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2 **Safety violations**
In deaths of deputies.

3 **Arrests**
For health care fraud.

4 **Game of chicken**
In Governor's race.

7 **Gas tax**
Worth suspending?

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 25 Issue 98 MONDAY 4/6/26 smdp.com

Santa Monica reshapes workforce with in-office rules and training programs

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica City Council has approved a broad package of organizational changes aimed at embedding the gains of the city's Realignment Plan into permanent operations — restructuring key departments, relaunching a long-dormant employee training program, and standardizing a remote work policy that drew a wave of objections from city staff in the days before the vote.

City Manager Oliver Chi framed the changes as a necessary evolution in how Santa Monica runs itself. "The next challenge is converting those programs into institutional practice, to ensure that what we are building endures beyond the urgency and the moment that created it," he told the council.

The most sweeping structural change approved involves a comprehensive reorganization of the Public Works Department, which Chi described as the largest single adjustment in the update. Under the new structure, the city's downtown and beach maintenance teams will be merged into a single division, with enhanced cleaning services — including regular pressure washing and hand sweeping — extended beyond the downtown core to commercial corridors including Montana Avenue, Wilshire Boulevard, Main Street, Pico Boulevard, and Ocean Park Boulevard. That expansion will be carried out in partnership with Chrysalis, a nonprofit workforce development organization, in what council member Dan Hall suggested also functions as a jobs program.

The Mobility Division, currently housed in the Department of

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7

Santa Monica students take classroom AI skills to the Vatican

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Two high school students from Santa Monica are trading their California classroom for the Pope's summer residence this week, putting their artificial intelligence skills to work on a real-world technology project at one of the Catholic Church's most historic sites.

Felix Figueroa, a senior, and Olivia Rogers, a junior at Saint

SEE **AI** PAGE 8



Courtesy Photo

AI: Two Santa Monica high schoolers head to the Pope's summer residence to work on an AI project.

Santa Monica High School students reframe Latino heritage event around Farmworkers' movement



Courtesy Image

HOLIDAY: Samohi students shift Latino heritage celebration to honor farmworkers' collective struggle over a single historical figure.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

A coalition of student leaders at Santa Monica High School chose to broaden the lens of their annual Latino heritage celebration this year, scrapping a program centered on a single historical figure in favor of honoring the collective struggle of the farmworkers' movement.

The event, renamed Farmworkers Movement Day, took place March 25 in Barnum Hall and drew on the legacy of La Causa — the movement that fought for the rights and dignity of farmworkers in the United States — as its organizing theme. The decision to shift the event's focus came from student leaders and advisors who cited a commitment to inclusivity, critical awareness, and honoring the voices of many rather than one.

"For my students, this history is not distant — it is personal," said Dr. Guadalupe Mireles-Toumayan, one of two faculty advisors who

SEE **SCHOOL** PAGE 8

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State finds explosion that killed LA County deputies involved serious safety violations

A state investigation has found that the deaths of three Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies in a grenade explosion last year involved "willful" and serious safety violations in the department, including failure to provide effective training and leaving explosives unattended.

California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health issued eight citations resulting in about $350,000 in fines in January. The sheriff's department is appealing the citations, according to the state. The results of the investigation were first reported by the Los Angeles Times.

The July 2025 explosion in the parking lot of a training facility killed detectives Joshua Kelley-Eklund, Victor Lemus and William Osborn of the arson and explosives team. It was one of the department's worst losses of life in a single incident.

The previous day, the team had recovered two grenades from a Santa Monica apartment complex. Sheriff Robert Luna said the detectives X-rayed the devices and believed they were "inert," or inactive.

At least one of the grenades was taken to an LASD training facility, where it detonated. A week later, Luna announced the second grenade was missing. The department is still investigating what happened to it.

In a statement, sheriff's spokesperson Nicole Nishida said the department was complying with state investigators to the extent allowed under the law as other investigations remain ongoing.

> This tragedy underscores the responsibility employers have to anticipate hazards and take meaningful steps to protect workers, especially in high-risk operations involving explosive materials
> - Denisse Gómez

Nishida said the department immediately collaborated with the Los Angeles Police Department bomb squad, the FBI and the

SEE **GRENADE** PAGE 8



SMDP Photo

EXPLOSIVES: Grenades found in Santa Monica last year killed three deputies.

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8 arrests made in federal crackdown on alleged health care fraud in Southern California

Federal officials on Thursday arrested eight people they say were involved in various health care fraud schemes totaling $50 million in and around Los Angeles.

Five of the cases involved hospice-care centers in cities of Glendale, Artesia, Tarzana and Simi Valley in the Los Angeles area that allegedly billed Medicare for patients that were not terminally ill and did not qualify for hospice services, the U.S. Attorney's Office said. One person was arrested in Idaho and another in LA for allegedly defrauding a West Coast labor union's health care plans. An additional person arrested in LA was accused of forging immigration medical documents.

The Trump administration has made California, and the Los Angeles area in particular, a focus of its national anti-fraud efforts, alleging the Democratic-led state is failing to crack down on improper spending.

First Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli, a Trump appointee, called the California the "kingdom of fraud," during a news conference announcing the charges.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's office said the state has already aggressively cracked down on hospice fraud, noting that he signed a law in 2021 to stop providing new hospice licenses over fraud concerns. The office also said the state has revoked more than 280 hospice licenses in two years and 300 providers are under investigation.

"Glad the federal government is finally stepping up to do their part," Newsom wrote in a post on X.

The administration has highlighted fraud around the country across federal benefits programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. President Donald Trump signed an executive order in March to create an anti-fraud task force led by Vice President JD Vance, which met for the first time last week. Most of the efforts have focused on states run by Democrats, though Republican-led Florida was among those asked to share more information on how they identify, prevent and address Medicaid fraud.

"We are enforcing a zero-tolerance policy for criminals who defraud American taxpayers," Essayli said in a statement announcing the California charges.

Dr. Mehmet Oz said during a news conference that federal officials "took out" 221 hospices in the last 10 weeks. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which Oz runs, did not immediately respond to an email seeking more information about what that entailed. CMS certifies hospice provides to accept patients on government-subsidized health insurance.

"We're going to review every single hospice in California," Oz said.

In January, Oz posted a video on social media in front of an Armenian bakery in Los Angeles, alleging that roughly $3.5 billion in hospice and home care fraud has taken place in the city and "quite a bit of it" was run by "the Russian Armenian mafia." It led to a civil rights complaint by Newsom's office, who said Oz had targeted Armenians with "baseless and racially charged allegations."

Oz's agency also announced that it is proposing a new, publicly available hospice scoring system using care metrics to better identify facilities that might be illegitimate.

The largest Medicare fraud case announced Thursday involved an Artesia-based hospice center, whose owner submitted more than $9 million in fraudulent hospice claims to Medicare, and was paid more than $8.5 million on the claims, prosecutors said.

The owner paid beneficiaries and marketers for referring purported hospice patients to her company. One couple said they were each promised $300 per month to sign up for hospice care even though they did not need it, and they received unnecessary items such as nutritional shakes, nonprescription vitamins and wheelchairs, prosecutors said.

Another person charged in a new hospice fraud case is currently serving federal prison time in Seattle after being convicted in a previous hospice fraud case in December 2024. Her husband was arrested as a co-defendant Thursday morning.

Authorities also announced charges against a Los Angeles nurse that used a hospice center in Tarzana to submit more than $3.8 million in claims, of which Medicare paid approximately $3.4 million. She has not yet been arrested.

Court dates have not been set and it wasn't immediately clear if any of those arrested had legal representation.

By JAIMIE DING Associated Press





Surf report

WATER TEMP: **64**

MONDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Fun waves off holding S-SSE swell. Favorable winds and nice tide much of the morning. Continued S-SSE swell maintains waist high+ surf for average spots/smaller points, while the more open exposures are running chest-shoulder-head high. Low tide has the dawn patrol a little drained, then the incoming tide push helps through the rest of the morning. Shape continues to favor structured spots. Light/variable winds due most of the morning, followed by manageable WNW onshores in the afternoon. Points have the cleanest conditions then.

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 2-3ft+
Thigh to stomach

Surf down a peg as swell eases, still fun-zone, most size in AM. Best winds then too. Slow fading S-SSE swell is still good for waist high waves at many exposures in the morning, while the more openly exposed breaks are chest-shoulder high. Surf gradually tapers off during the day. Light/variable winds and a nice tide push through much of the morning, followed by a light+ WNW sea breeze in the afternoon.

Weather

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 70.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 57.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 58.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2026/04/06	Mon	06:56 AM	0.23	L
2026/04/06	Mon	1:31 PM	2.67	H
2026/04/06	Mon	5:04 PM	2.26	L
2026/04/06	Mon	11:54 PM	4.70	H
2026/04/07	Tue	07:56 AM	0.50	L
2026/04/08	Wed	12:33 AM	4.38	H
2026/04/08	Wed	09:25 AM	0.67	L
2026/04/09	Thu	01:38 AM	4.06	H
2026/04/09	Thu	11:00 AM	0.58	L
2026/04/10	Fri	03:38 AM	3.90	H
2026/04/10	Fri	11:59 AM	0.36	L
2026/04/10	Fri	7:37 PM	3.35	H
2026/04/10	Fri	11:43 PM	2.87	L
2026/04/11	Sat	05:12 AM	4.04	H
2026/04/11	Sat	12:40 PM	0.16	L
2026/04/11	Sat	7:37 PM	3.63	H
2026/04/12	Sun	12:36 AM	2.33	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: 4/1
4 10 11 52 64
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 217 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 3/31
18 35 45 60 65
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 90 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 4/1
11 20 23 38 44
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/2
7 21 25 31 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/2
EVENING: 9 1 9
Draw Date: 4/2
MIDDAY: 0 5 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/2
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:40.39

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26STCP01242. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles CA 90012. Petition of Jocelin Chavez for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Jocelin Chavez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jocelin Chavez to Jocelin Lopez Sanchez. 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: 04/14/2025, Time: 8:30 Am, Dept: 9. 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: 03/27/2025. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 03/30/2026, 04/06/2026, 04/13/2026, 04/20/2026

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00135. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica CA 90401. Petition of Claire Joy Summers for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Claire Joy Summers filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Claire Joy Summers to Claire Summers Goldberger. 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: 05/01/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS. Date: 10/10/2025. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 03/30/2026, 04/06/2026, 04/13/2026, 04/20/2026

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

This isn't a race for California governor; it's more like a game of chicken

Political media habitually use "race" to describe contests for public office. However the word implies movement and therefore would be inaccurate if applied to this year's election of a new governor.

Sixty-one names will be on the June 2 primary ballot, including 10 leaders who profess to be serious about seeking the office.

However, they aren't racing. Rather, the eight top-polling Democrats seem to be in a children's game, sitting in a circle staring at each other, waiting for someone to blink. Meanwhile, the two top Republicans are taking potshots at each other, potentially undermining the GOP's only chance to elect a governor for the first time in two decades.

For weeks voter polls have found that three Democrats are locked in a tie, albeit at a puny level, around 10%, while the other five Democrats are buried in single digits.

California's top-two primary election system has all candidates listed on the same ballot, regardless of party, with the two top finishers then advancing to the November general election.

Given the size of the field, anyone garnering around 20% in June would probably earn a place in the runoff — or about twice what the three Democrats at the top — Katie Porter, Eric Swalwell and Tom Steyer — currently have.

With mail voting set to begin in a month, the calendar is beginning to be a factor. Every ballot that's mailed removes that voter from having his or her mind changed. One should expect, therefore, that those with even semi-realistic chances of making the cut would be waging all-out campaigns by now.

However, the only highly visible campaign is that of billionaire Steyer, who's not only hopping around the state for personal appearances but shelling out millions of his own bucks for television and internet ads.

Much of Steyer's campaign is aimed at Swalwell, who has obtained substantial union support, most prominently from the California Teachers Association. Swalwell also benefits from the threats of Donald Trump's FBI to release files from its investigation of Swalwell's relationship with a supposed Chinese spy.

Steyer and Swalwell seem to be vying for the most left-leaning bloc of Democratic voters, while Porter is coasting on the name identification gained during her losing campaign for the U.S. Senate two years ago and hoping that being the only woman in the trio will lift her into one of the top two finishes.

Democratic Party leaders are openly worried, though, that the two Republicans — Steve Hilton and Chad Bianco — could finish 1-2, thereby ensuring the election of a GOP governor. They would like the five lower-tier Democratic candidates to publicly surrender, thereby enhancing chances that a Democrat would make it to November.

However, members of that Democratic quintet show no signs of quitting, and if they continue to soldier on, despite scant support, the possibility of a 1-2 Republican primary finish continues.

The GOP's only chance of achieving such an upset would be for Hilton and Bianco to operate as a team, pushing their support — 16% and 14% respectively in the latest poll — to the magic 20% level. However, they are campaigning as opponents, even though if just one of them makes the November ballot he would almost certainly lose to whichever Democrat survives the primary.

This static, who-will-blink-first scenario does contain one surprising aspect — the failure of San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan to unleash the blitz he needs to climb into contention, despite having apparently unlimited support from wealthy Silicon Valley figures who want a tech- and business-friendly governor.

On Wednesday, Politico reported there was a shakeup in the Mahan campaign due to what were termed differences over strategy. Maybe that explains why his campaign has been so anemic after his much-ballyhooed late entry. He hasn't been racing much either.

Dan Walters, CalMatters Opinion Columnist

GET IT DAILY...

COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

Malibu Celebrates Earth Month With Lineup of Free Environmental Events in April

The City of Malibu has announced a series of free, public environmental education and recycling events throughout April in recognition of Earth Month, culminating in Earth Day on April 22, which marks the 56th anniversary of the modern environmental movement.

"Malibu is committed to protecting our environment while building a resilient, thriving community," said Mayor Bruce Silverstein. "Earth Month is the perfect time for all of us to come together, learn, and take action."

> "Malibu is committed to protecting our environment while building a resilient, thriving community"
> - Bruce Silverstein, Mayor

Key events include:

International Dark Sky Week, April 13-17. The City will share tips on reducing light pollution and encourage residents to photograph Malibu's dark skies. More information is available at https://darksky.org/what-we-do/events/dark-sky-week.

Malibu Monarch Project Lecture, April 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Dr. Anna Jacobsen will discuss fire and drought impacts on chaparral ecosystems at Malibu City Hall, 23825 Stuart Ranch Road. Details at MalibuCity.org/OutdoorRec.

Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Collection, April 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Residents may drop off hazardous household materials and shred up to five boxes of documents at the City Hall upper parking lot. Details at MalibuCity.org/EnviroCalendar.

Pollinator Plant Giveaway, April 19, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Free native plants will be distributed at Legacy Park, 23500 Civic Center Way. No registration required.

Pepperdine Earth Day Fair, April 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sustainability booths and activities at Pepperdine University as part of the Climate Calling 2026 conference.

Malibu Library Speaker Series featuring Bill McKibben, April 22, 5 p.m. The climate author and journalist will speak at Pepperdine University. Free, no RSVP required. Learn more at https://www.pepperdine.edu/climate-calling.

Pollinator Garden Installation, April 26, 1-4 p.m. Community planting event at Malibu Bluffs Park, Pacific Coast Highway at Malibu Canyon Road. Details at MalibuCity.org/OutdoorRec.

A full list of Earth Month activities is available at www.MalibuCity.org/EarthMonth.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Pier

Wellness & Waves Returns to Santa Monica Pier for Free 2026 Season



Santa Monica Pier Corporation

PIER: Free Wellness & Waves fitness classes return to Santa Monica Pier Saturdays, April 4 through Oct. 17.

The Santa Monica Pier Corporation launched the 2026 season of Wellness & Waves on Saturday, April 4, offering free weekly fitness programming at the Santa Monica Pier through Oct. 17.

The series runs every Saturday from 8 to 10 a.m., with the exception of holiday weekends. Each session begins with a group run from 8 to 9 a.m. starting at the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Ocean Avenue at the top of the pier, open to all fitness levels. Yoga and yoga-pilates fusion classes follow from 9 to 10 a.m. at the west end of the pier, led by local instructors.

Participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat, a towel and a positive mindset. Advance registration for yoga sessions is encouraged at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wellness-waves-tickets-1985756071866?keep_tld=true.

"Wellness & Waves is about making health and movement accessible to everyone in one of the most inspiring settings in the world," said Jim Harris, executive director and historian of the Santa Monica Pier.

The 2026 season is presented in partnership with UCLA Health, Lifeway Kefir, Essentia Water, Good Body Pilates, shefayoga Venice, Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier and Santa Monica Travel & Tourism.

The Santa Monica Pier is located at 200 Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica, CA 90401. The pier is accessible by rideshare, Metro, bus or bike.

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SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RFP NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SMMUSD invites sealed proposals for: **RFP #26.14 – Districtwide HVAC Maintenance Services.** All proposals must be electronically submitted via Secure Bids at https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/2614 on or before: **Thursday, May 7, 2026 2:00 P.M.** BID forms and specifications may be obtained in the link provided within this notice.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SMC

SMC to Celebrate Spring 2026 Santa Monica Review with Author Readings April 12

Santa Monica College will mark the release of the spring 2026 edition of the Santa Monica Review with an issue launch party featuring author readings on Sunday, April 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th St. at Santa Monica Boulevard.

The event, emceed by Review editor Andrew Tonkovich, will include a welcome by Abby Walthausen and readings by contributors Halina Duraj, Maceo Montoya, Dylan Landis, and Janet Fitch.

The spring issue features 10 original short stories or novel excerpts and one autobiographical essay, with work drawn largely from West Coast writers. The cover features art by Andrea Bowers, whose first museum retrospective was recently shown at the Hammer Museum.

"It's full of irony because, perhaps, we are in such a disingenuous and contradictory moment," Tonkovich said of the issue's themes.

The Santa Monica Review is the only nationally distributed literary magazine published by a U.S. community college and is now in its 38th year. Recent work from the journal has appeared in the Pushcart Prize, Best American Short Stories, and PEN/O. Henry anthologies.

Tickets are a suggested $10 donation, available at smc.edu/tickets. Free parking is available on premises. Seating is first-arrival.

The SMR will also host a booth April 18–19 at the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books at USC, Booth #072, offering complimentary copies. The publication is available at smc.edu/sm_review and at the SMC Campus Store, Beyond Baroque, and Small World Books in Venice.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy Image

X: A launch party with author readings will celebrate the release of the spring 2026 issue of Santa Monica Review on April 12 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center.

Federal judge: Continued Border Patrol sweeps in California violated court order

A federal judge ruled that Border Patrol agents continued making illegal stops and arrests after she ordered them to quit.

In a tersely worded decision unsealed Thursday morning, the judge wrote that agents had "again detained people without reasonable suspicion," relying on broad assumptions about day laborers instead of specific evidence of immigration violations.

The ruling by Judge Jennifer Thurston of the Eastern District of California grants a United Farm Workers motion to enforce a preliminary injunction the judge issued last year. That motion barred Border Patrol agents from detaining people in California's Central Valley without documenting the specific facts and reasoning for the stops. According to one legal expert, the ruling gives the Trump administration an opportunity to comply before consequences could escalate.

Thurston highlighted that point during a hearing last year, telling the federal government: "You just can't walk up to people with Brown skin and say, 'Give me your papers."

Thurston's original order also prohibited agents from carrying out warrantless arrests without first assessing whether a person is a flight risk.

A RAID ON A HOME DEPOT IN SACRAMENTO

At the center of the case is a July operation in Sacramento where agents swarmed the parking lot of a Home Depot, detaining a group of day laborers. They arrested 11 noncitizens and one U.S. citizen, according to court records.

After the Sacramento raid, Gregory Bovino, then a Border Patrol sector chief, stood in front of the state Capitol building in Sacramento and told Fox News that "Sacramento is not a sanctuary city. The state of California is not a sanctuary state. There is no sanctuary anywhere."

Thurston, who is based in Fresno, said the Sacramento sweep violated her order from last year, which stemmed from similar raids in Kern County.

"Agents detained these people, demanded to see their 'papers' and questioned them about their immigration status all without any legal basis for doing so," Thurston wrote.

Border Patrol did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A SWEEP BASED ON SURVEILLANCE?

Attorneys for the federal government argued in court documents that the Home Depot parking lot sweep was based on surveillance, intelligence and what agents described as "common knowledge" that workers congregate in Home Depot parking lots. The government argued that federal agents used surveillance video overlooking Home Depot and the surrounding areas, suggesting the use of a drone.

Thursday's decision raises questions about how Border Patrol is documenting its operations. Agents submitted nearly identical reports for multiple arrests, while their own names were redacted from the government paperwork. Some of their records had inaccuracies or could not be matched to specific individuals. In some cases, it was unclear who authored their reports.

In one case, an agent wrote he arrested someone after "a short foot pursuit."

The judge found the walking distance from the Home Depot to the location of the arrest was a twelve-minute walk and that the documentation of the arrest was "inaccurate and underinclusive."

Thurston also found that Border Patrol's records failed to meet requirements in her prior injunction to document specific facts and reasoning for each stop and arrest.

DISPUTE OVER 'KAVANAUGH STOPS'

The types of stops that do not rely on reasonable suspicion, which became known as "Kavanaugh stops" last year after an opinion by Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, faced a separate legal challenge in another case that reached the nation's highest court. The Supreme Court ruled in September that it could pause a temporary restraining order issued by a lower court in L.A. against similar detentive stops without cause. But U.S. District Judge Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong wrote that the Supreme Court decision did not bless those kinds of stops, writing, "The Supreme Court has not issued any decisions saying that what the Government did in Los Angeles—and appears to continue doing—was lawful."

Judge Thurston, appointed by Biden in late 2021, did not grant UFW's request to compel Border Patrol agents to receive additional training to comply with the preliminary injunction, though she said she expected agents in the field to immediately comply with the court's order.

The ruling was sealed for 14 days so "personally identifiable information" and "sensitive law enforcement" information, such as Border Patrol agents' names, could be redacted.

"The ruling upholds what we've been saying all along: you can't just stop people for being brown and working class." said Elizabeth Strater, vice president of the United Farm Workers.

'JUDICIAL CONSTRAINT'

Kevin Johnson, a UC Davis School of Law professor whose work focuses on immigration and civil rights, said the judge is exercising judicial constraint by giving the Trump administration an opportunity to comply with her prior order. The consequences could escalate, though.

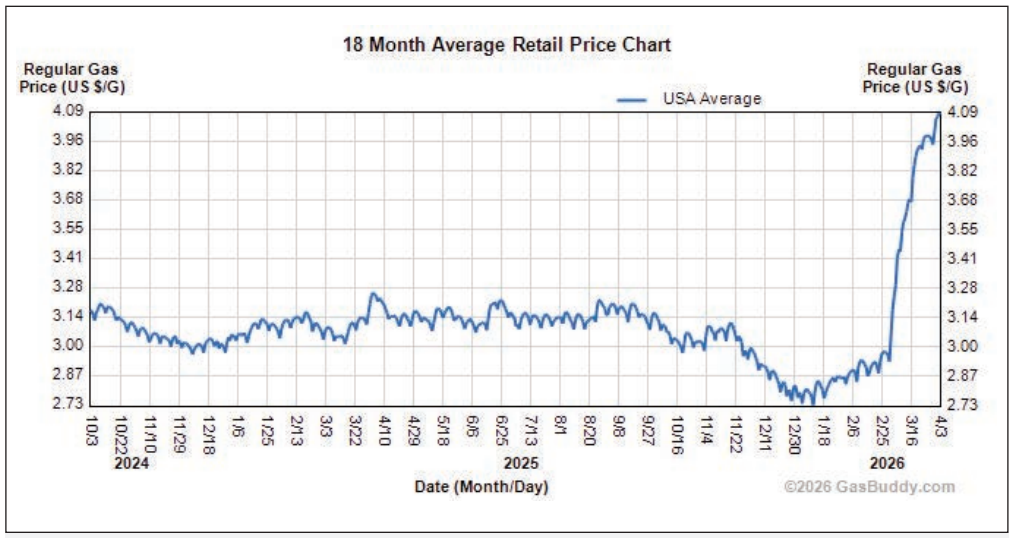
"It's part of a process, and the punishments could increase later on," said Johnson. "Now, she's just saying comply with the order, but later she could impose fines and penalties."

Johnson said the penalties could even increase up to criminal contempt if Border Patrol and the federal government continue to ignore Thurston's order. He mentioned a 2017 case in which former Maricopa County (Arizona) sheriff Joe Arpaio was convicted of criminal contempt for continuing to violate a 2011 federal court order that prohibited him from detaining Latinos solely because of their suspected immigration status.

Trump later pardoned him.

Wendy Fry, Sergio Olmos

Gas prices are high. But do the numbers support suspending state gas taxes?



GasBuddy

PRICES: Gas prices have skyrocketed in recent weeks.

With the average price of a gallon of gas topping $4 nationally, some federal and state officials have talked of temporarily reducing motor fuel taxes to provide relief to motorists.

So far, Georgia and Utah are the only states to suspend all or part of their gas taxes as the war in Iran has pushed fuel prices higher. Others are considering it. But there are a variety of reasons that policymakers may not relax gas taxes, including concerns about government finances, doubts about the action's effectiveness and uncertainty about how long the war will last.

Here's a look, by the numbers, at the debate:

2 STATES

The two states to suspend gas taxes this year took significantly different approaches. Georgia's 60-day suspension of its 33-cent-a-gallon gas tax took effect once Republican Gov Brian Kemp signed it into law on March 20, making it the first state to act since the war started. Three days later, Republican Utah Gov. Spencer Cox signed a law temporarily trimming 6 cents off the state's 38-cent-a-gallon fuel tax. But the six-month reduction won't begin until July 1.

38 CENTS

Retail gas stations have charged consumers an average of 38 cents per gallon above wholesale prices over the past five years, according to Jeff Lenard, a spokesperson for the National Association of Convenience Stores. Their profits after expenses often are less than half that, he said. Meanwhile, the daily price for a barrel of oil has swung dramatically during the war with Iran — sometimes by the equivalent of around 40 cents a gallon, Lenard said.

Why do those numbers matter? They highlight the complexity of setting gas prices. When a gas tax is suspended, motorists may not see an equivalent reduction in retail prices. That's made Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis hesitant to repeat a gas tax suspension he approved when prices last spiked in 2022.

"Our ability to influence the fuel prices are really marginal at best," DeSantis said in March, adding: "I don't think the consumer really felt relief."

61 CENTS

California charges a nationally high gas tax of 61 cents per gallon, with additional fees on top of that. The tax contributes to California's highest-in-the-nation gas prices, which averaged $5.89 a gallon on Wednesday, according to AAA. Several Democratic and Republican gubernatorial candidates have called for suspending the gas tax. But the proposal hasn't gained traction in the Democratic-led Legislature, where some are concerned about how to make up for the lost revenue.

$100 MILLION

Republicans in Maryland pushed for a 30-day gas-tax suspension. But their attempts were rejected by the Democratic-led General Assembly. A spokesperson for Democratic Gov. Wes Moore said a one-month suspension could have blown a $100 million hole in the state's transportation budget even as officials already were cutting spending and shifting money to make up for a projected shortfall in the state's overall budget.

A better approach would be to end the war, said Moore spokesperson Ammar Moussa, adding: "The best way to bring prices down is to address the source of the pain."

Since the war began on Feb. 28, Trump has repeatedly has said it could be over soon while also threatening to widen the conflict.

$330 MILLION

Whether states have the money to make up for lost fuel taxes is a pivotal question. Georgia is dipping into its surplus. In Connecticut, Democratic state Senate leaders have suggested that Gov. Ned Lamont could tap into the roughly $330 million remaining in an emergency fund meant to respond to federal government actions to help offset a proposed one-month suspension of the state's 25-cent-a-gallon gas tax.

"The fund was created precisely for situations like this: when federal actions create hardship for Connecticut families," Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney and Majority Leader Bob Duff said in a statement.

A spokesman for the Democratic governor

SEE **GAS** PAGE 8

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

Transportation, will be absorbed into Public Works Engineering, consolidating the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of public rights-of-way under a single department.

The city's 311 customer service operation will also transfer from the City Manager's Office to Public Works. Chi said roughly 70% of all 311 service requests are already Public Works-related, making the shift a straightforward efficiency gain.

Another significant element of the organizational update is the planned relaunch of the Santa Monica Institute, a citywide training program that was effectively shut down when the city cut more than 300 positions during the COVID-19 pandemic. The HR Director Dana Brown told the council that the absence of consistent training had contributed to increased complaints, litigation exposure, and a loss of institutional knowledge across the organization.

Two new HR positions were approved to support the relaunch, along with funding for a learning management system. Brown said staff members who still list their Santa Monica Institute credentials on job applications — sometimes years after completing the training — illustrate both its reputation and its absence. "These things are perishable," she said. "It's really important that we're able to train up other people."

Perhaps no element of Tuesday's package generated more public comment than a proposed overhaul of the city's remote work program. Under the new policy, which will be negotiated with bargaining units before taking effect later this year, remote-eligible employees would work in the office Tuesday through Thursday, with Mondays and Fridays as remote days. Employees who cannot work remotely — roughly 70% of the city's workforce — would receive eight hours of non-cashable leave per month as an equity benefit. Employees who find the new structure incompatible with their circumstances would have access to an opt-out program providing six months of paid administrative leave following a voluntary resignation.

Multiple city employees wrote to the council in opposition before the meeting, citing commute burdens, caregiving responsibilities, and concerns about the policy's effect on recruitment and retention. Critics said the new structure risks creating unintended consequences, including decreased morale, perceptions of inequity, and increased turnover among experienced staff. Others said long commutes on top of 10 hour days can be a significant burden on families.

AFSCME Council 36 and the city's Management Team Associates jointly submitted a letter urging the council to pause the compensation-related changes pending completion of a citywide classification and compensation study, arguing that providing new benefits to some bargaining units while others received nothing "creates a perception of inequity across the organization."

Councilmember Ellis Raskin said he supported a return to in-person work in principle but called for flexibility, particularly for employees with caregiving needs. Councilmember Barry Snell asked management to be "very considerate" of staff who had made life decisions under the previous remote work arrangement.

Chi acknowledged the tensions but said the existing inconsistency — with some departments fully in-person and others offering largely unchecked flexibility — was itself a problem. He said the goal was to create a single, consistent standard across the organization, adding that the policy would not take effect until after bargaining unit negotiations are complete, likely in late 2026.

The council also approved a series of personnel and labor agreement adjustments designed to close equity gaps that had opened between bargaining units. Sworn police officers represented by the Police Officers Association will receive fully paid medical insurance, making them the last group in the city to gain that benefit. Firefighters with Local 1109, who previously traded a 2% wage adjustment to secure the same benefit, will have that concession addressed. Confidential unrepresented employees will receive a 3% premium, and several department head salaries — including the library director, communications director, and city clerk — will be raised to match the standard classification range.

The council also authorized a contract with Segal Company to conduct an enterprise-wide classification and compensation study, an action that had been a point of contention in recent labor negotiations.

Chi said the overall thrust of the organizational changes reflects a bet on the people already working for the city. "The talent is still there," he said. "What we need to do is really think about building a unique culture that's focused on people."

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AI

FROM PAGE 1

Monica Preparatory, traveled to Castel Gandolfo, Italy, to help design and test a location-based tour app and improved ticketing system for Borgo Laudato Si', the Vatican's living laboratory for integral ecology housed on the roughly 135-acre papal estate about 20 miles southeast of Rome. They were accompanied by engineering teacher and STEM Academy Dean Roland Labana and Dean of Spirituality and Faith Formation Suzette Sornborger.

> We designed the app to deliver the exact same high-quality experience whether visitors are connected or completely offline
> - Roland Labana

The timing carries its own symbolism. The trip coincides with Holy Week, and with Pope Leo XIV's customary Tuesday visits to the grounds.

For Rogers, the experience delivered something no classroom project could fully replicate.

"One of my goals was to get insight into what onsite testing is like in a professional software development setting," she said. "I definitely achieved this goal through our many iterations of testing, reviewing, and making improvements to the app."

The tour app, designed with offline functionality in mind, uses location-based triggers to deliver information, images, audio, and an AI-powered chat feature as visitors walk through the estate's gardens, buildings, and grounds. Offline capability was a non-negotiable design requirement, Labana said, because internet connectivity across the historic property is inconsistent.

"We designed the app to deliver the exact same high-quality experience whether visitors are connected or completely offline," Labana said. "No one should miss out on this special tour just because of connectivity issues."

The project traces back to an October 2025 pilgrimage to Rome with a delegation from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. During the trip, Labana struck up a conversation with Father Manuel Dorantes — known as Father Manny — the administrative and management director of the Laudato Si' Center for Higher Education and the general manager of Borgo Laudato Si'. The two men discovered a shared connection: both had attended the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. From that conversation, a professional collaboration was born.

Borgo Laudato Si' itself is a Vatican initiative inspired by Pope Francis's 2015 encyclical Laudato Si', which called for care of the environment and human dignity. The site, officially inaugurated by Pope Leo XIV on Sept. 5, 2025, features productive farmland, orchards, and vineyards, producing olive oil, honey, and dairy, while offering hands-on activities in organic gardening and demonstrating zero-waste and ecological sustainability practices. It is designed as an inclusive space welcoming visitors, students, and marginalized communities including migrants and refugees.

For Sornborger, accompanying the students deepened the meaning of both the place and the project.

"This journey was never merely a trip," she said. "It was, in the truest sense, belief expressed with the body, spirit, and the mind — the integration of an app to help engage people to see God's beauty."

The students' selection for the trip was based on their performance in SMPREP's AI and Machine Learning course, where they had already built projects including a prayer app shared with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, a facial recognition attendance system, and autonomous model vehicles. Labana said both students distinguished themselves not just through technical ability, but through initiative.

"They don't just complete assignments — they go further, ask thoughtful questions, and show real passion for applying technology to meaningful problems," he said.

For Figueroa, the project reframed how he thinks about a future in tech.

"In the world today, technology can be used for anything," he said. "No matter what we do, our ideals can be integrated."

Rogers echoed that message, offering it as encouragement to younger students.

"If you want to have a professional career in technology, but you still want to be able to service others in a faithful manner, it's all possible," she said. "This project should not only inform students about the capabilities in combination with all three of these fields, but also encourage them to try new things, even if they are young."

The team's goals for the week included presenting prototypes to Borgo leadership, conducting on-site testing with staff and visitors, and securing approval for a broader rollout of the finished app. Labana said a successful outcome would mean leaving Italy with usable data, clear next steps — and two students with a clearer sense of where their futures might lead.

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LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1

guided the event. "It connects directly to their families, their communities, and their lived experiences."

The pivot was driven by more than a dozen students representing several campus organizations. ASB President Fidel De La Torre, Legado Latino President Milly Garcia, Ritmo Latino President Daniel Garcia, MEChA President Jonathan Alvarado, and Orgullo Oaxaqueño President Elena Policarpo were among those who helped lead the effort. Also involved were student leaders Mira Edwards, Eduardo Hernandez, Genesis Mateo, Tanya Cortes, Danna Garcia of Cajitas con Amor, and student contributors Freida Walzer Martinez, Katherine Martinez, Layla Wiley, Evelyn Santiago, and Melissa Martinez.

Together, they designed promotional materials, organized logistics, developed questions for a guest speaker, and shaped how the history of La Causa would be presented to their peers.

The program opened with cultural performances by Ritmo Latino and Orgullo Oaxaqueño, which set a tone of pride and celebration before the event turned to its more educational focus. Hector Pacheco, a respected activist in the Latino community, then addressed students, bringing the history of La Causa to life by connecting past struggles to present realities.

A student-led question-and-answer session with Pacheco followed, giving attendees a direct voice in the conversation. Students described the event afterward as empowering and said they left feeling more connected to their cultural identity.

Mireles-Toumayan and Ms. Stefani Tovar, the event's faculty advisors, guided students through a preparation process that emphasized cultural awareness and the importance of personal identity. Students were encouraged not only to learn the history but to reflect on how it shapes their own lives.

"Our history is not just something we learn; it is something we carry with pride in our culture, live and embody in our identity, and pass forward through our voices, our students, and our communities," Mireles-Toumayan said. "It shapes who we are, inspires who we are becoming, and reminds us that we continue the work of those who came before us."

While the legacy of Cesar Chavez informed the event's themes of leadership and advocacy, organizers were deliberate in framing the day around the broader movement rather than any one figure — a choice that reflected what students described as a commitment to honoring many voices rather than one.

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GRENADE

FROM PAGE 2

ATF to obtain an "independent assessment of the incident and identify ways to strengthen our procedures."

The LASD has also updated its training manual and guidelines for its arson and explosives team response and introduced new equipment, Nishida said.

According to the state's investigation, the sheriff's department failed to correct unsafe working conditions and practices related to handling explosives, and did not provide effective training. It did not ensure that employees used proper protective equipment when handling explosives, properly document training, or identify and evaluate the hazards of transporting and storing explosive materials.

Explosives materials were also left unattended and not stored properly or placed in "suitable containers" when transported manually, state Division of Occupational Safety and Health spokesperson Denisse Gómez said.

"This tragedy underscores the responsibility employers have to anticipate hazards and take meaningful steps to protect workers, especially in high-risk operations involving explosive materials," Gómez said.

The Occupational Safety and Health Division also sued the LASD in January for not complying with the investigation and providing subpoenaed documents.

When the state first requested training records, dispatch logs and incident reports related to the grenades, and safety inspection records, the LASD responded with "only a limited number of documents," one of which was almost entirely redacted, according to the lawsuit.

The state then issued a subpoena for additional documents, but the LASD "produced a limited set of documents responsive to only two of the nineteen categories requested in the subpoena," the lawsuit said.

In a response, the sheriff's department said in a court document that the state waited months to request documents, giving them little time to fulfill the request. It also said the bomb squad used FBI training materials that could not be disclosed without "jeopardizing public safety and national security" and that they would need to be requested from the FBI directly, according to court documents.

Nishida said that the LASD is working with county attorneys to ensure that "all information provided complies with legal requirements and does not compromise the integrity of the ongoing investigation."

By JAIMIE DING Associated Press

GAS

FROM PAGE 7

said Lamont is willing to work with lawmakers on "a smart and strategic pause to the state's gas tax."

$800 MILLION

Gas taxes generally pay for building, expanding and repairing roads and bridges. Unless funds are shifted from elsewhere, suspending a gas tax means less money for transportation projects, including some that may already have been budgeted.

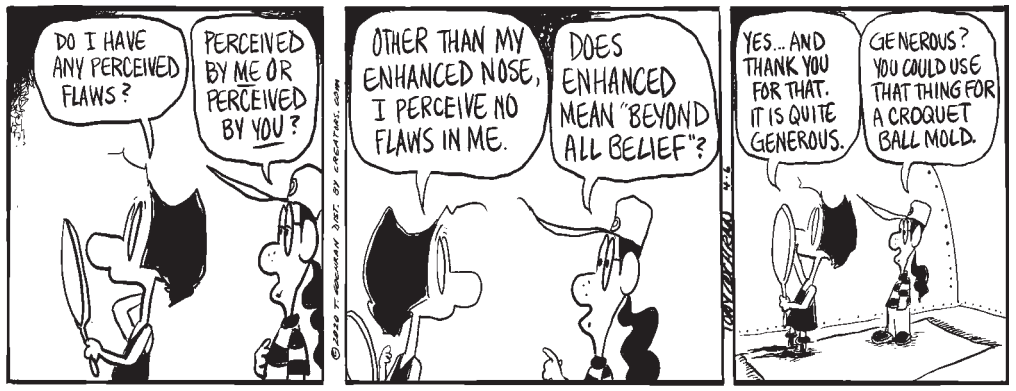
In South Carolina, the state gas tax provides about $800 million yearly, helping to fund nearly $7 billion of projects ranging from safety improvements on two-lane roads to a massive overhaul of interstate interchanges. Republican Gov. Henry McMaster worries that major projects would take longer and cost more if tax revenue were cut. He dismissed the suspension of gas taxes as a "sort of knee-jerk reaction."

"We'd like them all to be lower and lower," McMaster said, "but that's one we should not take any money out of."

By DAVID A. LIEB Associated Press. Associated Press writers Jeffrey Collins, Susan Haigh and Brian Witte contributed to this report.

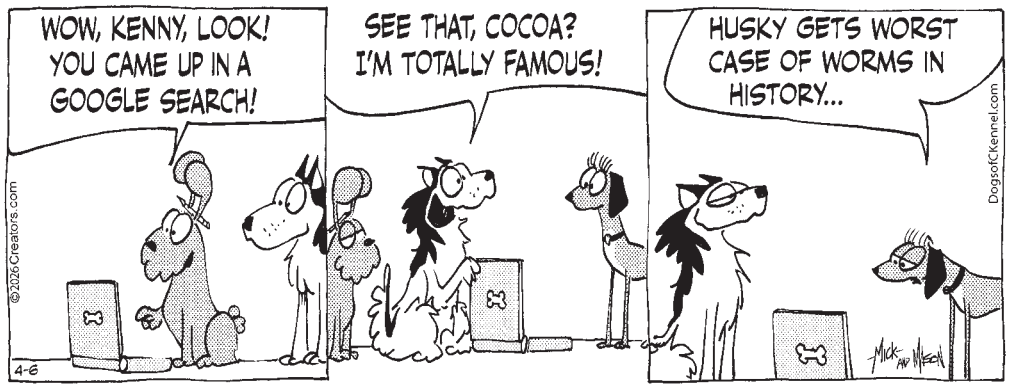
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



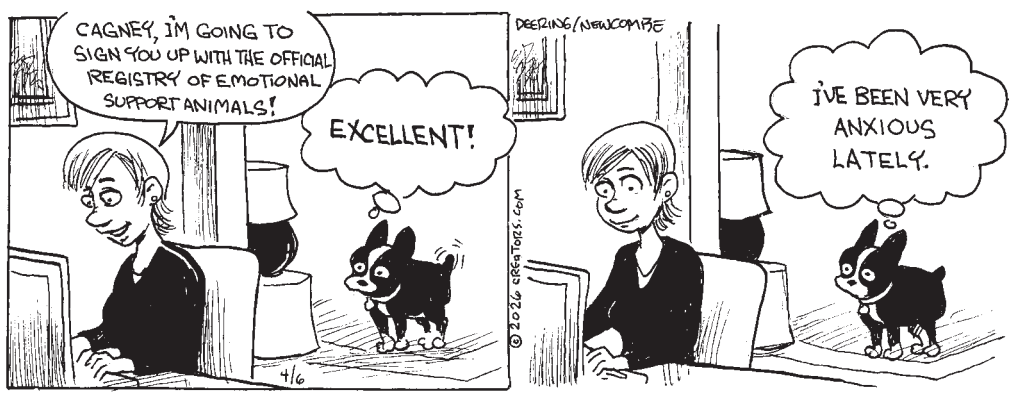
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



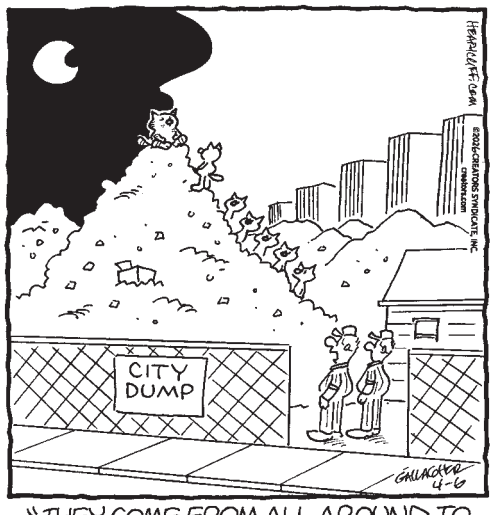
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY COME FROM ALL AROUND TO CONSULT THE GURU."

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.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6902

Looking back

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

Adventures	Funny	Matinee	Rafferty
Anniversaries	Games	Melba	School
Barton	Gardens	Moore	Sedgman
BBQs	Gran	MS-DOS	Ships
Benaud	Hoad	Music	Summer
Bond	Holt	Newcombe	Television
Camps	Hume	O'Keefe	Tree house
Cash	Kerr	O'Neill	Uncle
Face	Kingsford	Page	Zacs
Films	Smith	Pets	
Flynn	Lang	Radio	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 6)

It's your Starlit Year. You've the uncanny ability to cast special light on the events of your life. The way you see things impacts your destiny. The soft light of your positive thoughts makes for tender relationships. You easily imagine a warm glow or a glamorous sparkle, and events follow suit. More highlights: You'll hit a jackpot. Education and social refinement lead to opportunity. The family story develops in proud ways. Aquarius and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 1, 18, 4 and 22.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're attracted to what's interesting, and what's interesting is attracted to you. So there's no work to be done. Magnets don't have to work to come together. Their nature does all the pulling.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're coming into your own. People are listening more closely, asking your opinion and letting you call more of the shots that matter. Money may be involved, though money itself isn't power. How it's used is what counts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't be too quick to get involved today. The issues are far more complex than they look. If you get in too deep today, it may be difficult to back out gracefully. Instead of jumping in, just dip in a toe.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your hard work doesn't seem to be getting you there fast enough. Try narrowing your focus. This will help you see the result clearly, at least in one area, which will inspire and motivate you to continue the mission.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've come to a fork in the road. Gather as much information as you can. If possible, call someone who's been here before. Once you pick a direction, its reversal, though not impossible, will be awkward and time-consuming.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you think about the people you enjoy being around, you rank pretty high on the list - as it should be. Your kind of fun is very specific and satisfying to you. Today, it involves thinking deeply or working hard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's OK not to understand everything right away. Let experience marinate. It's better when the information assimilates in its own time and gels when it has relevance to your current life. It all clicks when you're ready to do something about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It seems you can't proceed before certain conditions are met, but this is a lie that grows from the fear of getting started. Truly, you can start from exactly where you are. Action will call the missing pieces into place.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What worked beautifully a few weeks ago isn't delivering the same results now. Has the situation really changed that much? In a word: yes. Conditions have shifted. Update your approach while the adjustment is still simple.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you haven't decided your financial plan, someone else will decide for you. You're being constantly marketed to. It's a time to get specific about what you actually value and what will make your life feel rich.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Every relationship has a story. Each story is a point of view. Perhaps the way you're seeing a relationship isn't helping you feel powerful within it. The truth can be seen in many ways - painted in light brushstrokes or heavy ones.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A kindness you gave long ago boomerangs back in a slightly different form - a reminder of all you do, much of it unconsciously, just being yourself in the world. Every move matters at least a little, and some quite a lot.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

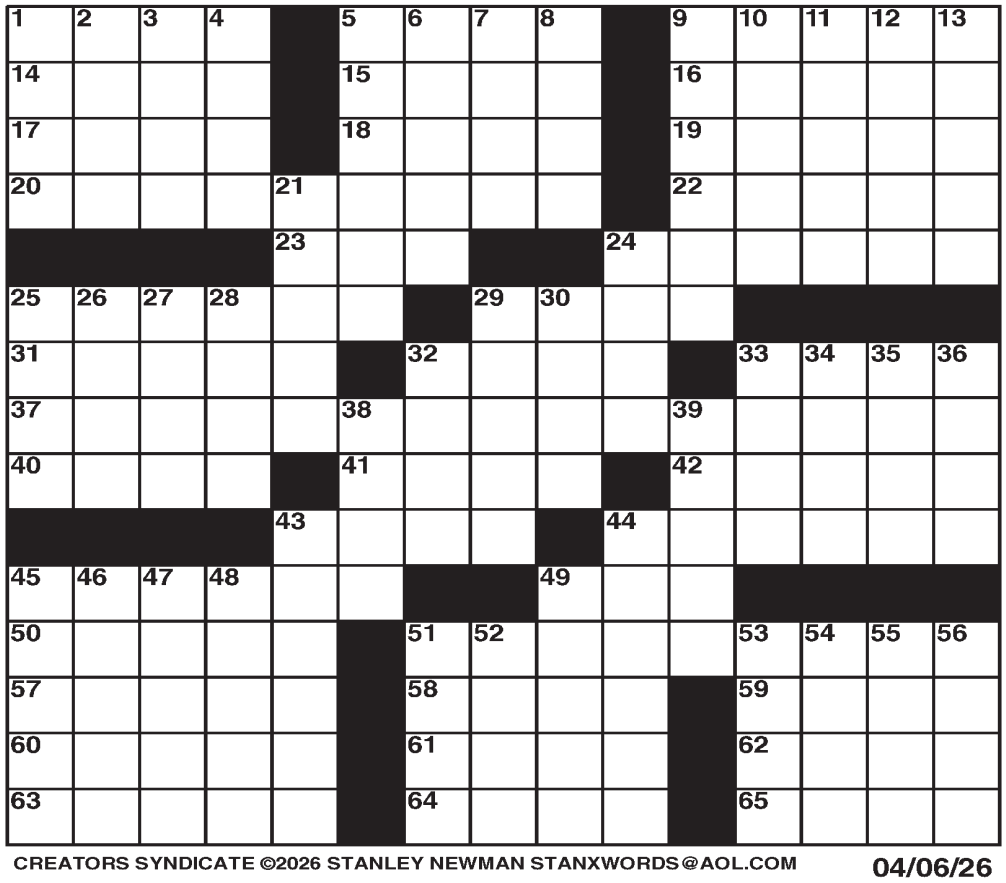
HELMET WEARERS by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Long-running two-family quarrel
5 Identical
9 Hockey player's shoe
14 Narrow street
15 Region
16 Casual short-sleeve shirts
17 Lake near Niagara Falls
18 Large coffeemakers
19 Opera solos
20 Any person who walked on the moon
22 Stop doing
23 Install, as a carpet
24 Eats grandly
25 Fast-moving river sections
29 The one here
31 Wonderland visitor
32 Staircase bar
33 VIP's vehicle, for short
37 Biker with a gas tank
40 Actor Penn or Connery
41 Frozen rain
42 Overact on a stage
43 __ and rave (throw a tantrum)
44 Aesop's stories
45 Confidential
49 Hairstyling goo
50 Set of moral principles
51 Underground worker digging out black rocks
57 Too trusting
58 Not more than
59 Scrabble piece
60 Had a fine evening meal
61 "__ there, done that"
62 Otherwise
63 List of candidates
64 Artist Warhol
65 Breakfast or brunch

DOWN

1 Dog-biting bug
2 All __ (listening carefully)
3 __ of measure (quart or mile)
4 Antlered animal
5 Spa's steam rooms
6 Impressive grouping
7 Restaurant list
8 Sunrise direction
9 Parking lot spots
10 Seoul, South __
11 Criminal's false name
12 Bread that's browned
13 Three letters in "glasses"
21 Not as recent
24 Fingernail smoother
25 Lambs' fathers
26 __ vera (soother in lotions)
27 Bread with a pocket
28 Computer image that's clicked
29 Implied but unsaid
30 What Jack and Jill went up
32 TV host Seacrest
33 Arm or leg
34 Revered celebrity
35 Parcel (out)
36 Metal-filled rocks
38 Casual conversation
39 King's domain
43 Ebb, as the tide
44 Any serious crime
45 Mails off
46 Internet commerce
47 Fine dinnerware
48 Girder fastener
49 Enclosed, as a community
51 Havana's country
52 __ FOR BUSINESS (store sign)
53 Line on a list
54 Egypt's main river
55 *Frozen* snow queen
56 Fishing pole spool



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04/06/26

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



MONDAY | APRIL 6

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ishihara Park 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. Communal Garden Program Work Days @ Ishihara Park Learning Garden - Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Free. Come get your hands dirty in the Communal Garden Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills. Seasoned as well as new gardeners of all ages are welcome. Free drop in activity, no reservation needed. Visit the Ishihara Park Learning Garden site for More Information. Subject to cancellation due to weather. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/communal-gardening-ishihara-park/18461167/2026-04-06T09

PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 814 Broadway Santa Monica. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/pizza-party-at-bodega-wine-bar/11526040/2026-04-06T18

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR AT MARELLE - NIGHT CAP MENU
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica 1740 Ocean Ave Santa Monica. Marelle will be launching a late-night happy hour menu called 'Night Cap' starting Monday, April 6th. Guests can order from this menu exclusively at Marelle, bar and bar lounge only. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/late-night-happy-hour-at-marelle-night-cap-menu/18409321/2026-04-06T21

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

TUESDAY | APRIL 7

AWARENESS & ACTION RESOURCE FAIR
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Organized by Basic Needs, Health Center, and Rising Connect with meaningful campus and community resources in honor of Second Chance & Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and Public Health Week. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/awareness-action-resource-fair/18437765/2026-04-07T10

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

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS - SKILLS, NETWORKS, AND MINDSETS FOR WHAT'S NEXT
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (SCI 140) Life & Physical Science Complex, 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Scientific Director, Early Career Talent and Academic Engagement B.S. Biochemistry and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology René is a proud Trojan, having earned his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from USC in 1993. After completing his postdoctoral training at Cedars-Sinai, he embarked on a more than 25-year career in the Los Angeles biotech ecosystem, with roles at Agensys, Xencor, Osmetech, and Amgen. Across these organizations, his work has focused on advancing antibody-based therapeutics and enabling technology innovations that help turn scientific insight into medicines. Over the past eight years at Amgen, René has held leadership roles in Research, including leading the Expression and Cell Engineering group within Protein Engineering. Today, his focus is firmly on the future—developing early-career scientific talent and connecting Amgen with academic innovation through outreach efforts, post-baccalaureate programs, and graduate fellowships. René believes that the future of biotechnology lies not only in discovery, but in the people who make discovery possible. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/building-the-next-generation-of-scientists-skills-networks-and-mindsets-for-what-s-next/18437767/2026-04-07T11

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM
11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Virginia Avenue Park in Partnership with Providence St. John's Community Health Program to resume Social Service Assistance. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/social-service-assistance-provided-by-providence-st-john-s-community-health-program/14046466/2026-04-07T11

WALK-IN TUTORING WITH LAURIE
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Walk-In Tutoring With Laurie 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. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/walk-in-tutoring-with-laurie/17128550/2026-04-07T14

BOOMBOX MUSICAL BINGO (2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS)
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The Venice West 1717 Lincoln Blvd, Venice. For decades, you've trusted Geeks Who Drink to do two things: to drink and to know things—not just knowing our trivia, but knowing how to run a game, work a crowd, and show you a good time. A Geeks Who Drink game is one where everyone can have fun and learn something new, and now we're hosting a game we've never done B4. (See what we did there?) We're so excited to be launching Boombox Bingo at venues across the country. Just like regular bingo, players will aim to win prizes by completing specific patterns on their bingo boards. Unlike regular bingo, we've swapped out the boring numbers for epic songs from all genres and eras for you to jam out to and sing along with your friends. It's exactly the kind of laid-back fun that's perfect for groups of any size. "But Geeks," you enquire of us, ever so politely, "I've played music bingo before. How is Boombox Bingo any different?" We're so glad you asked! Boombox Bingo brings to the bingo world exactly what Geeks Who Drink brings to trivia: accessible gameplay, creative theming, hilarious hosts, and impeccable taste. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/boombox-musical-bingo-2nd-4th-tuesdays-/18395605/2026-04-07T18

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-/14857154/2026-04-07T20

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/16004734/2026-04-07T22

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 8

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/16206460/2026-04-01T08

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/18330379/2026-04-01T08

AUTHOR EVENT! MARIE BENEDICT & SUSAN WALTER
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Zibby's Bookshop 1113 Montana Avenue Santa Monica. In person author event with Marie Benedict and Susan Walter at Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403! Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-event-marie-benedict-susan-walter/18369843/2026-04-08T18

JAZZ A GO GO AT LOULOU SANTA MONICA
7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica Pl #300 Santa Monica. JAZZ A GO GO at LouLou Santa Monica. Every Wednesday · From 7 PM till late - Live Jazz that turns into a Vibe.Music you Feel. People you Meet. Amazing Food. Nights that Flow. JAZZ A GO GO (@jazzagogonight) by Loulou Santa Monica, Gilles Signature & Gilles Los Angeles - curated by the creator of @jazzeclecticla. Every Wednesday · From 7 PM till late Watch the LouLou experience: https://bit.ly/loulou-jazz-a-gogo . Book Now: bit.ly/booking-loulou LouLou Santa MonicaJAZZ A GO GOEvery Wednesday From 7 PM till late395 Santa Monica Pl #300, Santa Monica, CA 90401(323) 410-2337info@loulousantamonica.comloulousantamonica.comReserve your table now: bit.ly/booking-loulou. Visit: https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/jazz-a-go-go-at-loulou-santa-monica/18476815/2026-04-08T19

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/16952883/2026-04-01T00


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