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**COLDWELL BANKER
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2 Extreme weather

Can cause anxiety

3 Fundraising success

For the Lions



6 Art Exhibit

Opens June 11

7 Homelessness

Declines across the country

Volume 25 Issue 139

WEDNESDAY 6/3/26

smdp.com

Slow day at the polls



Matthew Hall

VOTE: Santa Monica voters trickled in to the City's voting centers yesterday and were able to vote in person or drop off a ballot with no wait times. The primary election included highly contested races for Governor and Los Angeles Mayor alongside other local decisions for CD11, County Supervisor and Santa Monica's representatives in Sacramento. More elections were being held on Tuesday as well. Democrats are banking on a rare chance to regain ground in Iowa, a rural state that has repeatedly eluded them in recent years. Republicans, meanwhile, are grappling with a New Jersey congressman whose unexplained absence could put their already slim majority at risk. Results were unavailable at press time but visit smdp.com for full election coverage.

Santa Monica Chamber names former West Hollywood executive as Interim CEO

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has named Genevieve Morrill as its interim chief executive officer as the organization launches a formal search for a permanent leader following the departure of Judy Kruger.

Morrill, who most recently served as CEO of the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, brings more than 30 years of experience across economic development, destination marketing, Business Improvement Districts, advocacy and government affairs throughout the Los Angeles region. She can be reached at Genevieve@smchamber.com.

"I have known Gen for years as we both served with the Westside Chambers of Commerce," said Kruger, who is departing the role. "She has high-level experience and leadership savvy to be the right person during this time of



Willa-Cutolo

INTERIM: Santa Monica Chamber names Genevieve Morrill as interim CEO following Judy Kruger's departure.

SEE CHAMBER PAGE 11

Santa Monica General Fund reaches structural balance as city unveils \$909M spending plan

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's general fund is on track to achieve structural balance for the first time in years, city finance officials told the City Council at their last meeting, presenting a proposed

\$908.1 million budget for fiscal year 2026-27 that pairs a financially stable operating plan with the city's most ambitious capital investment program since the pandemic.

Finance Director Oscar Santiago told council members the current fiscal year is projected to close with

an \$8.95 million surplus — a dramatic turnaround from October 2025, when the city was staring down a projected \$29.6 million deficit for the coming year.

"The general fund is structurally balanced," Santiago said during the May 26 study session. "We remain on

track to maintain that balance into the next biannual budget."

The reversal was driven by the Realignment Plan adopted by council in October 2025, which deployed \$60 million in reserves to stabilize operations while simultaneously launching new revenue streams.

The ambulance operator program, fully operational since February, is processing roughly 650 transports per month and is projected to generate \$5.5 million in fiscal year 2026-27, growing to \$7 million annually once

SEE BUDGET PAGE 8

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**BID #4519 HEAVY DUTY TOW SERVICE FOR TRANSIT BUSES AND FIRE APPARATUS.
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Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: OpenGov (<https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca>). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

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Extreme weather can whip up anxiety. A safety plan can help

Hurricanes, wildfires, floods and other extreme weather can also kick up storms of anxiety.

Thankfully, there are several ways to reduce that stress, according to mental health experts who have helped people who have experienced disasters. One of the most important things to do is have a plan, they say.

"Preparation is always one of the most powerful tools that I can imagine — not just for safety, but also for mental health," said Ruben Juarez, a health economist at University of Hawaii professor who directed the Maui Wildfires Exposure Study, which looked at health and social impacts of the deadly 2023 fires.

And when the disaster is over, they say, try to restore a sense of normalcy by seeking out support, returning to routines and helping others.

Kevin Westmoreland, who co-owns The Corner Kitchen in Asheville, North Carolina, learned meditation techniques and breathing exercises to deal with the stresses that the restaurant industry can present. When the remnants of Hurricane Helene unleashed torrents of rain on the state two years ago, water and mud poured into the restaurant and "everything was tossed around inside the building as if it was in a blender," he recalled.

"All you could do to get through it is try to take a breath and move forward, step by step," he said.

PLAN AHEAD FOR UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER

One way to ease anxiety is to prepare as best you can ahead of time, including hashing out a plan for what to do during a disaster.

Making an evacuation plan and putting together an emergency kit can provide a sense of control, said Melissa Brymer, a psychologist and director of terrorism and disaster programs at the UCLA-Duke National Center for Child Traumatic Stress.

She recommends a step-by-step guide for families at ready.gov/plan. The American Red Cross also has extensive guides for hurricane preparedness. Make sure to consider special preparations for anyone with disabilities, special needs, new mothers and expectant mothers, Brymer advises. Also make sure that pets are included in disaster plans.

Weather is unpredictable, so it helps to accept that there are things you won't be able

to control.

Being informed can also give people a sense of control in extreme weather. Focus on facts by gathering information from trusted sources and stay up-to-date on weather watches and warnings.

Share your fears and concerns with friends, relatives, a therapist or others who can give you support, according to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America.

HOW TO TALK TO CHILDREN ABOUT STORMS WITHOUT ALARMING THEM

Parents should consider talking to children in a matter-of-fact way, explaining that storms are normal. Children might be afraid of storms, but many are interested in learning more about them.

It's OK to acknowledge that it's a stressful time, Brymer said. But adults should limit some conversations to only other adults to avoid overly worrying children.

"Kids kind of register our panic, and then they're going to panic if we're starting to panic," she said. "We don't want them to start worrying for us."

KEEP TRACK OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

One of the Maui wildfires study's findings was that mental health affects rippled through the entire community and were found in many people who weren't in the burned area, Juarez said. It's a reminder to be aware that your mental health could be affected by disasters that strike your community, even if they don't directly affect your home or neighborhood.

Westmoreland said one of things that helped him cope after Helene was to try and put things in perspective.

"We try to look at it like it's just a business and equipment — as long as our employees are safe, those are the important things," he said.

The restaurant, built around 1895 by American industrialist George Vanderbilt in the Biltmore Village section of Asheville, has since reopened after major renovations and repairs.

The Anxiety and Depression Association has more tips, including:

- Find a positive activity such as

SEE WEATHER PAGE 4

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LIONS ROAR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Pacific Palisades Lions Club Celebrates fundraising success and looks ahead to new chapter

This past month, the Santa Monica Pacific Palisades Lions Club held its first Comedy Night fundraiser at Bergamot Station Arts Center on Sunday, May 17. Hosted at The Crow, the event was a well-attended and successful evening filled with laughter from eight comedians, each bringing their own fresh style to the stage. Thanks to the support of the community, we are excited to expand our ability to provide funding to local nonprofit organizations, many of which are facing increased demand for services.

On Memorial Day, Lions members participated in the annual remembrance ceremony at Woodlawn Cemetery hosted by Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Lions Kathy Boole, Alan Parr, and Pam Andrews presented a beautiful red, white, and blue wreath in honor of the men and women who have served our country.

The club has one more meeting on June 3 before taking a summer break during July. It will also mark our final meeting at the Santa Monica Elks Lodge before relocating to a new Santa Monica meeting location, which will be announced at the meeting.

Meanwhile, plans are underway for our annual installation dinner for the new board on August 3 at Del Rey Yacht Club. The new District Governor for District 4-L3, Frances Lee, will serve as the installing officer. We are happy to have Carol Ann Emmitt as our incoming president, providing her inspiring leadership after several times in this position.

The Santa Monica Pacific Palisades Lions Club is always interested in new ideas and opportunities to support programs and projects that strengthen the Westside community. If you see a need in the community or have a passion for a project that could make a difference, we would love to hear from you. That spirit of service is what Lions Clubs are all about.

If you are interested in meeting new friends and becoming more involved in your community, consider joining us as a guest at our Wednesday, June 3 Lions Club dinner meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Santa Monica Elks Lodge, located at 1040 Pico Boulevard. RSVP to Kingsley Fife at 310-367-2679 or smplionsclub@gmail.com.



Courtesy Image

LEFT TO RIGHT: Lions Kathy Boole, Alan Parr and Pam Andrews.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Surf report WATER TEMP: 64.4

WEDNESDAY | **SURF:** 3-4ft+
FAIR | Waist to shoulder

Size starts to come down, should still be pretty fun in the morning once the tide comes in. SSW swell starts to ease, and we could see a little more NW energy back in the mix to help with shape. Drained out early, fun corners showing as the tide moves in mid-morning as long as the wind cooperates - we could get a little more S texture to start the day. PM onshores don't look too bad at this point, so even if the AM window is a little tricky there may be some opportunity later in the day.

THURSDAY | **SURF:** 3-4ft
FAIR | Waist to chest

Another quality, long period SSW swell builds as the swell that starts the month eases. Later May and June are peak season for quality SPAC swell and we're walking the walk so far. Another stout low is expected to track across the southwest into central SPAC over the next few days, backed by high pressure near New Zealand. That sets up another long period SSW swell building the 4th and strongest the 5th-6th with a quality refresh possible into the 7th. Maybe just enough NW to keep the beachbreaks in play.

Weather

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 67.

Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 68. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 61.

| Date | Day | Time (LST/LDT) | Predicted (ft)High/Low |
|------------|-----|----------------|------------------------|
| 2026/06/03 | Wed | 06:25 AM | -0.41 L |
| 2026/06/03 | Wed | 1:23 PM | 3.22 H |
| 2026/06/03 | Wed | 4:52 PM | 2.73 L |
| 2026/06/03 | Wed | 11:16 PM | 5.30 H |
| 2026/06/04 | Thu | 07:04 AM | -0.23 L |
| 2026/06/04 | Thu | 2:13 PM | 3.26 H |
| 2026/06/04 | Thu | 5:39 PM | 2.86 L |
| 2026/06/04 | Thu | 11:56 PM | 5.00 H |
| 2026/06/05 | Fri | 07:45 AM | -0.02 L |
| 2026/06/05 | Fri | 3:05 PM | 3.40 H |
| 2026/06/05 | Fri | 6:42 PM | 2.96 L |
| 2026/06/06 | Sat | 12:42 AM | 4.60 H |
| 2026/06/06 | Sat | 08:28 AM | 0.24 L |
| 2026/06/06 | Sat | 3:51 PM | 3.64 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>

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Draw Date: 6/1 2 42 47 57 58 Power#: 14 Jackpot: 194 M</p> | <p>Draw Date: 6/1 6 14 23 28 37</p> |
| <p>Draw Date: 5/29 19 24 47 59 65 Mega#: 7 Jackpot: 346 M</p> | <p>Draw Date: 6/1 EVENING: 1 2 9 Draw Date: 6/1 MIDDAY: 6 0 1</p> |
| <p>Draw Date: 5/30 1 2 22 26 27 Mega#: 21 Jackpot: 25 M</p> | <p>Draw Date: 6/1 1st: 03 - Hot Shot 2nd: 01 - Gold Rush 3rd: 05 - California Classic Race Time: 1:46.75</p> |

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Average gasoline prices in Los Angeles have fallen 5.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$6.05/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 2,135 stations in Los Angeles. Prices in Los Angeles are 10.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand \$1.39/g higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 15.5 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$5.437 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Los Angeles was priced at \$5.15/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$8.59/g, a difference of \$3.44/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$4.29/g while the highest was \$9.79/g, a difference of \$5.50/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 19.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$4.26/g today. The national average is down 17.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.18/g higher 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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

California's unemployment insurance morass will become the next governor's problem

There were 61 candidates for governor on this week's primary election ballot, one of whom will be inaugurated in January. Given the vast array of unresolved issues Gov. Gavin Newsom will leave to his successor, one could almost feel sorry for whoever that might be.

One little-discussed issue affects workers and their employers, involves many billions of dollars and has been building for a quarter century — the financial quagmire that is California's unemployment insurance system.

When the system works as intended, employers pay a tax into the Unemployment Insurance Fund on the first \$7,000 of each worker's annual wages. Then when an employee is laid off or has hours of work reduced, he or she can collect up to \$450 a week for up to 26 weeks from the fund.

However, the program has been dysfunctional ever since the Legislature and then-Gov. Gray Davis sharply increased benefits in 2001, on the assumption that the cost could be absorbed by a \$6.5 billion balance in the fund.

The higher benefits drew down the fund, and when the Great Recession struck six years later, rapidly expanding unemployment, the sudden spike in payouts forced the state to borrow about \$10 billion from the federal government.

Rather than repay the loan, the state allowed a federal payroll tax hike to kick in, slowly reducing the debt. However, the fund never recovered.

And when 3 million Californians lost their jobs in 2020 due to pandemic-related shutdowns, the state could cover benefit claims only by once again borrowing heavily from the federal government. It borrowed \$17.8 billion initially, later growing to more than \$20 billion.

The feds also financed an array of specialized benefits outside the regular program, which became a textbook example of fraud. The Employment Development Department rubber-stamped a deluge of applications, some of them from state prison inmates, with

little or no scrutiny.

There is a widespread, but erroneous, belief that fraud is why the state Unemployment Insurance Fund is deeply in the red. In fact, the two are completely separate situations.

Other states also borrowed money to keep benefits flowing during the pandemic, and all but California have repaid their loans. Newsom and the Legislature are once again allowing a federal payroll tax increase, \$1.6 billion this year, to slowly retire the debt and its interest charges. The employment department, in a new report, estimates that by the end of 2026 the fund will be more than \$22 billion in the hole.

Meanwhile, the program's finances continue to deteriorate because state payroll taxes aren't keeping up with the outflow of benefits, even though the state is no longer in recession.

More than a million California workers are jobless and the state's unemployment rate, currently 5.3%, is tied Delaware's and Nevada's for highest of any state.

The new report on the fund estimates it will receive \$4.9 billion in payroll taxes this year while paying out \$7.1 billion in benefits, a mismatch that is expected to continue indefinitely.

Narrowing the gap would require either reducing benefits or raising payroll taxes by increasing the tax rate or expanding the base, now limited to \$7,000. However, ever since the 2001 benefit increase there's been a political stalemate, pitting employers against unions.

There's some discussion about expanding the unemployment insurance system to include a new class of benefits for workers whose jobs become redundant due to wider use of artificial intelligence.

Before politicians pursue that notion, they should figure out how to break the impasse, pay off the huge debt and make the system financially sound. Doing nothing — their response to date — will just dig the hole deeper.

Dan Walters, CalMatters Opinion Columnist

WEATHER

FROM PAGE 2

donating blood, preparing care packages or volunteering to help others. That can offer a sense of purpose to counteract the feelings of being powerless.

— Seek support from others dealing with

the same issues.

— Be aware that if your symptoms persist for several weeks, it may be a sign of post-traumatic stress disorder and you should seek help.

By JEFF MARTIN Associated Press. Martin is a former Associated Press reporter.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Republican senators want more answers on \$1.8 billion settlement fund as Trump considers its future

Senate Republicans will meet Tuesday to discuss next steps after the Justice Department said it would comply with a court order pausing the implementation of a \$1.776 billion settlement fund designed to compensate President Donald Trump's political allies.

GOP senators who revolted against the settlement before leaving for a Memorial Day recess two weeks ago say they want more information from the administration about the future of the fund, which could potentially go to Trump supporters who beat police and attacked the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Meanwhile, Trump is reconsidering whether to move forward with it at all, according to a person familiar with his thinking.

Caught in the middle is legislation that would fund Trump's immigration enforcement agencies for three years. Republicans abruptly left town without passing it after Democrats said they would offer amendments to scrap or scale back the judgment fund, forcing Republicans to go on the record for or against it and endangering the money for Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Patrol.

Returning to Washington on Monday evening, Senate Majority Leader John Thune said he wasn't sure if the immigration spending bill would move this week.

"To be determined," he told reporters.

The extraordinary standoff comes after Trump announced the fund with no heads up to lawmakers as part of a settlement to resolve his lawsuit against the IRS over the leak of his tax returns. When word of the settlement broke, the Senate was navigating tricky passage of the immigration legislation with an added \$1 billion in White House security costs — including for Trump's ballroom project.

Furious, Senate Republicans jettisoned the White House security money from the bill and made clear they would not pass the legislation at all unless the White House made major changes to the settlement.

"I do think the best way to handle it is if the administration decides to shut it down themselves," Thune told reporters Monday, referring to the fund.

He said Republicans will have a better idea of how to proceed after they meet for their weekly conference lunch on Tuesday.

SENATORS SAY THEY NEED MORE 'EXPLICIT' COMMITMENT

The Justice Department said it would comply with a ruling Friday from U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema, who temporarily halted the fund for two weeks. The judge scheduled a June 12 hearing for arguments on whether to extend her order.

The department said in a statement that it strongly disagrees with the ruling but would comply.

Republican senators weren't satisfied. They said Monday evening that they need more detail from the administration on

what happens after that deadline before deciding next steps.

"It's pretty clear that the president has to say very explicitly that there's not going to be a weaponization fund," said Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa.

Oklahoma Sen. Jim Lankford said Trump administration officials "need to say what they actually mean."

"They need to say, we're setting this whole thing aside," Lankford said.

Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski said that if the settlement is "completely pulled, then I'm satisfied. But I haven't heard anybody say that."

Republican Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana said the administration already has to abide by the court decision, "that's in the Constitution. I have to know more about their position."

"Right now, the reconciliation bill looks like a broken arm with the bones sticking out," Kennedy said. "It won't move this week, in my opinion, unless we have some resolution on the weaponization account."

SENATORS ISSUE ULTIMATUM TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

The outrage of the fund came to a head last month at a closed-door meeting between senators and acting Attorney General Todd Blanche that Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas described on a recent episode of his podcast as "one of the roughest meetings I've seen in my entire time in the Senate."

GOP senators had been discussing several ways that they could curb the fund, including limiting who can receive payouts, changing the makeup of the commission in charge of settlement decisions, adding some sort of judicial review for applicants or scrapping the fund altogether.

Amid the backlash, a person familiar with the matter, who insisted on anonymity to discuss the president's thinking, said Monday that Trump was reconsidering whether to move forward with the fund. But the president has not said publicly what he intends to do.

Also complicating matters is Trump's campaign-year push to defeat GOP lawmakers whom he sees as disloyal, including some of Thune's most reliable Republican votes in the narrow 53-47 Senate. Sens. Bill Cassidy of Louisiana and John Cornyn of Texas both lost reelection bids in May after Trump endorsed their primary opponents, and it's unclear how supportive they'll be of the president's agenda going forward.

"I think it's hard to divorce anything that happens here from what's happening in the political atmosphere around us," Thune said before the Senate left town.

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, KEVIN FREKING and SEUNG MIN KIM Associated Press. Associated Press writers Joey Cappelletti and Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

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SMC Emeritus Annual Student Art Exhibition 2026 Online Part 2 Opens June 11

The Santa Monica College Emeritus Art Gallery will present its SMC Emeritus Annual Student Art Exhibition 2026 Online — Part 2, starting June 11. The second part of the popular group exhibition will feature 50 works created by 19 student artists in SMC's noncredit Emeritus program for older adults. Part 1 of the exhibition, which opened May 14, can be viewed in the gallery until June 19.

A free live Zoom Virtual Launch Event for Part 2 will be held online from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 11. A link at smc.edu/emergitusgallery goes live at event time and takes guests directly to the exhibition's opening reception.

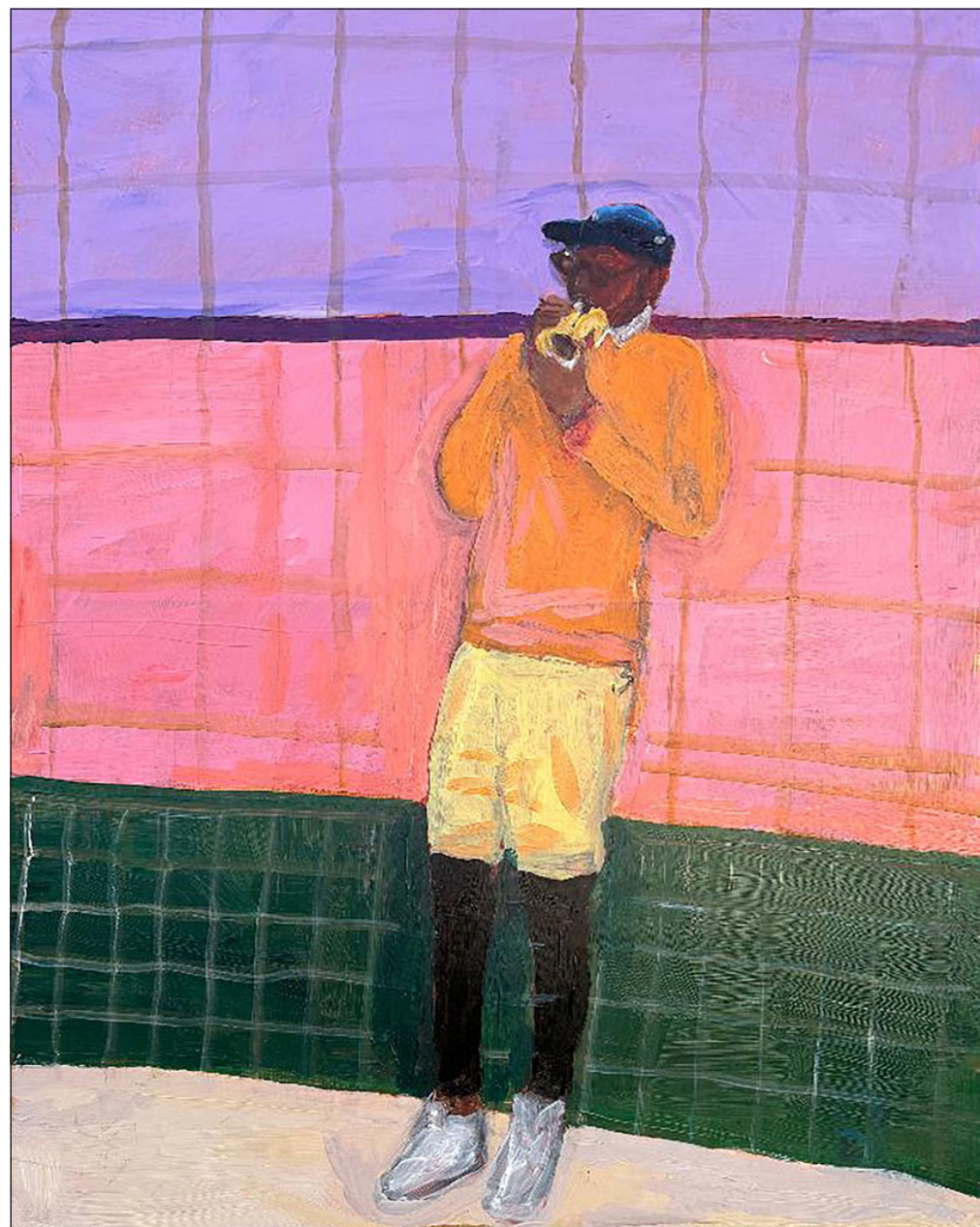
To see the artworks online at any time after 5 p.m. June 11, viewers may go to smc.edu/emergitusgallery and click the Emeritus Student Art Exhibition 2026 Part 2 link, available 24 hours a day. The link takes viewers directly to the exhibition album on a Facebook page that is open to public viewing, with no Facebook account necessary. The opening reception will be hosted by Emeritus Gallery Curator Jesse Benson and feature exhibiting artists speaking about their work.

"The online structure of the Part 2 exhibition allows space for participants to showcase multiple artworks, and the accompanying Zoom reception event provides the opportunity to hear directly from a handful of selected artist speakers," Benson said. "Expect an eclectic and inspirational presentation from our inventive and expressive Emeritus community."

SMC's Emeritus program, founded by Santa Monica College in 1975 as a noncredit program to serve the lifelong learning interests of older adults, offers more than 120 noncredit adult education classes and special programs serving more than 3,000 students each year.

More information is available by visiting smc.edu/emergitusgallery or calling 310-434-4306. All events are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



ART: "Street Musician in Santa Monica" by Michi Tagawa.

Courtesy Image

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Correction

A photo printed in the June 2 edition of the Daily Press illustrating the Beyond Board story was incorrectly attributed to Michelle Edgar. The photo was taken by Manuel Umo.

Homelessness is down in California and across the country, says new federal report

The number of people with nowhere to call home decreased both in California and nationwide last year, according to a long-awaited federal report.

The data, showing the first decrease in homelessness in years, provided fuel for activists challenging the Trump administration's narrative that current homelessness policies are failing and need to be overhauled.

There were 181,934 homeless Californians counted last year – a 2.8% decrease from 2024, according to the new federal report. Overall, the country saw a 3.3% drop in homelessness, marking the first decrease since 2016. Nationwide, an estimated 745,652 people are homeless.

Those numbers come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which released its annual homelessness report to Congress on Friday after an unexplained five-month delay. As the country's main barometer for how efforts to combat homelessness are working, the report plays an important role in allocating funding and shaping policies – and is a major political tool.

The Trump administration used the report to promote its policies, including its crackdown on immigration and efforts to direct funding away from permanent housing. Meanwhile, the National Homelessness Law Center was quick to point out that the decrease in homelessness happened while former President Joe Biden was still in office.

"Homelessness is down because President Biden funded things that we know work, like housing and support," law center spokesperson Jesse Rabinowitz said in a news release. "Sadly, the Trump administration is doing everything they can to backtrack on this progress."

The federal government downplayed the small one-year decrease in homelessness, instead focusing on the fact that homelessness has increased 27% nationwide since 2013. That's when the country started following a practice called "housing first," which moves people into housing right away instead of requiring them first to get sober or meet other conditions.

"The data is clear that the status quo of 'housing first' has failed to meaningfully reduce homelessness, resulting in crisis levels of people living on the streets," said HUD Secretary Scott Turner. "HUD is restoring its programs to advance recovery and self-sufficiency and to ensure that taxpayer-funded benefits serve American families."

The Trump administration wants to end housing first and instead prioritize housing that requires people to stay sober. The administration also has tried to divert homelessness funds away from permanent housing and into temporary shelters. California is one of 19 states suing the Trump administration over that change.

The federal administration tied the 2025 drop in homelessness to immigration, saying in a news release that it was "attributable to decreases in sanctuary cities." The full report never mentions sanctuary cities, but it says some communities in New York and Illinois attributed their decreases in homelessness "in part" to changes in federal immigration policy.

WHERE HOMELESSNESS DECLINED

California was among the five states that reported the largest decreases in homelessness last year, though there were more significant drops in Illinois (44%), Hawaii (41%), Florida (11%), and New York (8%).

In California, 17 communities reported decreases in the number of people who were "chronically homeless," meaning they have a disability and have been homeless for a year or longer. Los Angeles County reported 2,394 fewer such people. Officials from communities that saw those declines attributed the trend to opening new housing, placing people in housing more quickly, using a coordinated system to match people with available units and increasing street outreach, according to the report.

The data comes from the federally mandated homeless point-in-time count, which tallies people sleeping in shelters and outside on a given day in January. Volunteers count people they see sleeping on the street, in cars or in other places not meant for habitation. The effort is generally viewed as an undercount, as it's easy for volunteers to miss people tucked away in hard-to-reach areas.

The federal government requires each community to count the people sleeping on its streets every two years. Counts are conducted by "continuums of care," which include a county (or multiple counties), cities and local service providers. In California, 14 of the state's 44 continuums of care did not count last year. HUD used 2024 data for communities in which no 2025 data was available.

Each community is required to submit its point-in-time count data to HUD, which reviews, verifies and analyzes the data before publishing a report. That report typically comes out in December of the year of the count.

HOW TRUMP CHANGED POINT-IN-TIME REPORT

When the federal report finally came out Friday, the Trump administration put its stamp on it in several ways, including by scrubbing all references to gender. The prior report from 2024 broke out homelessness by gender (39% of people counted were women and 60% were men), and included categories such as transgender, gender questioning and non-binary. The 2025 data includes no such breakdown.

And while the previous report referred to "people experiencing homelessness," the new report instead referred to "homeless persons."

While the drop in nationwide homelessness last year is a "relief," there is trouble on the horizon, according to Ann Oliva, CEO of the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

"So much of the progress reflected in the 2025 (point-in-time) count is due to targeted housing and service resources that were available in 2024 to rehouse people," she said in a news release, "including the highly successful Emergency Housing Voucher program, and new funds to address rural and unsheltered homelessness. Unfortunately, the Trump Administration has largely deprioritized these tools and worked to dismantle the very systems that drove these reductions."

Marisa Kendall, CalMatters Homelessness Reporter



City of Santa Monica

Ordinance Number 2858 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA (CITY) REPEALING AND REPLACING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.62, CREATING CHAPTERS 2.73 AND 2.74, AND AMENDING CHAPTERS 2.50, 2.64, AND 2.66 TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS BOARD AND COMMISSION CHANGES RESULTING FROM THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA 2025 COMPREHENSIVE BOARD AND COMMISSION REVIEW

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2858 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

In January 2026, City staff presented to City Council the Boards and Commissions Comprehensive Review (Review) and made recommendations to make the program impactful, efficient, not overly burdensome to support, aligned with available resources, and empower residents to contribute meaningfully. The Ordinance adopts the Review's recommendations as follows: (1) Consolidate the Housing Commission and the Human Services Commission into a new Housing and Human Services Commission (HHS Commission); (2) Reduce membership of the Arts Commission and Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission (PSROC), and expand the age range for the two PSROC commissioners; and (3) Convert the Urban Forest Task Force into a formal commission. The Ordinance also establishes the Restorative Justice Commission, which serves as an upgrade to the former staff-developed Landback + Reparations Task Force. The Restorative Justice Commission is tasked with developing program criteria, eligibility standards, and oversight mechanisms for the broader Restorative Justice Program.

The Ordinance takes effect July 1, 2026.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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or email legal@smdp.com

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026098004. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BREWER MARTIN, BREWER MARTIN GALLERY, 7209 SANTA MONICA BLVD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046, County of Los Angeles. Al#ON B2026018822. Registered Owner(s): SIMON AND NATHALIE LLC, 11468 DONA CECILIA DR., STUDIO CITY, CA 91604. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ ARLO WEINER, MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/04/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 05/13/2026, 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026,

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026108858. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HR BRIDGE PARTNERS, LLC, 2768 SEPULVEDA BLVD. #466, TORRANCE, CA 90505, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): HR BRIDGE PARTNERS LLC, 2768 SEPULVEDA BLVD. #466, TORRANCE, CA 90505. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 04/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ LEHUA GIBB, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/18/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026, 06/10/2026, 06/17/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026106455. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MY NURSE LINK, 13157 Mindanao Wy, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): NURSE LINK - CONCIERGE PROFESSIONAL NURSING CORP, 13157 Mindanao Wy, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ MYAHA TOVAR, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/14/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026, 06/10/2026

Name Change

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026106455. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MY NURSE LINK, 13157 Mindanao Wy, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): NURSE LINK - CONCIERGE PROFESSIONAL NURSING CORP, 13157 Mindanao Wy, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ MYAHA TOVAR, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/14/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026, 06/10/2026

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00244. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Roman Zakaryan and Armine Makarian for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Roman Zakaryan and Armine Makarian filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Olivia Romanovna Zakaryan to Olivia Zakaryan. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: 07/17/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS. Date: 05/19/2026. Lawrence H. Cho, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026, 06/10/2026, 06/17/2026

GET IT DAILY...



HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

collections stabilize. A new digital signage program along the Third Street Promenade, originally expected to go live in early 2027, is now targeted for installation by the end of this summer and is projected to generate \$4.5 million per year once stabilized. Parking rate restructuring is expected to push parking revenues from \$33.3 million to \$40.6 million — a 22% increase.

The city is also carrying roughly \$94 million in unobligated general fund cash, providing what Santiago described as a stable operating foundation.

Of the \$8.95 million surplus, \$3 million will be set aside for the council-approved Economic Recovery Reserve, leaving \$5.95 million to carry forward into fiscal year 2026-27.

Notably, the budget does not account for revenues from major event licensing agreements already in place, which are expected to generate approximately \$6.8 million from FIFA World Cup activations, a Goldenvoice beachfront music festival, an ESPN broadcasting partnership, and a slate of Olympic hospitality agreements for 2028.

A CAPITAL PROGRAM REBORN

The centerpiece of the presentation was the proposed fiscal year 2026-28 biennial Capital Improvement Program, totaling \$109.8 million in the first year and \$116.6 million in the second — a figure that Public Works Director Christopher Dishlip said represents a fundamental shift in how the city invests in itself.

“Prior to the pandemic, Santa Monica designed and delivered remarkable infrastructure projects,” Dishlip said. “With the uncertainty of the last five years, the city understandably shifted into a preservation and stabilization mode. The proposed budget in front of you is the product of a shift in mindset from reactive maintenance back to strategic capital investment.”

The 77-project program is organized around four priorities: preparing for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and other major events; reinvesting in parks and open space; a citywide infrastructure recovery initiative; and modernizing transportation and mobility.

Event-readiness investments totaling approximately \$14.4 million in the first year include \$21.2 million across pier infrastructure projects over the biennial period, a \$3 million Camera Obscura redesign, \$2 million in major event electrical infrastructure and \$1.8 million in Tongva Park improvements.

The return of the long-delayed Memorial Park Redevelopment and Expansion — a project Dishlip described as more than 20 years in the making — was highlighted as a major milestone. The project carries a \$60 million price tag over the biennial period, drawing on funding from a Santa Monica College bond measure, a planned \$7 million contribution from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, various grants, and general fund support in the second year. Other parks investments include a \$2 million synthetic turf replacement at Airport Park and a \$700,000 playground replacement at Virginia Avenue Park.

Transportation and mobility investments include a \$30 million annual paving program covering Santa Monica Boulevard Phase 1 and Chelsea intersection improvements, \$12.5 million for 14th Street bike and pedestrian improvements, \$21.8 million for citywide streetlight modernization and a \$1.7 million smart curb management program.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION

The proposed operating budget includes

modest revenue adjustments, with projected general fund revenues declining by 0.4%, or \$1.9 million, from earlier projections. The reduction is primarily attributed to lower-than-anticipated parking revenues stemming from the delayed rollout of downtown parking rate changes and operational challenges with the transition to text-to-pay parking meters. Those decreases are partially offset by revenues from a newly completed citywide fee study and stronger-than-expected business license tax collections.

On the expenditure side, the budget adds seven full-time equivalent positions citywide in housing and human services, communications, human resources and transportation planning, with a nominal net general fund impact of approximately \$9,000 after a full departmental reassessment.

The budget also includes a one-time drawdown of \$4.67 million in reserves for three deferred needs: the Camera Obscura redesign, replacement of fire department self-contained breathing apparatus, and the disposal of legacy firefighting foam from fire apparatus.

A looming fiscal variable involves the Joint Use Agreement with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, under which the city currently pays approximately \$12 million annually for community access to district facilities. The agreement is set to expire in 2027 under terms established in 2022. That expiration is factored into the city’s structural balance projections.

Council member Lana Negrete asked for clarification on the total amounts being transferred to SMMUSD by the city.

City Manager Oliver Chi said that the city approved an extension to Measure YGS earlier this year allocating about \$18 million a year to the district that is independent from the \$12 million under discussion.

“There’s an additional \$12 million a year through the joint use agreement. That agreement was modified in 2022 by both the school district and the city such that the agreement and that funding allocation expires in 2027,” he said. “So we have projected in ‘27 that expense comes off the books and that is obviously a significant financial cost to the city right now that helps us achieve our balanced budget as Oscar mentioned in his presentation.”

A separate citizens’ initiative seeking to establish a parcel tax is currently being circulated. If it qualifies for the ballot and is approved by voters, Chi said staff would return to negotiate an extension of the joint use agreement under a new funding framework. Without it, extending the agreement would require identifying offsetting cuts elsewhere.

COUNCIL VOICES, NEXT STEPS

Council member Jesse Zwick pushed for faster action on neighborhood greenways and traffic calming infrastructure, displaying photographs of quick-build diverters installed on Michigan Avenue in 2014 and questioning why similar low-cost interventions couldn’t be deployed immediately. Dishlip acknowledged the grant funding structure for the current greenway project limits the city’s flexibility but said a diversion pilot project and neighborhood traffic calming toolkit would be presented to council in August.

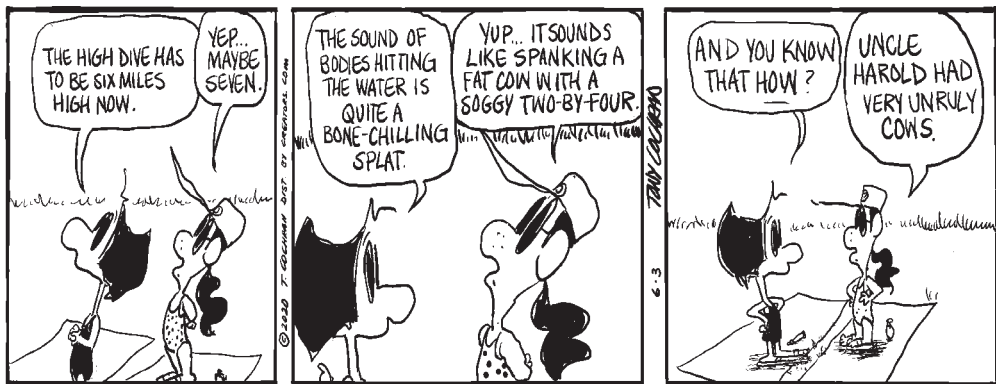
Zwick also raised concerns about a smart curbside management RFP currently out to bid, pressing staff on whether the city intended merely to monitor curb usage or actually charge for it. Chi said the full package would come back to council in August.

The council voted 6-0 to direct staff to proceed with setting a budget adoption hearing for June 23.

editor@smdp.com

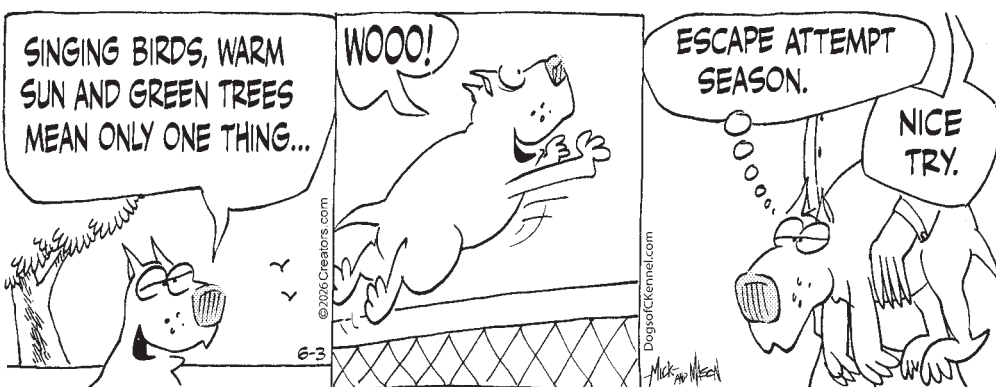
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



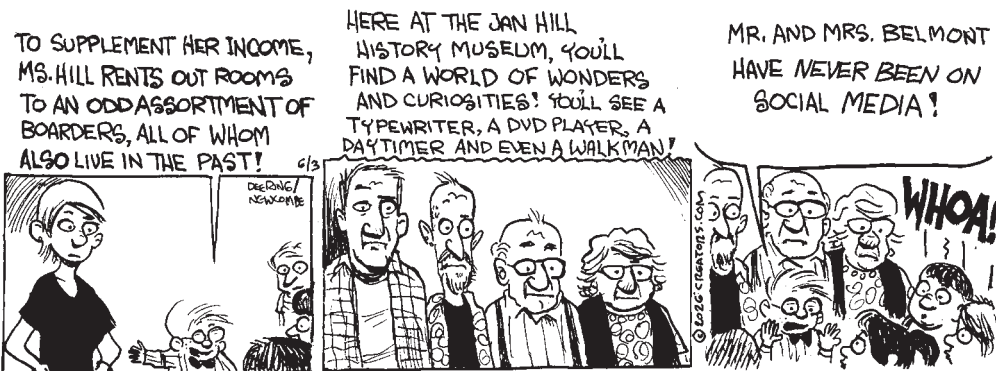
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



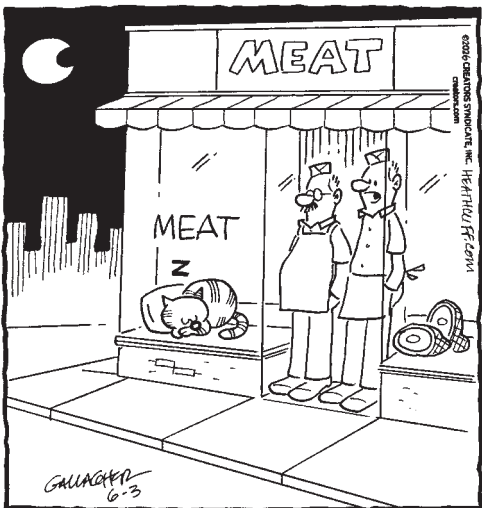
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



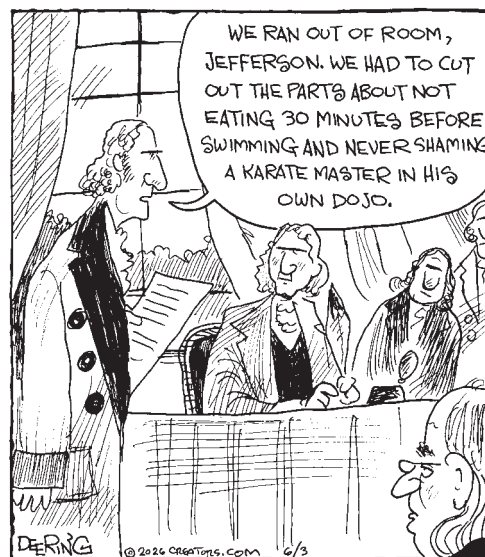
Heathcliff

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6960

Frozen wasteland?

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

- | | | | |
|----------|--------------|----------|--------|
| Algae | Fast | LARC | Poles |
| Amundsen | Fins | LiDAR | Seal |
| ANARE | Fish | Madrid | Ship |
| Animals | Flight | Protocol | Skua |
| Arduous | Floes | Magazine | Sled |
| Aurora | Geography | Maps | Snow |
| Bays | Glacier | Mawson | Video |
| Birds | Grease | News | Yachts |
| Blow | Huts | Nilas | Zodiac |
| Boats | Igloos | Ozone | |
| Brash | Kelp | Petrel | |
| Clothing | Killer whale | Plants | |

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 3)

Welcome to your Year of Sacred Wonderment, when what you hold in holy esteem will nourish your spirit, fill you with awe and prove worthy of your devotion in more practical ways, too. More highlights: Peace becomes a springboard for daring goals and heartfelt connections. Financial aims will be met and surpassed. You'll contribute to solving a problem that is affecting many. Capricorn and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 20, 1, 15 and 3.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Just because something works on paper doesn't mean it will in real life. The logical solutions won't be enough to fix what goes wrong. The key ingredients for success today: creativity, vision, empathy and patience.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People make choices that don't seem quite right to you. Of course, you don't have full access to their reasons, their history or what they need to learn for themselves. You still feel pulled to step in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's a point in which enjoyment tips into "too much," and unfortunately, that line isn't always so easy to see. Getting carried away can be part of the fun, but it's only really fun if there is a safety net.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your offer is changing. Can you put it into words yet? There's something you're delivering that will be better accepted and compensated with the right description. Play with the wording, style and tone. It takes time to get this right.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). No matter what was lost in the past, today is still yours to win. Just lean into your natural tendencies. They won't steer you wrong. The afternoon is for troubleshooting and problem-solving. With a bit of adjustment, you'll make it work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's plenty of noise and not enough signal today, posing a challenge to clear communication. But if anyone can sidestep the pitfalls, it's you. Expect misinformation. Check sources. Stay out of the arguments; they aren't worth it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Collaboration is the way to multiplied results. Not just more hands, but more ideas and shared energy. And there's a bonus layer: Letting others share credit deepens the satisfaction. So stay open to input. You will be both influential and influenced.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's a day of threes. You'll move three things out of the way. There will be a shift in the plans, priorities and expectations. You'll delay one thing, say no to another and rethink a third.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll master the fine art of being a boss without being bossy. It's a tightrope walk to be sure, but as long as you're paying attention to the feedback others give you, you'll maintain your balance and cross to the other side.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The problem you couldn't solve last week comes back around. This time, approach from a different angle. Consider that the details may be less important than you were making them. This is something that just needs to be done, perhaps imperfectly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Recommit to what you want. Go after it daily. Like the river that cuts through rock, this is not about how powerful or sharp you are; it's about what you can do over time with persistence.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll make major progress with a project. An easy, relaxed state of mind allows you to focus well and get an impressive amount of work done. Also, upgrading some aspect of your technology will give you a thrill.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Newsday Crossword

DOWN WITH DASH by Ron Ammirante
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Reached the limit, with "out"
- 6 ___-Seltzer
- 10 At the summit of
- 14 Misstep
- 15 Egotist's priority
- 16 Daily minimum temperatures
- 17 Campus officials
- 18 Jury member, in theory
- 19 Large vases
- 20 "___ questions?"
- 21 Farthest back
- 23 Strong affection
- 25 Clean-air agcy.
- 27 Fellows
- 28 Mix with a spoon
- 29 Risk money on
- 30 Extremely happy
- 34 Used as a cushion
- 36 Sushi tuna
- 37 Actor Affleck or Kingsley
- 38 Pronunciation omission
- 40 Climber's foot support
- 42 Prior to now
- 43 ___ out a living
- 44 Poet WH
- 45 French impressionist
- 47 Surgical venues: Abbr.
- 48 Netlike fabric
- 51 Pt. opposite SSW
- 52 Pizza order
- 53 Maui or Oahu
- 54 Convention attendee
- 58 Beverage brewed in

DOWN

- 1 Olympics awards
- 2 "Am so!" answer
- 3 Superman's "see-all" power
- 4 Extremely long period
- 5 AMA members
- 6 African snake
- 7 Ogle
- 8 Swiss painter Paul
- 9 Triangular-shaped dwelling
- 10 Bryn Mawr grad
- 11 Spanish bull
- 12 Possesses
- 13 Attention-getting whisper
- 22 Depended (on)
- 24 Historical periods
- 25 Hi-tech novel accessory
- 26 Pasta like ziti
- 31 Rib-eye alternative
- 32 Snakelike fish
- 33 Role-playing fantasy

ACROSS

- 5 AMA members
- 6 African snake
- 7 Ogle
- 8 Swiss painter Paul
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- 13 Attention-getting whisper
- 22 Depended (on)
- 24 Historical periods
- 25 Hi-tech novel accessory
- 26 Pasta like ziti
- 31 Rib-eye alternative
- 32 Snakelike fish
- 33 Role-playing fantasy

DOWN

- 35 Making a knot
- 36 Video game pioneer
- 38 Auditory organ
- 39 Sweater bigger than med.
- 41 Prefix for sphere
- 46 Eventually
- 47 "Let me in!"
- 49 Arm made of fabric
- 50 Warmed up, as leftovers
- 54 Slightly wet
- 55 Hardly ___ (rarely)
- 56 Bart Simpson's sister
- 57 Use a stopwatch for
- 61 Double-curve letter
- 62 Go by plane
- 63 Summer zodiac sign

Sudoku

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

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|----|----|----|----|---|--|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | | | | | | 15 | | | | | 16 | | | | |
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| 23 | | | 24 | | | 25 | 26 | | | 27 | | | | | |
| 28 | | | | | | 29 | | | | 30 | | | 31 | 32 | 33 |
| | | | 34 | | | 35 | | | | 36 | | | 37 | | |
| 38 | 39 | | | | | | | | 40 | | | 41 | | | |
| 42 | | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | | | | | | |
| 45 | | | | | | 46 | | | | 47 | | | 48 | 49 | 50 |
| | | | | | | 51 | | | | 52 | | | 53 | | |
| 54 | 55 | 56 | | | | | 57 | | | | | | 58 | | |
| 59 | | | | | | | 60 | | | 61 | | | 62 | 63 | |
| 64 | | | | | | | 65 | | | | | | 66 | | |
| 67 | | | | | | | 68 | | | | | | 69 | | |

CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2026 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 06/03/26

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CHAMBER

FROM PAGE 1

transition.”

The chamber has retained WBCP, Inc., an executive search firm, to conduct the search for a permanent CEO. Additional details on the job posting are expected from WBCP Inc.

Morrill steps into the role as the chamber works to maintain momentum built under Kruger's four-year tenure. Board Chair Paula Larmore credited Kruger with achieving “meaningful progress” during her time at the helm, citing improved financial stability, expanded grant activity and continued engagement with the local business community.

Kruger, who has led the chamber since June 1, 2022, announced she will step down by the end of June to pursue work in government affairs and advocacy. She came to the chamber from the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, where she had served as senior director of strategic initiatives, and succeeded Laurel Rosen, who held the president and CEO role for approximately 14 years.

During Kruger's tenure, the chamber grew its programming to include larger networking events, a business workshop series and new grant funding tied to economic recovery efforts. Revenue rebounded significantly under her leadership — IRS filings show total revenue reached approximately \$704,000 in fiscal year 2024, up from a pandemic low of roughly \$424,000 in fiscal 2021, though still below the pre-pandemic figure of approximately \$888,000 in fiscal 2019.

Founded in 1925, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit representing more than 650

member businesses across sectors including hospitality, health care, professional services, retail, technology, education and nonprofits. The chamber celebrated its centennial in 2025 and is headquartered at 2525 Main St., Suite 103.

The chamber's mission centers on membership services, economic development and advocacy. Its formal advocacy process routes issues through a Government Affairs Committee before the board takes a position. Recent positions have included endorsing the Santa Monica City Council's zoning overhaul that streamlined business permitting, support for the Providence Saint John's Phase II campus plan and California's film tax credit extension.

Among the chamber's ongoing programs is the NextGen Mentorship Program, run through its 501(c)(3) arm, the Santa Monica Chamber Foundation, in partnership with Santa Monica College. The program pairs Black and Latino students with professional mentors each semester. The chamber also co-founded the Santa Monica Alliance with the city in 2011 to support business attraction and retention.

Following the January 2025 Palisades Fire, the chamber formed a Rebuild Committee and hosted an inaugural Rebuild, Health and Wellness Expo in January 2026.

Annual membership dues are scaled by employee count, ranging from \$470 for nonprofits or single-employee businesses to \$3,800 for companies with more than 100 employees.

The chamber can be reached at (310) 393-9825 or smchamber.com.

editor@smdp.com

**WEDNESDAY | JUNE 3****RIBBON CUTTING: YOUNIQUE SURGERY CENTER & MEDICAL SPA**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 317 5th St #200 Santa Monica. Ribbon Cutting Celebration Younique Surgery Center & Medical Spa - Santa Monica Wednesday, June 3 8:30am 1317 5th St #200, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/ribbon-cutting-younique-surgery-center-medical-spa/18887590/2026-06-03T08>

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ishihara Park 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. Communal Garden Program Work Days @ Ishihara Park Learning Garden - Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Free. Come get your hands dirty in the Communal Garden Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills. Seasoned as well as new gardeners of all ages are welcome. Free drop in activity, no reservation needed. Visit the Ishihara Park Learning Garden site for More Information. Subject to cancellation due to weather. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/communal-gardening-ishihara-park/18461167/2026-06-03T09>

AUTHOR TALK WITH MARY SAVIG

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Join us for a fascinating discussion with Smithsonian Curator Mary Savig on the history and significance of craft at state fairs—from blue-ribbon quilts to sculpted butter cows, and so much more! A Dolly Parton crop art portrait. Size-96 cowboy boots. A button quilt. State Fairs: Growing American Craft features more than 100 photos of extraordinary and unconventional crafts from state and tribal fairs, including needlework, basketry, jewelry, ceramics, crop art, butter sculpture, and saddles. The catalog highlights personal stories and regional and cultural traditions, creating a vibrant portrait of American life. Come one, come all! State Fairs has a little something for everyone. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-talk-with-mary-savig/18437794/2026-06-03T11>

VIRTUAL FIRE DISASTER SUPPORT GROUP

2:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Virtual Fire Disaster Support Group. This virtual support group is designed for adults directly impacted by recent fire-related disasters. Led by a licensed therapist, each session offers a safe, supportive space to process experiences, build coping strategies, and promote emotional stabilization over time. Participants are encouraged to attend all sessions to foster consistency and connection within the group. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/virtual-fire-disaster-support-group/18566767/2026-06-03T14>

TURNBULL WINEMAKER'S DINNER AT SHUTTERS ON THE BEACH, SANTA MONICA

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Shutters on the Beach 1 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Join Turnbull for an intimate

evening hosted by Winemaker Peter Heitz in partnership with the iconic Shutters on the Beach. Set against a stunning Pacific oceanfront backdrop, you'll enjoy Turnbull's current releases and limited selections, thoughtfully paired and presented with insights and stories shared throughout the night. \$150.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/turnbull-winemaker-s-dinner-at-shutters-on-the-beach-santa-monica/18904058/2026-06-03T19>

WINE WEDNESDAY AT THE WHALER

101 Broadway CA 90401 Contact Info (424) 330-0166 info@venicewhaler.com Does not apply on holidays

Santa Monica. \$15 wine flights & half off bottles of wine all day every Wednesday. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/wine-wednesday-at-the-whaler/16952883/2026-06-03T00>

THURSDAY | JUNE 4**CHAIR FITNESS WITH COACH TODD**

11:00 a.m. American Legion Ronald Reagan - Palisades Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Chair Fitness with Coach Todd. Register with American Legion. Email jimkirtley@ymcala.org for more information. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/chair-fitness-with-coach-todd/18763133/2026-06-04T11>

LOW IMPACT GROUP EXERCISE CLASS

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. American Legion Ronald Reagan-Palisades Post 283 15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades. Power up your Thursday with our free, low-impact group exercise classes — open to all members of the Legion Family, designed for every fitness level, and held from 11:00am to 12:00pm at Palisades Post 283. Come move, recharge, and feel great heading into the rest of your day! Sign up here to receive emails about upcoming exercise classes and cancellations: [post283.com/exercise](https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-06-04T11). Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-06-04T11>

17TH ANNUAL NEW MEDIA FILM FESTIVAL

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Culver City Theater 9500 Culver Blvd Culver City. The New Media Film Festival® returns June 3–4 with two days of premieres, filmmaker Q&As, and global storytelling. June 3 events take place online; June 4 brings the red carpet to the Culver Theater in Los Angeles. Known honoring stories worth telling since 2009 in classic and tech categories with judges from HBO, Marvel, BBC, PBS, EMMYS, GRAMMYS and other Industry Leaders. The festival has helped alumni secure distribution, funding, casting opportunities, and book deals to name a few. As filmmaker John Carstarphen shared, “I’ve never felt more relaxed or inspired at a film festival... I think the New Media Film Festival is the future of film festivals.” His experience reflects what many attendees describe: a welcoming, innovative space where creativity and community come together. \$15.00 to \$65.00—Pricing differs for online and in person. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/17th-annual-new-media-film-festival/18309969/2026-06-04T16>

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TIME
5:00 – 8:00 PM

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BLANKSPACES Venice Beach

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Fiona Ma
California State Treasurer



Cindy Thomas
Managing Director, Head of Sports & Entertainment Marketing, Bank of America



Traci Park
Los Angeles City Councilmember



Dilpreet Sidhu
Deputy Mayor of International Affairs, City of Los Angeles



Adam Burke
President & CEO, LA Tourism & Convention Board



Tanya Bennett
Consul General of Australia in Los Angeles



Ron Frierson
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