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Santa Monica Daily Press

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New single school to replace SMASH and Muir delayed to 2026



Matthew Hall

CONSTRUCTION: The new school is under construction at the former SMASH/Muir location but occupancy has been delayed.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The reopening of a long-awaited neighborhood school in Ocean Park has been pushed back to 2026, adding another delay to a campus renovation project that has displaced hundreds of students since 2022.

Construction on the Ocean Park neighborhood school, which previously housed John Muir Elementary School and the Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH), is now scheduled to be completed by the end of November 2025. Students and staff are expected to move in by spring 2026, according to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD).

The timeline represents another significant extension from earlier projections. In January 2023, officials had estimated the campus would reopen between January and August of 2025, already a delay from an original August 2024 target.

When completed, the campus will no longer house two independent schools. Rather, it will feature a new project-based identity with new branding and a new name, details of which will be provided in the coming months.

SEE **SCHOOL** PAGE 15

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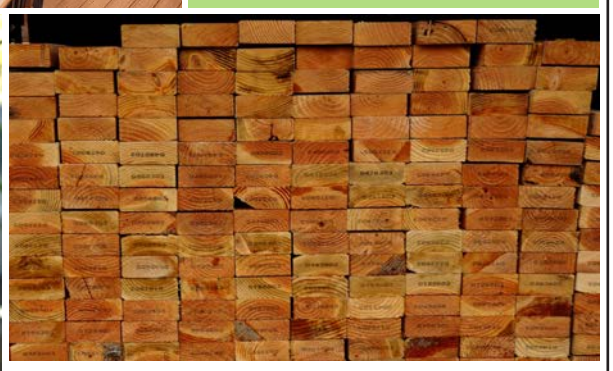






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Italian-themed eatery Cosetta opens on Ocean Park with a focus on flexibility and flavor





Courtesy photos

AL FRESCO: Chef Zack Pollack is aiming to bring back outdoor dining in a big way.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

After a decade on the east side of Los Angeles, acclaimed chef Zach Pollack has returned to his Westside roots with Cosetta, a casual Italian restaurant focused on hospitality, high-quality ingredients and community-friendly design. Open now on Ocean Park Boulevard, Cosetta represents a new chapter for Pollack, who says both his personal life and evolving views on the restaurant industry helped shape the vision.

Pollack, known for launching Silver Lake's Alimento and Echo Park's Cosa Buona, began developing Cosetta in 2022. The restaurant officially opened this spring after three years of planning, construction and delays and so far, the reception has been strong.

"We did 300 covers last Friday and Saturday alone," Pollack said. "We're doing somewhere between 1,400 and 1,500 people a week at dinner, plus some takeout. It's a lot of prep, a lot of moving parts and we're doing our best to make every experience count."

Pollack said the decision to open Cosetta on the Westside was driven by both practical and economic concerns. Now based in Mid-City, he wanted to be closer to family and avoid the logistical and financial limitations he encountered in Silver Lake and Echo Park.

"As costs kept rising on the east side, it became harder to maintain a model based on making really high-quality food accessible to a broad audience," he said. "There's affluence in Silver Lake, sure, but once you leave that pocket, you're not surrounded by neighborhoods that can sustain a volume-driven restaurant at that level."

He also sought a space that would support more convenient dining and takeout options. Cosetta offers parking, a designated pickup window and a more spacious layout than Pollack's earlier ventures. The interior seats 50 diners, while the landscaped patio adds another 100 covers outdoors. The restaurant spans about 4,500 square feet in total, taking over the former Coffee Bean and Mrs. Winston's space.

"I looked at a lot of locations and this one just had great energy," Pollack said. "I grew up coming to Santa Monica, and Ocean Park has a charm that's a little more laid back. The landlord, Boston Properties, has been supportive throughout the process, which was huge."

Designed by Studio UNTLD and built by Loescher Meachem Architects, the restaurant

SEE **COSETTA** PAGE 7

Stamp Out Hunger drive aims to restock local pantries with May 10 community effort



Courtesy photo

MAIL CALL: A photo from last year's food drive that proved to be incredibly successful.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

On Saturday, May 10, letter carriers across the country will trade their familiar mailbags for grocery sacks as they take part in the 33rd annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, the nation's largest single-day food collection effort.

Organized by the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), the campaign mobilizes tens of thousands of postal workers to gather non-perishable food donations from residents in every corner of the United States. The initiative supports local food banks and pantries that serve individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

Participation is simple: Residents are encouraged to leave a bag of non-perishable items next to their mailbox on the morning of the drive. Letter carriers will collect the donations during their normal delivery routes and deliver them directly to local charities and hunger relief organizations.

"The need is urgent and we are uniquely positioned to help," the NALC said in a statement. "Our carriers walk these neighborhoods every day. We see who is struggling, we know this issue is not abstract. It's real and it's close to home."

Hunger remains a critical issue in the United States, with more than 44 million Americans facing food insecurity, according to the US Department of Agriculture. That number includes more than 14 million children and nearly 5.5 million seniors over the age of 60, many of whom live on fixed incomes and may be reluctant to seek help.

The timing of the food drive is deliberate as food banks often experience a steep drop in donations following the winter holiday season, yet demand remains constant. By spring, many shelves are empty just as summer approaches, when school-based meal programs that support children during the academic year go on hiatus.

First launched as a pilot in 10 cities in October 1991, the Stamp Out Hunger campaign was formally established as a national initiative in May 1993. That inaugural nationwide drive collected more than 11 million pounds of food in a single day, setting a US record at the time. In the decades since, the drive has grown exponentially. Carriers now collect food from Anchorage to Atlanta and Boston to Bakersfield, aided by the Postal Service's universal delivery network. More than 1.9 billion pounds of food have been donated since the program began.

The initiative is also rooted in the broader service culture of the letter carriers union. In addition to mail delivery, carriers have a long history of engaging in community-based programs, from raising money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association to checking on elderly residents through the Carrier Alert program. They also contribute to the NALC Disaster Relief Fund and have been recognized in past years for acts of bravery during emergencies.

SEE **FOOD DRIVE** PAGE 15



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **61.9**

FRIDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft+
Waist to shoulder

Waves stay fun as Southern Hemi swell holds. Looks like one of the week's better AMs for wind. SSW/S swell mix holds, setting up more chest to head high+ surf, throughout the day while best breaks hit 1-2' overhead — largest west of Pt. Dume. Some minor NW energy in the mix, not enough for proper beachbreak peaks, helps section out the SSW lines. Lighter, variable wind to start the day before westerly onshore puff up through mid-morning, staying mellow. Afternoon window is in for moderate lump from W onshores and likely stays textured through sundown — points on the cleaner side.

SATURDAY
FAIR
SURF: 3-4ft
Waist to chest

Slow easing, still fun southerly swell mix. Early morning winds/conditions look fair. Slow fading SSW/S swell is still good for chest-head high waves in the morning. Surf gradually eases during the day as the southerly swell tapers off. Southern Hemi energy remains dominant, shape continues to favor points. Looks like another day of light southerly morning winds, potential for a little more texture than Friday. Low-end moderate afternoon W onshores for manageable lump.

Weather

Friday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 75.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 63.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 79.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2025/05/09	Fri	02:37 AM	0.40	L
2025/05/09	Fri	08:35 AM	3.74	H
2025/05/09	Fri	2:01 PM	1.19	L
2025/05/09	Fri	8:22 PM	5.28	H
2025/05/10	Sat	03:09 AM	0.01	L
2025/05/10	Sat	09:14 AM	3.64	H
2025/05/10	Sat	2:23 PM	1.48	L
2025/05/10	Sat	8:43 PM	5.46	H
2025/05/11	Sun	03:40 AM	-0.28	L
2025/05/11	Sun	09:52 AM	3.53	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: 5/7
14 15 30 40 59
Power#: 20
Jackpot: 82 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/6
16 17 43 46 58
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 100 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/7
8 23 38 40 41
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 25 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/7
4 12 13 14 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/7
EVENING: 0 5 3
Draw Date: 5/7
MIDDAY: 4 1 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/7
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:45.83

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

- **RFP # 440 INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES.**
- **Submission Deadline Is May 30 , 2025 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

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, JUNE 4, 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.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California's fourth-ranked economy is also tops in unemployment, poverty and deficits



Photo by Brian van der Brug, Los Angeles Times via Getty Images

JOBS: Brenda Bermudez looks for information about her unemployment claim outside of the California State Employment Development Department office in Canoga Park, in 2020.

California's economic output has surpassed $4 trillion a year and in doing so slipped past Japan to become, were it a nation, the globe's fourth largest economy, surpassed only by the United States, China and Germany.

The news was an opportunity for Gov. Gavin Newsom to exercise his penchant for braggadocio.

"California isn't just keeping pace with the world — we're setting the pace," Newsom declared. "Our economy is thriving because we invest in people, prioritize sustainability, and believe in the power of innovation."

It was also an opportunity for Newsom to take another shot at President Donald Trump, saying, "while we celebrate this success, we recognize that our progress is threatened by the reckless tariff policies of the current federal administration. California's economy powers the nation, and it must be protected."

If California's economy is booming, as Newsom boasts, one might wonder why the state's unemployment rate is the third highest in the nation, with more than a million jobless workers, and why its poverty rate is the nation's highest.

One might also wonder why, if California's economy is so healthy, the state budget is experiencing chronic multi-billion-dollar deficits.

Newsom must tell the Legislature this month how he would alter the 2025-26 budget he proposed in January, touching off the annual whirlwind of negotiations to produce a more-or-less final version for adoption by June 15.

The January budget proposed at least $11 billion in short-term fixes, including off-the-books borrowing, dips into the state's budget reserves and accounting gimmicks to close the gap between projected income and the spending dictated by current law.

Tax revenues are running a bit ahead of expectations so far this year, but not nearly enough to close the deficit, which has widened due to spending on Medi-Cal, California's health care system for the poor that's far exceeding the level of the 2024-25 budget enacted last June.

Overall, Medi-Cal expenditures are over $6 billion higher than expectations, with a major chunk caused by higher-than-expected enrollment of undocumented immigrants.

Therefore the May revise, as it's dubbed, is likely to contain even more expedient fixes that may postpone the day of fiscal reckoning until Newsom's governorship ends two years hence but will continue to plague his successor and

SEE **UNEMPLOYMENT** PAGE 15

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Having the fourth-largest economy doesn't matter if Californians can't afford essentials

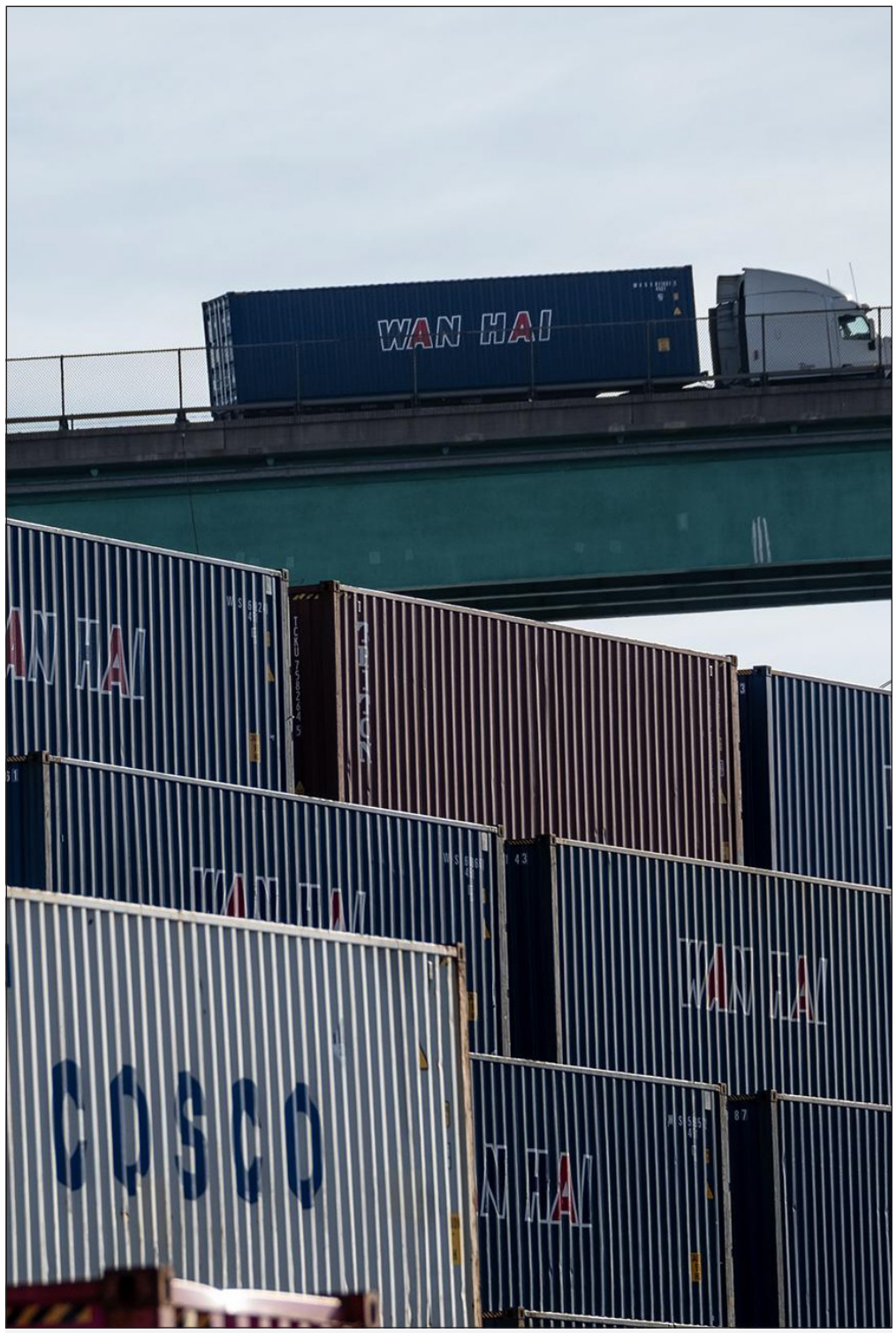


Photo by Joel Angel Juarez for CalMatters

CARGO: A truck hauls a Wan Hai shipping container as it drives along the Vincent Thomas Bridge overlooking Yusen Terminals at the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro on Feb. 11, 2025.

California's climb to the world's fourth-largest economy marks a milestone and illustrates a paradox.

Fueled by innovation and ambition, we've cradled industries of the future and amassed extraordinary wealth. But, for the everyday Californians who keep the lights on in our world-leading economy, this newfound prominence is at odds with their daily struggle to make ends meet.

The trophy we're hoisting — surpassing Japan in gross domestic product — is tarnished by a jaded reception from the average Californian facing rising housing, health care and food costs.

This paradox calls into question whether GDP is the best measure of financial success for state policymakers. If we're first in homelessness and first in the cost of everyday goods, does being fourth in GDP matter?

As the glad-handing and horn-tooting settles down, this milestone is also a chance for state and local policymakers to reflect on their economic priorities. For Gov. Gavin Newsom, "California isn't just keeping pace with the world — we're setting the pace," but our pace doesn't matter if GDP is the wrong race and we're last in affordability, which is what matters most to everyone living here.

When we take into consideration the high and increasing costs of living, California is the 11th-largest economy, barely beating Italy and trailing both France and the UK, where the cost of everyday goods are about a third or less of what they are in California, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

The price index helps us understand the average cost of everyday goods, like milk, eggs, transportation, health care and housing, for that community. Unlike GDP, it can measure inflation and gauge how expensive it is to live in once place versus another. California has led the world in this measure of expensiveness since 1997, when our price index surpassed that of the U.S.

The persistence of inflation is not some statistical trend. It reflects structural pressures: a housing market distorted by supply constraints and political inertia; a labor force both indispensable and precariously housed; and a tax regime that funds ambition while threatening the economic health of working families.

A healthy and equitable California economy must reconcile growth with governance and dynamism with discipline. It's not just about size. To Newsom's credit, his administration issued a first-of-its-kind "State Economic Blueprint" earlier this year with much less pomp and circumstance than the GDP announcement in April. This transformative plan focuses on bottom-up, regional economic planning to strengthen local economies and help communities deal with the affordability crisis.

Some might call this part of the "abundance agenda," but California's leaders don't need to look to distant political commentators for an agenda. They should look to local organizations, such as Valley Vision, for example, just two miles from the Capitol.

Established in the mid-1990s, decades before the "abundance agenda" was ever discussed, Valley Vision began helping the Sacramento region cope with economic upheaval caused by the shutdown of local military bases, which had provided 80,000 jobs to residents. Utilizing a so-called triple bottom line approach, they called on businesses to work across sectors, governments to look past their boundaries, and people to think beyond their zip codes in the interest of the wider region.

The result is that today, while we still struggle with affordability, Sacramento's local economy is more diverse, resilient and has the building blocks necessary to ensure future prosperity for all of its residents.

That is, if policymakers can come to a consensus and address costs for consumers.

California must reconcile the gulf between its image as a land of opportunity and the lived experience of those priced out of that dream. Otherwise, our latest global economic ascent marks not the beginning of a new era but the high watermark of an unsustainable model.

Aref Aziz is a marketer, campaign consultant and policy expert who has helped California local governments raise revenue to fund transportation and school infrastructure projects. This article was originally published by CalMatters.





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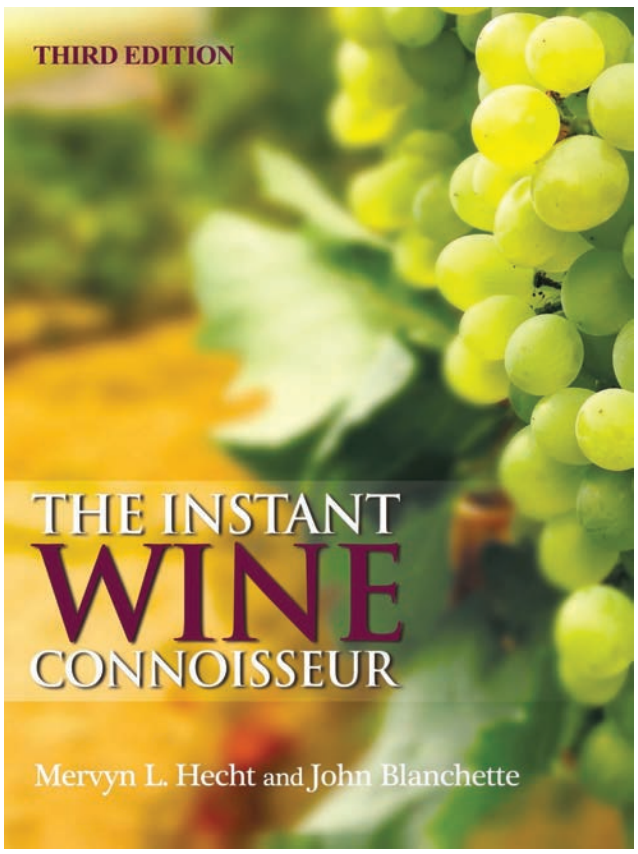
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Robert Prevost, first pope from US in history of the Catholic Church, takes the name Leo XIV

Robert Prevost, an missionary who spent his career ministering in Peru and took over the Vatican's powerful office of bishops, was elected the first pope from the United States in the 2,000-year history of the Catholic Church.

Prevost, a 69-year-old member of the Augustinian religious order, took the name Leo XIV.

In his first words as Pope Francis' successor, uttered from the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica, Leo said, "Peace be with you," and emphasized a message of peace, dialogue and missionary evangelization. He wore the traditional red cape of the papacy — a cape that Francis had eschewed on his election in 2013.

Prevost had been a leading candidate for the papacy except, but there had long been a taboo against a U.S. pope, given the country's geopolitical power already wielded in the secular sphere. But Prevost, a Chicago native, was seemingly eligible because he's also a Peruvian citizen and lived for years in Peru, first as a missionary and then as an archbishop.

Pope Francis clearly had his eye on Prevost and in many ways saw him as his heir apparent. He brought Prevost to the Vatican in 2023 to serve as the powerful head of the office that vets bishop nominations from around the world, one of the most important jobs in the Catholic Church. And in January he elevated him into the senior ranks of cardinals. As a result, Prevost had a prominence going into the conclave that few other cardinals had.

> Francis did well in opening the church to the outside world, but on other fronts maybe he didn't do enough. We'll see if the next one will be able to do more
>
> - Pedro Deget

The crowd in St. Peter's Square erupted in cheers when white smoke poured out of the Sistine Chapel on the second day of the conclave. Priests made the sign of the cross and nuns wept as the crowd shouted "Viva il papa!"

Waving flags from around the world, tens of thousands of people waited to learn who had won and were shocked when an hour later, the senior cardinal deacon appeared on the loggia and said "Habemus Papam!" and announced the winner was Prevost.

He spoke to the crowd in Italian and Spanish, but not English.

The last pope to take the name Leo was Leo XIII, an Italian who led the church from 1878 to 1903. That Leo softened the church's confrontational stance toward modernity, especially science and politics and laid the foundation for modern Catholic social thought, most famously with his 1891 encyclical Rerum Novarum, which addressed workers' rights and capitalism.

EYES ON THE CHIMNEY

Earlier Thursday, large school groups joined the mix of humanity awaiting the outcome in St. Peter's Square. They blended in with people participating in preplanned Holy Year pilgrimages and journalists from around the world who have descended on Rome to document the election.

"The wait is marvelous!" said Priscilla Parlante, a Roman.

Pedro Deget, 22, a finance student from Argentina, said he and his family visited Rome during the Argentine pope's pontificate and were hoping for a new pope in Francis' image.

"Francis did well in opening the church to the outside world, but on other fronts maybe he didn't do enough. We'll see if the next one will be able to do more," Deget said from the piazza.

The Rev. Jan Dominik Bogataj, a Slovene Franciscan friar, was more critical of Francis. He said if he were in the Sistine Chapel, he'd be voting for Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem who is on many papal contender lists.

"He has clear ideas, not much ideology. He's a direct, intelligent and respectful man," Bogataj said from the square. "Most of all, he's agile."

Some of the cardinals had said they expected a short conclave.

For much of the past century, the conclave has needed between three and 14 ballots to find a pope. John Paul I — the pope who reigned for 33 days in 1978 — was elected on the fourth ballot. His successor, John Paul II, needed eight. Francis was elected on the fifth in 2013.

THE CONCLAVE PROCESS

The cardinals opened the secretive, centuries-old ritual Wednesday afternoon, participating in a rite more theatrical than even Hollywood could create. Bright red cassocks, Swiss Guards standing at attention, ancient Latin chants and oaths preceded the slamming shut of the Sistine Chapel doors to seal the cardinals off from the outside world.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the 70-year-old secretary of state under Francis who had been considered a leading contender to succeed him as pope, assumed leadership of the proceedings as the most senior cardinal under age 80 eligible to participate.

The voting followed a strict choreography, dictated by church law.

Each cardinal writes his choice on a piece

SEE **POPE** PAGE 15

Judge temporarily blocks Trump administration's new transit and homelessness grant conditions

A federal judge on Wednesday temporarily blocked the Trump administration from imposing new conditions on hundreds of millions of dollars worth of mass transit grants for the Seattle area or homelessness services grants for Boston, New York, San Francisco and other local governments.

The new conditions were designed to further President Donald Trump's efforts to eliminate diversity, equity and inclusion policies; coerce local officials into assisting with the administration's mass deportation efforts; and cut off information about lawful abortions, according to the lawsuit filed last week by eight cities and counties.

The administration argued that Senior U.S. District Judge Barbara Rothstein in Seattle did not have jurisdiction over the lawsuit because it was essentially a contract dispute that should have been brought in the Court of Federal Claims — an argument the judge rejected.

Rothstein wrote that the local governments had shown they were likely to win the case, because the conditions being imposed on the grants had not been approved by Congress, were not closely related to the purposes of the grants and would not make the administration of the grants more efficient.

"Defendants have put Plaintiffs in the position of having to choose between accepting conditions that they believe are unconstitutional, and risking the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars in federal grant funding, including funding that they have already budgeted and are committed to spending," Rothstein wrote.

Her order blocks U.S. Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Transportation Administration for 14 days from enforcing the new grant conditions or withholding or delaying funding awarded under the grants. The local jurisdictions said they would seek a longer-term block in the meantime.

The Trump administration did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

King County, which includes Seattle, sued over changes to grant conditions for homelessness services as well as mass transit funding that helps pay for maintenance of the region's light rail system. Boston and New York, Pierce and Snohomish Counties in Washington, the city and county of San Francisco, and Santa Clara County in California all sued over the changes to homelessness services grants.

"Today's ruling is a positive first step in our challenge to federal overreach," King County Executive Shannon Braddock said in a statement. "We will continue to stand up against unlawful actions to protect our residents and the services they rely on."

The conditions highlighted in the plaintiff's restraining order motion included barring grant recipients from using the funding in a way that promotes "illegal immigration or abets policies that seek to shield illegal aliens from deportation." Another condition bars them from using the funding to "promote elective abortions."

By GENE JOHNSON, Associated Press. AP reporter Hallie Golden in Seattle contributed to this report.

COSETTA

FROM PAGE 2

incorporates Italian architectural elements such as arches and textured stone walls, balanced by olive trees and warm natural finishes. Outdoor tables are equipped with heating for year-round use, a post-pandemic priority Pollack says many diners now expect.

Cosetta's menu reflects the chef's time cooking in Italy and his upbringing in Los Angeles, with a focus on wood-fired pizzas, shareable proteins and vibrant produce. Though pasta helped define his earlier restaurants, the limited kitchen space made a full pasta program impractical. Instead, pizzas form the menu's core, supported by a dedicated Milanese section with options like seasonal fish, chicken and eggplant, including gluten-free variations cooked in separate fryers.

"The chicken Milanese has a twist, with Thai fish sauce, chiles, sugar, basil and checca-style cherry tomatoes," Pollack said. "I wanted the food to be high in quality but a little more relaxed."

Lunch service is coming soon, with a separate midday menu featuring sandwiches, pizzas, salads and a handful of small plates. Takeout is already quietly underway, available for phone orders or direct pickup from the window, though the restaurant is not yet on any delivery apps.

"We have a dedicated takeout menu that's just a pared-down version of dinner, things that travel well and maintain quality," he said. "We want that to be part of the long-term model, but we're still optimizing our systems to keep up with demand."

Cosetta's beverage program includes cocktails curated by Brian Summers, a longtime colleague from Pollack's Test Kitchen days. Daniel Chavez serves as executive chef, while Heather Rioux is general manager.

Despite the strong opening, Pollack remains cautious about the restaurant's early momentum.

"Yes, it's great that we're busy, but I'm aware that sometimes new places have a honeymoon period," he said. "People try it once and then the newness wears off. We're not taking anything for granted. Every plate, every visit, has to be something we're proud of."

Pollack said he has no plans to expand beyond the current location and is entirely focused on refining Cosetta's operation. That includes slowly rolling out lunch, growing the takeout program and continuing to adapt the menu as needed.

"This is not about building an empire," he said. "It's about making one really great restaurant work, economically, creatively and for the people who come here."

Cosetta is located at 3110 Ocean Park Blvd and for now, it is open for dinner only. More information, including updates on lunch and takeout, is expected to be shared through the restaurant's website cosettala.com and social media.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

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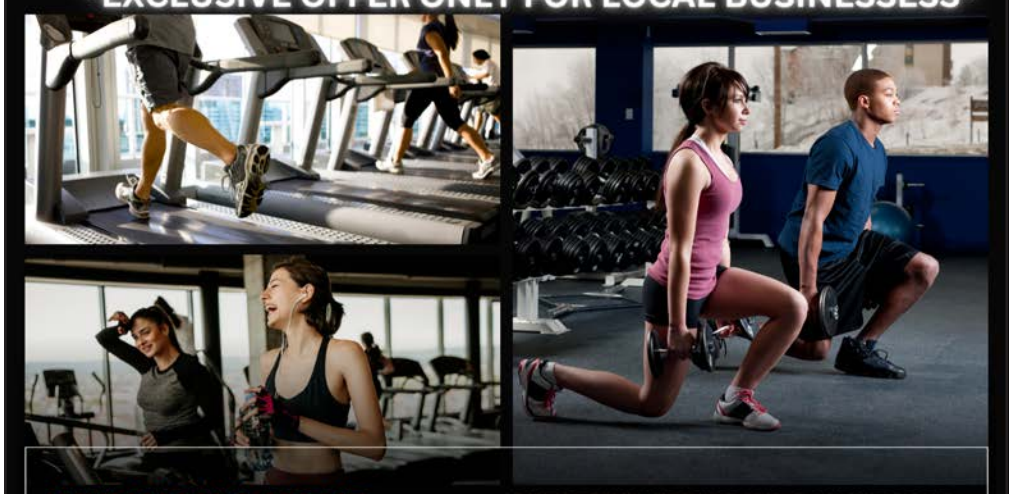
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Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

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Listed by F. Ron Smith, DRE #00961954 Listed by David Berg, DRE #01481236 Compass

SANTA MONICA CANYON

$3,495,000

400 E Rustic Rd
Santa Monica, CA 90402

3 BR 2 BA, 1,873 Sq Ft

Listed by Michael Edlen, DRE #00902158 Listed by Christina Wagner, DRE #01310664 Coldwell Banker Realty Redfin

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$6,678,000

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Santa Monica, CA 90402

6 BR 4.5 BA, 4,065 Sq Ft

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$4,495,000

115 Park Pl
Venice, CA 90291

3 BR 4 BA, 3,155 Sq Ft

Listed by Julie Kirschbaum, DRE #01897701 Engel & Völkers Santa Monica

MARINA DEL REY

$9,950,000

4 Yawl St
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

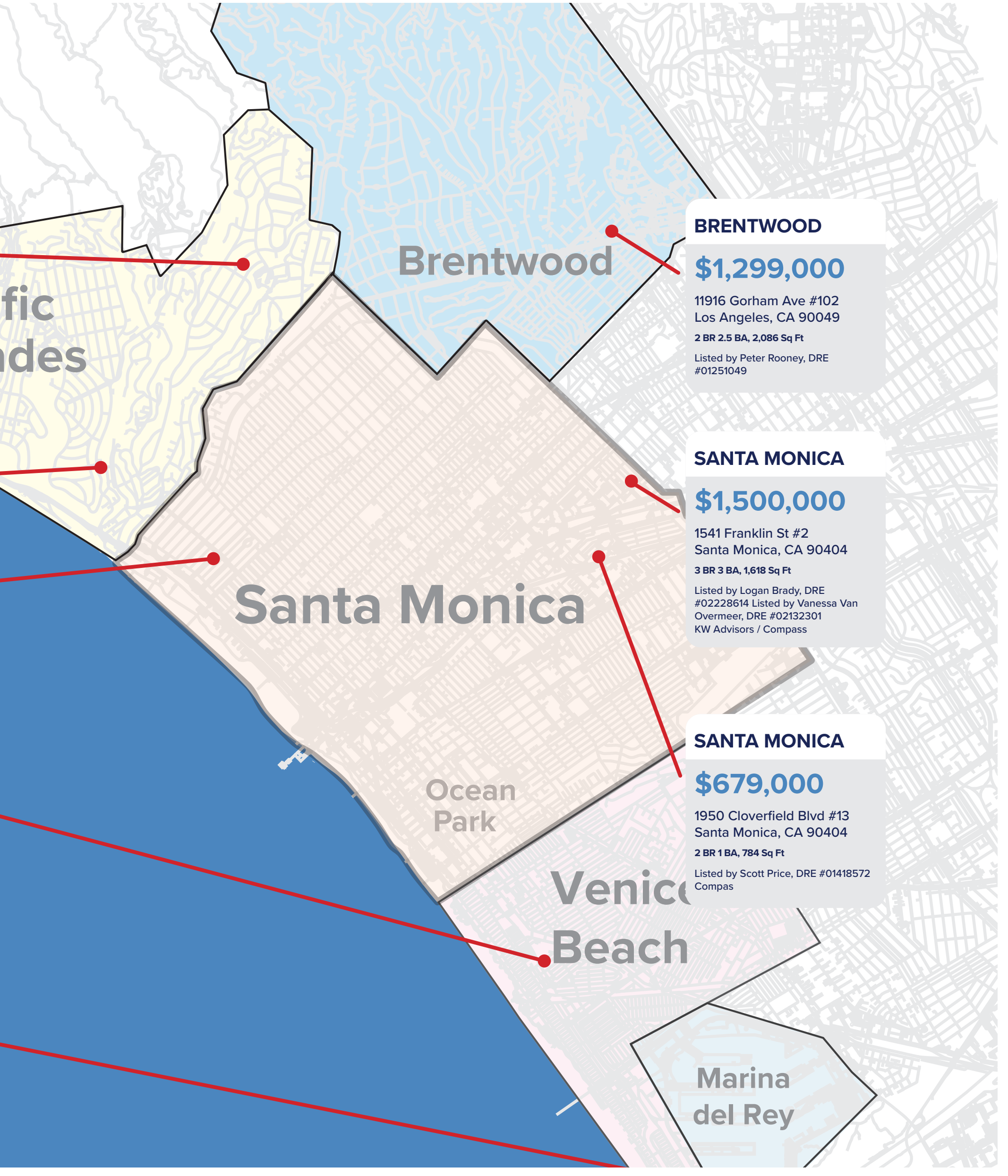
4 BR 4.5 BA, 6,603 Sq Ft

Listed by Linda May, DRE #00475038 Carolwood Estates

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Santa Monica Daily Press



BRENTWOOD

$1,299,000

11916 Gorham Ave #102
Los Angeles, CA 90049

2 BR 2.5 BA, 2,086 Sq Ft

Listed by Peter Rooney, DRE #01251049

SANTA MONICA

$1,500,000

1541 Franklin St #2
Santa Monica, CA 90404

3 BR 3 BA, 1,618 Sq Ft

Listed by Logan Brady, DRE #02228614 Listed by Vanessa Van Overmeer, DRE #02132301
KW Advisors / Compass

SANTA MONICA

$679,000

1950 Cloverfield Blvd #13
Santa Monica, CA 90404

2 BR 1 BA, 784 Sq Ft

Listed by Scott Price, DRE #01418572
Compas

COMMUNITY NEWS

MALIBU

City Accepting Applications for 2025-2027 Poet Laureate

Applications are being accepted for the 2025-2027 Malibu Poet Laureate through Sunday, May 18.

The city is seeking residents and affiliates who will focus on elevating literary arts both in Malibu and outside communities while representing the city for a two-year term.

Applications, including all supplemental materials, must be received during the open submission period from April 7 through May 18. Applications will only be accepted online at the city's website.

> Poets and artists are the voice and spirit of a community
>
> - Marianne Riggins, Mayor

Mayor Marianne Riggins thanked outgoing Poet Laureate Nathan Hassall, who served as the 2023-2025 Poet Laureate.

"Poets and artists are the voice and spirit of a community," Riggins said. "All of Malibu should be proud of how our Poet Laureate program has developed and is fostering appreciation and creation of literary arts among youth, and building community bonds in this detached, digital era."

During his term, Hassall coordinated poetry workshops and events, including Caffeinated Verse, poetry workshops at local schools, poetry in parks and open mic sessions.

Following the application process, a five-member committee will review applications and recommend an individual to serve. The committee's selection will be presented to the Malibu Arts Commission during the summer for review, with a final recommendation going to the City Council for approval.

The Poet Laureate's term starts Sept. 2, 2025, and ends Sept. 1, 2027, and includes an annual stipend.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

Public Health Declares Hepatitis A Outbreak in County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has declared a community-wide outbreak of hepatitis A following a sustained increase in cases and elevated virus levels detected in local wastewater.

Public Health confirmed 165 hepatitis A cases in LA County in 2024, three times the number reported in 2023. Of the 29 cases confirmed to date in 2025, most have been among people without travel or housing risk factors.

"The ongoing increase in hepatitis A cases signals that quick action is needed to protect public health," said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer. "The hepatitis A vaccine is safe, effective, and offers long-term protection."

The hepatitis A vaccine is typically a two-dose series that has been routinely given to children for over a decade. Public Health strongly encourages vaccination for any county resident who did not previously receive it, people experiencing homelessness, and people who use drugs.

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver infection that can range from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a severe illness lasting several months. Symptoms include fever, weakness, fatigue, nausea, loss of appetite, jaundice, stomach pain, vomiting, dark urine, pale stools and diarrhea.

Public Health recommends residents follow good hygiene practices including washing hands with soap and water before eating and preparing food and after using the bathroom.

For questions or to find a nearby clinic, call the Public Health InfoLine at 1-833-540-0473, open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

Law Enforcement Seizes Nine DDoS-for-Hire Websites in Global Crackdown

The Justice Department announced the court-authorized seizure of nine internet domains associated with leading DDoS-for-hire services.

Poland's Central Cybercrime Bureau simultaneously announced the arrests of four administrators of such services, investigations which were assisted by U.S. authorities. Several of the arrested administrators operated websites seized pursuant to previous operations by the Central District of California.

The websites targeted in this operation were used for hundreds of thousands of actual or attempted DDoS attacks targeting victims worldwide. These attacks flood targeted computers and servers with information to prevent them from accessing the internet.

"Booter services facilitate cyberattacks that harm victims and compromise everyone's ability to access the internet," said United States Attorney Bill Essayli for the Central District of California. "This week's sweeping law enforcement activity is a major step in our ongoing efforts to eradicate criminal conduct that threatens the internet's infrastructure."

In the last four years, more than 11 defendants have been charged in Los Angeles and Anchorage for facilitating DDoS-for-hire services. More than 75 domains associated with such services have been seized.

In conjunction with the website seizures, Homeland Security Investigations, DCIS, and the Netherlands Police have launched an advertising campaign using targeted placement ads in search engines to deter potential cybercriminals.

The seizures were performed by DCIS's Cyber-West Resident Agency as part of Operation PowerOFF, an ongoing, coordinated effort among international law enforcement agencies.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SANTA MONICA

SMC Guitar Showcase Presents Free Concert May 22

The Santa Monica College Music Department will present the SMC Guitar Showcase on Thursday, May 22, at 11:15 a.m.

The free concert will be held in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street. Seating is limited and strictly on a first-arrival basis, with early arrival recommended. Free parking is available on premises.

Under the direction of Jimmy Cheesman, the concert will feature SMC guitar students performing classical, rock, pop, blues, and reggae music.

For more information, call 310-434-4323. The showcase is subject to change or cancellation without notice.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

LOS ANGELES

Public Health Encourages Measles Vaccine as Cases Increase, Summer Travel Begins

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is alerting residents of an increase in measles cases among people who have recently traveled internationally and domestically.

With measles outbreaks happening both in the United States and internationally, Public Health encourages all residents to get protected by receiving the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine if they are not immune.

> 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
>
> - Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer

"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 Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer. "As LA County residents begin to travel this summer and with measles cases increasing among those who have recently traveled, we remind everyone that the best way to protect yourself and your family from infection is with the highly effective measles vaccine."

Public Health has confirmed a measles case in a visitor who traveled to Los Angeles County recently from abroad, the fourth confirmed case in a resident or visitor this year.

In the United States, as of May 2, a total of 935 measles cases have been reported this year, with most linked to an ongoing outbreak in Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. The majority of cases are unvaccinated or have unknown vaccination status, with 11% requiring hospitalization and three deaths from measles-related complications.

Common symptoms include high fever, cough, runny nose, red and watery eyes, and a rash that typically starts at the face and spreads down to the rest of the body 3-5 days after other signs of illness.

Most health insurances cover the cost of the MMR vaccine. For a list of clinics offering free or low-cost immunizations for uninsured or underinsured persons, call 2-1-1.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SANTA MONICA

SMC Public Policy Institute Presents Spring Symposium May 12-15

The Santa Monica College Public Policy Institute will present its 2025 Spring Symposium May 12-15, focusing on the theme "Courting Danger: Will America's Judicial System Uphold the Constitution?"

All symposium events are free and open to the public at the SMC Main Campus, 1900 Pico Blvd. Free parking is available on the third floor of parking structure 4, accessible through the campus entrance at 17th Street and Pico Blvd.

"This year's symposium comes at a particularly relevant time," said PPI co-director and SMC adjunct professor Shari Davis. "We look forward to learning from our speakers about how the Constitution was designed to ensure checks and balances as we see many policy changes being made this year."

The symposium begins Monday, May 12, with a featured conversation between UC Berkeley School of Law Dean Erwin Chemerinsky and PPI founder Sheila Kuehl, titled "The Imperial Presidency vs the Noble Court: The Arm Wrestling Event of the Century."

Other events include a Tuesday discussion on the constitutionality of executive orders, a Wednesday panel on SMC's Law Pathway Program, and a Thursday town hall for community members to ask questions and express opinions on protecting democracy.

The SMC Public Policy Institute provides nonpartisan community programs exploring key economic, social, and political issues. Santa Monica College offers an Associate in Arts Degree and Certificate of Achievement in public policy with specializations in five areas.

For more information, visit smc.edu/ppi or call 310-434-3541.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



FRIDAY | MAY 9

THE NIGHT SKY SHOW
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. The Night Sky Show is a short program with the latest news in space exploration and astronomy. The program uses freeware sky visualization tools to show you the constellations planets and deep sky objects in the Southern California night sky. The show will last about 30 minutes followed by a short Q&A when guests can type questions into a chat box. We will answer as many questions as possible. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-night-sky-show/14165546/2025-05-09T19

SATURDAY | MAY 10

FREE SATURDAY MORNING FITNESS; WELLNESS & WAVES RETURNS FOR 2025 SEASON
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. Start your weekend with movement, mindfulness, and ocean views as Wellness & Waves returns to the Santa Monica Pier beginning Saturday, April 5 through October 11, 2025, from 8 to 10 a.m. every week. This popular Free fitness series invites the community to embrace self-care and coastal vibes with group runs, yoga, and fusion fitness—all in the most iconic outdoor setting in Los Angeles. Held beneath the famed Santa Monica Yacht Harbor sign, Wellness & Waves kicks off with a breezy group run from 8 to 9 a.m., perfect for runners of all levels. From 9 to 10 a.m., the energy shifts to the west end of the Pier for Yoga and Yoga-Pilates Fusion classes, led by a rotating lineup of celebrated instructors from some of the Westside's top wellness studios. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/free-saturday-morning-fitness-wellness-waves-returns-for-2025-season/15484766/2025-05-10T08

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING CLASSES!
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Ave Park 2200 Virgina Ave Santa Monica. People's Dog Training™, a Love At First Sit® program, host their L.A. Wildfires Initiative through their Community Dog Training Classes on Saturdays at Virginia Ave Park in Santa Monica. Class fee is $5.00, then Pay-What-You-Can after that. Wildfire Victims and first responders are always free. Class proceeds are donated to CAMP (Community Animal Medicine Project) who are providing FREE veterinary services to L.A. Wildfire Victims. Sign-up at peoplesdogtraining.com/community-training. $5.00 —General $5.00. First Responders & Wildfire Victims FREE. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/community-dog-training-classes-/11981844/2025-05-10T12

"SHEER ENJOYMENT!" IT'S BARNYARD MADNESS WITH THE THREE LITTLE PIGS
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica. "This is what family theatre is all about and the Santa Monica Playhouse offers the best. Kids will delight in it all as will adults!" The Tolucan Times. It's a finger-snappin', toe-tappin' zany musical romp following the romantic antics and showbiz aspirations of the swingin' singin' McPig Sisters and their canine admirers, complete with exciting audience participation. $15.00 to $17.50—$15 kids 12 and under; $17.50 adults. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/-sheer-enjoyment-it-s-barnyard-madness-with-the-three-little-pigs/15355101/2025-05-10T14

SUNDAY | MAY 11

THE WATERFRONT - SUNDAY REAL FUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Waterfront 205 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy a bottomless brunch buffet Sundays at The Waterfront! The Waterfront Venice is a full-service restaurant celebrating Californian cuisine with views of the Pacific Ocean. Situated between Rose and Navy on the famous Venice Beach Boardwalk, our food & beverage menus celebrate California with carefully selected seasonal produce from local farms. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-waterfront-sunday-real-funday-brunch-buffet/14894114/2025-05-11T11

MONDAY | MAY 12

ARBOR VENICE MONDAY NIGHT POOL TOURNEY
5:30 p.m. 2907 Main Street CA 90405 Join us at the pool table on the Back Patio Santa Monica. Join in the fun as Arbor Venice takes over Tavern on Main. We'll be showing awesome skateboard and snowboarding footage on our screens and hosting a pool tourney with awesome prizes for the winner each week. Monday $9 Burger+Beer special is a great addition to the festivities. Come and play, hang or whatever suits your mood. All are welcome at Tavern on Main. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/arbor-venice-monday-night-pool-tourney/14639005/2025-05-12T17

TUESDAY | MAY 13

WESTSIDE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Westside Family Health Center is proud to be back in the SMC Student Health Center offering students free reproductive care including the following: Birth control pills (oral contraceptive), Depot shot, Nuva Ring, Condoms, Emergency contraceptive (Plan B), STI testing Pregnancy testing. Call or text for an appointment. Text: 310-699-9973. Call: 310-450-2191, x 215. 234, or 246. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/westside-family-health-center/14419416/2025-05-13T10

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/15309564/2025-05-13T16

WEDNESDAY | MAY 14

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/12382446/2025-05-14T08

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-/14548476/2025-05-14T12

THURSDAY | MAY 15

LUNCHTIME LINE DANCE
12:30 p.m. Venice - Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library 501 S. Venice Boulevard Venice. Get fit and meet new friends learning line dances on your lunch break. We will learn new and old dances to various styles, including country, disco, Latin, soul, and more. All levels are welcome. 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/12342961/2025-05-15T12

LEGO CLUB
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Public Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica. Come explore the limits of your building imagination or try out one of our suggested builds. All materials provided. For ages 18 months - 1. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/lego-club/15409657/2025-05-15T16

BOOK DISCUSSIONS
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Montana Branch Library. This book group discusses a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles, often on topics chosen from current events. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/book-discussions/14712450/2025-05-15T18

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Montana Branch Library 1704 Montana Ave. Santa Monica. This community-led, monthly book discussion group meets in person at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Montana Branch. This book group discusses a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles, often on topics chosen from current events. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. Supported by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/montana-avenue-branch-book-discussion-group/13906564/2025-05-15T18

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/1/25 2025088331 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as EmWell Spa 101 Wilshire Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90401 . Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. 202123811298The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Em Style LLC 31481 La Calera St San Juan Capristrano, CA 92675 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2025 . Registrant / Corp/LLC Em Style LLC Title: CEO Emina Mila . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/01/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00230 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Morris Simon for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Morris Simon this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Morris Simon to Maurice Simone The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall 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 06/13/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: -. The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Courthouse 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 . 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



White House proposes overhauling the outdated US air traffic control system in the wake of crashes

The Trump administration proposed a major overhaul of the U.S. air traffic control system on Thursday in the wake of recent deadly plane crashes and technical failures that have put a spotlight on the outdated network.

The plan calls for six new air traffic control centers, along with technology and communications upgrades at all of the nation's air traffic facilities over the next three years, said Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy. How much it will all cost wasn't immediately revealed.

> Decades of neglect have left us with an outdated system that is showing its age
>
> - Sean Duffy, Transportation Secretary

"Decades of neglect have left us with an outdated system that is showing its age," Duffy said in prepared remarks. "Building this new system is an economic and national security necessity, and the time to fix it is now."

The Trump administration wants to add fiber, wireless and satellite technology at more than 4,600 locations, replace 600 radars and increase the number of airports with systems designed to reduce near misses on runways.

Six new air traffic control centers also would be built under the plan and new hardware and software would be standardized across all air traffic facilities.

The plan has an aggressive timeline, calling on everything to be finished by 2028.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee estimated last week that it might cost $12.5 billion to overhaul the air traffic control system, but that estimate was developed before the Transportation Department revealed the details of its plan, so it's not clear if that number is reasonable.

To build the system in three to four years, as planned, Congress must give the Federal Aviation Administration all the money up front, Duffy said, who compared the proposal with upgrading from a flip phone to a smartphone.

Trump said Thursday that the plan will revolutionize flying. "The new equipment is unbelievable what it does," he said from the Oval Office. He began to say it may even alleviate the need for pilots before adding, "In my opinion, you always need pilots. But you wouldn't even have to have pilots. This system is so incredible."

The aging system and its struggles to handle more than 45,000 daily flights have come under renewed scrutiny since the midair collision in January between a military helicopter and a commercial airliner that killed 67 people over Washington, D.C.

The crash showed the need for these upgrades, Duffy said in front of airline officials, union leaders and family members of those who died in the crash near Reagan National Airport. "If there are foreseeable issues in the airspace you would expect someone to take actions to save lives," Duffy said.

"This is bold. This is going to be challenging, but we absolutely can do it," he said.

Following the midair crash, Trump promised to fix what he called "an old, broken system" and to tackle the nationwide shortage of air traffic controllers while blaming the previous Biden administration for both problems.

But the weaknesses within the air traffic control system have been highlighted for years in hearings before Congress and government reports. The struggles to keep up with increasing air traffic has been recognized since the 1990s — long before either Trump or Biden took office.

The Trump administration's overhaul plan will need backing from Congress and enough funding to be more effective than previous reform efforts during the last three decades. Already more than $14 billion has been invested in upgrades since 2003 but none have dramatically changed how the system works.

The Federal Aviation Administration has been working since the mid-2000s to make upgrades through its NextGen program.

One of the biggest challenges with a massive upgrade is that the FAA must keep the current system operating while developing a new system and then find a way to seamlessly switch over. That's partly why the agency has pursued more gradual improvements in the past.

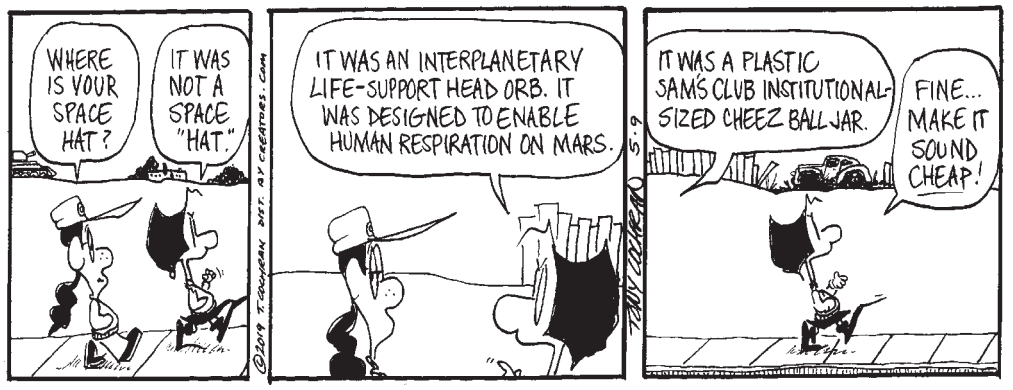
The shortage of controllers and technical breakdowns came to the forefront in recent weeks when a radar system briefly failed at the Newark, New Jersey, airport, leading to a wave of flight cancellations and delays.

Without the planned upgrades announced Thursday, those breakdowns will repeated around the nation, Duffy said. "Newark has been a prime example of what happens when this old equipment goes down," he said.

By JOSH FUNK and JOHN SEEWER, Associated Press

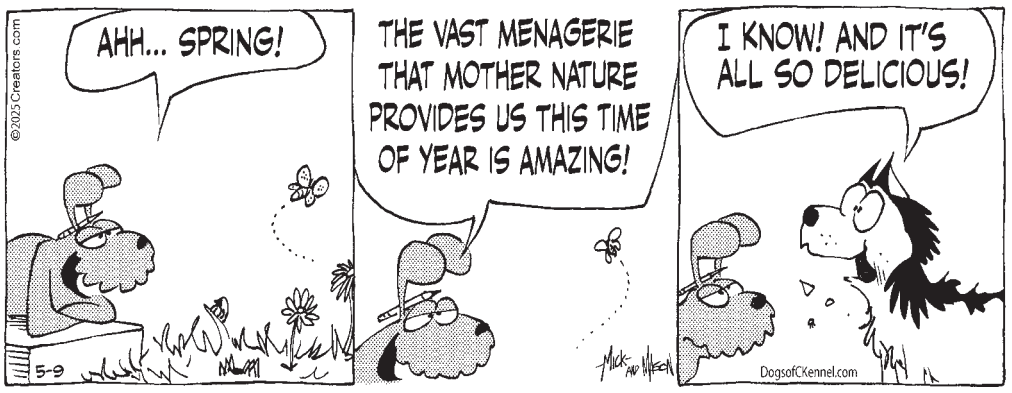
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



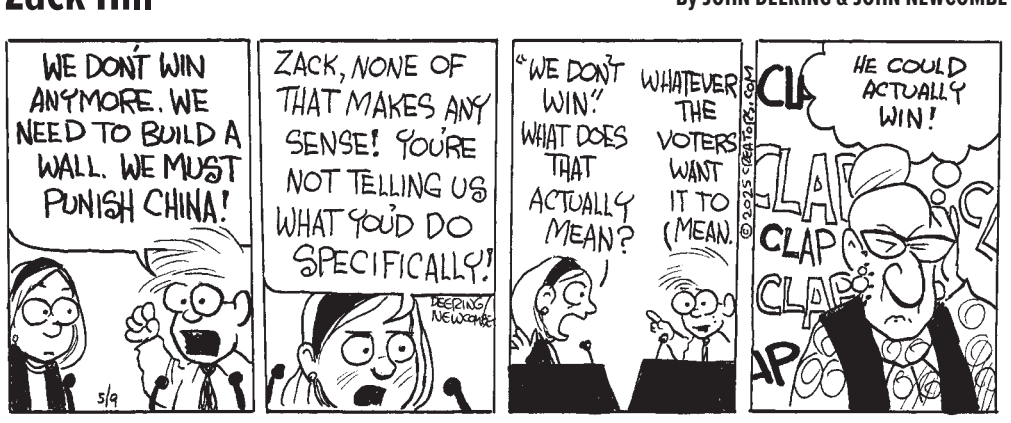
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



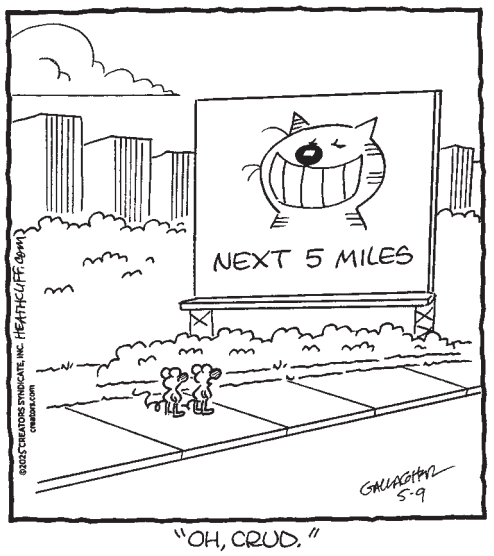
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

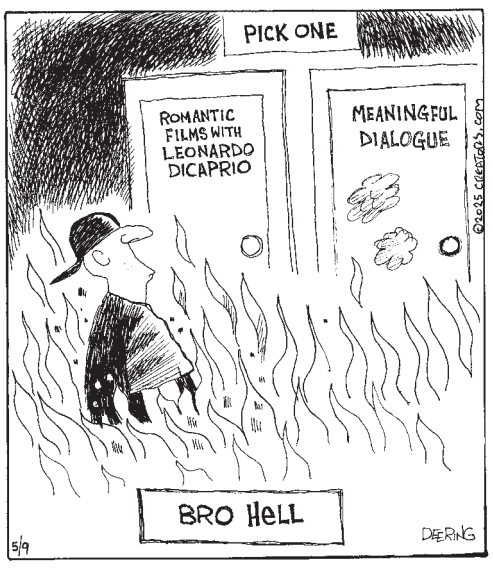
By PETER GALLAGHER



"OH, CRUD."

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

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Not you average beverage

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

Assam	Clean	Iced	Pungent
Bags	Congou	Luaka	Ragged
Black	Crema	Lunch	Roast
Body	Cups	Monkey	Rose
Bold	Dark	picked	Sweaty
Break	Estate	Muddy	Temi
Broken	Even	Musty	Theaceae
Burned	Extraction	Napuk	Tippy
Busy	Flavour	Nibs	Tisane
Cafe	Good	Pearl	Twankay
Camellia	Grainy	Puck	Wiry
Chai	Grey	Pull	Yunan

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 9)

Your imagination is a gold mine this year. What you sketch in your mind will find its way into the real world — people, places, beauty. More highlights: Luxury won't just be material; it will be in the way you spend your time, too. You'll teach something profound without even trying. An old love returns in a new form, or a new love feels strangely familiar. Sagittarius and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 16, 23, 38, and 7.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). True justice isn't just about being smart or diligent; it requires objectivity. You'll put aside your own biases, emotions or interests to see what is genuinely fair. Most can't fully detach from their personal stakes, but doing so is essential for true fairness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Communication is an exchange, not always an agreement. In moments of disagreement, respectful, steady dialogue matters most. Stay cool and you'll earn trust, clarity and rewards that extend far beyond the moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You want to be acknowledged in a way that feels like love — because other ways don't. Your preferred form of recognition may not be obvious to you yet, but it's worth exploring. It holds the key to feeling truly seen and satisfied.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today you'll be so aware of narratives being constructed and "truth" being curated. History presents facts. That act of choosing which facts to tell gives history a narrative shape that's less about science and more about storytelling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Maturity involves recognizing the difference between what you think you should want and what you actually want. It seems logical to want a certain kind of career, relationship or lifestyle — but your true desires lie elsewhere. Understanding empowers you with more authentic choices.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Healing is returning to wholeness, not necessarily how things used to be, but how they can feel right again inside you. It's cellular and spiritual, personal and collective, and non-linear; it circles back, deepens, pauses and resumes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The first mistake is a learning moment. The second... maybe still. But eventually, repetition reclassifies it. It's no longer a mistake; it's a decision. What you do repeatedly becomes part of who you are. Choose consciously.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're not carrying the same weight. Peace has quietly replaced pressure. It's the kind of healing that doesn't announce itself — just a whisper of ease that lets you know everything has changed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Today, you're a catalyst — igniting momentum, stirring hearts and shifting energy simply by being your true self. Your presence alone sets things in motion, inspiring action and transformation in ways both subtle and bold.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Criticism isn't always the sweetest thing to swallow, but if it's the truth, it can be applied to improve things. The mood today is lighthearted, humble and experimental, which lends an advantage.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's someone in your life who feels the need to test you, and this person may not be aware of the dynamic. Even if they are, they may be helpless to stop this very primal instinct. One way you can handle it? Don't step into the role of "test-taker." Politely pass.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's vital to have people who support you during hard times and people who celebrate you in the good times. Interestingly, finding someone who can genuinely be happy for you when you shine is often rare and difficult. Treasure your support team.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

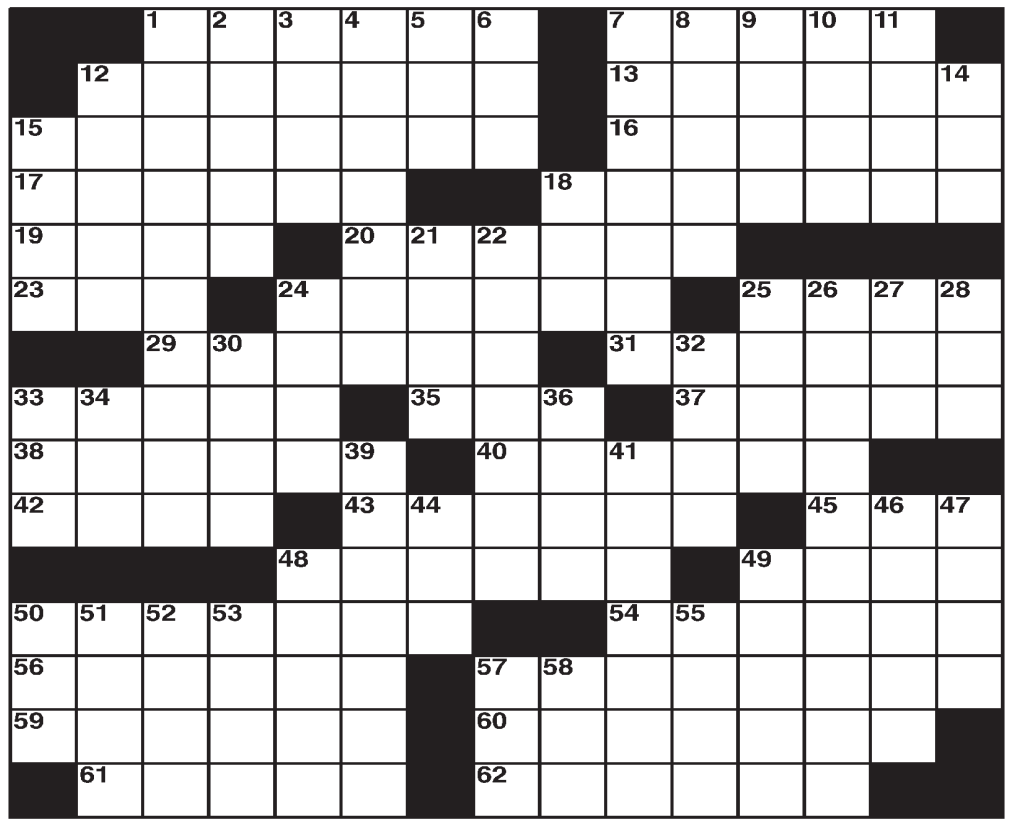
BILINGUAL by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Membership chairperson's urging
7 Oath-taking need
12 Keystone Studios founder
13 Top performers
15 *Miraculous event
16 Eschew extravagance
17 Bring to a simmer again
18 *Bin contents
19 Irish Ivan
20 Nest builder on telephone poles
23 Piratic plaint
24 Get started
25 Ohms' reciprocals
29 Tots' transportation
31 Floor-washing robot
33 With 35- and 37-Across, how to answer the starred clues
35 See 33-Across
37 See 33-Across
38 Ballet shoe insert
40 First Cooperstown electee
42 Musical muffler
43 Didn't get a Lyft
45 Far from stern
48 Had too much of
49 Evian evening
50 *Savage
54 City on Puget Sound
56 Sign of spring
57 *Insufficiency
59 Bold challenge
60 Before the races
61 Fundamental
62 "That ain't normal"

DOWN

1 *West Wing* president
2 Result of a leadoff walk
3 Crucifix initials
4 Dior's first fashion collection
5 Tony winner Hagen
6 Foul territory
7 Hunting hounds
8 Restive
9 Unibrow Muppet
10 Hidey-hole
11 Austen heroine
12 Captain Hook look
14 Infiltrator
15 Bear up above
18 NFC West squad
21 Marching pace
22 Presupposed
24 Name related to Luigi
25 Old Testament kingdom
26 Easy to anger
27 Pacific Rim broad band
28 __ Gabriel Mountains
30 Opportune
32 Lump of ground
33 What you can bank on
34 Common middle name for Mary
36 Lamb sandwich
39 Gustavo who leads the Los Angeles Philharmonic
41 Manitoba mall designations
44 Nickname of 2025's Album of the Year Grammy winner
46 Strive for
47 Picture of health
48 Kagan appointer
49 Slate, for short
50 Station abbreviation
51 Literary Quaker captain
52 What hypos may hold
53 *Extrêmement*
55 Sphere starter
57 Seismology starter
58 Aesthetic interest



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05/09/25

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

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1

The revamped school will expand its educational offerings by adding two transitional kindergarten (TK) classrooms and one additional kindergarten classroom. This expansion will allow the campus to serve students from TK through 8th grade.

District plans indicate the school will continue to grow in future years, with a goal of having two classes serving each grade level at full capacity of about 450 students, roughly the same total number of students that attended SMASH/Muir.

Families with incoming TK or kindergarten students who live in the Ocean Park neighborhood are being encouraged to enroll at SMASH for the 2025-26 school year, with the understanding that while the new school will not be named "Santa Monica Alternative School House" it will essentially be the SMASH program transitioned to the new campus with the same classmates and teachers when it reopens during that school year.

The new Ocean Park neighborhood school will represent a significant departure from the previous arrangement of two distinct educational entities sharing one campus. The school will build upon what the district describes as "the strengths and values of both" the former John Muir Elementary and SMASH programs.

The unified school will maintain the "social-emotionally focused and project-based learning model that has existed at the site for decades," according to district information. This approach builds on the alternative education philosophy that was previously associated primarily with the SMASH program. SMMUSD subsequently opened a project based high school program that is also open to all students regardless of elementary education.

This merger reflects discussions that began in November 2022, when SMMUSD officials first introduced the possibility that the campus could reopen as one "unified school" rather than maintaining the previous arrangement of separate institutions.

The campus closure and subsequent renovation project began after the release of a report in May 2021 that revealed extensive water damage and mold requiring major repairs. The campus was closed at the end of the 2021-22 school year, displacing approximately 550 students who had attended the Ocean Park facility.

As assessments continued through 2022 and 2023, the scope of the project expanded. In January 2023, after consultations with the Division of the State Architect (DSA), district officials recommended pursuing structural upgrades as part of the repair project. This decision complicated the design and permitting process while increasing overall costs.

The structural work means that the campus's four buildings, which were built in 1995, will be retrofitted to meet current structural codes, in addition to addressing the water damage that caused the initial closure.

The closure of the Muir/SMASH campus set off a complex reorganization of students throughout the district, leading to concerns about equity and community preservation.

Students from SMASH were relocated as a cohesive unit to the Olympic High School campus, officially known as the Michelle and Barack Obama Center for Inquiry and Exploration. According to the latest district information, SMASH students will continue at the Obama Center campus until the reopening of the new Ocean Park facility.

Students attending the Olympic High School PBL program were moved to Santa Monica College, and will return to the Obama Center following the reopening of the Ocean Park neighborhood school.

The John Muir Elementary student body, however, was dispersed across multiple locations. The majority of Muir's approximately 230 students were relocated to Will Rogers Elementary, with the remaining students distributed to other elementary schools on a first come, first served basis.

This dispersal prompted concerns from John Muir parents and teachers during the initial closure discussions. At a June 2022 board meeting, several parents suggested the plan to keep SMASH intact while dispersing Muir students amounted to "discrimination against Muir."

At the time, parents also expressed fears that once closed, John Muir Elementary as a distinct entity would never return to the Ocean Park campus.

Throughout the closure and planning process, district officials have maintained that, regardless of the final arrangement, there would always be a neighborhood school on the Ocean Park campus.

editor@smdp.com

UNEMPLOYMENT

FROM PAGE 4

the Legislature.

The Medi-Cal situation exemplifies the underlying reason why California's budget is unhealthy while the state's economy continues to grow, albeit without producing many new jobs.

The pertinent data is to be found in a recent publication by the Legislature's budget analyst, Gabe Petek, called "CalFacts 2024."

It reveals that since Newsom became governor in 2019, state spending has increased, on average, by 9% a year while annual revenues have grown by just 6%. The difference between those two numbers constitutes what budget mavens call a "structural deficit," meaning that spending baked into law far exceeds what the current revenue system can generate.

The underlying discrepancy between income and outgo is important to remember, because when Newsom unveils his revised budget he's likely to cite the Los Angeles wildfires and Trump's tariffs as factors in the budget's gap.

Both of those events are likely to increase the deficit, but they didn't cause it. The deficit exists because Newsom and the Legislature have chronically spent more than the revenue system produces, even though Californians have one of the nation's highest state and local tax burdens, relative to the state's economy.

Moreover, by tapping into reserves meant to cushion the impact of recessions or other emergency situations, Newsom and legislators have weakened the state's ability to cope with genuine economic setbacks or disasters, such as the wildfires.

By Dan Walters

FOOD DRIVE

FROM PAGE 3

The drive is supported by numerous national partners, including the United States Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, United Way Worldwide and the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, along with many regional and local organizations.

William J. Flynn, a regional food bank coordinator in Southern California, said in a statement that the event consistently provides one of the year's most significant boosts in supply for local operations.

"This drive is essential to keeping our programs running through the summer," Flynn said. "We can always count on the letter carriers and the generosity of local residents. Every can, every box, every contribution helps put food on someone's table."

NALC organizers advise that acceptable donations include non-perishable items such as canned soup, vegetables, fruit, pasta, rice, peanut butter and cereal. Items should be unopened, unexpired and not in glass containers. Residents are encouraged to confirm participation by checking with their local letter carrier or using the NALC's online branch lookup tool. In cases where a branch is not listed, the organization suggests contacting the local Post Office or emailing communityserviceshq@nalc.org for details.

While the total national haul from this year's campaign will not be tallied until later in May, organizers are hopeful that 2025 will mark a new milestone in both participation and volume collected.

"We ask everyone who is able to join us in this simple act of kindness," the NALC said. "It's a small gesture that can have a big impact on our neighbors in need."

For more information about the drive or to find out if your local branch is participating, visit www.nalc.org/food-drive.

scott.snowden@smdp.com

POPE

FROM PAGE 6

of paper inscribed with the words "Eligo in summen pontificem" — "I elect as supreme pontiff." They approach the altar one by one and say: "I call as my witness, Christ the Lord who will be my judge, that my vote is given to the one who, before God, I think should be elected."

The folded ballot is placed on a round plate and tipped into a silver and gold urn. Once cast, the ballots are opened one by one by three different "scrutineers," cardinals selected at random who write down the names and read them aloud.

The scrutineers, whose work is checked by other cardinals called revisers, then add up the results of each round of balloting and write them on a separate sheet of paper, which is preserved in the papal archives.

As the scrutineer reads out each name, he pierces each ballot with a needle through the word "Eligo." All the ballots are then bound together with thread, and the bundle is put aside and burned in the chapel stove along with a chemical to produce the smoke.

By NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press. Giada Zampano, Helena Alves and Vanessa Gera contributed to this report. Associated Press religion coverage receives support through the AP's collaboration with The Conversation US, with funding from Lilly Endowment Inc. The AP is solely responsible for this content.



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