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2 **Turf Debate**
At Franklin.

3 **Cities complain**
About Caltrans encampments.

4 **Gas Prices**
Where to fill up.

6 **ICE Deportation**
Of SMC student.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Gov. Newsom pushes for more camping bans but local rules already surpass state proposals



SMDP Photo

HOMELESS: Santa Monica's anti-camping rules prohibit sleeping in public spaces.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Governor Gavin Newsom's push to outlaw homeless encampments is reverberating throughout the state but Santa Monica has a longstanding anti-camping ordinance that goes above and beyond the new state model in almost every way.

Santa Monica's current anti-camping ordinance imposes significantly stricter regulations on homeless encampments than Governor Gavin Newsom's recently proposed statewide model ordinance, according to an SMDP comparison.

The local camping rules are in the spotlight again this week after Newsom released a draft ordinance on Monday calling it a model for municipalities to follow as they attempt to remove homeless camps from public spaces. He said cities can use his draft ordinance wholesale or use it as a model for new restrictions but Santa Monica appears to have little need for the state's suggestions.

Santa Monica's municipal code broadly prohibits camping in virtually all public spaces within the city limits at any time. The local law defines "camp" as erecting, maintaining or occupying a camp facility for living accommodations, with "camp facility" encompassing structures and other items used to make a living space in the public domain.

"Prohibited public places" under Santa

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 11

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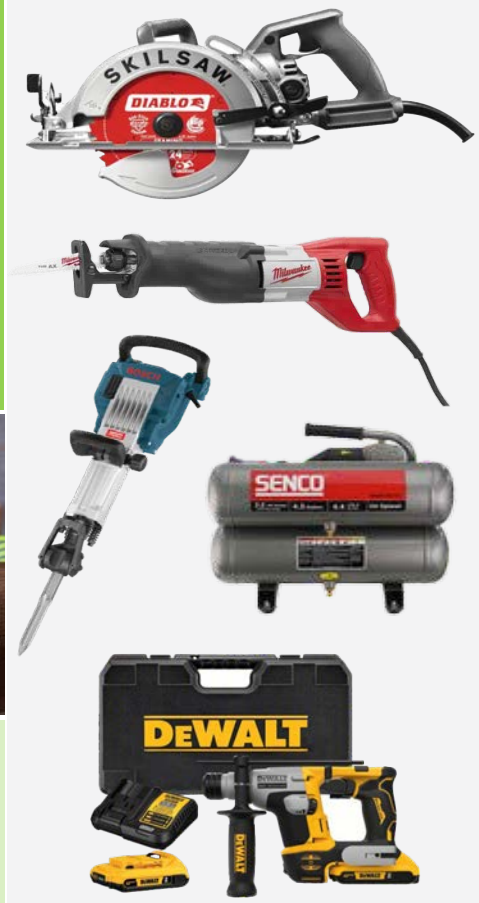
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Turf debate heats up in Santa Monica as district, parents clash over artificial grass

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A heated debate is unfolding in Santa Monica as the local school district moves forward with a controversial plan to replace natural grass fields at Franklin and Grant elementary schools with synthetic turf. While district officials argue the shift is necessary for safety, durability and year-round usability, an organized group of parents, environmental advocates and even a sitting state senator are pushing back.

At the heart of the issue is Franklin Elementary, a campus that serves roughly 600 students on just 5.6 acres of land, which is less than half the 11.7 acres recommended by the California Department of Education for a school of that size. According to Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District officials, that limited space leads to overuse of the school's only field. The district says the grass is worn down by up to 10 hours of play a day and is rested for less than a month each year.

District leaders say the wear and tear has created an uneven and potentially unsafe surface, with bare patches of hard dirt and muddy pockets of thick grass that increase the risk of injury. They also note that unlike professional athletes who perform on manicured grass maintained by trained specialists, students at Franklin play on fields that cannot withstand their current level of use.

In response, the district has proposed installing a synthetic turf product made by TenCate, specifically the "Pivot Play" system or something similar. District officials say the material represents the latest generation of turf and argue it is a significant improvement over older models that relied on crumb rubber infill and were associated with a variety of environmental and health concerns.

The district says the new turf is made without infill materials, is free from lead and toxic substances and contains no PFAs, also known as "forever chemicals." Officials also highlight that the turf can be cleaned with simple dish detergent, meets international toy safety standards, and is fully recyclable. A 2024 study cited by the district suggests that concussion risks are lower and less severe on synthetic turf compared to natural grass.

They also argue that the synthetic surface can be used from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day of the year, rain or shine, offering a consistent and safe playing surface for students regardless of the weather. "When it is as vital as ever to have children playing and exercising, providing more hours of safe play points towards choosing a synthetic turf field over grass," the district wrote in a statement.

But a growing number of parents and community members remain unconvinced and many say they only recently learned of the district's decision. A petition is circulating urging the district to reverse course and parent advocates plan to speak during public comment at the upcoming school board meeting scheduled for May 15.

Critics cite concerns about exposure to microplastics, argue that synthetic turf can become dangerously hot, with surface temperatures as much as 70 degrees higher than ambient air on sunny days. They point to potential burns, dehydration and heat exhaustion as added risks for young children.

Environmental concerns are also playing a central role in the opposition. Activists argue that the turf is made from fossil fuels, sheds microplastics into the soil, nearby waterways and contributes to urban heat island effects. They also question the long-term sustainability of a product that must be replaced every eight to ten years and requires large amounts of water for cleaning.

Opponents have suggested that instead of converting grass fields into turf, the district should consider turning other hardscaped areas such as asphalt into green space, following an initiative currently underway in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Others have proposed the use of organic, drought-tolerant natural grass fields, which they argue are cooler, more inviting, and equally cost-effective over time.

The district has responded with additional information about the plan. According to officials, the primary challenge is the size of the Franklin campus and the difficulty in fitting all the required classrooms into the space.

Changes to the campus include larger classrooms, more alternative learning spaces, and improved outdoor learning facilities.

In addition, universal transitional kindergarten (TK) at the school expands the number of needed classrooms to facilitate all four-year-olds attending school beginning fall 2025. These TK classrooms, like kindergarten, are larger than standard classrooms, contain restrooms, and have specific outdoor play requirements (75 sf per student).

School officials said the outdoor learning green space will be increased by eight percent within the campus plan but the new athletic field reduces the field area by 29 percent.

The district said despite the artificial turf, the campus plan anticipates an increase in grass and natural areas for play, reflection and learning.

The school board is expected to consider final approval of the Franklin turf plan later this month. In the meantime, both sides are preparing for a showdown at the May 15 board meeting where public comment is expected to be robust.

The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Visit https://www.smmusd.org/boardmeetings for more information.

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SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

Caltrans' response to homeless encampments is lagging, cities complain



Photo by Larry Valenzuela for CalMatters

CAMP: A homeless man's tent set up along the side of Golden State Boulevard just under Highway 41 in southwest Fresno on Feb. 11, 2022.

Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered state agencies to clear homeless encampments from their properties last summer, holding up the California Department of Transportation as an example of how it should be done.

But in the more than nine months since, cities up and down the state have complained that Caltrans isn't doing enough. City officials and staff say the state agency is slow, sometimes taking months to respond to their requests to clear an encampment. They complain the agency doesn't consistently tell them when it plans to clear a camp. In at least one city, officials have no idea if Caltrans is offering services to the homeless people it kicks off its land.

And for the most part, city workers are barred from going onto Caltrans property to do the job themselves.

"The way it's set up right now isn't working," said Jorgel Chavez, mayor of Bell Gardens — a city of nearly 40,000 on the outskirts of Los Angeles. "It's too long. Folks are frustrated."

A bill making its way through the Legislature seeks to change that by pushing Caltrans to better collaborate with cities. Senate Bill 569 would require the state agency to hire a liaison to communicate with local governments, and lay out timelines that make it clear when Caltrans should respond after a city asks it to clear an encampment.

The bill also would make it easier for cities to go onto Caltrans property and use their own resources and personnel to remove encampments and offer services. It would allow, but not require, Caltrans to reimburse cities for those efforts.

Caltrans refused an interview request and did not respond to emailed questions about its process for working with cities to clear encampments, or about the Senate bill. The agency hasn't publicly endorsed or opposed the bill.

The bill comes amid a statewide push to remove homeless camps, and sometimes arrest the people in them, despite a widespread shortage of housing and shelters. Newsom on Monday urged cities and counties to adopt a model ordinance that would make camping in one place for more than three days illegal.

The U.S. Supreme Court last year found that cities can make it illegal to sleep outside in a public place, even if there is nowhere else for someone to go. Since then, more than two dozen California cities and counties have enacted new encampment bans, brought back old bans or made their ordinances more punitive.

As cities push unhoused people off their downtown sidewalks and out of their parks, people often resort to sleeping on Caltrans land — alongside highway on and off ramps, on medians or under overpasses. Sleeping so close to cars whizzing by carries its own risks, but it can buy them time, as Caltrans tends to take longer than cities to clear encampments.

Meanwhile, Caltrans is in the midst of a sometimes fraught transition from an agency tasked with building and maintaining highways to an agency increasingly also burdened with the difficult responsibility of humanely dismantling homeless encampments and helping unhoused residents access scarce shelter. In 2020, the agency agreed to pay $5.5 million to settle a lawsuit claiming it illegally destroyed the belongings of homeless

SEE **CALTRANS** PAGE 7



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **66.2**

WEDNESDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Similar size in the water as SW swell comes up. Keeping an eye on winds. SW swell nudges up as the short-period NW energy from the past couple of days winds down. Similar size to Mon-Tue as the SW swell on tap is decent direction for the beachrbeaks west of Dume, especially out toward County Line. And with the NW energy mixing in there should be peaky shape. S/SE wind issues are possible in the AM, but look light enough at this point to make it worth watching. Winds switch around to the W for the PM window, should be some lighter wind midday as it does.

THURSDAY
FAIR
SURF: 2-3ft
Thigh to waist

Fun SW swell combines with dropping windswell.
SW swell tops out as short-period NW swell comes down further. Think knee-waist high waves with better breaks around chest-shoulder high. Should be enough of a mix for some fun peaks, and morning winds look lighter than Wednesday -- still a possibility of some southerly wind texture. W/WSW onshore wind adds more lump for the afternoon, but it doesn't look like the surf will be completely blown out.

Weather

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Southeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 56. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
025/05/14	Wed	05:25 AM	-0.55	L
2025/05/14	Wed	12:01 PM	3.12	H
2025/05/14	Wed	3:55 PM	2.35	L
2025/05/14	Wed	10:23 PM	5.54	H
2025/05/15	Thu	06:06 AM	-0.46	L
2025/05/15	Thu	12:56 PM	2.99	H
2025/05/15	Thu	4:20 PM	2.53	L
2025/05/15	Thu	10:57 PM	5.38	H
2025/05/16	Fri	06:52 AM	-0.33	L
2025/05/16	Fri	2:04 PM	2.93	H
2025/05/16	Fri	4:50 PM	2.72	L
2025/05/16	Fri	11:36 PM	5.17	H

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Draw Date: 5/12
15 16 41 48 60
Power#: 21
Jackpot: 106 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/9
9 10 12 48 60
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 110 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/10
7 10 11 21 32
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 7 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/12
1 2 18 36 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/12
EVENING: 1 4 0
Draw Date: 5/12
MIDDAY: 0 3 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/12
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:44.90

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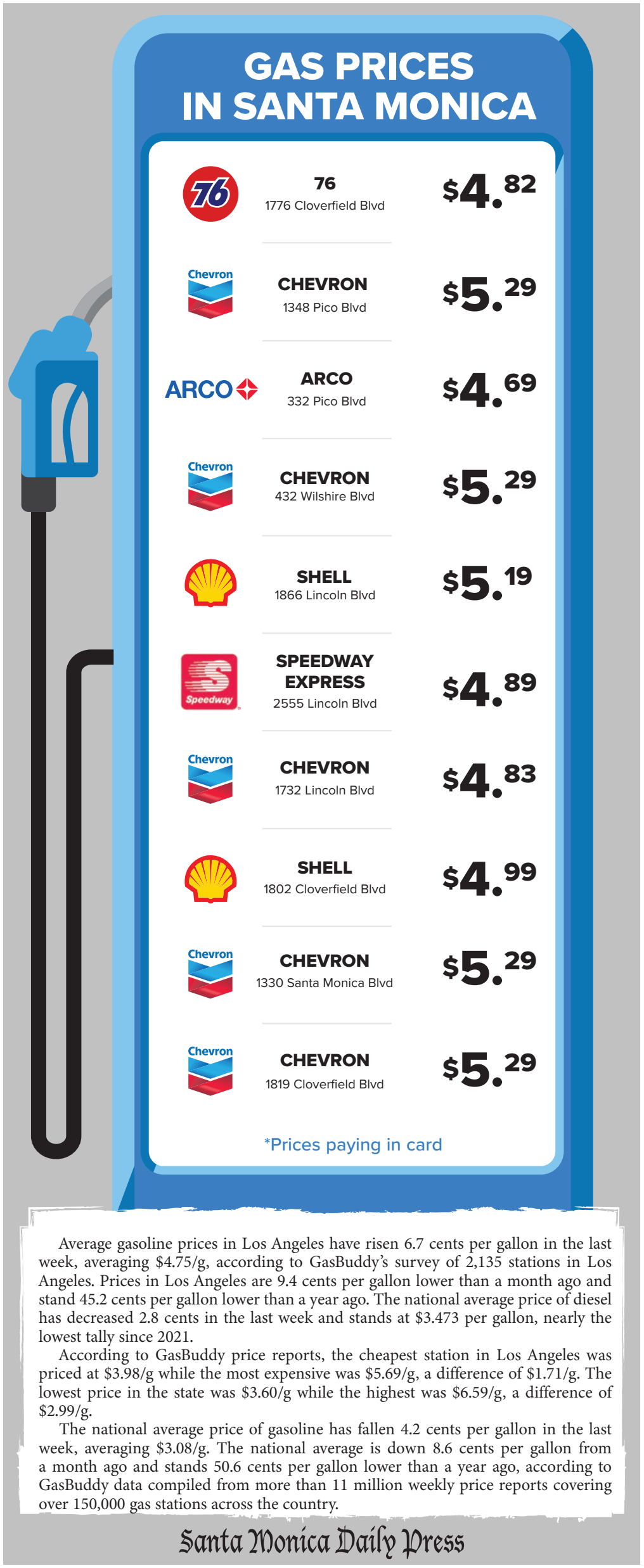
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Santa Monica Daily Press



Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 6.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.75/g, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 9.4 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 45.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 2.8 cents in the last week and stands at $3.473 per gallon, nearly the lowest tally since 2021.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $3.98/g while the most expensive was $5.69/g, a difference of $1.71/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.60/g while the highest was $6.59/g, a difference of $2.99/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 4.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.08/g. The national average is down 8.6 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 50.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMUNITY NEWS

MALIBU

Malibu Taps Former U.S. Ambassador as Interim City Manager

The City of Malibu has appointed former U.S. Ambassador Candace Bond as its Interim City Manager, bringing in a longtime resident with international leadership experience to help guide recovery efforts following recent natural disasters.

Bond, who has lived in Malibu for more than 30 years, previously served as the United States Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago, where she received the Golden Hummingbird Award, that nation's highest civilian honor.

"This is a labor of love," Bond said. "Malibu is home. I raised my children here. I want to use every bit of experience I've gained in public life to help this city recover and move forward with resilience, vision, and care."

The appointment comes as Malibu continues recovery efforts from the Palisades Fire and a series of winter storms that destroyed over 400 homes along the beachfront.

"Ambassador Bond brings the heart of a neighbor and the skills of a world-class leader," Mayor Marianne Riggins said. "We are fortunate to have someone of her caliber stepping into this role during such a critical moment."

Bond is a Harvard College graduate with honors and holds an MBA from Harvard Business School, where she recently received the Alumni Achievement Award. Locally, she has served on the Board of the Los Angeles County Office of Education and as Co-Chair of the MLK Community Development Corporation.

The appointment follows the resignation of Acting City Manager Joseph Toney, who will step down effective May 22. Toney has served the city for three years, helping lead Malibu through what he described as "unspeakable challenges with the recent disasters."

> It has truly been an honor and privilege to help lead and work next to such a dedicated team of staff, and I am forever grateful for the opportunity to serve our community
>
> - Joseph Toney

"It has truly been an honor and privilege to help lead and work next to such a dedicated team of staff, and I am forever grateful for the opportunity to serve our community," Toney said in a statement.

During his tenure, Toney oversaw several initiatives including a half-cent transactions and use tax that generates over $4 million annually for the city, enhanced school safety measures, improvements to development services, and leading recovery efforts during recent disasters.

Mayor Riggins acknowledged Toney's contributions, saying, "Joe has been a steady hand and proven leader through some of the most challenging times in our City's history. We are grateful for his service and dedication to Malibu."

Toney will assist with the transition as Bond assumes her new role in the coming weeks.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SANTA MONICA

BroadStage Announces Inaugural Santa Monica International Jazz Festival for 2026

BroadStage has partnered with four-time Grammy Award winner Stanley Clarke and executive producer Martin Fleischmann to launch the Santa Monica International Jazz Festival in spring 2026.

The three-day event will showcase internationally acclaimed jazz artists alongside emerging local talent across multiple venues from the Santa Monica Pier to the Promenade, featuring both ticketed and free performances.

The inaugural festival coincides with the centennial celebrations of Route 66, Miles Davis and John Coltrane.

"This destination festival will combine commercial festival elements with community-focused programming," said Rob Bailis, Artistic and Executive Director of BroadStage.

Clarke, serving as Artistic Director, brings over 50 years of experience as a bass virtuoso who became the first bassist to headline jazz-fusion tours globally. His extensive career includes more than 45 albums and numerous accolades, including the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master honor in 2022.

Festival organizers plan to announce the artist lineup, venue details and ticket information in September.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

GET IT DAILY...

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Democrats seeking California governor strut their stuff for powerful union leaders



Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

ELECTION: Democratic candidates for governor hold up green flags during a candidates' event hosted by the California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO and the State Building and Construction Trades Council at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on May 12, 2025. The candidates in attendance were Katie Porter, Eleni Kounalakis, Toni Atkins, Antonio Villaraigosa, Betty Yee, Xavier Becerra and Tony Thurmond.

Given California's daunting — even existential — array of social, economic and fiscal crises, it's remarkable that anyone would volunteer to become its governor.

However, Gavin Newsom will vacate the office 19 months hence, with most of those crises still in place, and at least seven Democratic politicians yearn to succeed him.

Former state Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, former U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, former Rep. Katie Porter, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and former State Controller Betty Yee put themselves on display Monday evening during a legislative conference of the state's major union organizations.

It was what politicians call a "beauty contest," in which candidates are given opportunities to briefly strut their stuff without any deep oratory. It was also an opportunity for the union leaders to pin them down on their top bread-and-butter issues, such as granting unemployment insurance benefits to striking workers, mandatory use of union labor in construction projects and more money for those projects.

With Lorena Gonzalez, head of the California Labor Federation, and Chris Hannan, president of the building trades, shooting the questions, the candidates were asked to wave flags indicating whether they supported the various union objectives.

Most toed the union line, although Villaraigosa, who sparred with education unions during his mayoralty, demurred on the unemployment insurance issue, citing its cost and the state's chronic budget deficits.

That and some other issues were indirect potshots at Newsom, who has occasionally bucked the unions. He rejected striker unemployment benefits and his crusade to wean California from oil, which is beginning to shut down its refineries, drew opposition from the candidates when queried by refinery union members. Several said the campaign against oil would raise Californians' already high costs of living and, as Yee put it, "cannot be on the backs of workers."

As the "salon" continued, it was obvious that two people not in the ballroom of Sacramento's downtown Sheraton Hotel were looming over the event: President Donald Trump and the woman he defeated last fall, former Vice President (and California senator) Kamala Harris.

Surprisingly, only Kounalakis brought up Trump without being prompted, since opposing Trump is a sacred tenet of California's Democratic politicians. She vowed unrelenting resistance and others later followed her lead. Although, Villaraigosa continued to somewhat set himself apart, saying "we can't just take on Trump" but must address California's many problems.

Harris was an even more powerful specter as she plays it coy on whether

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 8

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Wall Street rises again as the S&P 500 erases its loss for 2025

Most U.S. stocks rose Tuesday following an encouraging report that showed inflation unexpectedly slowed across the country last month.

The S&P 500 climbed 0.7%, coming off an even bigger gain to start the week after the United States and China announced a 90-day pause in their trade war to allow for negotiations. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 269 points, or 0.6%, and the Nasdaq composite jumped 1.6% as AI and other tech stocks led the way.

Stocks have been roaring back since the S&P 500 fell nearly 20% below its record last month on hopes that President Donald Trump will ease his stiff tariffs on trading partners worldwide before they create a recession and send inflation spiking higher. The S&P 500, which sits at the center of many 401(k) accounts, is back within 4.2% of its all-time high set in February and positive again for the year so far.

Tuesday's report said that even with all the uncertainty around trade, and even with many businesses rushing to import products from other countries before tariffs raise their prices, inflation slowed to 2.3% last month from 2.4% in March.

It's encouraging because such data pulls the economy further from a worst-case scenario called "stagflation," one where the economy stagnates but inflation remains high. The Federal Reserve has no good way to fix that toxic combination. It could try to lower rates to help the economy, for example, but that would likely worsen inflation in the short term.

Even with Tuesday's encouraging report, though, economists and analysts say inflation may still run higher in coming months because of Trump's tariffs. That will likely leave the Fed waiting for more data to guide their decision on whether and when to cut interest rates in order to help the economy.

> "I think investors are aware that the trade deal is not done yet"
>
> - Louis Wong, director for Phillip Securities Group in Hong Kong

It's similar to the wait that investors in general are enduring. With the Fed set to make no moves on interest rates for the time being, markets will likely trade "with negotiation and reconciliation headlines," according to Alexandra Wilson-Elizondo, global co-head and co-chief investment officer of multi-asset solutions within Goldman Sachs Asset Management.

"I think investors are aware that the trade deal is not done yet," said Louis Wong, director for Phillip Securities Group in Hong Kong.

"I would advise investors to remain cautious in the near term and to be prepared for unexpected news from the trade front," he added.

On Wall Street, Coinbase Global jumped 24% after the cryptocurrency exchange learned its stock will join the widely followed S&P 500 index next week. That means many investment funds will likewise add it before trading begins on Monday. Coinbase will replace Discover Financial Services, which is getting bought by Capital One Financial.

Stocks in the artificial-intelligence industry were also strong. Nvidia rose 5.6% and was the biggest single force pushing upward on the S&P 500. It's partnering with Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund-owned AI startup Humain to ship 18,000 chips to the Middle Eastern nation to help power a new data center project.

Super Micro Computer, which builds servers used in AI, jumped 16%. GE Vernova, which is hoping to power vast AI data centers, rose 4%. Palantir Technologies gained 8.1%.

They helped offset UnitedHealth Group, whose shares tumbled 17.8% after it suspended its full-year financial forecast due to higher-than-expected medical costs. The nation's largest health insurer also announced that CEO Andrew Witty was stepping down for personal reasons and that Chairman Stephen Hemsley will become CEO, effective immediately.

UnitedHealth was the main reason the Dow lagged behind other U.S. stock indexes.

All told, the S&P 500 rose 42.36 points to 5,886.55. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 269.67 to 42,140.43, and the Nasdaq composite climbed 301.74 to 19,010.08.

In the bond market, Treasury yields ticked higher with hopes for the U.S. economy. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 4.48% from 4.45% late Monday.

The two-year Treasury yield, which moves more closely with expectations for Fed action, ticked up to 4.01% from 3.98%.

In stock markets abroad, indexes rose across much of Europe and Asia. Stocks fell 1.9% in Hong Kong but rose 1.4% in Tokyo.

Automakers were among the big gainers in Japan. Nissan Motor Co. added 3% ahead of an announcement that it plans to lay off 20,000 of its workers as part of its restructuring efforts. The automaker said Tuesday that it racked up a loss of 670.9 billion yen ($4.5 billion) in the last fiscal year.

By STAN CHOE AP Business Writer. AP Business Writers Matt Ott and Elaine Kurtenbach and AP video journalist Alice Fung contributed.

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CALTRANS

FROM PAGE 3

people living on its land. Unhoused people and Caltrans workers have complained about cruel treatment and chaotic conditions during sweeps. A homeless woman was struck by machinery and killed during a Caltrans encampment sweep in Modesto in 2018.

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council has found encampment sweeps can have adverse effects on the health of displaced residents, put their safety at risk and undermine their efforts to get into housing.

Sen. Catherine Blakespear, the author of the Senate bill and a Democrat from Encinitas, said her goal is not to move unhoused people from one outdoor location to another, and that she recognizes the need to build more temporary and permanent housing — something her bill does not address. But having people living in public spaces, especially next to speeding traffic, is a "true disaster," she said.

"I just wish Caltrans would handle the problems on their property," she said. "But that's not happening."

'WE JUST KEEP SWAPPING BACK AND FORTH'

In July, Newsom signed an executive order requiring state agencies to adopt policies for clearing encampments on their properties — and held up Caltrans' efforts as a model of success.

Since then, there has been a steady drumbeat of complaints from city leaders, said Caroline Grinder, community services legislative advocate for the League of California Cities. There's no universal model for how Caltrans should involve city personnel when clearing a camp, so the process varies widely. Some cities say their relationship with the state agency is great.

"To other cities, it's a real challenge to get Caltrans to respond, and they have a hard time working with them to address encampments," Grinder said.

In a recent League of California Cities survey, 40% of cities said coordinating with state agencies was a barrier to addressing encampments. They said it's the biggest hurdle they face, after a lack of services and a lack of funding.

"This is up and down the state, in all different kinds of communities," Grinder said.

CalMatters requested data from Caltrans on encampment removals in January, which the state agency has yet to provide.

Caltrans has funding for 30 "encampment coordinators" that manage camps along its roadways. Before removing a camp, Caltrans is supposed to warn occupants 48 hours in advance (unless the camp is deemed to pose an imminent threat to life, health, safety or infrastructure), according to the agency's encampment policy. Once the sweep starts, people remaining at the camp are supposed to get "a reasonable amount of time" to remove their belongings, and Caltrans is supposed to store any personal items left behind. The policy also states that staff should contact service providers to request outreach at the encampment.

In San Diego, the largest, most visible encampments tend to be on Caltrans land, said Franklin Coopersmith, deputy director of San Diego's Environmental Services Department and head of its Clean SD effort. The city receives more than 300 complaints each month about encampments on Caltrans land. City staff can't address them, so instead, they tell residents to fill out an online form on Caltrans' customer service webpage.

In San Jose, it can take weeks or months for Caltrans to remove an encampment. In some extreme cases, camps have lingered for a year or two, said Mayor Matt Mahan. After Caltrans clears a site, people return immediately, because they know the state agency won't be back for three to six months, he said.

"The longer we allow people to remain encamped along the freeway or along an on and off ramp, the more the encampment becomes established and people come to the location and we get a significant accumulation of waste," he said. It can cost between $50,000 and $100,000 to remove a long-standing encampment, he said.

San Jose has a staff of 40 outreach workers and experience preventing people from returning to encampments, Mahan said. It would be more efficient for everyone, he said, to let San Jose take over sweeps on Caltrans land and get reimbursed.

San Jose is negotiating an agreement with Caltrans that Mahan hopes will let the city clear certain encampments along on and off ramps in East San Jose.

Los Angeles reached a similar agreement with Caltrans last year.

Blackspear's bill, which Mahan supports, would make it easier for other California cities to set up similar deals. It would require Caltrans to create a publicly accessible online database of these agreements (called delegated maintenance agreements) that other cities can use as a jumping-off point for negotiations.

Riverside has been trying to negotiate such a deal with Caltrans since September, said Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson. In the meantime, the city and the state agency aren't always on the same page. Caltrans doesn't consistently tell the city when it's going to clear a camp, according to the mayor's office, and the mayor's staff doesn't even know if Caltrans offers people services before forcing them off its property.

As a result, unhoused people bounce from Caltrans property, to city property, and back to Caltrans property without getting off the street, Lock Dawson said.

"We just keep swapping back and forth and it's really inefficient," she said.

Riverside has submitted more than 70 requests for encampment removals on Caltrans property so far this year, according to the mayor's office. It generally takes between two days and two weeks for the state agency to clear those camps.

Caltrans spent more than $51 million addressing encampments in the 2023-24 fiscal year, according to an analysis of Blackspear's bill by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

If the bill passes, Caltrans told the committee it would cost about $200,000 per year to hire the "liaison" tasked with overseeing communication between the state agency and local governments. If the agency reimburses cities and counties for clearing encampments, those costs could balloon into the tens of millions of dollars annually, according to the committee's cost analysis.

The reimbursement proposal has been popular among city officials and staff.

"Outreach is not cheap," said Coopersmith, of San Diego. His city spends about $675,000 per year on four outreach workers who have permission to go onto Caltrans land and offer shelter (if it's available) and other services before encampment sweeps.

"Placement is not cheap," he said. "Police, encampment disposal, all of this costs money. We also need to ensure that if we're working on any type of state property, we want to make sure that we're compensated for it."

By Marisa Kendall. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

SMC student deported after off-campus ICE arrest

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A Santa Monica College student was apprehended by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents near his residence in West Los Angeles and subsequently deported, college officials confirmed Tuesday.

The incident occurred on May 5 in West Los Angeles where the student lived, not on any Santa Monica College campus. According to a statement from the college, the student "was summarily deported" but is "physically safe and plans on seeking legal counsel."

The college has not released the student's name or additional details about the circumstances surrounding the arrest.

"We recognize the fear, anxiety, and uncertainty many in the college community may be feeling, especially—at this time—undocumented/immigrant students, and those from mixed-status families," the college stated in its announcement to the campus community.

Santa Monica College officials emphasized that no federal immigration enforcement actions have taken place on any of the college's campuses and reaffirmed their "commitment to upholding an inclusive teaching-learning environment where all students may pursue their educational goals, irrespective of immigration status."

The college maintains comprehensive policies regarding immigration enforcement that follow guidelines developed by the California Attorney General's office. These policies establish clear protocols for handling potential immigration enforcement situations on campus.

Under these guidelines, Santa Monica College does not inquire about students' citizenship or immigration status beyond what is required for residency determination and tuition purposes. The college also prohibits the creation of registries based on immigration status and restricts the sharing of student information with immigration authorities without a court order or judicial warrant.

"Santa Monica College shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services," according to the college's official policy. "Students may elect not to provide immigration or citizenship status information to the institution, and this election shall not impede admissions or enrollment in educational programs."

The college has established specific procedures for responding to immigration enforcement requests, including directing all such inquiries to the Superintendent/President's office. Campus personnel are instructed not to consent to immigration officers entering non-public areas without a judicial warrant and to immediately notify designated administrators if immigration officers are present on campus.

For students affected by immigration enforcement actions, the college has committed to making "all reasonable efforts" to help them maintain eligibility for financial aid, housing, and other benefits. The institution also pledges to facilitate reenrollment for students who are able to return after being subject to immigration enforcement actions.

The Santa Monica Police Department issued a statement on February 5 clarifying that they do not participate in immigration enforcement operations.

"Our long-standing policy remains unchanged: immigration enforcement is solely the responsibility of federal law enforcement agencies under Title 8 of the United States Code," wrote Santa Monica Police Chief Ramón Batista in February of this year.

The City of Santa Monica has not declared itself as a sanctuary city but city leaders have said they will not participate in immigration enforcement actions. The Santa Monica Police Department emphasized that they "do not and will not conduct independent sweeps, raids, or other concentrated efforts to detain individuals based on their immigration status" and will continue to abide by California's SB54, also known as the California Values Act of 2017 that limits local participation in immigration activity.

SMPD cited community trust as a primary reason for their policy, noting that public safety depends on all residents feeling safe when seeking assistance from law enforcement.

"No one in our community should fear that reporting a crime or calling for help will lead to deportation," he said. "By maintaining this policy, we foster a safer city where everyone can participate in keeping our community secure."

While the SMPD maintains its stance against participating in immigration enforcement, they clarified that they "remain steadfast in holding all individuals accountable for criminal behavior, regardless of their immigration status."

Santa Monica College has directed concerned students to several resources, including their Federal Immigration Response Enforcement webpage (https://www.smc.edu/student-support/dream/immigration-resources.php). The college has also created a specific email address—ICE-notification@smc.edu—to report any immigration enforcement activities affecting the campus community.

editor@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00182 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Mohsen Moradi Ganjeh and Ryan Moradi Ganjeh for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Mohsen Moradi Ganjeh this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Mohsen Moradi Ganjeh to Mason JohnRyan Moradi Ganjeh to Ryan John . 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 05/23/2025 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

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00121 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Nicole Lauture for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Nicole Lauture with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Nicole St.Pleur Lauture to Nicole St.Pleur Nehring . 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

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 04/28/25 2025085480The following person(s) is (are) doing business asAcmeDesign 1077 Pacific Coast Highway #342 Seal Beach, CA 90740 . Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. 2025303The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Constrium Studios, Inc 1077 Pacific Coast Highway #342 Seal Beach, CA 90740 . If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Corporation . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 04/2025 . Registrant /Corp/ LLCConstrium Studios, Inc Title: CEO Anton Goss . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 04/28/2025NOTICE: 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).

Help Wanted

Interior Designer
Define clients' concept and design project. Examine designs and plans and find the best mathematical method to reach clients' specifications with respect to concept design involving building specifications and efficient use of space. Sketch preliminary design plans, including electrical and partition layouts and specify materials and furnishings, such as lighting, furniture, wall finishes, flooring, and plumbing fixtures. Mail resume to: IA DESIGN STUDIO, 726 N Cahuenga Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90038

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Sr Design Engineer. VeoRide Inc.-1 opening. Appl reqs Ms. degree in mechanical engineering + 2yr exp in engineering design of mechanical parts of Veo's existing vehicles, assessing quality of existing vehicles, analyzing problems during production, research/implement of the most current trend to design new vehicle products, develop modeling/design to integrate other electric devices, etc. Send resume by email to hr@veoride.com or to 1334 3rd Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SANTA MONICA

CLARE|MATRIX Receives $51 Million to Expand Behavioral Health Services in LA County

CLARE|MATRIX has been awarded $51.1 million in state funding to expand addiction treatment and mental health services across Los Angeles County.

The nonprofit organization received two grants through California's Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP), part of Governor Gavin Newsom's $3.3 billion investment announced yesterday to increase treatment capacity statewide.

The primary grant of $50.6 million will fund the CLARE|MATRIX Pico Campus Expansion Project, consolidating three existing facilities along Santa Monica's Pico Boulevard into a comprehensive recovery campus. The expanded campus will feature a new 90-bed building and provide 15 detox beds, 115 residential treatment beds for men and women, and outpatient services for approximately 300 individuals annually.

A second grant of $460,000 will support upgrades to the organization's Opioid Treatment Program site on Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles, increasing capacity to serve an additional 300 people each year.

"This is a once-in-a-generation investment that will compassionately put recovery back into treatment for thousands of people in Los Angeles and Santa Monica," said Matt Walton, CEO of CLARE|MATRIX.

> This is a once-in-a-generation investment that will compassionately put recovery back into treatment for thousands of people in Los Angeles and Santa Monica
> - Matt Walton, CEO of CLARE|MATRIX

The expansion will establish CLARE|MATRIX as the only comprehensive provider in Service Planning Area 5 offering integrated treatment across six levels of care for both men and women.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

to rekindle her political career by running for governor. She apparently is weighing whether to do that or resume her quest for the White House in 2028, when Trump presumably will end his second term and depart.

A presidential rerun could put her in direct conflict with Newsom, who continues to emit indications of considering a White House campaign himself, while publicly denying such ambitions.

Were Harris to seek the governorship, polls indicate that she would be the immediate frontrunner, particularly in a crowded field of primary election hopefuls. However, it's also likely that some of the seven current political samurai would drop out should Harris run. With a smaller field, one of the remaining Democrats might make the November runoff in the top-two primary, setting up a two-person duel.

Until Harris decides, however, everything is tentative and unsettled, including efforts to raise the many millions of dollars needed to campaign for statewide office in California. The union leaders who staged Monday's event will also be major sources of campaign money for whomever they finally endorse.

By Dan Walters. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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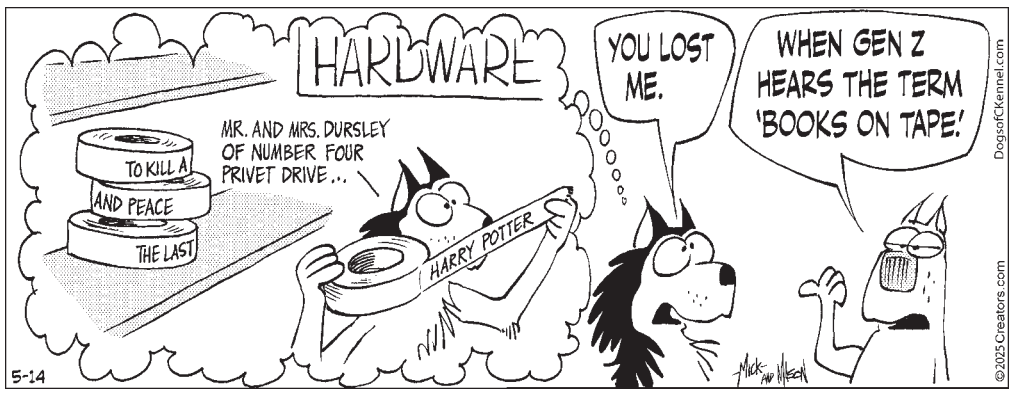
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



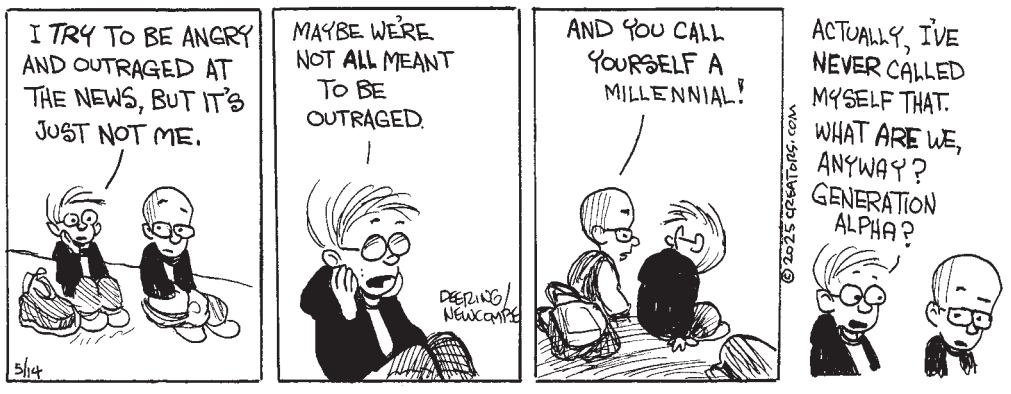
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



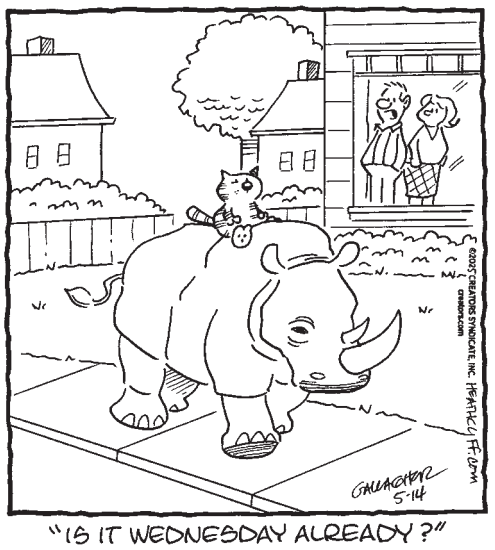
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



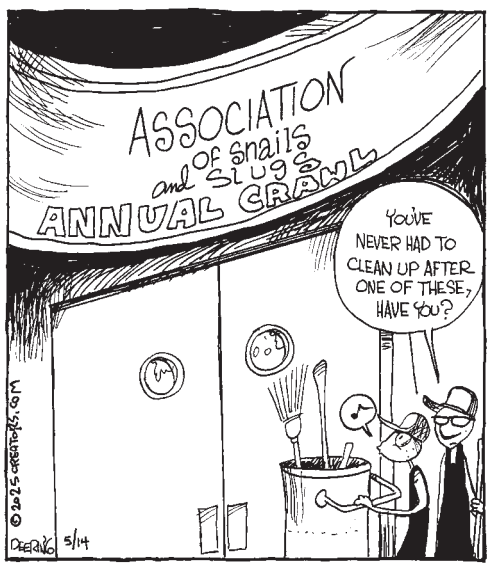
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6575

A world to explore

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

Accra	Chad	Iran	Ottowa
Angola	China	Italy	Peru
Antarctica	Crete	Japan	Riga
Armenia	Devon	Jordan	Rome
Aruba	Dili	Kenya	Seoul
Bahamas	Djibouti	Kiev	Taiwan
Bali	Doha	Laos	Togo
Beirut	Eritrea	Libya	Tokyo
Belgium	Fiji	Lima	Tonga
Bulgaria	Guyana	Malta	Uganda
Cairo	Haiti	Mexico	Wales
Caracas	India	Oslo	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 14)

This year brings more lightness and freedom than you've had in ages. You'll leave behind something weighty -- an identity, a dynamic, a debt -- and feel 20 pounds lighter in every way. More highlights: You'll raise your rates, name your worth and be met with a yes. You'll also shine on camera, start a new tradition and receive a destiny-shifting invitation. Aries and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 22, 10, 37 and 9.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your strongest bonds won't be built on shared interests but on shared rhythm. You may not have the same taste or passions, but you have a similar way of moving through the world -- easy does it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When people are afraid to speak up, the silence leads to flawed outcomes, because valuable insight is being suppressed. Today's environment is hierarchical and full of unspoken rules. It will take courage, but talk anyway.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The truth is you are intense. You are funny. You are busy. You'll feel most at home with people who are serious like you are. If they don't bring wit, clarity or fire, they don't get to sit in your front row.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You won't get special treatment today, but just remember: Those who receive better treatment and premium opportunities may excel in the short term, but the long game is anyone's to win. Strength, cleverness, skill, strategy -- these are all things developed in adversity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't let anxiety make your choices for you. With your nervous system pushing you to your "safest" option, pause to ask something higher than the fear whether an option would be right for you if you had no fear.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Gratitude rushes in for your full and complex life. You give care, you create, handle logistics, celebrate and yes, you grieve, too. You've loved deeply and known all sides of that love, including the bliss and the pain of loss.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your social talents move the action today. You've a keen instinct for connecting people who will benefit from knowing one another. The vibes where you are make people feel comfortable and like you really care, and you do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Tell people what you're up to. It's unfinished, but you can show enough to stay in the conversation. Hold your spot so that when you're ready for the big reveal, you won't be building interest from ground zero.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Every challenge is a teacher. There are people you keep trying with, even though you know they will be difficult. Handling them sharpens your skill and builds your confidence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Get organized. You'll soon take your talents and goods to more people, and you may need to travel for this, or at least be lighter on your feet, ready to adapt to many different kinds of situations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's a way to save your energy and money now. Things have shifted, and you will shift, too. You'll realize there's something you can take on yourself instead of paying for. New tools and tech will help with this.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Today's theme centers on the flow of material items in and out of your life. You're not interested in excess and have no desire to waste resources. However, such things may happen along the way to an ambitious goal.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

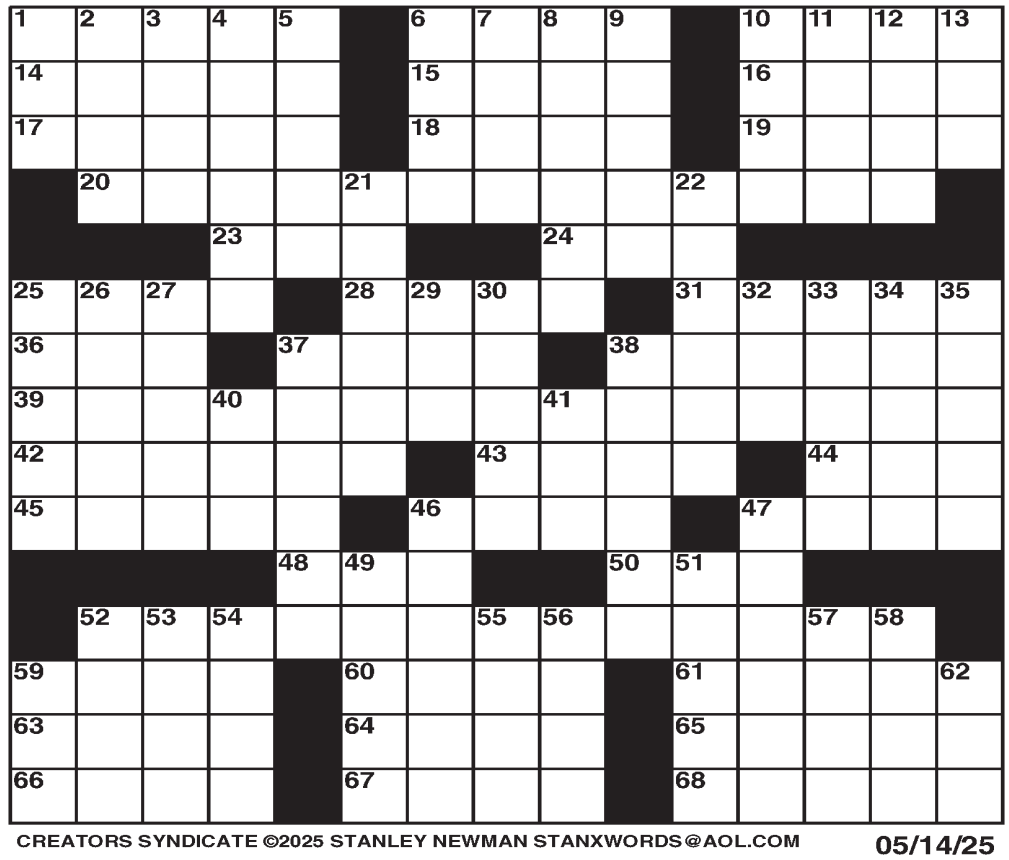
AT THE PLAYGROUND by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Flooded (with)
6 Army outpost
10 Nickname for Dallas
14 Not yet familiar with
15 At any time
16 Triple-decker cookie
17 Embellish, as clothing
18 Actress Headey or Dunham of TV
19 Military sector
20 Long brass instrument
23 River blocker
24 Tel Aviv's land: Abbr.
25 Bottom of a statue
28 Strong smell
31 Online periodicals
36 Had for lunch
37 Not quite shut
38 Without favoritism
39 Get started quickly
42 Accepters of offers
43 __-browned potatoes
44 Formed a lap
45 Destroy slowly
46 Cruise ship stop
47 Actor Rogen or Meyers
48 Noteworthy period
50 Clairvoyance, for short
52 Sports match where the leader keeps changing
59 Strike, as with hailstones
60 Alps topper
61 Transplant, as a houseplant
63 Paintballs, for instance
64 Adolescent
65 Wise saying
66 Wild feline
67 Says further
68 Female grownup

DOWN

1 Get __ for effort
2 Gets married
3 No-show soldier: Abbr.
4 Make long steps
5 Automaker of the Civic
6 Pool table fabric
7 Higher than
8 French Impressionist artist
9 Theme park shuttle vehicles
10 Foolish fellow
11 Anvil metal
12 Bit of heredity
13 Female deer
21 Text-message faces
22 Violation of rules
25 Moisten in an oven
26 In combat
27 Casio watch competitor
29 Football great Marino
30 Prefix meaning "straight"
32 School near Harvard
33 Get out of bed
34 Brag about winning
35 Moog instrument, for short
37 Thinks alike
38 Connect, as a seat belt
40 Homer's toon neighbor
41 Rowboat implement
46 Sold to a hock shop
47 Stretchy swimsuit brand
49 Dreadlocks wearer, for short
51 Tube in a milk shake
52 Prefix for final or circle
53 Ticklish red Muppet
54 British prep school
55 Admitting both sexes
56 Has bought
57 Junk email
58 Sheet worn by Caesar
59 Chum
62 Midmorning hour



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HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

Monica's ordinance cover comprehensive territory, including parks, beaches, the Santa Monica Pier, public streets, sidewalks, alleys, parking lots, passageways, rights-of-way, landscaped areas, greenbelts, public schools and college property.

The ordinance classifies violations as criminal misdemeanors punishable by fines up to $500 per violation. Enforcement is handled by Santa Monica Police, who typically issue citations that are then referred to the City Attorney's Office for possible prosecution.

City officials emphasize that enforcement follows a "lead-with-compassion" philosophy. The City Attorney often routes individuals to diversion programs addressing underlying issues like mental health or substance abuse rather than pursuing jail time or convictions in every case.

The laws differentiate between individuals who are just taking a nap or temporarily using public space and individuals who are using the public space as "living accommodation." For example, someone sleeping off one-too-many on a park bench or the beach would not constitute "camping" but someone who intended to use the same bench or beach as their place of residence would.

Santa Monica also enforces related ordinances designed to prevent encampments, including prohibitions on sitting or lying in certain doorways at night, bans on leaving personal property on sidewalks, and night closures of public parks. Police officers and the specialized Homeless Liaison Program team typically give warnings and offer services before issuing citations.

The city credits this "services-forward approach" with preventing large-scale encampments seen in neighboring communities and the city's approach has withstood legal challenges.

In contrast, Newsom's May 2025 model encampment ordinance, titled "Addressing Encampments with Urgency and Dignity," focuses on preventing permanent or hazardous encampments rather than banning all outdoor sleeping. The proposal urges California cities to adopt uniform procedures when clearing homeless camps.

Newsom's approach is backed by $3.3 billion in state funding from Proposition 1 to help provide shelter and services as enforcement increases. The model ordinance emphasizes three core principles: not criminalizing homelessness without alternatives, prioritizing shelter and dignity, and maintaining public health and safety.

"No person should face criminal punishment for sleeping outside when they have nowhere else to go," states the governor's proposal, which discourages blanket citywide camping bans unless adequate shelter options are available.

The state's model prohibits specific behaviors including constructing semi-permanent structures on public property, camping in one location for more than three consecutive days, camping within 200 feet of posted notices, and blocking sidewalks or public paths.

Rather than outright banning temporary sleeping arrangements, the state ordinance targets behaviors that create persistent encampments or public hazards. It defines the "same location" as within 200 feet of the original spot, preventing people from evading rules by moving only a short distance.

Notably, the state proposal mandates 48-hour written notice before clearing encampments except in emergencies. The notices must include the date and time of planned enforcement, details on available services and shelter, and explanations of how unattended belongings will be handled.

The model ordinance also requires officials to make "every reasonable effort" to identify and offer shelter and supportive services before taking enforcement action. Personal belongings removed during cleanups must be collected, tagged and stored for at least 60 days, with exceptions for hazardous items like weapons, toxic materials or bio-contaminated items.

"Even when urgency forces immediate action, there is a follow-up requirement to inform individuals how to get their belongings back," the state proposal stipulates.

Santa Monica's ordinance is more restrictive in several key areas. It forbids even a single night of camping on public property, whereas the state model implicitly allows temporary camping for up to three days. This zero-tolerance approach means that under Santa Monica's code, a person sleeping in a public space for just one night could be cited immediately.

Santa Monica's ordinance explicitly covers educational facilities, including Santa Monica College and School District properties, reflecting a focus on keeping encampments away from schools. While the state model allows jurisdictions to prohibit camping near schools at all times, Santa Monica has already implemented this restriction.

The local ordinance also explicitly makes violations misdemeanors, while the state proposal does not specify penalties, instead emphasizing connecting people with housing over punishment.

However, the state's model does impose stricter procedural requirements in several areas. Unlike Santa Monica's code, which contains no formal notification requirements, the state ordinance mandates 48-hour written notice before clearance operations. While Santa Monica often provides verbal warnings or short notices as a courtesy, these are not legal requirements in the ordinance.

The state model also legally requires cities to offer shelter and supportive services before enforcement, whereas Santa Monica's approach is guided by policy rather than explicit legal text. Though Santa Monica has historically offered services first, the state ordinance would standardize this as an enforceable requirement.

Regarding personal property, the state proposal provides more detailed protections, requiring 60-day storage periods and clear instructions for retrieval. Santa Monica follows similar protocols due to constitutional requirements, but the duration and specific procedures are not explicitly codified in local law.

In both cases, the rules target overnight camping, not the act of homelessness. Homeless individuals, and their property, could still occupy public space provided that occupancy did not cross into whatever definition of "camping" applied to that location.

City staff said the local combination of ordinances allows officials to be flexible when appropriate but also provides enough enforcement to handle problems as they arise. Newsom's declaration does not mandate municipalities adopt his proposal and there has been no indication local rules will be altered based on the new state proposal.

editor@smdp.com



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

FRIDAY | MAY 16

PEN PAPER PALOOZA
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club 1210 4th St Santa Monica. GA Ticket Holders who purchased tickets on PenPaperPalooza.com BEFORE 3/20/25 will receive a PPP bag ($14 value) + 1 stationery item. Please print out your tickets or have PDF ready when you come to the event. This does not apply to tickets purchased on Eventbrite. $20.00 to $90.00—Free for children under 14 with paying adults. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pen-paper-palooza/15330583/2025-05-16T10

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/14165546/2025-05-16T19

FUTURE SOUNDS OF JAZZ
7:30 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St Santa Monica. Continuing the Future Sounds of Jazz series curated by Stanley Clarke, BroadStage presents jazz pianist, drummer, and composer, Julius Rodriguez! Multi-instrumentalist and composer Julius Rodriguez has crafted his artistry inside a range of sounds and styles. At 24, the Westchester native bonds a deep sense of history with an appetite for the unknown. He performs regularly as a leader across New York City, and his contributions on piano, drums, synthesizer and electric bass appear on a diverse roster of recordings, including releases from Kassa Overall, Carmen Lundy, Brasstracks, Morgan Guerin, J. D. Walter and Damien Sneed, among other critically acclaimed genre-defiant voices. Sharp instincts for space and phrasing, and reverence for melody elevate Julius' expression from virtuoso to true artist, displayed in his debut album "Let Sound Tell All" released with Verve Records in 2022. In a few short years, he has garnered peer attention and critical praise from such institutional outlets as JAZZIZ magazine, The New York Times, Paste and Vanity Fair, and has earned opportunities to perform alongside some of the music's most distinctive artists, including Wynton Marsalis, Keyon Harrold, Victoria Canal, Ben Williams, A$AP Rocky, Meshell Ndegeocello, Macy Gray, Braxton Cook, Laurin Talese and the late and legendary Roy Hargrove. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/future-sounds-of-jazz/13765541/2025-05-16T19

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