeter when you do meet people who can connect on in depth and complexity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be laying down structures by which a project or relationship will live. You'll need to be thoughtful and intentional. You'll have to consider not just what you want, but also how the other person's expectations shape or influence the relationship dynamic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). New needs and wants emerge. Some will not surprise you at all, as they've been below the surface for years. It's a good time to remind yourself that your desire is as valid as anyone's. Honoring it is where your real power lies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). As social as you are, if you don't get enough alone time, you will start to get legitimately cranky. The best thing you can do for your productivity is carve out some sweet, sacred solitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The nuances are speaking to you today and you pay attention to the exact details that will most push the action forward. Life gives you sparks; you ignite the torch, claim the path and walk in a beautiful flickering light.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). One of your many unsung skills is creating space for each person to bring their strengths to the table and letting each voice shape the outcome. You'll take part in a collaboration that's rooted in mutual respect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Acknowledge the countless small acts that keep everything running smoothly. Every time you care for yourself, nourish someone or help others along their way, it's a quiet victory. These everyday triumphs are what make all the difference.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Attraction isn't about the actions themselves, but the energy you bring to them. A subtle shift in your approach can make a world of difference, but the real pull comes from the sincerity of your intention. Those who need care will be drawn to your tenderness.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

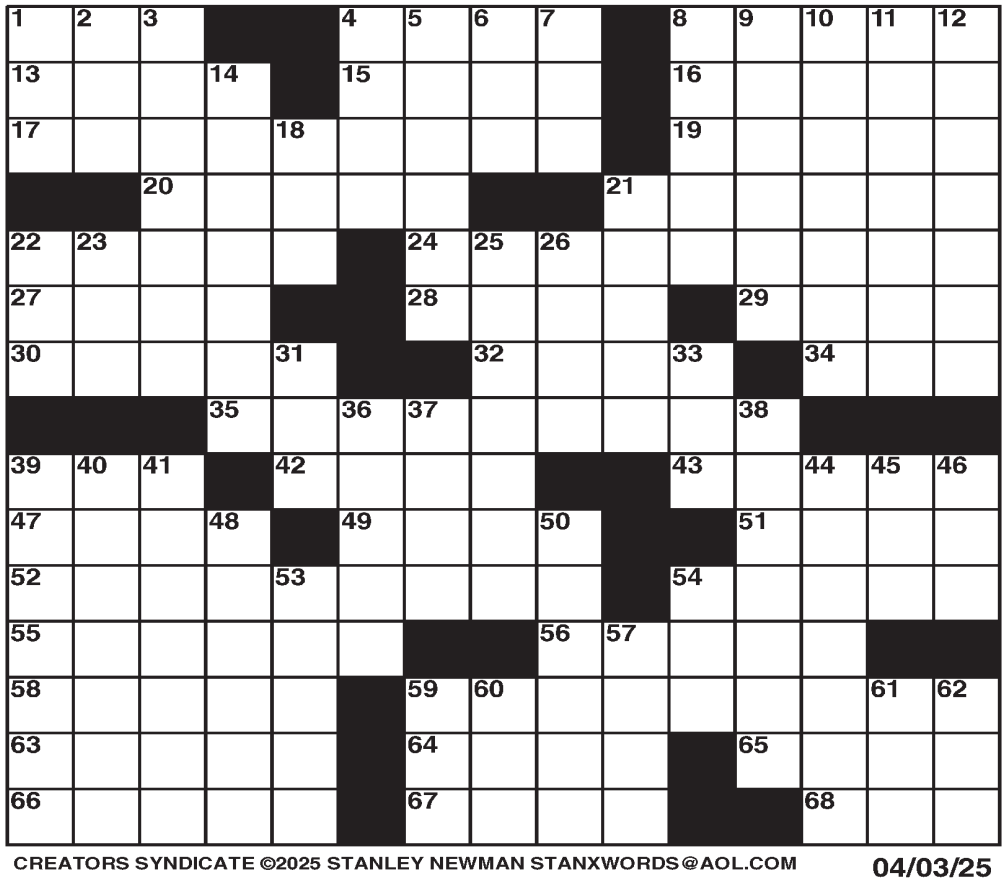
KEEP ON TRUCKING by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Woolf's __ *Dalloway*
4 Protective covering
8 Engage in __ of wills
13 Three-syllable fruit
15 Protagonist
16 Debussy sea piece
17 Canadian NHL city
19 Mythological hunter
20 Precious possession
21 Had a craving
22 Major investigation
24 Tennis term
27 Pool filler, at times
28 Tom Clancy character
29 Night light
30 Unmoving
32 Alternate nickname for Tony
34 Bracket shapes
35 Rouse to act
39 Be a drain on
42 Browning thing
43 Bonnet material
47 Bit of a nest
49 Danish-born urban reformer
51 Alien search org.
52 Applicability
54 Origin of "corgi"
55 Out-of-state purchase fee
56 Gorbachev spouse
58 Former nonfliers
59 Weissmuller partner in Tarzan films
63 Writer Zola
64 Where Leonardo Airport is
65 Guatemalan girl
66 Expects the return of
67 Smooch
68 Moving __ (theme of the puzzle)

DOWN

1 Dallas hoopster
2 Venerable TV brand
3 Capital of Costa Rica
4 Actress Elisabeth
5 Body armor material
6 Indignation
7 "..._ any drop to drink"
8 Plymouth Pilgrim
9 Besmirches
10 Issue forth
11 Country surrounding Gambia
12 Frontier merchants
14 Unemotional person
18 Be beholden to
21 New Age pianist
22 Frat letter
23 Rowling redhead
25 High-energy
26 Overproud
31 Select a phone app
33 Parts of pts.
36 Seuss environmentalist
37 Train of thought
38 Enters slowly
39 Sweet after schnitzel
40 "Sweet!"
41 Entered en masse
44 Mideast metropolis
45 FWIW part
46 Medical research agcy.
48 Become tiresome
50 Immunological agents
53 Bloom holders
54 Actor Wheaton
57 Brewed beverages
59 Versifier's eye
60 Trifling amount
61 NFL team in CA
62 Asian flatbread



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04/03/25

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

LACOE

FROM PAGE 1

that out there. Take it in consideration the $10 or $12 or $15 million that they want to put into it, and we're making it a racial issue when it's not a racial issue. And I'm Black, as you all can see, and I understand racism, okay, fully. Well, this is not a racial issue. It's a power issue about money."

Committee Member Donald LaPlante was also in favor of a Malibu District.

"There needs to be a Santa Monica district. There needs to be a Malibu district," he said. "The two entities need to get back together. If I could, I'd lock them in the conference room back here and block the door until they came out with an agreement. Apparently, there's a meeting on April 23, I hope for four votes in the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School district to ratify, approve, whatever that agreement sort of was six months ago. Everybody can get back on the railroad train and get it moving towards Sacramento, get it on the state board agenda, and to get back to the legislation approved so that there can be a Santa Monica Unified School District and a Malibu Unified School District."

Estefany Castaneda was among the majority critical of the Malibu plan. She said Malibu had not shown it would be fiscally responsible in the long term and that promises made regarding potential enrollment growth in the future were unrealistic.

"I'd like to say that the petition, of course, fails eight of the nine legal criteria, and there's no binding plan to divide property or revenue, no finalized tax agreement and no clear operational transition, leaves too many critical questions unanswered about who pays for what is responsible for debt, and how continuity for students and staffs will be insured. Santa Monica would lose a substantial portion of its property tax base while continuing to serve the vast majority of low income students, English learners and students with special needs in the district. That's not just bad planning, it's inequitable," she said.

Santa Monica resident and former SMMUSD member Ralph Mechur, who is also part of the committee alongside current Councilman Barry Snell, made the motion to reject Malibu's petition.

"The proposals to form Unified School Districts or requested change of boundaries are to only be undertaken based on evidence of compelling reasons to make such changes related to objective barriers to students educational achievement guided by the mandated nine conditions of review," he said. "I don't feel that the proposal before us meets those, meets that standard."

The debate over the issues was itself winding but the final vote itself was emblematic of the chaotic petition process so far.

> The proposals to form Unified School Districts or requested change of boundaries are to only be undertaken based on evidence of compelling reasons to make such changes related to objective barriers to students educational achievement guided by the mandated nine conditions of review
> - Ralph Mechur

Mechur's motion was actually a substitute for an original motion first made by Davis. Davis argued that Mechur's motion required additional action by the board before it could be heard and while he was overruled on that point, he continued to question the Committee's handling of the vote.

When the vote was eventually taken, several committee members failed to understand the established voting procedure. While members were cross talking on their microphones and preparing to revote on the issue a second time, a representative of the Office of County Council broke into the meeting to explain the Committee's rules to them and clarify that their vote to deny the petition was final.

If Malibu appeals the County decision, it will go before the State Board of Education although the timeline for that is uncertain with past proposals taking years to reach their conclusion.

editor@smdp.com



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[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
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