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Of the Trump Administration.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 112 TUESDAY 4/29/25 smdp.com

Fireworks show fizzles out as cash-strapped organizers cancel annual event



File photo

LIGHTS: The sky will go dark on July 4 as a lack of funding has shut down the celebration.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The All-American tradition of celebrating the birth of the country by blowing up a small piece of it has come to an end in Santa Monica with the cancellation of the City's only public fireworks display.

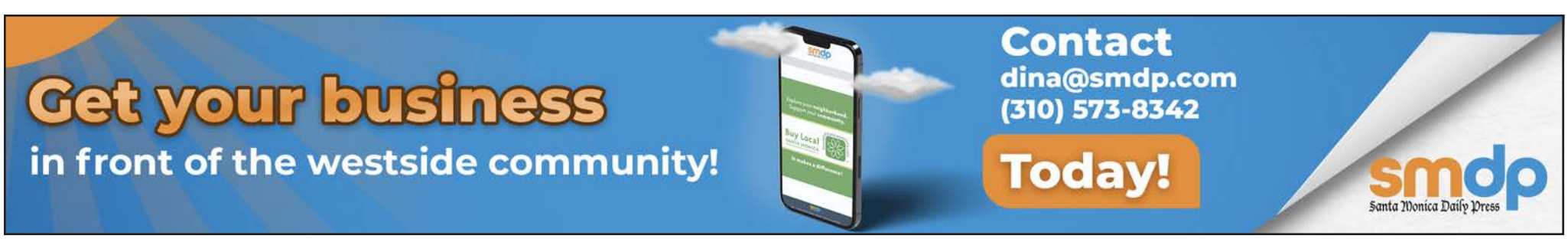
Santa Monica College announced this month that Celebrate America, its patriotic July 4 event, has been canceled due to a lack of funding.

At the SMC Board of Trustee's April meeting, Superintendent Kathryn E. Jeffery said contracts for the event are typically submitted to the Board in April. However, partners that have traditionally helped fund the event have dropped out and as the college cannot use general funds to support a non-educational event, the show will be canceled.

Celebrate America costs the college about $100,000 a year to organize. Up to the Covid pandemic, that cost was split up to 50-50 between sponsors and the college.

Don Girard, Senior Director of Government Relations and Institutional

SEE **FIREWORKS** PAGE 8



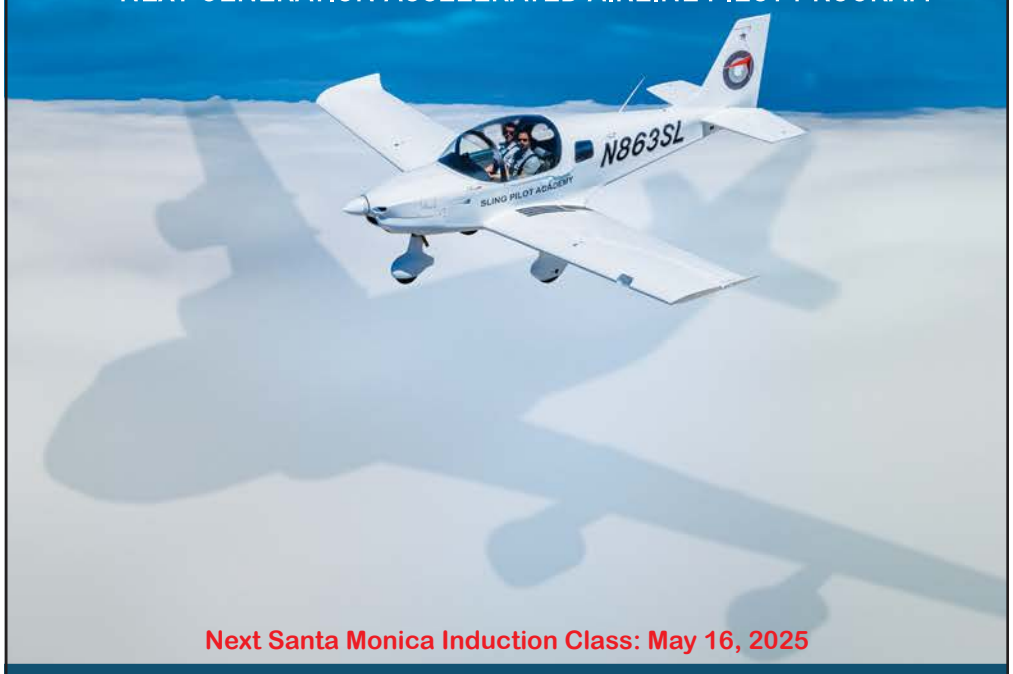
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Downtown Bank of America branch set to relocate as city redevelopment advances



Scott Snowden

BREAK THE BANK: The branch at 1301 4th St is expected to shut before spring 2026.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Bank of America's downtown Santa Monica financial center is preparing to close as the city moves forward with redevelopment plans that will convert the site into affordable housing.

The branch, located at 1301 4th Street, is expected to shut its doors sometime before spring 2026 when its lease on the city-owned parcel expires. While Bank of America had requested a five-year lease extension, the Santa Monica City Council voted in February 2025 to reclaim the property for new housing development as part of the city's 6th Cycle Housing Element commitments.

However, the decision does not mark the end of Bank of America's physical presence in the downtown district. Tamira Rivas, VP Financial Center Manager for the downtown branch told the Daily Press that another site close by had been chosen, but sadly that deal fell through, so as of April 25, the bank is still looking. Rivas also said that all staff would automatically move to the new location.

The move follows broader trends in the banking industry as more customers shift to online and mobile banking platforms. Nationally, Bank of America has been consolidating branches to adapt to changing customer behavior, having closed 41 locations across the country in just the first two months of 2024.

In Santa Monica, however, local redevelopment priorities accelerated the closure decision. City officials indicated that while they valued the bank's lease revenue, creating affordable housing in the city's dense downtown area outweighed financial considerations.

Affected customers will receive formal notice of the closure well ahead of 2026, typically with a 90- to 120-day advance warning based on Bank of America's standard procedures. Accounts held at the 4th Street branch will be temporarily transferred to nearby Bank of America locations, such as the branches at 1430 Wilshire Blvd or 287 26th Street. Customers with safe deposit boxes will receive instructions on retrieving their contents.

Rivas said that Bank of America representatives will continue to offer support throughout the transition, encouraging clients to utilize nearby branches, online banking services, and the bank's mobile app to meet their financial needs. In line with previous branch closures, customer accounts will remain fully accessible, with minimal service disruptions anticipated.

Santa Monica city officials have emphasized that the redevelopment of the 4th and 5th Street block, which also houses a Chase Bank, is critical for meeting state-mandated housing production targets. Both banks are expected to vacate the properties by mid-2026, paving the way for a major affordable housing project in the heart of downtown.

The closure of the downtown Bank of America branch marks a significant shift for the community, as the once-bustling financial center makes way for new residential development aimed at addressing the region's housing crisis.

Further updates and specific customer instructions are expected as the closure date approaches.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

Sling Pilot Academy launches new era of flight training at Santa Monica Airport



Scott Snowden

TAKE OFF: Key figures in the aviation industry gathered for the opening of the pilot school.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A new chapter in Santa Monica's aviation legacy unfolded on Thursday as Sling Pilot Academy officially opened its newest flight training center at Santa Monica Airport, drawing a strong crowd of students, instructors, aviation leaders, and community supporters.

The academy's expansion marks its fourth location, joining facilities in Torrance, Long Beach, and El Cajon. Its presence at Santa Monica Airport signals not only a strategic investment in the future of aviation, but a reaffirmation of the airport's vital role in Southern California's economy and infrastructure.

"This airport is where air travel for the masses began," said Matt Liknaitzky, co-CEO of Sling Pilot Academy. "We're proud to continue that legacy by uplifting people's lives through aviation and creating career pathways for local residents."

> This airport is where air travel for the masses began
>
> - Matt Liknaitzky, co-CEO of Sling Pilot Academy

However, despite the significance of a new business opening, no members of the Santa Monica City Council or senior City staff were present.

"I think that's unfortunate. I think they're missing out on a great event," said Phil Derner, Western Pacific Regional Director for the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA). "This is about building well-paying careers that are now accessible to a diverse audience. Sling is doing something wonderful here, and it deserves acknowledgment."

Miles Rogers, Senior Vice President at Archer Aviation, was similarly struck by the lack of official presence. "Effectively, there was no real representation from City Hall," Rogers said. "It's disappointing. Sling is offering exactly the kind of innovation Santa Monica needs, cleaner, quieter, more inclusive aviation and they're doing it the right way."

Despite the uncertain future of the airport, with federal agreements set to expire in 2028, optimism was the prevailing mood.

"We recognize there's a group that opposes the airport's continued existence," Liknaitzky said. "But we're here to show the community how aviation uplifts lives, providing local residents with opportunities that are faster, more affordable, and often more lucrative than many traditional college degrees."

At Sling, students typically transition to flight instructors within two to three years, gaining the necessary hours and experience to secure airline jobs. Starting salaries of $100,000 are common and within five years, pilots can see their earnings climb to $300,000 annually.

"Aviation offers one of the few remaining unicorn career paths," Liknaitzky said. "It's transformative for individuals and for the communities they live in."

The grand opening featured remarks from industry partners including SkyWest Airlines, Eco Aviation, Archer Aviation and NBAA, all praising Sling's rigorous safety standards, efficient training methods and emphasis on community compatibility.

Aaron Youngs, Manager of the Pilot Pathway Program at SkyWest, emphasized that Sling's

SEE **SLING** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **59.7**

TUESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

Fun SSW swell continues - up a bit from Mon. Light wind & at least semi clean AM, PM onshores SSW swell (200-185) holds. Widespread chest-shoulder high continues, while standouts see head high to slightly overhead sets. Negative low tide early- most breaks will improve on the tide push through mid morning or so (especially the beachbreaks). Light wind early with light to moderate onshore W wind in the PM for manageable bump. Some of the points clean all day.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD
SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

Holding to slow easing SSW swell. Light wind in the AM, PM onshores for manageable bump. Close in size to Mon PM-Tue but gradually losing some size through the day. Widespread waist-shoulder high surf continues, while standouts see head high to slightly larger sets. Negative low tide early- most breaks will improve on the tide push through mid to late morning or so. Light wind early with light to moderate onshore W wind in the PM for manageable bump.

Weather

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 55. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 65.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/04/29	Tue	05:24 AM	-1.58	L
2025/04/29	Tue	11:51 AM	3.66	H
2025/04/29	Tue	4:31 PM	1.73	L
2025/04/29	Tue	10:52 PM	6.46	H
2025/04/30	Wed	06:19 AM	-1.41	L
2025/04/30	Wed	1:00 PM	3.34	H
2025/04/30	Wed	5:13 PM	2.15	L
2025/04/30	Wed	11:39 PM	6.06	H
2025/05/01	Thu	07:20 AM	-1.06	L
2025/05/01	Thu	2:23 PM	3.17	H
2025/05/01	Thu	6:05 PM	2.55	L
2025/05/02	Fri	12:35 AM	5.51	H

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/26
1 12 14 18 69
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/25
38 40 60 62 70
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 70 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 4/26
8 31 33 35 42
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 22 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/27
6 24 25 35 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/27
EVENING: 6 9 8
Draw Date: 4/27
MIDDAY: 8 9 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/27
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:45.68

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Scott Snowden
scott.snowden@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405
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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to the Text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to Authorize Commercial Cannabis Uses Within Certain Zoning Districts.

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider a Resolution recommending to the City Council that the City Council adopt an Ordinance amending the text of the Municipal Code to authorize commercial cannabis uses within certain zoning districts.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Planning Commission hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: **Tony Kim, Principal Planner**
Re: Cannabis Ordinance

VIA E-MAIL: planningcomment@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Tony Kim by e-mail at tony.kim@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431.

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FDA scrutiny of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine sparks uncertainty about other shots

The Trump administration's effort to impose new requirements on Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine — the nation's only traditional protein-based option for the coronavirus — is sowing uncertainty about updates to other vaccines, too.

Novavax said Monday that the Food and Drug Administration was asking the company to run a new clinical trial of its vaccine after the agency grants full approval. The company said it had responded and that it believed its shot remains "approvable."

But a weekend post on social media by FDA Commissioner Marty Makary suggested the prospect of needing a new trial before the shots' yearly strain update — something unlikely to be possible before fall. That's raised questions about whether other vaccines will be caught in the turmoil.

"I don't think because there's a strain change that this is a new product," said Dr. Jesse Goodman of Georgetown University, a former FDA vaccine chief. If that's the new policy, "you'd always be doing clinical trials and you'd never have a vaccine that was up to date."

The unusual move at FDA come shortly after the agency's longtime vaccine chief was forced out over disagreements with Makary's boss, Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Kennedy won Senate confirmation to his job, in part, by promising not to change the nation's vaccine schedule. Since taking office, he's promised to "investigate" children's shots, canceled meetings of expert vaccine advisers and directed officials to look again for connections between vaccines and autism, a link long-ago debunked.

The Novavax vaccine, which originally showed effectiveness in a nearly 30,000-person clinical trial, is still being sold under emergency use authorization in the U.S. The nation's other two options, mRNA vaccines made by Pfizer and Moderna, have earned full FDA approval for certain age groups.

Because the coronavirus continually mutates, manufacturers follow instructions from FDA to make one change each year to their recipe — which strain to target — just like flu vaccines.

The FDA was on track to grant Novavax full approval by its April 1 target date, according to two people with direct knowledge of the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss confidential agency matters. But Trump appointees directed FDA scientists to pause their decision, according to one of the people. Since that highly unusual move, Novavax and the agency have been discussing additional requirements for approval.

In his weekend tweet, FDA's Makary referred to the Novavax vaccine as "a new product," presumably because it had been updated to match last year's common coronavirus strain.

"New products require new clinical studies," Makary added.

An administration spokesman didn't respond to specific questions about Pfizer and Moderna but suggested all COVID-19 vaccines could face stricter requirements.

> It's now been years since COVID has presented the threat it once did, and the urgency to rush approval of boosters without normal oversight no longer exists
> - Andrew Nixon

"It's now been years since COVID has presented the threat it once did, and the urgency to rush approval of boosters without normal oversight no longer exists," said Andrew Nixon, a Health and Human Services spokesman, in a statement.

The FDA had been treating the annual COVID-19 strain updates exactly as it's done for decades with flu vaccines — not as new products, but existing ones that are merely adjusted to protect against the latest strains, said Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Offit said the companies still must perform tests in small numbers of people that show these updated vaccines produce levels of virus-fighting antibodies known to be protective, and they're closely monitored for safety.

Nixon, the HHS spokesman, suggested the policy might not apply to the flu shot, "which has been tried and tested for more than 80 years."

Under federal law, the FDA is required to follow established procedures when issuing requirements to drugmakers for approval. If the agency skips certain steps or imposes additional requirements for political reasons, experts say, it could be sued by drugmakers — or even patients, such as those who prefer the Novavax vaccine over its competitors because of an allergy or some other reason.

In addition to large clinical trials conducted before all three COVID-19 vaccines were cleared for use, there's data on real-world use, said former Health Secretary Xavier Becerra, who oversaw COVID-19 vaccine policy during the Biden administration.

"At the point where I had left, we had put some 700 million COVID vaccines into the arms of Americans," he said. "That's a pretty good size clinical trial."

By LAURAN NEERGAARD and MATTHEW PERRONE Associated Press. AP writer Amanda Seitz contributed to this story. The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Science and Educational Media Group and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

White House focuses on border crackdown as it marks 100 days for Trump's second term

The White House on Monday opened a weeklong celebration of Donald Trump's first 100 days in office by focusing on his border crackdown, an area of relative strength for the president at a time when there are red flags for him in the latest round of polling.

Yard signs with mugshots of immigrants who have been accused of crimes like rape and murder were posted across the White House lawn, positioned so they would be in the background of television broadcasts outside the West Wing. Tom Homan, Trump's top border adviser, told reporters there has been "unprecedented success" on the border effort and "we're going to keep doing it, full speed ahead."

Immigration is Trump's leading issue in public opinion surveys, and White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said at a morning briefing the administration is in "the beginning stages of carrying out the largest deportation campaign in American history."

About 139,000 people have been removed so far, according to the White House. Deportations have occasionally lagged behind Democratic President Joe Biden's numbers, but Trump officials reject the comparison as not "apples to apples" because so many fewer people are crossing the border now.

Later Monday, Leavitt held a second briefing exclusively for "new media," where Trump-aligned social media influencers asked friendly questions and applauded at the end.

Tuesday will be Trump's 100th day in office, and the Republican president plans to mark the day in Michigan, where he will hold a rally in Macomb County, an automotive hub north of Detroit. After relatively little travel so far in his term, Trump will also deliver a commencement address Thursday at the University of Alabama.

Trump is also doing a number of interviews timed to the 100-day mark, including an Oval Office interview with ABC News that is to air Tuesday night. He also talked with journalists from The Atlantic magazine, a publication he has frequently attacked for its critical reporting.

Trump told The Atlantic he feels more powerful in his second turn in the White House. His administration is stocked with loyalists, and he's become even more confrontational with a judicial system that at times serves as a check on his agenda.

"The first time, I had two things to do — run the country and survive; I had all these crooked guys," he said. "And the second time, I run the country and the world."

Presidents have marked the initial 100 days of their terms since Franklin Delano Roosevelt moved swiftly to counter the Great Depression after taking office in 1933.

Trump wasn't so bullish about the idea during his first term, when he was plagued by setbacks, investigations and turnover in his ranks, at that time calling the 100-day mark " an artificial barrier."

But now he's trying to harness the moment to mark the ambitious agenda he's pursued in his first months. Leavitt said Trump had already signed almost as many executive orders as Biden did during his entire term.

But many Americans believe Trump has mostly been focused on the wrong issues.

Americans are nearly twice as likely to say Trump has been mostly focusing on the wrong priorities as to say he has been focusing on the right ones, according to an AP-NORC survey, and only about half of Republicans say he's mostly had the right focus. Another one-quarter of Republicans say it's been about an even mix of right and wrong priorities, and about 1 in 10 say he's focusing on the wrong things.

And among Trump's own supporters, the share of Republicans who say he has been at least a "good" president has fallen about 10 percentage points since January.

Other polls conducted in recent weeks have found similar levels of dissatisfaction with Trump's first few months, particularly with his economic policies and approach to tariffs.

Trump lashed out at the results on social media as "FAKE POLLS FROM FAKE NEWS ORGANIZATIONS."

As he's pushed to crack down on illegal immigration, Trump has drawn criticism as he has strained the limits of executive power, attacked judges who've ruled against him, sent hundreds of alleged Venezuelan gang members to a mega-prison in El Salvador in defiance of a court order and balked at a Supreme Court order that his administration must facilitate the return Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was mistakenly deported to El Salvador.

His plans to carry out a mass deportation have not yet shaped up, but the White House is ramping up efforts to encourage people who are in the country illegally to "self-deport," with actions that include stiffer fines and incentives to leave, including airfare and stipends.

His administration has pointed to the steep drop in the number of illegal border crossings as an early and significant sign of success.

Trump signed two executive orders later Monday related to immigration, including one directing state and federal officials to publish a list of "sanctuary city" jurisdictions.

By MICHELLE L. PRICE and CHRIS MEGERIAN Associated Press. Associated Press writer Linley Sanders contributed to this report.

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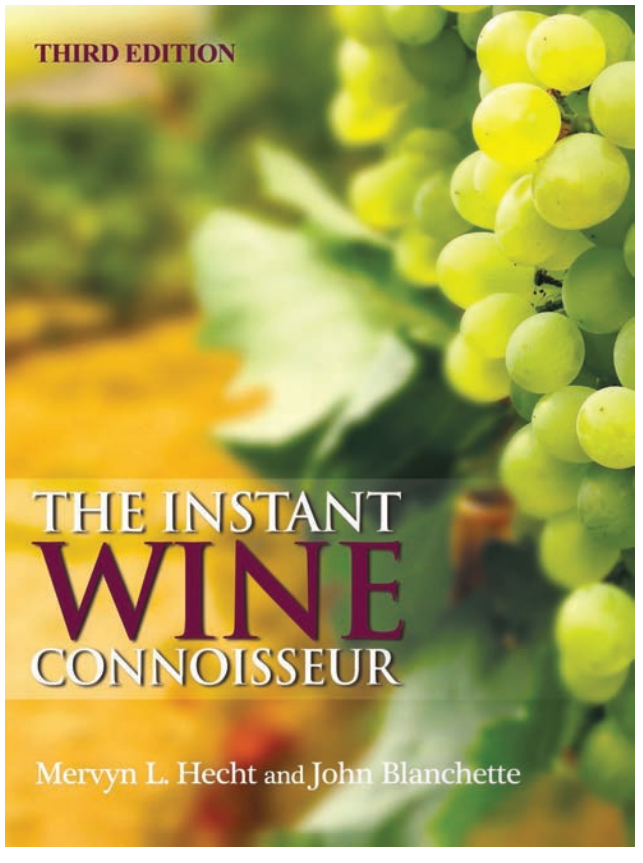
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COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

Charity Poker Tournament to Benefit Chrysalis Set for May 31

Chrysalis will host its "All In for Changing Lives Poker & Party" fundraiser on May 31 at the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club, with proceeds supporting workforce development programs for individuals facing employment barriers.

The event, running from 2 to 8 p.m., will feature a deepstack no-limit hold 'em poker tournament managed by The Poker People, alongside a cocktail party with games, poker-themed activities, and refreshments from sponsors including Mario's Hard Espresso. Alligator Pear Catering will provide appetizers and buffet options.

"This event is more than just a game—it's an opportunity to go 'all in' and truly change lives by supporting the mission of Chrysalis," said Amanda Mooney, Young Professionals Advisory Council Event Chair.

Hosted by Chrysalis' Young Professionals Advisory Council, the event will also include a silent auction with exclusive items and experiences.

Since 1984, Chrysalis has served more than 85,000 individuals through its job-readiness program, supportive services, and transitional employment opportunities at six locations throughout Southern California.

Tickets and sponsorship information are available at www.ChangeLives.org/all-in.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

CASA Volunteers Champion Foster Children's Rights During Child Abuse Prevention Month

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Los Angeles is highlighting the critical role its volunteers play in supporting children in foster care during National Child Abuse Prevention Month this April.

CASA volunteers serve as one-on-one advocates for children who have experienced abuse and neglect, providing a consistent presence during court proceedings and throughout their time in the foster care system.

"Children with CASAs are more likely to find safe, permanent homes, do better in school, and are half as likely to re-enter foster care," said Dr. Chairity Chandler-Cole, CEO at CASA of Los Angeles.

The organization recruits and trains volunteers who meet with children regularly and communicate with teachers, caregivers, doctors, and social workers to ensure the child's needs are met. These advocates often become the one constant figure in a child's life during an uncertain time.

CASA of Los Angeles is seeking additional support from the State to expand its reach. The California legislature is currently considering a 2025-2026 budget request that would enable the organization to recruit and train more volunteers.

Despite being a private nonprofit, CASA provides essential quasi-governmental services at no cost to the county's court and social workers, saving local and state government millions of dollars while improving outcomes for children in the foster care system.

Residents can support CASA's mission by contacting their state representatives or visiting www.casala.org to donate or volunteer.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SACRAMENTO

State Officials, Industry Leaders Rally Behind Film & TV Tax Credit Expansion

A diverse coalition of lawmakers, entertainment industry workers, small business owners, and actor Jason George joined forces Tuesday to support the California Film & TV Jobs Act (AB 1138 and SB 630), legislation aimed at stemming production flight from the state.

Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Hollywood) and State Senator Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica) led the press conference, alongside a bipartisan group of co-authors advocating for changes to make California's film tax credit program more competitive.

"California's film and television industry is at a breaking point," said Zbur. "Our goal is simple: make California's Film and TV Tax Credit program competitive again, bring back lost productions, and keep families working here at home."

The legislation follows Governor Newsom's late 2024 budget proposal to increase the state's annual incentive allocation from $330 million to $750 million beginning July 1, 2025.

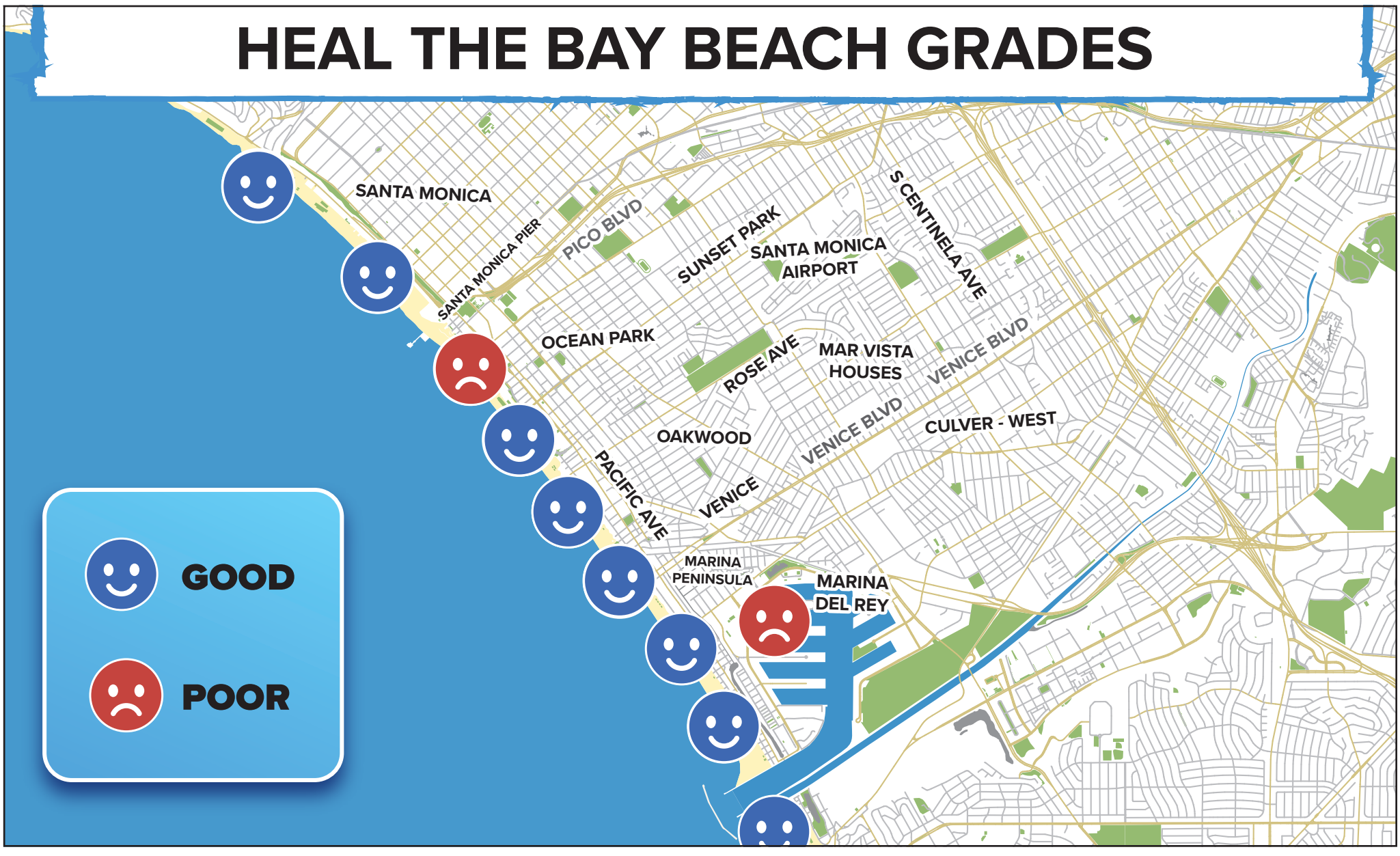
"We know how economically impactful our entertainment industry is, not just for Los Angeles but for the state as a whole," said Senator Ben Allen. Key provisions include raising the base tax credit rate from 20% to 35%, maintaining existing incentives for filming outside Los Angeles, expanding eligibility to include 20-minute television shows and animation, and providing the California Film Commission with greater flexibility to allocate tax credits.

Rebecca Rhine, President of the Entertainment Union Coalition, and representatives from various industry organizations emphasized the legislation's importance for preserving jobs and supporting the state's creative economy.

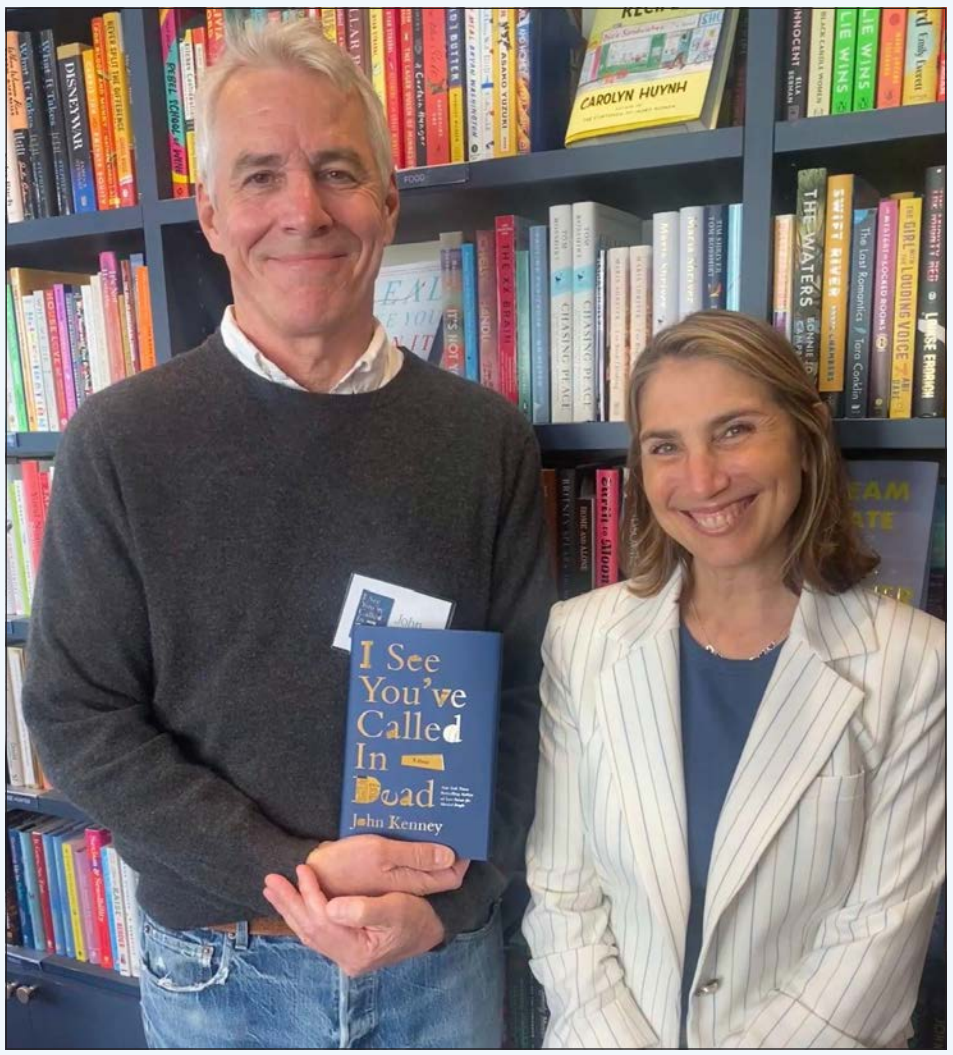
"Last year Sacramento saw an enormous increase in economic impact due to a feature film that received a partial tax credit," said Sacramento Film Commissioner Jennifer West. "These tax credits benefit ALL of California, not just Los Angeles."

AB 1138 is scheduled for review by the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, while SB 630 is under consideration in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Zibby's celebrates Independent Bookstore day





Fran Lyness

BOOK: Best Seller John Kenney and Zibby Owens owner of Zibby's Bookstore on Montana Avenue Celebrating Independent Bookstore Day!

COMMUNITY NEWS

SANTA MONICA

Roosevelt Elementary Students Qualify for Global Finals in First Year of Destination Imagination Challenge

A team of Roosevelt Elementary School students has qualified for the Destination Imagination Global Finals in Kansas City, Missouri, after placing first regionally and third in the California State Tournament.

The six-student team, "The Magical Kings and the Mysterious Wizards," will compete May 22-25 in the Elementary Level Technical Challenge, representing Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in their first year of participation.

"This program challenges students to think outside the box and work as a team to solve complex, creative problems," said Roosevelt Principal Dr. Amy Onyendu. "At Roosevelt, we wanted to give our students a space where they could explore their creativity, collaborate with their peers, and feel empowered to tackle big challenges."

The global STEAM competition required teams to design and build equipment to assemble and destroy a stack of items within a theatrical performance about a character seeking something meaningful. Teams also face an "Instant Challenge," solving unrehearsed tasks on the spot.

Parent volunteer Catherine Schmidt launched and coaches the program, which includes students Aidric Soss, Roman Schmidt, Knute Haglund, Baer Anderson, Axel Schmidt, and Isla Haglund, ranging from first to fifth grade.

"The open-ended nature of the DI challenges presents an opportunity for kids to learn the creative process while shaping solutions that are entirely theirs," Schmidt said. "Only the students are allowed to build and perform their solutions."

Participation aligns with Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton's emphasis on curiosity, belonging, and empowerment, exemplifying the district's GRIT (growth, respect, integrity, tenacity) values.

"Every team member brings something unique to the table, and they see just how valuable their individual strengths are," Onyendu said.

The Roosevelt PTA supported the team throughout their season, and they are now fundraising to attend the Global Finals.

For information about supporting the team or starting a Destination Imagination program at another SMMUSD school, contact Catherine Schmidt at cschmidt@californiacreativity.org.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

STUDENTS: The team will travel to Kansas City to compete.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

Torre Foundation Gala to Support Domestic Violence Programs, Wildfire Recovery

The Joe Torre Safe At Home Foundation will host its annual Los Angeles gala on May 1 at The Maybourne Beverly Hills, with proceeds supporting the organization's school-based violence prevention programs and services for those affected by the recent Los Angeles wildfires.

Founded in 2002 by baseball Hall of Famer Joe Torre and his wife Ali, Safe At Home operates 18 Margaret's Place programs in Los Angeles schools, providing counseling, violence prevention education, and peer leadership training.

"The impact of violence, abuse and trauma on children, families and communities is devastating and disasters such as the Los Angeles wildfires can exacerbate a situation," said Torre. "Children are the most vulnerable to trauma, especially after a disaster, reinforcing how critical it is to provide support systems that help children process and heal."

> The impact of violence, abuse and trauma on children, families and communities is devastating and disasters such as the Los Angeles wildfires can exacerbate a situation
> - Joe Torre

Special guests at the gala will include comedian Ian Bagg, singer-songwriter Connie Lim (MILCK), actors Kim Raver and Susan Saint James, and Matt Scannell of Vertical Horizon. The foundation will honor Board Member Lori Yve Sunkin, LMFT, for her 30 years of work helping people navigate trauma and healing.

Safe At Home recently established a new Margaret's Place program at Palisades Charter High School's temporary location in Santa Monica following the wildfires, with plans to maintain a permanent presence when the school returns to its community.

Since its inception, Safe At Home has served hundreds of thousands of youth, families, and communities through its 30 sites across New York, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, and Tahiti.

For more information, visit www.joetorre.org.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

Public Health Officials Investigating Local Measles Case with Texas Travel Link

Los Angeles County health officials are investigating a confirmed measles case in a resident who recently traveled from Texas but was not infectious during travel.

The Department of Public Health is working to identify others who may have been exposed and verify their vaccination status, collaborating with California and Texas health agencies in the investigation.

"Measles is a serious respiratory disease that spreads easily through the air and on surfaces, particularly among people who are not already protected from it," said Dr. Muntu Davis, Los Angeles County Health Officer. "The best way to protect yourself and your family from infection is with the highly effective measles vaccine."

Unvaccinated individuals exposed to measles may develop symptoms within 7 to 21 days. Those who remain symptom-free after 21 days are no longer at risk.

Health officials urge residents to review their immunization records, particularly before travel, and contact healthcare providers immediately if exposed while pregnant, unvaccinated, or immunocompromised. Those developing symptoms should stay home and call their provider before entering a healthcare facility.

Common measles symptoms include high fever, cough, runny nose, red watery eyes, and a rash that typically appears 3-5 days after other symptoms.

The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is highly effective, with two doses providing 97% protection against measles. Free or low-cost vaccines are available for uninsured residents.

This case follows 884 measles cases reported across the United States this year as of April 24, with most linked to an outbreak in Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. The last measles case in Los Angeles County was reported in March 2025.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

Sheriff's Department Urges Drivers: "Emergency Lights? Pull to the Right"

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has launched a new public safety campaign aimed at educating drivers about proper response to emergency vehicles with activated lights and sirens.

The "Emergency Lights? Pull to the Right" initiative emphasizes California law 21806 CVC, which requires motorists to pull to the right and stop when emergency vehicles approach with lights and sirens activated.

"Too often, we encounter drivers who are unsure of what to do or worse, ignore the sirens altogether," said Sheriff Robert Luna. "This campaign is about saving lives by making sure every driver knows how to react when they see those flashing lights in their rearview mirror."

The department recommends drivers stay alert by keeping music at reasonable volumes and avoiding distractions to hear sirens, safely signal and move to the right-hand side of the road when emergency vehicles approach, remain stopped until the vehicle passes, and avoid blocking intersections.

"Being aware and reacting properly isn't just about following the laws about being a responsible member of our community," Luna added. "When you see emergency lights, pull to the right. It could make the difference between life and death."

Educational content will be shared across social media platforms, including instructional videos available in English and Spanish on the department's YouTube channel.

For more information and safety resources, visit www.lasd.org.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Culver City

Theatre by the Blind Presents Reimagined Oz Tale in World Premiere

ArtsUP! LA's Theatre by the Blind, the only all-blind theatre company in the United States, will present the world premiere of "The Enemy of Oz" by Christopher Ureña at the Blue Door Theater from May 2-17.

The production reimagines the classic world of "The Wizard of Oz" with a new generation of characters navigating political ambitions, magical conflicts, and revenge. Greg Shane, Artistic Director of ArtsUP! LA, directs a cast of nine blind actors.

The play follows DD, a young politician who discovers she's the daughter of Oz's most beloved hero and sets out to topple the corrupt government she holds responsible for her mother's murder. Meanwhile, Caliope, daughter of Oz's most notorious villain, uncovers her own dark legacy, triggering a power struggle for control of the Emerald City.

Cast members demonstrate extraordinary dedication to the production. Ronnie Chism, who plays the Wizard, travels three and a half hours beginning at 5 a.m. to reach rehearsals. Antonique Neely (Tin Man) brings her newborn baby to rehearsals, while Myrachele Thomas (DD) has begun traveling independently for the first time to participate in the production.

"Being a part of theater has been an amazing experience; it has awakened a part of me that hasn't been touched in a while," said Thomas.

General admission tickets are $15, available online at https://www.artsupla.org or at the box office starting a half hour prior to the performance. The play runs for two hours including an intermission, and is appropriate for all ages, with children under the age of 12 requiring an accompanying adult. All patrons regardless of age must have their own ticket.

Theatre by the Blind provides visually impaired participants with a creative forum to confront challenges while raising public awareness about the capabilities of blind individuals.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

FIREWORKS

FROM PAGE 1

Communications, said the City of Santa Monica contributed about $20,000, SMC student government would contribute about $15,000, sponsorships from the business community ranged from $5,000 - $10,000 plus some additional revenue from the school's parking lots on the night of the show.

"They've all dropped out," said Girard. "The City has used its own financial circumstances to say that it's not a priority of the city so they're not interested in supporting it and the Associated Students are also spending their money elsewhere and on other things so those sources weren't available to us. The business community is dealing with its own stresses and on top of that, the college is dealing with its own financial stresses."

Girard said the City hasn't actually funded the event for several years and the combined loss in funding is just too much for the college at a time when its own revenues are in decline.

Celebrate America has been the only official fireworks show in the City for decades. The City of Santa Monica used to organize a municipal show on the beach but ended the practice about 25 years ago after crowds and violence marred the beach-front event. Santa Monica College stepped into the void and held a show every year up to Covid. The show was put on hiatus from 2020-2022 returning in 2023. However, everyone involved in paying for the show has seen their fortunes decline in the post Covid era.

Despite recent tax increases, the city's fiscal prognosis is not good, requiring the use of $33.2 million from General Fund reserves over the next five years to maintain balance. Compounding this strain are substantial legal liabilities, particularly from the Eric Uller settlement, which has already cost the city $230 million, with additional claims still unresolved. The ongoing California Voting Rights Act lawsuit also continues to drain resources, with legal costs projected at $6 million over the current and next fiscal year.

The city's once robust tourism industry continues to suffer and an exodus of corporate businesses have driven the daytime population to 60% of pre-pandemic levels. The lack of people has in turn hit local businesses and key revenue streams like sales tax, parking fees, and hotel taxes. Those impacts were magnified recently due to the nearby wildfires that have disrupted the region's workforce and spending habits.

Santa Monica College has seen its reserves steadily decline in recent years and has a projected deficit of up to $9 million for the next year.

Locals still have nearby options to see something go boom. Marina Del Rey traditionally hosts a fireworks show and the Beach Club straddles city limits on the northern edge of town allowing them to secure a Los Angeles permit for a private show.

Inside city limits, Jeff Jarow said he is planning to expand the already popular July 4 parade. He said this year's event will incorporate many of the Palisadian residents who were burned out of their homes.

"This is the 150 year anniversary so we're going to really ride on that wave and bring in the Palisades as well," he said. "I'm going to try to get the Pali marching band. I want to do things that we've never done before. If it comes off the way I envision, it will be a high bar to set for future parades.

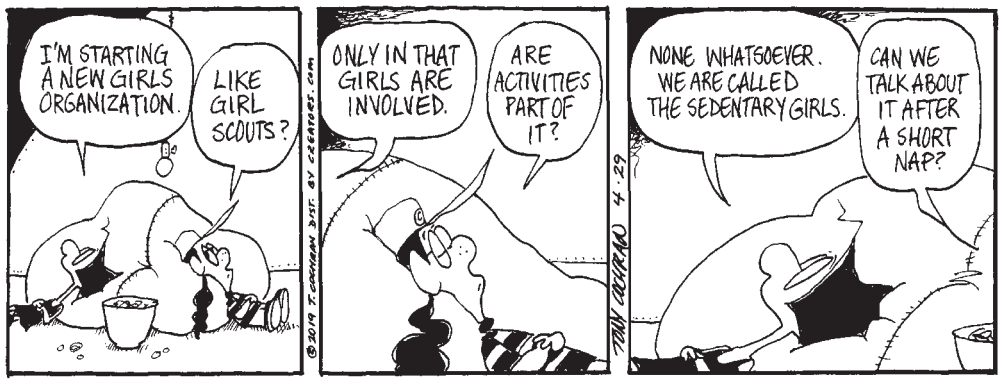
For more information on the parade, including sponsorship and participation information, visit https://www.santamonicaparade.com/.

editor@smdp.com

GET IT DAILY...

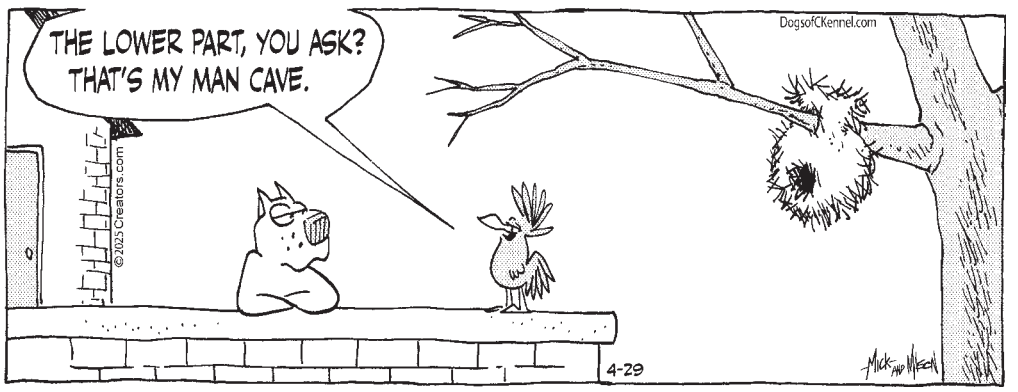
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE UNIFORMS LOOK SHARP."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6560

Crazy about cars

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

Advice	Citroen	Gears	Polish	Sump
Amps	Cool	Holden	Registration	Terms
Austin	Core	Hood	Repair	Tyre
Axle	Coupe	Hoses	Rims	Used
Bond	Dealer	Jets	Roof	Utes
Boot	Disc	Kits	Saab	Washer
Bush	Door	Lock	Seats	Wheel
Cable	Drive	Oils	Shaft	Window
Caps	Engine	Pedal	Skid	Wiring
Chassis	Expense	Pins	Spare	
Check	Friend	Plug	Sports	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 29)

It's a vivacious year highlighting your golden heart and all the ways you put more love into the world. More highlights: Even with your strong strain of individuality, you're brilliant in a group and will enjoy the spoils of a big team win. A change to your environment clears the way to achieve a long-standing personal goal. You'll teach this skill. Virgo and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 22, 14, 4 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It may seem that in the moments you need help the most, no one is there to give it. But when you don't get the help you need, want and deserve, you gain something even more powerful — the right to call yourself self-made. And that's a title no one can take from you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be consistent and repetitive. People will start to recognize your rhythm, anticipate your beat, and eventually, they'll dance to it. But first, you have to start banging that drum. The steadier you are, the stronger your influence becomes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll have moments where you hear yourself saying something and be surprised because you didn't know you felt that way. The very process of talking can reveal your thoughts to you, almost like you're hearing them for the first time, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll change a habit, and this will clear up confusion in an area of your life you wouldn't have thought was related. Small and simple differences in your pattern will net incommensurately favorable results, opening the way for the routines and relationships of excellence.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Vanity gets a bad rap, but vanity is often some brand of grief in a sparkly jacket. It's the ache of wanting to be seen, remembered, valued, radiant — especially when you've felt discarded, overlooked or dulled by relentless responsibility.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You get the sense that some of your curiosities will not be answered in this lifetime, but don't let that keep you from asking your questions. Your questions clear the way for others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you need is a space to express your thoughts without the expectation that someone from the outside will solve the problem. A person who listens without trying to fix everything is most helpful, empowering you to be your own hero.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Maybe you're not sure exactly what you have to say, but it's enough to know that you do have something to say. You'll discover more about it, especially by taking the time to think and write about it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You never know how loved ones are going to respond to your work, but what matters now is what you think of it and how fulfilled you are while you're putting the energy in. Go forward, seeking neither permission nor blessing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The way you brighten the mood looks like magic, but it's really practical genius. You go in knowing that good vibes must be built, and you make it your purpose. You experiment, observe and repeat what works.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Wealth isn't just financial. It comes in many forms, such as wisdom, resilience or even humility. The more experiences you have, the richer you get — but not always in the expected commodities.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Having a problem doesn't always lead to negative states. The presence of a challenge doesn't automatically zap your energy, though there are some approaches to problem-solving that are draining and other approaches that energize.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

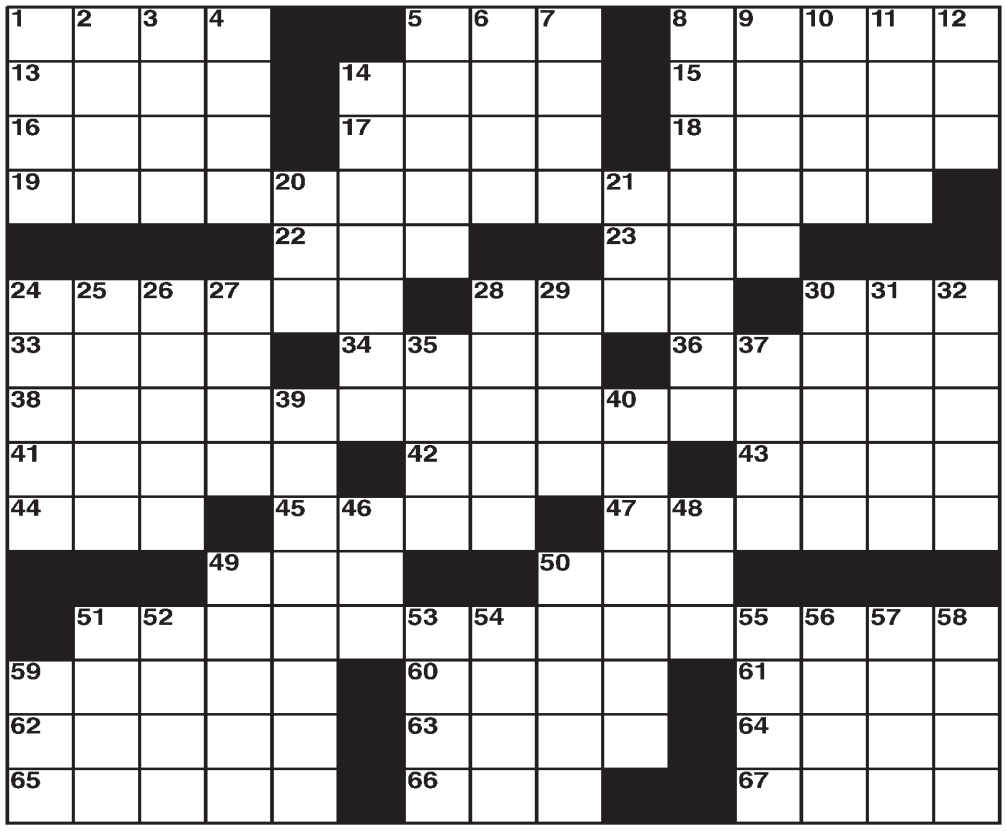
SECURITY NUMBERS by Guilherme Gilioli
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Open-handed hit
5 London tavern
8 Went cycling
13 One at a __ (individually)
14 Vatican head
15 Being chilled, as champagne
16 Software customer
17 Slightest trace
18 Attach, as a blouse button
19 Number typed into an ATM
22 Old-fashioned school cheer
23 Automated Web browser
24 Football throws
28 Tilt a bit
30 Rank above cpl.
33 Burn-soothing plant
34 Travel by ship
36 "Ditto"
38 Numbers dialed on a box for valuables
41 Garbage kept in cans
42 At no cost
43 Factually correct
44 Letters after ells
45 Watson or Stone of films
47 Has faith in
49 Qty.
50 A pair of
51 Number typed to prove software ownership
59 Has sore muscles
60 "Grizzly" beast
61 Rocks from mines
62 Halloween "sweet" alternative
63 "Happy as a" bird
64 Right away, in memos
65 Road test turns
66 Historic period
67 __ apart (in shreds)

DOWN

1 Ticket remnant
2 *Mona* __
3 End of a prayer
4 Fringe benefit, for short
5 Dog, slangily
6 Not more than
7 Boyfriend
8 Capital east of Albany, NY
9 Having no skill
10 Fuzzy brown fruit
11 Supply-and-demand subj.
12 Family room
14 Pablo of abstract art fame
20 "Roses __ red..."
21 Pro hoopsters' org
24 Attach to a scrapbook
25 Car's security device
26 Couches in a 12-Down
27 Gets a look at
28 Zodiac sign with scales
29 Author Wiesel
30 Mixes with a spoon
31 Leave the house
32 Shades of color
35 Double-band, as a car radio
37 Caesar's rebuke
39 Scientists with test tubes
40 CBS or NBC
46 Pioneering rock-video channel
48 Harry Potter pal Weasley
49 Bothered greatly
50 Small jeweled crown
51 Land measure
52 Gourmet cook
53 Up to a task
54 Eye droplet
55 Layer of paint
56 Roughly
57 Much loved
58 Airer of many pro sports games
59 Ocean east of the US



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04/29/25

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

SLING

FROM PAGE 3

graduates consistently exceed expectations. "The pilots we get from Sling are top-notch," Youngs said. "They are trained on the best equipment and they're ready to fly from day one."

Liknaitzky also introduced the "Whisper Sling," a proprietary set of aircraft modifications designed to reduce both noise and emissions. The system includes custom propellers, exhaust silencers and sound-dampening insulation, all engineered to create a smoother, quieter, less intrusive engine tone.

Sling's Whisper aircraft, built around a lightweight Lycoming engine, is designed for both high efficiency and reduced community impact. With a top speed of 184 knots and a range of more than 1,100 miles, the aircraft consumes just 8.5 gallons of unleaded fuel per hour at cruising speeds, less than half the typical burn rate of legacy training planes.

Equipped with a special Whisper propeller and exhaust silencer, it features a muted, lower-frequency sound signature aimed at reducing noise annoyance for nearby residents. The aircraft's short takeoff roll and low stall speed also make it especially suited for community airports like Santa Monica.

"We approached the problem not just by reducing decibels, but by lowering the pitch and muting the tone," Liknaitzky said. "We want people around the airport to notice less noise and more opportunity."

Environmental sustainability was a recurring theme throughout the day. Scott Burgess, President of the Eco Aviation Foundation, praised Sling's leadership in advancing cleaner aviation. "There was a real sense of community in that room, a vision for aviation's future," Burgess said, adding, "These young pilots are going to contribute to the world in major ways. Sling is setting the right example."

The growing roster of new businesses at Santa Monica Airport, despite its uncertain future, did not go unnoticed. "It's peculiar, in a way," Rogers observed. "Even with the political cloud over the airport, you're seeing serious investment here. These aren't pop-up operations, they're long-term commitments because the people who understand aviation's future see Santa Monica Airport as essential."

Burgess agreed, noting that respected voices within the industry continue to push for a future rooted in innovation. "There's a group that feels there is a sustainable, dynamic future for this airport," Burgess said, adding, "The people leading that effort, the entrepreneurs, the pilots, the students, they believe in it. And that's what counts."

Derner stressed the airport's broader significance. "This airport isn't just about flying planes. It's a disaster-relief hub, an economic driver, a career builder," he said. "Closing it would be a tragic loss, not just for aviation but for the entire city."

For many, the airport's fate remains closely tied to public awareness. "The citizens of Santa Monica need to understand what's truly at stake," Derner added. "Once you close an airport, it's gone forever. You don't get it back."

The event closed with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the sense that, for all the challenges ahead, Santa Monica Airport remains a vital and irreplaceable part of the community's future. "We believe in what aviation can do for communities and individuals," Liknaitzky said. "And we're here to stay."

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TUESDAY | APRIL 29

INVESTING FUNDAMENTALS - PERSONAL FINANCE WORKSHOP

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Workshops are offered via Zoom by the Business Department. Prior registration not required. Open to all SMC students. More information about the free personal finance workshops. Students with disabilities who require accommodations should contact Center for Students with Disabilities at 310-434-4265 or at dsps@smc.edu at least 5 business days prior to the event. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/investing-fundamentals-personal-finance-workshop/15266303/2025-04-29T11

GELSON'S WEST LA TO HOST TACO TUESDAYS WITH TACOS, MARGARITAS, AND MEZCALS

4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Gelson's 12121 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles. Every Tuesday from 4 PM to 10 PM, Gelson's West LA Wine Bar will be hosting Taco Tuesdays, bringing together a festive blend of flavors and fun. Enjoy a variety of mouthwatering tacos, refreshing margaritas, and smooth mezcals, all served in a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere. The perfect way to spice up the week—gather friends and enjoy a night of great food, drinks, and good times. Prices vary. For more information, visit https://www.gelsons.com/events/view/taco-tuesdays-at-gelsons-west-la-wine-bar. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-04-29T16

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 30

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://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/12382446/2025-04-30T08

FRIENDS OF VENICE LIBRARY: YOGA FOR EVERYONE!

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Venice Branch Library 501 S Venice Blvd. Venice. Through body awareness, movement, and breath, you will be guided on how to bring your body, mind, and spirit back into balance for overall well-being. All levels are welcome. Generously funded by the Friends of Venice Library. 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-yoga-for-everyone-/14548476/2025-04-30T12

CHAMBER MUSIC PALISADES CONCERT

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica 1008 11th St Santa Monica. On Wednesday April 30, at 8:00 p.m., in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica, Chamber Music Palisades (CMP) presents an evening of French composers, Ibert, Ravel, Saint-Saens, and Poulenc; a world premiere by local American composer Adrienne Albert, "Cross Talk" for flute, clarinet, and piano; Holst "Jupiter" from The Planets for wind quintet and piano; and Rachmaninoff Six Pieces for four-hand piano. Our talented performers are Bernadene Blaha and Kevin Fitz-Gerald returning again this year for a spectacular four-hand piano performance, Jonathan Davis (San Diego and Pacific Symphonies) on oboe, Judith Farmer (Los Angeles Opera) on bassoon, Sergio Coelho (Long Beach Symphony), on clarinet, Amy Jo Rhine (Los Angeles Philharmonic) on horn, and Susan Greenberg, (formerly LA Chamber Orchestra and now Santa Monica Symphony), flutist and co-founder/artistic director of Chamber Music Palisades. Tickets will be available for $35 online at cmpalisades.org or at the door the evening of the concert. Free parking is available under the building across the street, with access from 11th St. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/chamber-music-palisades-concert/15583468/2025-04-30T20

THURSDAY | MAY 1

NOMA MEETS

7:00 p.m. NOMA's meeting Thursday night will feature ANUJ GUPTA, Santa Monica Director of Transportation, speaking on new initiatives, including "Brighter Blue," the City's five-year service improvement plan; the Transit Safety Officer program; Better Blue Bus Stops (including a volunteer Adopt-a-Stop program); and intended zero emissions plans. SUNNY WANG, City Water Manager, follows with a presentation of water projects planned for the city and anticipated new water rates. OFFICER DAVID WANG, NOMA Resource Officer, reports on current crime and prevention in the neighborhood, the meeting concluding with members voting on a slate of new and returning Board members. All are invited to attend at smnoma.org. NOMA Meets on the First Thursday of Each Month at 7pm on Zoom
Next Meeting: THUR. MAY 1st. ZOOM LINK: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81526517066

LUNCHTIME LINE DANCE

12:30 p.m. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library 501 S. Venice Boulevard Venice. Come kick up your heels and learn line dances in a variety of styles, including Western, pop, Latin, disco, and more! Tuesdays - Intermediate Level. Thursdays - Beginner Level (No experience needed) 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/lunchtime-line-dance/12342961/2025-05-01T12

To learn how to feature your upcoming event on the SMDP and various digital event calendars

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