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2 **Debris clearing**
Reaches milestone.

3 **Homeless services**
Starting over.

4 **Firefighting merger**
Warning of chaos.

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Funds local schools.

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Bipartisan bill to protect children online reintroduced in Senate

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Senate leaders have revived a bipartisan effort to hold tech companies accountable for online harms to children, reintroducing legislation that previously garnered overwhelming support but failed to become law.

The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA), reintroduced by Sens. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., would establish new responsibilities for social media platforms to protect minors from harmful content.

The bill previously received strong bipartisan backing, passing the Senate Commerce Committee unanimously in two consecutive Congresses and securing a 91-3 vote in the full Senate in 2024. Despite this momentum, the legislation was never brought to a vote in the House.

"The time for hearings and headlines has passed. The time for action is now," advocacy group Parents for Safe Online Spaces (ParentsSOS) said in a statement supporting the reintroduction.

KOSA would establish a duty of care for platforms to prevent and mitigate harms to minors, including suicide, eating disorders, bullying, and exploitation. The legislation would also provide parents with greater visibility and control over their children's online experiences, while empowering researchers and regulators to better understand how platform design affects young users.

Advocates say voluntary safety measures by tech companies have proven insufficient, pointing to well-documented harms that continue to affect children and teenagers on social media.

The reintroduction comes after numerous high-profile congressional hearings where tech CEOs, including Meta's Mark Zuckerberg, apologized to grieving families but critics say have failed to implement meaningful changes to protect young users.

One such advocate is Judy Rogg, who lost her son Erik Robinson to the "choking game" in 2010. Robinson was a sixth-grade honor student and baseball player at Lincoln Middle School when he died from accidental asphyxiation after trying the dangerous challenge, which involves self-strangulation to achieve a brief high when oxygen returns to the brain.

In a past interview with SMDP, Rogg said her son's death was ruled accidental, which is a great relief to many parents because frequently these are very misclassified as suicides because of what it looks like.

Since her son's death, Rogg has dedicated her life to spreading awareness about the dangers of such challenges through her organization, Erik's Cause. While

SEE **SOCIAL MEDIA** PAGE 6

Housing affordability crisis deepens in Santa Monica

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica ranks as the second most expensive city for renters in the Los Angeles metro area, with one-bedroom apartments commanding a median rent of $2,950 per month, according to a new report.

The findings come amid a broader housing affordability crisis that has seen median home sales prices nationwide surge from $313,000 in the first quarter of 2019 to $416,900 in the first quarter of 2025.

The Zumper Los Angeles Metro Area Report, which analyzed

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 8

Music to soothe the soul





Fran Lyness

SONG: Musically inclined Santa Monicans had multiple opportunities to hear live performances last week. The Santa Monica library celebrated Jewish Heritage Month with Klezmer Juice while the Topanga Banjo Fiddle Festival was held at King Gillette Ranch.



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Federal agencies tout record setting pace to clear fire-damaged property

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

More than 5,000 properties across the Eaton and Palisades burn areas have been cleared of ash and fire debris in what officials are calling the fastest major disaster cleanup in American history.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, announced the milestone Tuesday, highlighting the unprecedented pace of recovery efforts following the devastating January fires that swept through Los Angeles County.

> Debris removal is being completed at a historic pace, thanks to close coordination between county, state, and federal partners along with support from the President and his administration
>
> - Bob Fenton, FEMA Region 9 Administrator

"Debris removal is being completed at a historic pace, thanks to close coordination between county, state, and federal partners along with support from the President and his administration," said FEMA Region 9 Administrator Bob Fenton.

Properties receiving final sign-off have completed debris removal, hazardous tree removal, and erosion control installation. An additional 2,500 properties have been cleared and are awaiting final approval. More than 2 million tons of debris have been removed to date.

"In just three months since we began debris removal operations, to reach 5,000 completed properties is astonishing and a testament to the partnership necessary to pull off a mission of this scale," said Brig. Gen. William Hannan, commander of the USACE Task Force Phoenix.

The current pace of debris removal has put the operation months ahead of the cleanup timeline for previous major California wildfires, including the 2019 Camp, Woolsey, and Hill fires, which were previously considered the fastest response of their kind.

Now 100 days since the fires first ignited, Governor Gavin Newsom has made the recovery of Los Angeles his highest priority, directing what he calls a "whole-of-government response" to support affected communities.

"My job is to make sure Californians who felt helpless after the fires are able to have hope again," Newsom said. "Our work is far from over — but 100 days since the fires first broke out in early January, California remains united and together will rebuild, recover and rise."

The state response has involved over 16,000 boots on the ground at the peak of operations. Newsom worked with both the outgoing Biden administration and incoming Trump administration to secure federal support, resulting in a presidential major disaster declaration.

State and federal officials cleared hazardous waste from 9,000 homes in less than 30 days. Currently, 500 crews of expert heavy equipment operators from the Army Corps of Engineers are working around the clock to clear ash, soot, and fire debris from structures damaged by the fires.

The cleanup effort extends beyond residential properties. FEMA has directed the Army Corps to clear properties in the Special Inclusion program, including places of worship, private schools, owner-occupied multifamily homes, non-profit organizations, parks, and community centers.

Newsom has issued multiple executive orders to streamline rebuilding efforts, including suspending permitting requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act and the California Coastal Act. The state has also extended tax deadlines, providing critical relief for businesses and homeowners.

Other state initiatives include mortgage relief programs, tenant protections, fast-tracked temporary housing, and safeguards against price gouging. The Governor signed legislation providing over $2.5 billion to support emergency response and jumpstart recovery efforts.

"Reaching this milestone in record time shows the great progress we can make working together," said Cal OES Director Nancy Ward. "We will continue to collaborate with our local and federal partners to bring the community the resources needed to recover and rebuild."

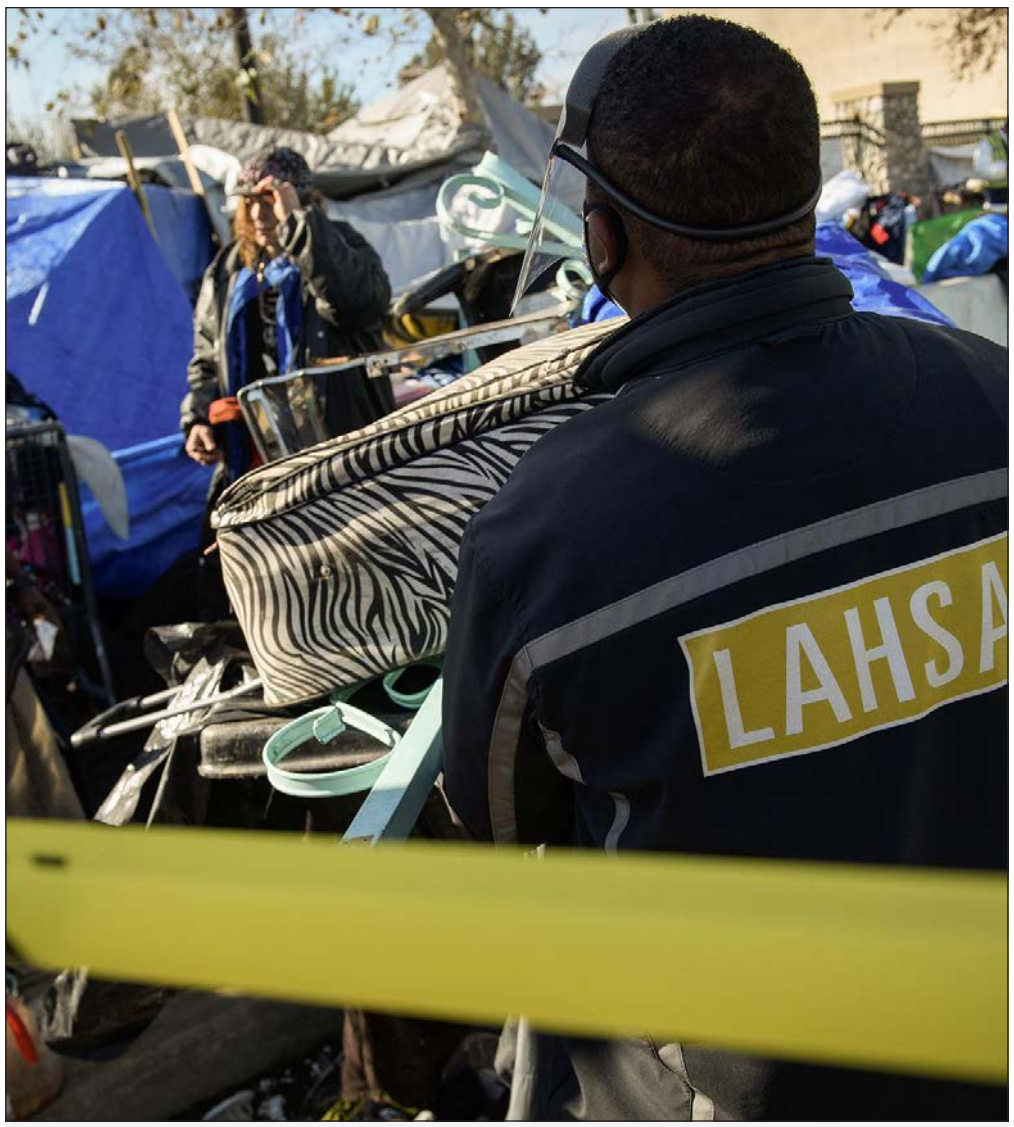
Educational recovery has also been a priority, with executive orders aimed at quickly assisting displaced students and bolstering affected schools. All eight affected schools have resumed in-person instruction, and eight of nine water systems have been reactivated.

As part of the broader recovery effort, the California Transportation Commission recently allocated nearly $1.7 billion to improve and strengthen the state highway system, with $86.5 million specifically directed toward repairing infrastructure damaged during the fires.

Among the highway projects, $30 million will be used to replace a retaining wall and

SEE **REBUILD** PAGE 5

Why California's biggest local effort to fight homelessness is starting all over again



CalMatters

CAMPS: The County homeless agency has been largely defunded.

For three decades, the city and county of Los Angeles managed California's biggest homelessness crisis together.

They had equal say in big funding decisions, and worked in tandem to coordinate housing programs through a joint city-county agency called the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.

But after scathing audits criticizing the homeless authority, the county is blowing up that joint agency and starting over — despite the objections of LA Mayor Karen Bass. Now, questions remain about how the shakeup will affect the more than 75,000 unhoused people living in LA County.

It's the most dramatic recent example of a phenomenon playing out all over California. Cities which supply shelter beds, and counties, which provide crucial mental health and addiction treatment, can't effectively address homelessness unless they work well together. But all too often, they don't.

In multiple cities, mayors are publicly attacking their counties for failing to pull their weight. In San Diego, a 150-bed shelter created as a partnership between the city and county is in jeopardy, as both sides squabble over who should pay for what. In the San Joaquin Valley, the city of Turlock is refusing to let Stanislaus County fund a shelter there. A state bill that would have forced counties to pay for half the cost of city-run homeless shelters faced fierce pushback from counties, and was swiftly gutted.

There's no shortage of evidence on why working together is beneficial. Cities don't have behavioral health departments, or funding for those services. So when residents of city homeless shelters need mental health or addiction treatment, which they often do, that falls on the county.

The League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties even released a report in 2018 highlighting the importance of cities and counties addressing homelessness together.

There is no mandate from the state that lays out how much of the responsibility should fall to a city and how much should fall to a county. Especially in tight budget years such as this one, cities don't want to pay for services they could pass on to the county – and vice versa. And neither wants to take the blame for falling short as they struggle under the immense challenge of getting people off the street.

While both sides bicker, the fate of real shelters that provide lifelines for real people hangs in the balance.

"The lack of partnership between

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 7



Weather

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 74. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the morning.
Wednesday Night: Increasing clouds, with a low around 64. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast after midnight.
Thursday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 73.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2025/05/21	Wed	04:31 AM	3.94		H
2025/05/21	Wed	11:21 AM	0.33		L
2025/05/21	Wed	6:08 PM	4.58		H
2025/05/22	Thu	12:18 AM	1.55		L
2025/05/22	Thu	05:52 AM	3.85		H
2025/05/22	Thu	12:02 PM	0.55		L
2025/05/22	Thu	6:39 PM	5.20		H
2025/05/23	Fri	01:13 AM	0.62		L
2025/05/23	Fri	07:05 AM	3.84		H
2025/05/23	Fri	12:43 PM	0.82		L
2025/05/23	Fri	7:13 PM	5.83		H
2025/05/24	Sat	02:04 AM	-0.28		L
2025/05/24	Sat	08:10 AM	3.85		H
2025/05/24	Sat	1:23 PM	1.13		L
2025/05/24	Sat	7:49 PM	6.37		H
2025/05/25	Sun	02:52 AM	-1.02		L
2025/05/25	Sun	09:08 AM	3.85		H
2025/05/25	Sun	2:03 PM	1.43		L
2025/05/25	Sun	8:27 PM	6.77		H
2025/05/26	Mon	03:40 AM	-1.54		L
2025/05/26	Mon	10:04 AM	3.80		H
2025/05/26	Mon	2:45 PM	1.71		L
2025/05/26	Mon	9:08 PM	6.96		H
2025/05/27	Tue	04:29 AM	-1.78		L
2025/05/27	Tue	11:01 AM	3.71		H
2025/05/27	Tue	3:29 PM	1.97		L
2025/05/27	Tue	9:51 PM	6.92		H
2025/05/28	Wed	05:20 AM	-1.77		L
2025/05/28	Wed	12:00 PM	3.62		H
2025/05/28	Wed	4:16 PM	2.21		L
2025/05/28	Wed	10:37 PM	6.65		H
2025/05/29	Thu	06:11 AM	-1.54		L
2025/05/29	Thu	1:01 PM	3.56		H
2025/05/29	Thu	5:08 PM	2.43		L
2025/05/29	Thu	11:26 PM	6.20		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: 5/19
13 14 37 50 60
Power#: 11
Jackpot: 146 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 5/16
2 22 42 62 66
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 139 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/17
11 17 18 40 44
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/19
9 16 17 26 32

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/19
EVENING: 2 1 2
Draw Date: 5/19
MIDDAY: 0 9 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/19
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:43.83

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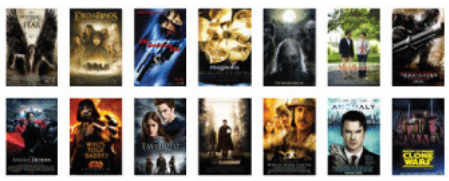
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REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST (RLOI)
DEADLINE: JULY 22, 2025

The City of Santa Monica is requesting Letters of Interest (LOIs) for the sale of City-owned property located at 1632-1636 5th Street. The 1.64 acres property is zoned Transit Adjacent (TA) and is within the Downtown District. This surplus property is offered for sale in "as-is" condition.

The RLOI can be obtained online at: https://www.santamonica.gov/media/CDD/EDD/1632-1636_5th-ST_RLOI.pdf

For additional questions contact:

Nia Tang, Economic Development Division, City of Santa Monica

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Trump plans to merge wildland firefighting efforts into one agency, but ex-officials warn of chaos

President Donald Trump's administration is trying to merge the government's wildland firefighting efforts into a single agency, a move some former federal officials warn could increase the risk of catastrophic blazes and ultimately cost billions of dollars.

Trump's budget would centralize firefighting efforts now split among five agencies and two Cabinet departments into a single Federal Wildland Fire Service under the U.S. Interior Department.

> We want more firefighters on the front lines and less people trying to make manual decisions on how to allocate resources and personnel
>
> - Doug Burgum, Interior Secretary

That would mean shifting thousands of personnel from the U.S. Forest Service — where most federal firefighters now work — into the new agency with fire season already underway. Budget documents do not disclose how much the change could cost or save.

The Trump administration in its first months temporarily cut off money for wildfire mitigation work and sharply reduced the ranks of federal government firefighters through layoffs and retirement. That resulted in the loss of more than 1,600 qualified firefighters in the Forest Service — an arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture — and hundreds of people at Interior, according to the National Association of Forest Service Retirees and Democratic lawmakers.

The personnel declines and proposed agency reshuffling come as climate change makes fires more severe by warming and drying the landscape. More than 65,000 wildfires across the U.S. burned almost 9 million acres last year.

Interior Secretary Doug Burgum said Tuesday during testimony before the House Appropriations Committee that the new fire service would streamline work to stamp out blazes.

"We want more firefighters on the front lines and less people trying to make manual decisions on how to allocate resources and personnel," Burgum said. "We've got duplicative and ineffective structures that could be improved."

But organizations representing firefighters and former Forest Service officials say it would be costly to restructure firefighting efforts and cause major disruptions in the midst of fire season. Over the long term, they said, it would shift the focus from preventing fires through forest thinning and controlled burns, to extinguishing them even in cases where fire could have beneficial effects.

"You will not suppress your way to success in dealing with catastrophic fires. It's going to create greater risk and it's going to be particularly chaotic if you implement it going into fire season," said Steve Ellis, the chairman of the forest service retirees group and a former wildfire incident commander.

The group, which includes several former Forest Service chiefs, said in a letter to lawmakers that consolidation of firefighting work could "actually increase the likelihood of more large catastrophic fires, putting more communities, firefighters and resources at risk."

Cleaving the Forest Service's firefighting duties from its role as a land manager would be "like separating cojoined twins — it would basically kill the agency" said Timothy Ingalsbee with Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology, a Eugene, Oregon-based advocacy group.

Another destructive fire season is expected this year, driven by above normal temperatures for most of the country, according to federal officials.

More than 1 million acres have burned in 2025, including in Arizona, Minnesota, California, Colorado, Nebraska, New Jersey and other states.

The Trump administration proposal has some bipartisan support, with California Democratic Sen. Alex Padilla and Montana Republican Sen. Tim Sheehy sponsoring legislation that's similar. Before his election last year, Sheehy founded an aerial firefighting company that relies heavily on federal contracts.

A prior proposal to merge the Forest Service and Interior to improve firefighting was found to have significant drawbacks by the Congressional Research Service in a 2008 report.

"A wildfire agency would likely focus on fire control, largely because acres burned are the most readily measurable performance standard," the report said. "Wildfire management activities that seek to reduce damages, such as protecting individual structures and reducing biomass fuels, are

SEE **WILDFIRE** PAGE 6

COMMUNITY NEWS

SANTA MONICA

Wine Auction Raises Over $388,000 for Schools

The 10th Annual Santa Monica Wine Auction raised more than $388,000 to support staff and programs in Santa Monica's public schools.

The sold-out event was hosted by the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows on Sunday, May 4, bringing together hundreds of community members for an evening of philanthropy, food and wine tastings from local restaurants and wineries.

Entertainment included performances by the Samohi Chamber Orchestra and Jazz Band. Santa Monica Fire Chief Matthew Hallock and two deputy chiefs received a standing ovation when honored as community heroes.

An anonymous donor offered a $10,000 paddle raise match for the first time in the auction's history. The event's centerpieces featured ceramic vessels created by Samohi students paired with floral arrangements by SMMUSD students.

"The evening was truly inspiring—a powerful show of community and generosity that will directly benefit students and families across Santa Monica," said Danny Guggenheim, Board President of the Santa Monica Education Foundation.

> "The evening was truly inspiring—a powerful show of community and generosity that will directly benefit students and families across Santa Monica"
> - Danny Guggenheim, Board President of the Santa Monica Education Foundation

Proceeds will fund classroom aides, arts and music instruction, STEM initiatives, social-emotional learning programs, and grants at every Santa Monica public school. The ten Santa Monica Wine Auctions have raised over $2.7 million to date.

A second round of online auction bidding opens Friday, May 16, and continues through Friday, May 24, at noon. Fundraising for the 2025-2026 school year continues through June 30.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

SANTA MONICA

SMC Vocal Jazz Ensemble to Perform May 30

The Santa Monica College Music Department will present the SMC Vocal Jazz Ensemble in "A Night of Jazz" on Friday, May 30, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will be held in the Music Hall at the SMC Performing Arts Center. Under the direction of SMC music instructor Marisa Bradfield, who is also associate conductor of the University of Southern California Concert Choir, 51 SMC vocalists will perform works ranging from classic standards to contemporary selections.

The vocalists will be accompanied by a three-piece jazz combo featuring Nate Light on bass, Steve Pemberton on drums, and Sang Hee Cho on piano.

Tickets are $10 general admission and $5 for students with ID. Advance tickets can be purchased online or by calling 310-434-3005. Tickets will also be available 45 minutes before the performance at The Broad Stage Box Office. Free parking is available on premises.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

REBUILD

FROM PAGE 2

rebuild a slope drapery protection system near Big Rock Road in Malibu and reconstruct hillsides above State Route 1 near Mulholland Drive, all of which were impacted by the Palisades Fire and subsequent rainstorms.

"Today's monumental investment puts Californians' tax dollars to work making critical safety and resiliency improvements to highways throughout the state that support the travel of millions of residents each day," Newsom said. "We're also directing millions to help repair vital infrastructure damaged by the Los Angeles fires."

The Army Corps of Engineers has characterized the current operation as the largest fire debris removal mission in its history, with more than 200 personnel currently deployed to the area. Officials emphasize that while significant progress has been made, much work remains as they continue to clear eligible properties across the burn areas.

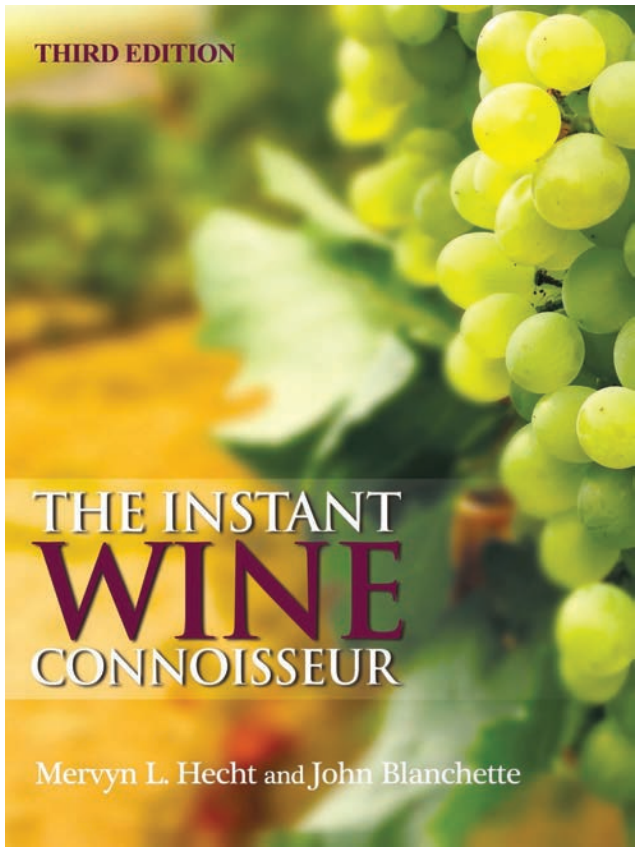
For more information on the wildfire debris removal effort, residents can visit recovery.lacounty.gov.

editor@smdp.com

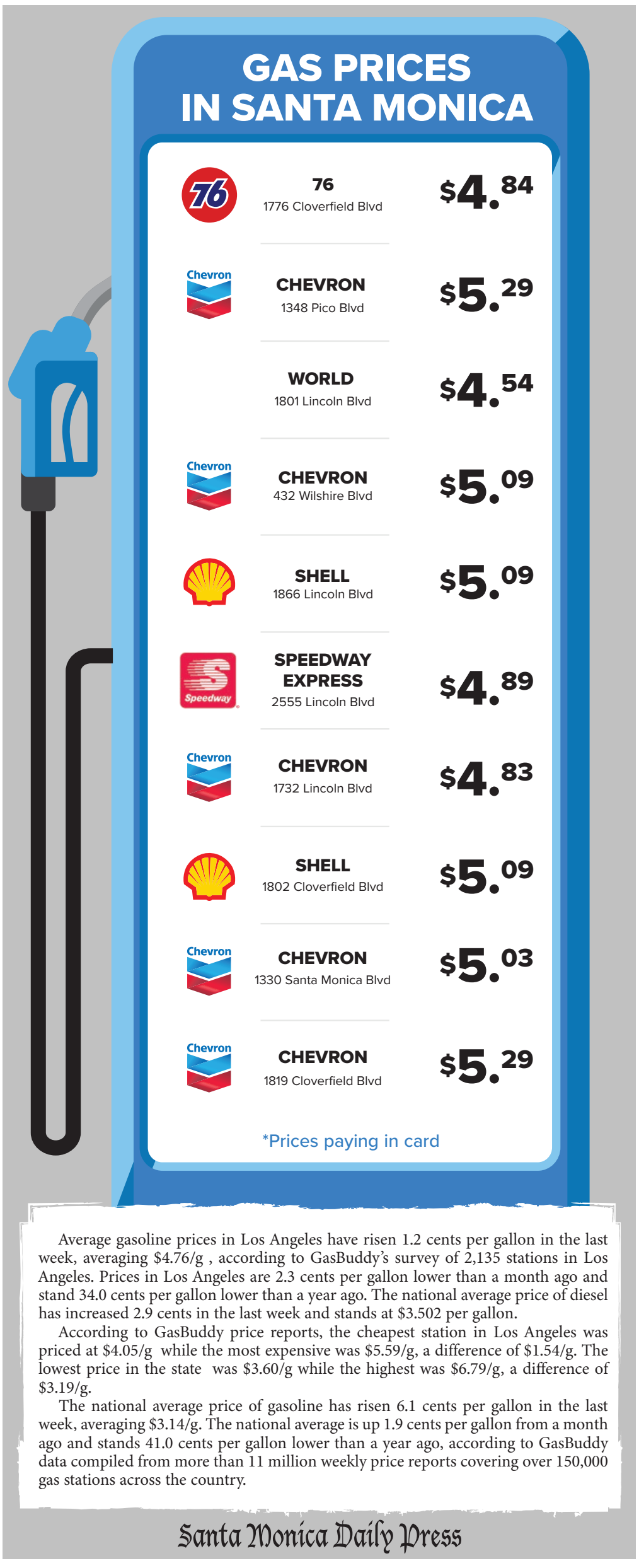
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★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.
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Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have risen 1.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $4.76/g , according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 2.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 34.0 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 2.9 cents in the last week and stands at $3.502 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at $4.05/g while the most expensive was $5.59/g, a difference of $1.54/g. The lowest price in the state was $3.60/g while the highest was $6.79/g, a difference of $3.19/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 6.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.14/g. The national average is up 1.9 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.0 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

SOCIAL MEDIA

FROM PAGE 1

social media wasn't the primary driver behind such deaths when Robinson died, platforms have since become key vectors for dangerous challenges to spread among young users.

In recent years, similar challenges have resurged on platforms like TikTok, YouTube, and Facebook prompting new lawsuits against the companies.

Rogg has become a vocal supporter of legislation to protect children online, emphasizing that young people lack fully developed decision-making abilities. "The population you're trying to protect, their brains are not fully developed, the executive functioning hasn't fully come online, so it's hard for them to make good decisions," she said.

KOSA represents one of several legislative efforts to address online safety for children. California previously introduced the Age-Appropriate Design-Code Act, modeled after similar UK legislation, which would require tech platforms to limit data collection from young users, restrict potentially risky connections with adults, mandate age-appropriate content policies, and stop practices that encourage weakening privacy settings.

Proponents hope that strong state legislation could eventually lead to federal protections. "I really, really hope that this bill passes. I think it will be an enormous first step and maybe the US Congress will follow suit afterwards," Rogg said regarding the California initiative.

The reintroduction of KOSA comes amid growing concern about various online dangers affecting children, including cyberbullying and the sale of illicit drugs. In Santa Monica, California, 16-year-old Sammy Berman Chapman died in February 2021 after taking a fentanyl-laced pill purchased on Snapchat that he believed was Xanax.

ParentsSOS, formed by bereaved families to combat online harms, continues to advocate for legislative change while providing educational resources to protect children online.

"At least change the default and remove the ads and not have algorithms that are targeting kids with things that they're not looking for, that is not appropriate," Rogg urged. "Buying fentanyl online, it's another big one. I mean, all of this stuff is just insane; what people are doing to make a buck."

editor@smdp.com

WILDFIRE

FROM PAGE 4

less likely to be emphasized."

Burgum indicated the administration was not waiting for the bill to pass and he would work with Agriculture Sec. Brooke Rollins to begin coordinating operations for the current fire season.

The Forest Service workforce was initially cut in February during billionaire Elon Musk's push to reduce federal spending, and at least 1,000 National Park Service workers also were let go. A court order to rehire fired workers along with a public outcry brought many workers back to their jobs but Democratic lawmakers have said it's not enough.

The Forest Service had about 9,450 wildland firefighters as of May 3, with a goal of 11,300 by mid-July.

Interior employs about 6,700 wildland firefighters, spread between the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management.

State officials in Washington and Oregon said this month that a loss of federal workers who help support wildland firefighting is making planning for the upcoming wildfire season a challenge. The administration has not released the exact number of fired and rehired workers.

In a separate action aimed at wildfires, the Trump administration last month rolled back environmental safeguards around future logging projects on more than half of U.S. national forests.

The emergency designation covers 176,000 square miles (455,000 square kilometers) of terrain primarily in the West but also in the South, around the Great Lakes and in New England.

Most of those forests are considered to have high wildfire risk, and many are in decline because of insects and disease.

By MATTHEW BROWN Associated Press

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HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 3

cities and counties around people living in shelters is a major problem," said Sen. Catherine Blakespear, a Democrat from Encinitas, whose Senate Bill 16 would have forced counties to shoulder half the cost of city shelters until it was amended in a way that weakened her proposed requirement.

LA COUNTY OVERHAUL

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority formed in the 1990s as a result of a series of lawsuits claiming that homeless Angelenos couldn't access county services. The joint agency was supposed to fix that problem by forcing the city and county to work together.

City and county officials have pointed out some of the good that came out of that partnership. The two entities are working together to improve the way they share client data across homelessness and mental health systems. They have a joint team of outreach workers that can go anywhere in the county without being restricted by the boundaries of its 88 cities, which in addition to Los Angeles include Long Beach and Glendale.

Last year, the city of LA saw a 10% decrease in street homelessness — the first double digit decrease in at least nine years.

LA County voters showed they were willing to pay more to address homelessness when they backed a sales tax to fund those programs in 2017 and in 2024. The new money forced the homeless services authority to grow quickly. Things didn't go smoothly.

Two critical audits since November found the agency was failing to properly track spending and outcomes. The LA County Board of Supervisors voted last month to pull more than $300 million – more than a third of the joint agency's funding — and more than 700 employees out of the joint authority and into a new county agency.

After that, in quick succession, the head of the joint agency said she would resign and a federal task force announced it would investigate the agency for fraud. The LA City Council is considering pulling its funding as well.

The result will be a complete overhaul of how the county administers its homelessness programs, scheduled to take about a year.

While the problems at the homeless authority were obvious, the county's gutting of the joint agency — done over the objections of Mayor Bass — created more friction between the city and county.

In a letter to the county before the vote, Bass and Councilmember Nithya Raman warned pulling funding from the joint agency would "create a monumental disruption in the progress we are making and runs the serious risk of worsening our homelessness crisis."

The county's vote to do it anyway "felt like a breaking of a relationship that was moving towards greater trust," Raman, who chairs the city's Housing and Homelessness Committee, said in an interview.

Now, Raman said, programs that received city and county funds through the joint agency, such as a $170 million program that provides two-year rental subsidies, are scrambling to figure out how to separate the city and county funds. She's also worried about shelter programs falling through the cracks during the transition.

"How are we going to make sure those shelters stay in place?" Raman asked.

The new agency will have heightened accountability measures – something multiple audits found that the old joint-agency lacked. The agency will report to the county annually on its progress, and quarterly on an online dashboard, said Cheri Todoroff, executive director of the county's Homeless Initiative.

By operating within the existing county infrastructure, the new agency will benefit from tools the county has been using for decades to account for spending and monitor progress, said Sarah Mahin, director of the county's Housing for Health program, which will be a model for the new agency.

LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, who spearheaded the plan to create the new agency, said the intention isn't to keep the city out of its homelessness efforts, but to be more efficient by consolidating homeless services that are being provided across more than a dozen different county departments. The county also will review all existing contracts, and cancel the ones that aren't delivering results, she said.

"The city will be as involved as they choose to be," Horvath said.

A FIGHT OVER A SAN DIEGO SHELTER

In this year's state of the city speech, San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria attacked his county counterparts for their "inaction" in helping unhoused people suffering from mental illness and addiction. Last month, he put the county on blast again in his email newsletter, saying it must "step up" to save a homeless shelter.

"Generally speaking, I would say where the city is responding to this with an all hands on deck approach, I don't think the same can be said for my county or for other counties," Gloria said in an interview with CalMatters.

That tension came to a head with a dispute over the Rosecrans Shelter, where 150 people sleep in bunk beds inside a giant tent set up in the parking lot of the county's psychiatric hospital. The city runs the shelter and the county provides behavioral health services, the land and utilities, via a connection to the neighboring hospital.

The county is preparing to demolish a vacant building on that site, which will sever the shelter's connection to water, sewer and power.

Now, the fate of the shelter residents is up in the air. Gloria wants the county to pay to reestablish the utilities, which is estimated to cost as much as $2 million. He also wants the county to relocate the shelter residents, most of whom are struggling with mental illness or addiction. They can't stay at the shelter during the demolition, he said – it will be too disruptive.

Spencer Katz, director of strategic initiatives for San Diego County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, disagrees. There's no reason people can't live at the shelter during the demolition, he said.

"With respect to the mayor, who's neither an expert on demolition nor on behavioral health, that claim simply doesn't hold water," he said.

Lawson-Remer has proposed using $800,000 in leftover federal COVID recovery funds to pay for the utility connections, Katz said, and she wants to work with the city to find the rest of the money.

But Gloria has proposed closing the shelter, as he stares down a $258 million budget deficit.

The city and county have until July 1, when their current agreement expires, to find a solution.

NEWSOM CALLS OUT TURLOCK MAYOR

Meanwhile, in the San Joaquin Valley, another city-county dispute over homelessness caught the attention of Gov. Gavin Newsom.

"Truly a ridiculous lack of local leadership – an absolute moral failure," the governor said last month on X.

He was talking about the city of Turlock, which has refused to allow Stanislaus County to support an existing homeless shelter in the city. The county awarded nearly $270,000 in state funding to the 50-bed shelter. But the money was contingent on the cooperation of the city, which would have to write a letter of support and allocate a token $1 to the program.

The city said no.

"It's not about the dollar — it's about accountability," Turlock Mayor Amy Bublak said in an interview with CalMatters. The shelter is open at night, but during the day, the people who sleep there have nowhere to go – and nowhere to use the bathroom, Bublak said. As a result, the nearby businesses are complaining of public urination and other disruptions, she said. The mayor asked We Care, the organization that runs the shelter, to keep its bathroom open during the day, but they weren't able to come to an agreement, she said.

Stanislaus County Supervisor Terry Withrow called the city's refusal "pretty disappointing." The people in the shelter need help, he said, and closing the program won't make them go away.

"I don't know how you can turn your back on these individuals and just let them die out there," he said.

We Care did not respond to a request for comment. In a statement to CBS13, We Care said it might be forced to shut down the shelter without that funding.

BILL WOULD HAVE MADE COUNTIES PAY MORE

The bill introduced by Blakespear, the Encinitas state senator, would have required counties to cover half the cost of operating city-run homeless shelters in order to be eligible for state homelessness funding. Counties came out in force against that mandate, and Blakespear removed it from the bill.

That was a disappointment for San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan. He's leading a push to open about 1,000 new temporary housing units this year, mostly in converted motels and tiny homes – and he wants Santa Clara County to provide case management services to the residents.

"We have basically reached our limit," Mahan said. "We can't defund core city services that are already understaffed. So if the county doesn't step in...We can't scale anymore, which means we leave thousands of people outside."

Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg said the city and county already work together on many shelter programs. But she objected to forcing the county to pay for services.

"Without having any control over the number of shelters or tiny homes that the city decides to build," she said, "we don't have control over our budget."

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



Santa Monica Daily Press

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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 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).

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

Help Wanted

DeviceLab Backend Development Engineer sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica ofc at least 80% of time (avg 4 days/wk). Dsgn, dvlp & modify s/ware apps & sys. Base salary: $209,000-$313,000/yr. Eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award. Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #DBDE-SM-0525-SP. EOE.

Sr. Manager, Law Enforcement Operations sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica ofc at least 80% of time (avg 4 days/wk). Team strategy & ops as a key member of LEO leadership team. Base salary: $209,040-$292,400/yr. Eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award. Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #SMLEO-SM-0525-EH. EOE.

Security Engineer (3) sought by Snap Inc. (Santa Monica, CA) *Hybrid work permitted - Snap practices a "default together" approach & expects team members to work in Santa Monica ofc at least 80% of time (avg 4 days/wk). Dvlp & dlvr on strategies to harden sec. of Snap's multi-cloud (AWS/GCP) production infrastructure. Base salary: $157,000-$235,000/yr. Eligible for discretionary performance-based bonus award. Eligible for equity in form of RSUs. Our Benefits: https://careers.snap.com/benefits. Email Resume: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #SE3-SM-0525-DD. EOE.

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

active listings across metro cities last month, highlights stark disparities in rental costs throughout the region. Beverly Hills topped the list as the most expensive city with one-bedroom units priced at $3,210, while San Bernardino offered the most affordable options at $1,410.

Housing experts point to multiple factors driving the region's persistent affordability challenges, including rising interest rates that have climbed dramatically from historic lows. The average 30-year fixed mortgage rate has more than doubled from 2.65% in January 2021 to 6.81% in May 2025.

"With the combination of inflated prices and high interest rates in play, many consumers may wonder if they can even afford to buy a home," noted WalletHub in its report on 2025's Most Affordable Cities for Home Buyers.

That report ranked Santa Monica near the bottom nationally for housing affordability, placing it 299th overall among 300 U.S. cities analyzed and 132nd among small cities. The community performed particularly poorly in several key metrics, ranking 262nd in housing affordability, 298th in cost per square foot, and dead last (300th) in rent-to-price ratio.

Further complicating the region's housing landscape is a significant shift in development patterns. A separate Downtown Construction Report found that only 19.1% of new apartments built in Los Angeles between 2020 and 2024 were located in the downtown area — representing one of the steepest declines in downtown-focused development among major U.S. metropolitan areas.

This marks a dramatic change from the previous decade when downtown Los Angeles captured 50.5% of new apartment construction, signaling a potential reversal of urban revitalization efforts that had gained momentum throughout the 2010s.

Despite this shift away from downtown development, the report noted that adaptive reuse — converting existing buildings into residential units — has maintained a steady presence in the downtown housing market, accounting for 14.5% of new downtown units this decade, unchanged from the previous decade.

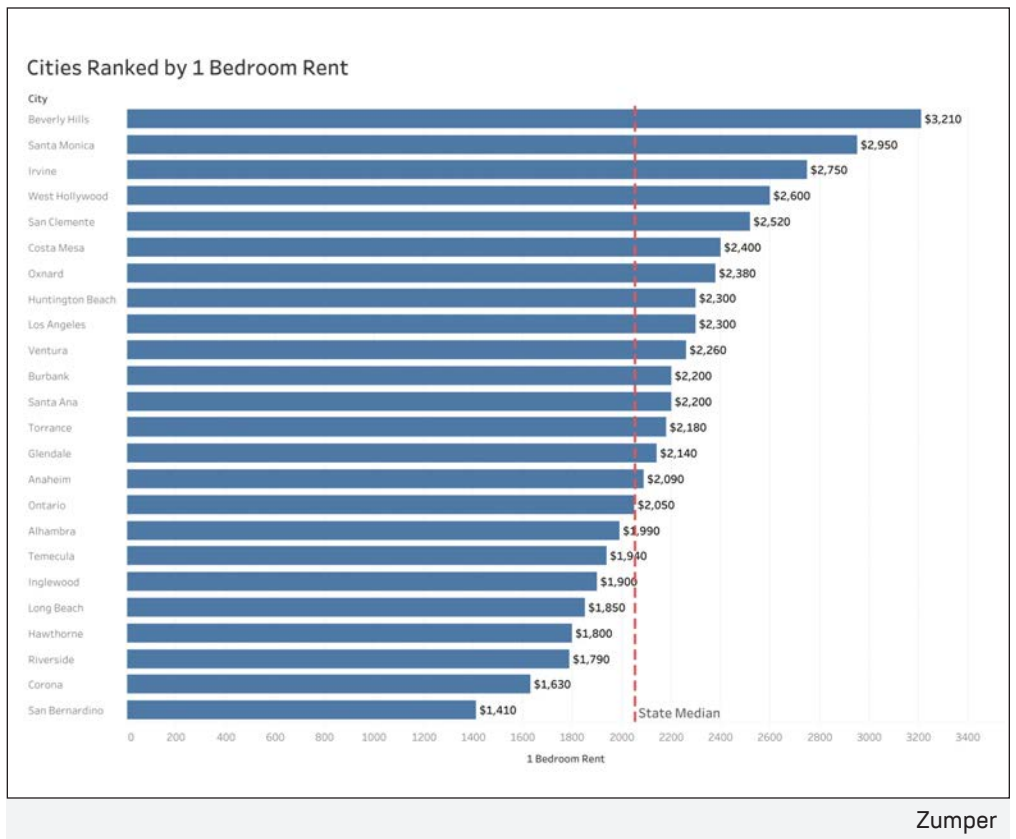
Corona registered the fastest year-over-year rent growth at 8.7%, followed by Beverly Hills at 7% and Alhambra at 4.7%. On a month-over-month basis, Oxnard saw the most significant increase at 4.8%.

The California statewide median rent for a one-bedroom apartment stood at $2,054 last month, substantially higher than many other regions nationwide but still well below the premium rates commanded in coastal communities like Santa Monica.

For prospective homebuyers in Santa Monica, WalletHub's analysis painted a challenging picture across multiple affordability metrics, though the city did perform relatively well in several categories, ranking 38th for maintenance affordability, 37th for real estate tax rate, and 46th for vacancy rate.

The continued escalation of housing costs throughout the Los Angeles metro area comes as policymakers and housing advocates debate potential solutions to address affordability challenges, from expanded rent control measures to increased density and transit-oriented development.

With 5,792 new apartments built in downtown Los Angeles between 2020 and 2024, questions remain about whether the region's development patterns will adequately address growing housing demand across all income levels.



Zumper

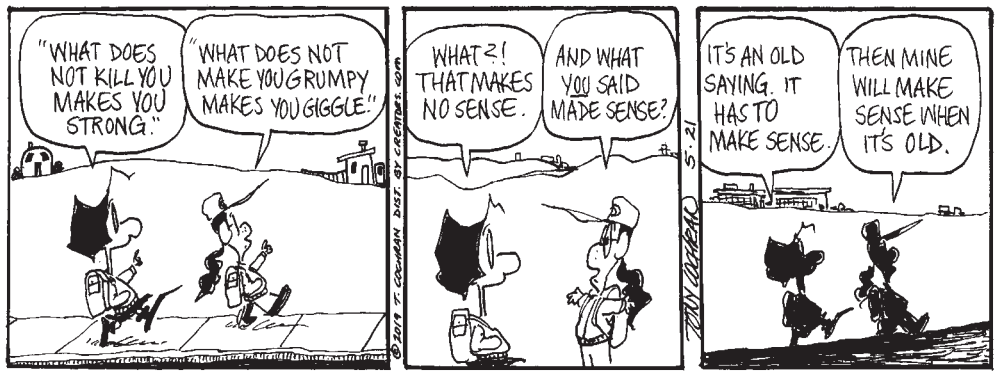
RENT: Cities Ranked by 1 Bed Room Rent and State Median.

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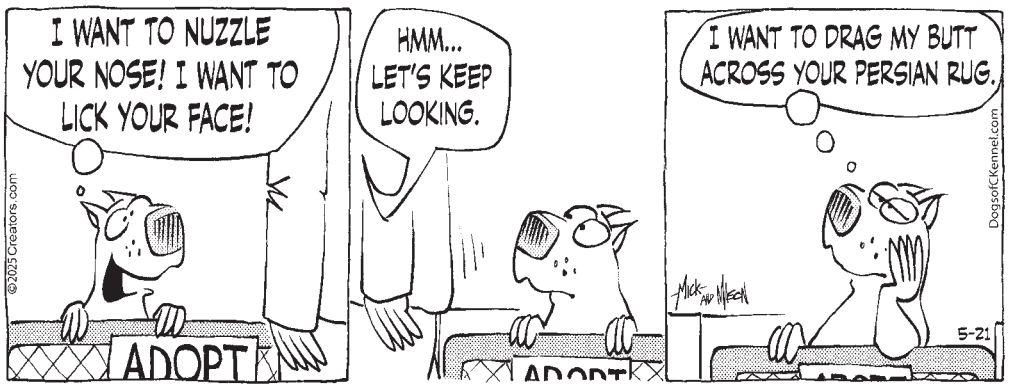
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



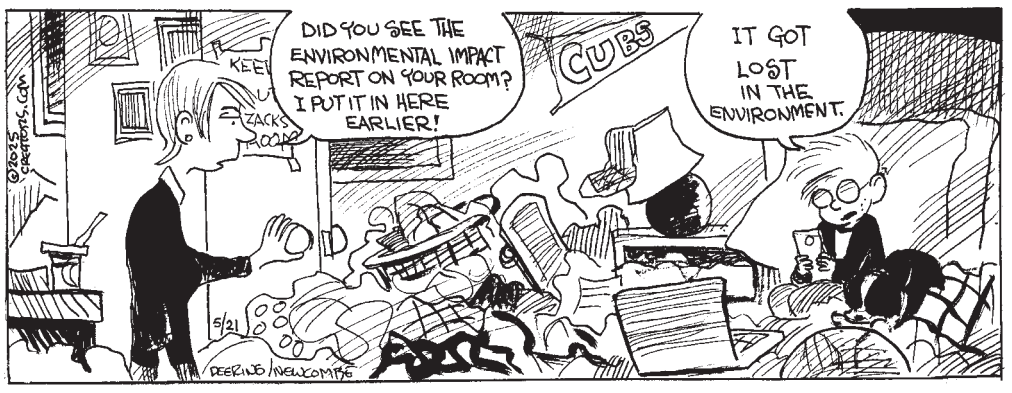
Dogs of C-Kennel

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

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Living in the desert

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

Arid	Donkey	Harsh	Rugged
Artesian	Drum	Heat	Sandy
Barren	Dunes	Inhospitable	Scrub
Basin	Dusty	Lake	Temperature
Billabong	Eagle	Large	Tent
Birds	Fire	Maps	Unique
Bores	Flies	Min min lights	Wildflowers
Camel	Gibson		Wind
Care	Grass	Plants	
Dams	Grim	Remote	
Dangerous	Gulls	Risk	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 21)

You'll switch tracks without fear, guided by an inner whisper that proves more accurate than any GPS. Your bold pivots and sparkling curiosity land you in money, adoration and accolades. More highlights: A new skill unlocks a passion project, romance burns hotter with clarity, and a past mistake becomes a doorway to brilliance. Virgo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 16, 5, 12, 38 and 23.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't have to wait for a special occasion or anyone else's invitation. Move like you mean it, dress like you've got somewhere to be, and make plans that thrill you. The more joy you give yourself, the more life rises to meet you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your subconscious is steering the ship more than your conscious mind wants to admit today. Even when your brain feels blank or foggy, there's something deeper making choices, guiding instincts, solving problems.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're in the process of lifestyle upgrades including an environment that deeply supports you and who you are becoming. This has many steps and stages, including the most fun one: dreaming it. Think big, as you are bringing this into being.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Green spaces and all that grows and lives wild will give you back what's been missing. Spend time in nature, and let curiosity guide your attention. Simply observing the world around you will refuel your energy and refresh your perspective.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Winning isn't always your main goal. You'd often rather be kind, fair or strategic than grab a trophy. You'll size up today's opponent with grace, deciding whether this is your moment to rise or your moment to lift someone else. Both are victories.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You have an aura of power. Some would even say you are intimidating. An associate might be white-knuckled because of having to report to you. Try and put people at ease because that's when they'll do their best work.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Being valued for who you are — your personality, your energy, your soul — is far better than being valued only for what you do (help, provide, perform, fix). This week, you'll receive love based on mutual care, not just convenience.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You sense a responsibility isn't yours to carry. Step away and watch to see if the rightful owner steps up. And if they don't? That's your answer, too. Either way, you'll be glad you took the time to understand instead of jumping to the fix.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Today brings fun intellectual challenge and game-changing concepts that light up your mind even before you fully understand them. But talking it through with friends, mentors and even opponents will be half the fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll feel connected to the bigger picture, aware that your role — however small it may seem — is essential to how it all fits together. You'll give your best knowing that you're helping to write the story of the world.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Just because someone's loud or confident doesn't mean they're wise. Check credentials. Save your energy for the guidance that's rooted in experience and real results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those who believe in serendipity often find it, but even skeptics get swept up sometimes. Today brings a moment so uncanny, so precisely timed, it'll feel like the universe had you in mind all along.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

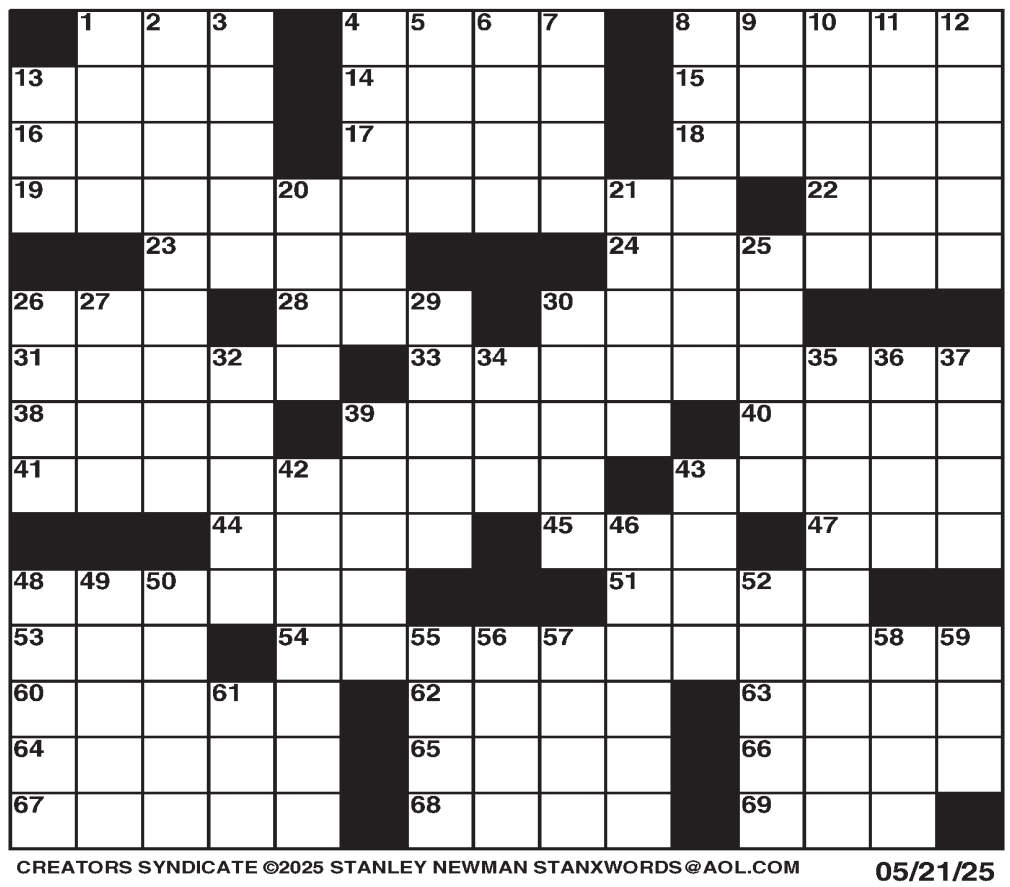
FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS by Gary Cee
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Mo. after Mar.
4 Actress Goldie
8 Cash drawers
13 __ vera (medicinal plant)
14 Honolulu's island
15 Workers' group
16 Earlobe jewelry
17 Dry as a desert
18 Bored feeling
19 Old West mail service
22 Mind-reading ability, for short
23 Editor's removal mark
24 Thinks the world of
26 Navigation software: Abbr.
28 Stubborn equine
30 Window blind strip
31 Monarch's tenure
33 Where the Wright Brothers first flew
38 Craving
39 Pass-the-baton race
40 Business school subj.
41 Beginning skier's slope
43 Operagoer's cheer
44 Wet forecast
45 Filmmaker Spike
47 Congregant's bench
48 Subterranean chamber
51 Rugged army vehicle
53 __ Baba
54 Reward for rolling over
60 Dreadlocked Jamaican
62 Undercover drug officer
63 "Alternatively..."
64 In a crowd of
65 Frequently
66 Extended family
67 Very rich cake
68 Light browns
69 Beer keg insert

DOWN

1 Female choir voice
2 Hashtag symbol
3 Color yet again
4 Elaborate pranks
5 Senior citizens advocate
6 Helicopter sound
7 Wearing nothing
8 When many people vote
9 Rustic lodging
10 Cruise ship
11 Botch (up)
12 Quick scissor cuts
13 Egyptian snake
20 Energetic spirit
21 Seasoned like peanuts
25 "Not listed above" category
26 Chuck wagon meal
27 Country in the Andes
29 Package of yarn
30 Procrastinate
32 Any literary category
34 __-at-ease (nervous)
35 Without-instruments singing
36 Made on a loom
37 Be sure of
39 Safari park attraction
42 Golf course measure
43 Red vegetable
46 Boots out
48 Gemstone measure
49 San Antonio attraction
50 Baseball hat brim
52 Standing tall
55 Pesky fly
56 Elegant party
57 Remove creases from
58 Memo's "On the double!"
59 Prime-time hour
61 Explosive stuff



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05/21/25

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WEDNESDAY | MAY 21

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/12382446/2025-05-21T08

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-/14548476/2025-05-21T12

FROM EUCLID TO MOOMAT AHIKO: HOW SANTA MONICA STREETS GOT THEIR NAMES
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Ocean Park Branch Library 2601 Main St. Santa Monica. Discover the history behind Santa Monica's Street names! Join creator of lastreetnames.com, Mark Tapio Kines, as he presents the origins of the streets we call home. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/from-euclid-to-moomat-ahiko-how-santa-monica-streets-got-their-names/15513657/2025-05-21T18

THURSDAY | MAY 22

SMC GUITAR SHOWCASE
11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center 1310 11th St Santa Monica. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this epic concert with SMC guitar students performing classical, rock, pop, blues, and reggae. Space is limited. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/smc-guitar-showcase/15093583/2025-05-22T11

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. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/lunchtime-line-dance/12342961/2025-05-22T12

FRIDAY | MAY 23

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave Santa Monica, CA. Erinn Alissa performs acoustic folk pop with her guitar Friday nights at The Surfing Fox. Enjoy a night of live music, tasty bites, and Foxtails! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-05-23T18

SATURDAY | MAY 24

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/15484766/2025-05-24T08

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - SATURDAY MARKET
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Santa Monica Farmers Market - Arizona Ave and 3rd StreetArizona Ave and 3rd Street Santa Monica. Santa Monica Farmers Markets create thriving, vibrant communities that are inclusive, connected, and diverse by promoting the prosperity of California farmers and small food businesses, preservation of the agricultural arts and sustainable food systems. The Saturday Downtown Farmers Market is open from 8:00am to 1:00pm, year-round and operates rain or shine. May be closed for selected holidays. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-saturday-market/13357377/2025-05-24T08

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SWIM AT ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE POOL
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Hwy Santa Monica. Take a dip in the pool all Memorial Day Weekend long! The historic pool is open May 24, 25 & 26 from 10am - 6pm each day. Passes go on sale at 9am, all members of your party must be present. $4/youth (1-17), $10/adult (18-59), $5/sr. adult (60 and up) Babies under one are free! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/memorial-day-weekend-swim-at-annenberg-community-beach-house-pool/15541565/2025-05-24T10

ARTISTS & FLEAS: VENICE MARKETPLACE
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Westminster Elementary School 1010 Abbot Kinney Los Angeles. Artists & Fleas in Venice is located in the vibrant, artistic heart of Venice at the corner of Abbot Kinney and Westminster Avenue in the outdoor lot of Westminister Avenue Elementary School. Join 50+ merchants every Saturday (rain or shine!) for a fabulous lineup of art, design, food trucks and vintage. Date: Every Saturday Time: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Location: Westminster Elementary School - 1010 Abbot Kinney Check our website here for a list of vendors. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/artists-fleas-venice-marketplace/14548485/2025-05-24T11

"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/15355101/2025-05-24T14

SUNDAY | MAY 25

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/14894114/2025-05-25T11

MONDAY | MAY 26

THE GORDONS IMPROV RESIDENCY
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd St Santa Monica. Welcome to The Gordons Improv Show at Westside Comedy Theater! IMPROV RESIDENT TEAM NIGHT! Check out our current lineup of Resident Improv Teams! These teams perform Long-Form Improv all inspired by a suggestion from the audience. Think of it as a sitcom made up on the spot. Catch them before they are gone! These teams rotate every three months!Get ready for a night filled with laughter, spontaneity, and hilarious moments. Join us for an evening of unscripted comedy where every joke is made up on the spot. Our talented improv performers will have you in stitches as they create scenes, characters, and stories based on your suggestions. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind experience! Grab your friends and come on down to Westside Comedy Theater for a night you won't forget. $10.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-gordons-improv-residency/14863274/2025-05-26T19

PIZZA PARTY! A COMEDY SHOW
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave Unit F4, Santa Monica. What do you get when you have LA's sauciest comedians and three boxes of hot pizza? A Pizza party! Join us the fourth Monday of the every month for a comedy show with the funniest pepperonies in town... when it when it comes to comedy we deliver! $15.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/pizza-party-a-comedy-show/13385486/2025-05-26T19

TUESDAY | MAY 27

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. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gelson-s-west-la-to-host-taco-tuesdays-with-tacos-margaritas-and-mezcals/15309564/2025-05-27T16

WEDNESDAY | MAY 28

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/12382446/2025-05-28T08

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- Vucatious

WINE & SPIRIT PARTNERS

- Betz
- Clos Solene
- Convene by Dan Kosta
- Dassai Sake
- Frank Family Vineyards
- Hamel
- Hourglass
- Linne Calodo
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