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**COLDWELL BANKER
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- 2 **Homeless funds**
Blocked by the Feds
- 3 **Change is coming**
To local development



- 4 **Airport Commission**
SMO deserves better
- 5 **Olympic tickets**
More on sale in August

Volume 25 Issue 147

MONDAY 6/15/26

smdp.com

Santa Monica floral studio blends flowers and sound healing in Mental Health Awareness Event



Courtesy Image

EVENT: Viola Floral hosted sound bowl and flower arranging wellness event for Mental Health Awareness Month.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

A Santa Monica floral studio transformed its light-filled space into a sanctuary of sound and blooms last month, hosting an intimate wellness event that drew

on the healing power of flowers, music and mindfulness to mark Mental Health Awareness Month. Viola Floral's "The Art of Slowing Down: Sound x Stem," brought together a small group of guests for an evening pairing live floral design with crystal sound bowl

healing — an unusual combination that organizers say left participants calmer, more connected and more present. "Within minutes, the room grew quieter as guests focused on the flowers in front of them or closed their eyes and focused on the sound

bowls," said Jelena Trifunovic, founder and chief executive of Viola Floral. "Participants shared that if they arrived feeling stressed or distracted, their mind began to slow down and become fully present."

SEE FLORAL PAGE 6

Santa Monica accepts \$2M grant to study capping the I-10

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The City Council voted unanimously June 9 to accept a \$2 million federal grant to study capping a section of the Interstate 10 freeway with parks, and directed city staff to use the same study to weigh broader options, including removing the freeway entirely.

The grant, from the U.S. Department of Transportation's

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 8

Air pollution linked to pregnancy inflammation, raising risk of preterm birth, other complications

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Exposure to a common air pollutant found in vehicle exhaust and wildfire smoke triggers inflammation in pregnant women, potentially raising the risk of preterm birth, low birth weight and developmental problems in children, according to a new study led by UCLA researchers.

The study, published Monday

SEE POLLUTION PAGE 7

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Trump administration blocks federal homelessness funds in Los Angeles

The Trump administration has barred Los Angeles County's main homelessness agency from accessing federal funds while it investigates the agency's alleged "wanton mismanagement of public funds."

The move puts at risk almost \$200 million that LA area service providers count on to help California's largest homeless population.

“

Taxpayers will no longer bankroll an organization that puts its own self-interests ahead of the Americans it was created to serve

- Scott Turner, HUD Secretary

”

In a letter Thursday to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development accused the LA agency of fraud, while also blaming it for failing to decrease homelessness. The agency failed to record when people left their motel housing, misused government money by using it to pay for services provided under another contract and could not provide documents to prove the existence of homes it was responsible for, according to HUD. The LA agency is suspended from participating in federal funding competitions until HUD's Office of Inspector General completes its investigation.

"Taxpayers will no longer bankroll an organization that puts its own self-interests ahead of the Americans it was created to serve," HUD Secretary Scott Turner said in a news release.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority is a joint city-county agency that has spearheaded the LA-area's fight against homelessness since the 1990s. It has faced a myriad of issues recently, resulting even in local officials pulling their confidence – and their money – from the agency. After

two critical audits found the Homeless Services Authority wasn't properly tracking its spending or outcomes, the LA County Board of Supervisors withdrew its money and moved it to a newly created county agency. The head of the beleaguered Homeless Services Authority, who had been criticized for signing contracts with a nonprofit tied to her husband, resigned. In April, the authority laid off 284 people.

But despite that turmoil, the Homeless Services Authority is still officially the LA region's lead homelessness agency, and it receives federal homelessness funding on behalf of the city, county and nonprofit service providers.

Last year, the authority received nearly \$200 million in federal funds through the Continuum of Care program – the largest source of federal homelessness funding.

Blocking that funding could jeopardize the work the authority has already done to fight homelessness by putting thousands of formerly homeless people back on the street, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority said in a statement.

"This appears to be a blatant attempt to pull yet more resources from Los Angeles, a city they have targeted time and again, when it is clear that LAHSA has either corrected or is in the process of correcting nearly all of the issues raised," spokesperson Ahmad Chapman said in a statement.

The authority is fixing its internal controls, modernizing its financial system and doing a better job tracking its work, Chapman said. Its immediate priority is "to explore all available options" to ensure federal funds keep coming to LA.

LA Mayor Karen Bass said that while she shares HUD's concerns about the homeless authority, threatening its funding does nothing to house people.

"Ultimately people will lose their lives," she said in a statement. "We urge HUD to work with the City of Los Angeles to provide the necessary funding to reduce homelessness."

Homelessness actually started improving recently in LA County, with the number of unhoused people dropping in 2024 and 2025, according to the point-in-time count. As of last year, there were an estimated 72,000 unhoused people in the county.

Even so, the Trump administration has been attempting to overhaul the way LA and other places across California address homelessness. The administration wants to move funds from permanent housing into temporary shelters and prioritize housing programs that require sobriety.

Earlier this month, HUD opened this year's application for federal homelessness funding via the Continuum of Care program, which laid out these changes. The National Alliance to End Homelessness estimates those changes could cost California nearly \$238 million in funding for permanent housing, which could mean nearly 15,000 people would lose their homes.

California sued over a prior attempt by the Trump administration to make similar changes. That case is still ongoing.

Marisa Kendall, CalMatters Homelessness Reporter

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Existential change is coming to Santa Monica's built environment

Following years of NIMBY driven project rejection at the local level, the development industry, academics and millennials, who've increasingly been shut out of the state's housing market by rising rents and prices, teamed with Sacramento legislators to advance a series of laws accelerating the supply of housing in California's cities.

These laws circumvent local control, and permit developers double the housing density otherwise allowed under the current zoning ordinance provided they agree to include specified percentages of deed restricted affordable housing in their housing mix. If these developments comply with state law, project approvals are granted by City staff, without public hearings that were historically required at the Planning Commission or City Council.

As a result, developers are submitting project applications for 6 – 8 story building heights along neighborhood commercial boulevards like Pico and Ocean Park, and state and municipal law currently grants them the right to build up to 10 dwelling units on a single family lot (depending on the lot's size), and possibly even more if the City elects to introduce ADUs into the mix.

The profile of our built environment will radically change over the next decade, and traffic congestion, and the demand for on-street parking and resources like water and electricity, will dramatically increase.

The Neighborhood Taskforce, a community based non-profit, organized late last year in response to these developments. We embrace the need for increased housing supply, look forward to increasing height and density in our downtown, and welcome vibrant new development along our neighborhood commercial boulevards. The only constant in life is change, and we welcome it. However, such change needs to be thoughtfully implemented, and that is not currently the case here in Santa Monica

First, the City is not requiring developers to deliver the breadth and depth of affordability called for by California's density bonus law. While Santa Monica is on pace to meet or exceed its targets for market rate housing, it is woefully underdelivering on its deed restricted affordable housing goals. We need affordable housing priced below market in perpetuity for qualifying lower income people who work here, so they and their families can choose to live in Santa Monica, thereby reducing the many long commutes they must make from less costly environs to their workplace, and the traffic congestion that follows.

Second, City planning staff has signalled its willingness to grant excessively generous waivers from the zoning code's building height limits,

when, in fact, developers can reduce their storied height by moving above grade parking to subterranean garages. State law explicitly allows for height waivers only when developers would otherwise be physically unable to do so. The sometimes higher costs of subterranean parking do not justify waivers under state law; developers can account for those costs up front, and accordingly reduce the residual purchase price they offer underlying owners of properties they intend to develop. As it stands, land sellers are realizing substantially increased profits, thanks to the doubling of the residential unit count previously allowed on their properties. The City shouldn't effectively subsidize them at the expense of our community's urban streetscape and quality of life.

Third, our City Council recently adopted a thoughtfully crafted Realignment Plan which proposes, among other things, to focus housing development downtown, and concurrently explore ways to ensure future housing development along our boulevards remains compatible with our existing lower density residential neighborhoods. Encouragingly, last month City planning staff submitted a draft Resolution of Intent to the Planning Commission to do just that. However, the Commissioners rejected staff's proposal the very same night, instructing them to resubmit a one sided alternative which simply called for intensified development of the downtown. Why can't we implement the tradeoff the adopted Realignment Plan and city planning staff suggested, and achieve a win-win?

It makes sense to redistribute some housing density away from our outlying neighborhood commercial boulevards to the city's urban core. Newly built apartments located there will facilitate residents' ease of pedestrian access to higher concentrations of employment, commerce and the Expo line. This will help reduce automobile traffic citywide, and contribute to the revitalization of downtown Santa Monica as our city center.

As recent state laws have stripped neighborhood constituencies of their voice at most public hearings, we must develop new pathways to constructively engage City staff, appointed and electeds to thoughtfully interpret and implement state laws with rigor and the community's best interests in mind. We believe if all parties genuinely listen to and work with each other in good faith, we can deliver win-wins for developers, the City and our neighborhoods. If that effort fails, we must organize for change.

Loren Bloch

Loren is the president of The Neighborhood Taskforce, and was a Santa Monica Housing Commissioner for seven years.



Weather

Monday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 70.
Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2026/06/15	Mon	04:34 AM	-1.86	L
2026/06/15	Mon	11:10 AM	3.77	H
2026/06/15	Mon	3:32 PM	2.15	L
2026/06/15	Mon	9:54 PM	7.14	H
2026/06/16	Tue	05:23 AM	-1.84	L
2026/06/16	Tue	12:02 PM	3.84	H
2026/06/16	Tue	4:26 PM	2.20	L
2026/06/16	Tue	10:44 PM	6.88	H
2026/06/17	Wed	06:12 AM	-1.60	L
2026/06/17	Wed	12:54 PM	3.93	H
2026/06/17	Wed	5:25 PM	2.27	L
2026/06/17	Wed	11:36 PM	6.39	H
2026/06/18	Thu	06:59 AM	-1.19	L
2026/06/18	Thu	1:47 PM	4.06	H
2026/06/18	Thu	6:30 PM	2.34	L
2026/06/19	Fri	12:31 AM	5.70	H
2026/06/19	Fri	07:46 AM	-0.64	L
2026/06/19	Fri	2:40 PM	4.25	H
2026/06/19	Fri	7:45 PM	2.38	L
2026/06/20	Sat	01:31 AM	4.90	H
2026/06/20	Sat	08:34 AM	-0.02	L
2026/06/20	Sat	3:34 PM	4.49	H
2026/06/20	Sat	9:16 PM	2.27	L
2026/06/21	Sun	02:41 AM	4.08	H
2026/06/21	Sun	09:22 AM	0.63	L
2026/06/21	Sun	4:25 PM	4.76	H
2026/06/21	Sun	10:55 PM	1.89	L
2026/06/22	Mon	04:10 AM	3.43	H
2026/06/22	Mon	10:12 AM	1.23	L
2026/06/22	Mon	5:12 PM	5.02	H
2026/06/23	Tue	12:15 AM	1.32	L
2026/06/23	Tue	05:48 AM	3.08	H
2026/06/23	Tue	11:01 AM	1.75	L
2026/06/23	Tue	5:55 PM	5.25	H
2026/06/24	Wed	01:16 AM	0.75	L
2026/06/24	Wed	07:22 AM	3.03	H
2026/06/24	Wed	11:47 AM	2.16	L

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: 6/10
 12 31 38 60 66
 Power#: 14
 Jackpot: 258 M

Fantasy 5
 Draw Date: 6/11
 2 6 31 33 37

MEGA MILLIONS
 Draw Date: 6/9
 9 30 36 38 40
 Mega#: 3
 Jackpot: 413 M

Daily 3
 Draw Date: 6/11
 EVENING: 0 0 6
 Draw Date: 6/11
 MIDDAY: 9 9 6

SuperLotto PLUS
 Draw Date: 6/10
 3 16 22 29 42
 Mega#: 5
 Jackpot: 28 M

Daily Derby
 Draw Date: 6/11
 1st: 02 - Lucky Star
 2nd: 04 - Big Ben
 3rd: 07 - Eureka
 Race Time: 1:45.34

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00262. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petition of Dahlia Belinda Garza Garcia De La Berencia for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Dahlia Belinda Garza Garcia De La Berencia filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Dahlia Belinda Garza Garcia De La Berencia to Dahlia Belinda De La Berencia. 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: 07/24/2026, 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: 06/02/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 06/15/2026, 06/22/2026, 06/29/2026, 07/06/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026113425. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CLARA NUCKOLS THERAPY, 5655 W. Wilshire Blvd #1258, Los Angeles, CA 90036, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): Clara R Nuckols, 1700 South Bundy Dr. Apt 5, Los Angeles, CA 90025. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 05/2026. 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/ Clara R Nuckols, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 05/22/2026. 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: 06/15/2026, 06/22/2026, 06/29/2026, 07/06/2026

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Airport deserves competent stewardship

At the May 20th, 2026, Santa Monica Airport Commission meeting, only three of the five commissioners attended. During public comment, I asked the present commissioners, how many electric airplanes are currently based at Santa Monica Airport. The response from one commissioner was a guess: "one?" In fact, there are two, nearly silent, electric airplanes actively flying.

That answer matters because it reflects a larger problem. The people advising the City on the future of Santa Monica Airport spend no time at the airport and lack direct familiarity with aviation operations, airport tenants, safety issues, or emerging electric aviation. Not one commissioner has any aviation expertise, other than buying a home next to an airport.

Living near an airport does not, by itself, provide the operational knowledge needed to advise on airport safety, aviation infrastructure, emergency response, or long-term transportation policy. An airport commission should include people who are involved with day to day airport operations and can communicate intelligently with city staff, emergency responders, and the broader community. This would be of value to all stake holders. Instead, we have a commissioners who bought homes 300, 400 and 600 feet from the airport.

Santa Monica Airport is not an empty piece of land waiting for a developer's dream. It is an active public-use airport, an indispensable transportation hub, an economic engine, and a vital emergency-response asset. Past studies have shown the airport contributes hundreds of millions of dollars in business activity

to our city. It supports jobs, aviation businesses, training, maintenance, emergency access, and future technologies such as electric aviation.

Closing an airport is permanent. Once this infrastructure is destroyed, it will never be replaced. Future generations will suffer this loss and other airports will be unable to support the displaced traffic.

Those who support closure often speak as if the land will magically become a perfect park or affordable housing project. That is wishful thinking. The reality is years of environmental studies, cleanup costs, security problems, political fights, development pressure, traffic impacts, and land-use battles that today's decision-makers will not be around to answer for.

Santa Monica should be looking 10, 50, and even 100 years into the future. Aviation is changing. Electric aircraft, emergency response, regional mobility, and advanced air transportation are real. Destroying this vital asset would be short-sighted and irreversible.

The City needs an Airport Commission with actual aviation knowledge, regular airport involvement, and a duty to protect the public interest — not a commission focused only on closure. Every other airport in our region has an aviation knowledgeable airport commission. Santa Monica Airport should be professionally managed, financially accounted for, and preserved as critical infrastructure, for the benefit of Santa Monica and the region. This would be responsible government.

Mark Smith, Santa Monica Airport Association

THE MOST RELEVANT NEWS

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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press



CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica will be holding a public hearing for the following:

2025 Urban Water Management Plan

The City of Santa Monica's Water Resources Division is currently preparing its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan. The Urban Water Management Plan is a planning document, required by the California Water Code, that urban water suppliers in California must prepare every five years. The 2025 Urban Water Management Plan is due to the California Department of Water Resources on or before July 1, 2026. The California Water Code requires all water suppliers to inform the public and allow participation prior to adoption of the Urban Water Management Plan. A Public Hearing for the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan will be held on June 23, 2026, at 5:30pm.

A copy of the Draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan is available at City Clerk's office and on the Water Resources Division website in advance of the City Council meeting at: www.santamonica.gov/UWMP

For comments, questions, and inquiries, please e-mail: water.resources@santamonica.gov

COMMUNITY NEWS

L.A. County

L.A. County supervisors direct coordinated response to post-fire vegetation hazards in Altadena, Santa Monica Mountains

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion directing county departments to develop a coordinated strategy addressing hazardous vegetation on fire-impacted residential properties in Altadena and the unincorporated Santa Monica Mountains.

The motion, authored by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Lindsey P. Horvath, responds to conditions that have developed in the months since the Eaton and Palisades fires, during which thousands of properties have remained in various stages of debris removal, insurance resolution and rebuilding. On many vacant lots, vegetation has become severely overgrown, increasing wildfire risk and contributing to illegal dumping, vermin infestations and quality-of-life concerns for neighboring residents.

"I want county resources working on this problem now, before another fire season puts more lives and property at risk," Barger said.

"Los Angeles County is committed to using every tool available to reduce wildfire risk and keep neighborhoods safe," Horvath said.

The motion directs the Departments of Public Works, Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, Fire and Chief Sustainability Office — along with the Los Angeles County Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority — to develop a comprehensive approach prioritizing voluntary compliance, community outreach and direct assistance before any punitive enforcement is considered.

The strategy will emphasize education, defensible-space assistance and non-punitive mitigation, while also examining innovative techniques such as targeted grazing and other nature-based vegetation management. Pilot programs in Altadena, the unincorporated Santa Monica Mountains and Sunset Mesa are among the options to be explored.

Departments must return to the Board within 30 days with recommendations covering immediate actions, potential funding sources, legal and operational considerations and any policy changes needed to support a long-term wildfire risk-reduction strategy.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Los Angeles

LA28 announces Drop 2 Olympic ticket on-sale window for Aug. 10–20

LA28 announced Wednesday that Drop 2, its second public Olympic ticket on-sale period, will run Aug. 10–20, offering fans worldwide another opportunity to purchase tickets to the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

Fans must register for the LA28 Ticket Draw to receive a randomly assigned time slot for the Drop 2 window. Registration is open through July 22 at Tickets.LA28.org. Fans already registered who have not reached their ticket maximum are automatically entered and do not need to re-register.

Drop 2 will offer tickets across all Olympic sports at a range of price points, subject to availability. Fans may purchase up to 12 total Olympic event tickets and up to 12 additional Football (Soccer) Tournament tickets, with a four-ticket limit per ceremony. Selected fans will be notified of their time slots Aug. 6–7 via the email address used to register.

LA28 also announced a Visa Presale Ticket Draw for qualified Visa cardholders, offering a chance at a time slot during a presale window July 29–31. To be eligible, Visa cardholders must confirm their status at Tickets.LA28.org before July 22. Fans selected for the Visa Presale will not be eligible to receive a time slot in Drop 2.

The announcement follows the first on-sale in April, which LA28 called the most successful ticket launch in Olympic history, with more than 4 million tickets claimed by fans across 85 countries and all 50 states and U.S. territories. That launch included half a million \$28 tickets, with 95% of all tickets priced under \$100 placed directly with Los Angeles and Oklahoma City area residents.

"The world is ready, and so are we," said LA28 Chief Executive Officer Reynold Hoover.

Drop 2 is powered by AXS and Eventim. Paralympic tickets will go on sale in 2027.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

“

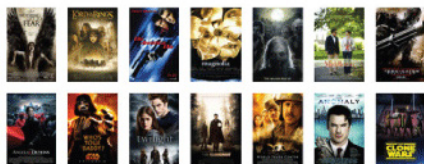
Los Angeles County is committed to using every tool available to reduce wildfire risk and keep neighborhoods safe

”

- Lindsey P. Horvath

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LA Country

Beach Bus service returns, connecting L.A. foothill communities to Santa Monica

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger has announced the return of the Beach Bus program for summer 2026, offering affordable round-trip transportation from more foothill communities in the Fifth District to Santa Monica Beach through Labor Day, Sept. 7.

Round-trip fares are \$3 for adults and children. Seniors 60 and older with valid identification and persons with disabilities pay \$1.50. Exact fare is required. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made at www.LAGoBus.com up to 10 days in advance, no later than 10 a.m. the day before travel.

“With the Beach Bus, families from across Los Angeles County can affordably access cooler weather and one of our region’s most precious resources,” Barger said.

Three routes are available, with full schedules and route details available online:

The Charter Oak/Duarte Route runs Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays beginning June 23, with pickups starting at 9 a.m. and a return departure from the Santa Monica Pier parking lot at 3:30 p.m.

The La Crescenta/La Cañada Flintridge Route operates Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays beginning June 9, with pickups starting at 9:15 a.m. and a 3:30 p.m. return.

The Altadena Route runs Thursdays and Saturdays beginning June 11, with pickups starting at 9:15 a.m. and a 3:30 p.m. return from Santa Monica Beach.

For questions, call (626) 458-3909 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For additional information, visit www.LAGoBus.com.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

FLORAL

FROM PAGE 1

The evening was co-led by Kelly Merryman Turner, founder of Sol Ascend Frequency Healing and a certified sound healer, Reiki Master Teacher, somatic yoga teacher and meditation guide, whose own path to healing grew from personal experience navigating anxiety and disconnection.

The program opened with a fireside chat between Trifunovic and Merryman Turner exploring what slowing down actually looks like — not as an item on a to-do list, but as something felt in the body. The conversation covered how flowers and sound became languages for processing emotions that words could not reach, along with practical strategies for managing everyday anxiety.

The centerpiece of the evening followed: Trifunovic led a live floral demonstration, building an arrangement in real time while Merryman Turner accompanied the process with the resonant frequencies of crystal sound bowls. The layered sensory experience — scent, color, texture and sound converging simultaneously — created what many in the room described as a collective exhale.

The impact was immediate and, for some, unexpected. One participant called Trifunovic after the event to describe the moment she opened her eyes mid-experience and noticed the founder smelling eucalyptus on her fingers. “She was so wrapped up in the sensory experience of the moment,” Trifunovic recalled, “and so was I.”

“After the experience, many participants shared that they felt calmer, lighter, and more connected — not only to the flowers, but to themselves and the people around them,” Trifunovic said. “There was a genuine sense of joy in the room and guests wanted to stay and chat, and get to know each other. There was a beautiful sense of community.”

For Trifunovic, the evening carried deeply personal significance. She turned to floral design while processing grief after losing her mother, Luby, to pancreatic cancer, and has built Viola Floral around that experience.

“Flowers don’t require words,” she said. “There was something profoundly comforting about working with flowers, touching them, arranging them, caring for them, and creating beauty from them during a time when life felt incredibly fragile.”

She described noticing a shift while designing — her mind would quiet, her breathing would slow and the anxiety in her chest would ease. “I felt present in a way that grief often makes difficult,” she said. “Over time, I realized that flowers weren’t just helping me create arrangements — they were helping me heal.”

That personal thread has become central to the studio’s identity, though Trifunovic is careful to distinguish between floral design as a wellness practice and clinical mental health treatment. “Flowers are not a replacement for therapy, nor do I present them that way,” she said, noting that the practice draws on scientific research documenting the effects of nature, creativity and sensory engagement on stress reduction and mood.

“The most compelling evidence is what I witness every day — people walking into a workshop carrying stress and leaving with a sense of peace, accomplishment, and joy,” she said. “They go home with something beautiful, and the opportunity to bring it home and watch it change and evolve. This reminds us of the passing of time — and the precious journey of life.”

Attendees left with eye masks from Sea to Me Blankets and high-protein beauty bites from Beautyf(x), while a raffle offered prizes including a reformer Pilates class from The Haven Pilates, a premium floral arrangement and a spot in an upcoming Viola Floral yoga and flowers workshop. The finished arrangement from the live demonstration was also given away to one lucky guest.

Viola Floral’s studio hosts private events, corporate gatherings and wellness experiences.

The studio is located at 916 Colorado Ave. Visit violafloreal.com for more information.

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LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press

editor@smdp.com

POLLUTION

FROM PAGE 1

in the peer-reviewed journal Environmental Research Health, is among the first to identify a biological mechanism explaining why pregnant women exposed to higher levels of air pollution face worse outcomes — moving beyond statistical associations to examine what is actually happening inside the body.

Researchers focused on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs, a class of chemicals released primarily through the burning of fuel in vehicle engines. PAHs are also produced by wildfires, cigarette smoke, industrial emissions and high-temperature cooking methods such as grilling or charring meat.

“These findings provide biological evidence that PAHs influence the immune system and inflammatory processes during pregnancy, and we know that increased inflammation can contribute to negative pregnancy outcomes,” said Dr. Beate Ritz, a professor in UCLA Fielding School of Public Health’s epidemiology and environmental health sciences departments and the study’s lead researcher. “Given how widespread PAHs are in urban air pollution, it underscores the need for policies that reduce exposures to these pollutants for this vulnerable population.”

The research team tracked 159 pregnant women, collecting urine samples at up to three points during their pregnancies — in the early, middle and later stages of gestation. Scientists measured both PAH metabolites, which indicate how much of the chemical a person has absorbed, and inflammatory markers, molecules that signal activation of the immune system.

At every stage of pregnancy, higher PAH levels corresponded with greater inflammatory activity. For every doubling of PAH exposure, inflammatory markers rose by 10 to 50 percent.

“These findings provide biological evidence that PAHs influence the immune system and inflammatory processes during pregnancy, and we know that increased inflammation can contribute to negative pregnancy outcomes

- Dr. Beate Ritz

The type of inflammation, however, shifted as pregnancies progressed. Pro-inflammatory responses were strongest during the early and middle stages of gestation. Later in pregnancy, researchers observed elevated levels of interleukin-10, or IL-10, a marker that works to suppress inflammation.

Ritz said that late-pregnancy rise in IL-10 represents the body responding as it should. “IL-10 suppresses inflammation, which is important in preventing preterm birth,” she said. “The higher IL-10 levels toward the end of the pregnancy meant the mother’s body was doing what we would want in response to the PAHs. But we can assume that in cases where the IL-10 wasn’t increased at the end of the pregnancy, that is how air pollution would contribute to an adverse outcome.”

On the policy front, Ritz said current air quality standards may be less of a concern than geographic hotspots where pollution is concentrated. “General air pollution standards are less of a problem than geospatial hot spots for high exposures near sources such as closer to traffic, ports and airports,” she said. She called for “reductions in combustion and traffic related pollution and public health recommendations for air filters during wildfires as interventions in vulnerable populations, such as pregnant women.”

At the individual level, Ritz said pregnant women can take steps to limit their exposure by avoiding time spent near heavy traffic, staying indoors during active wildfires and using indoor air filtration when available. Diet may also offer some protection — green leafy vegetables have been shown to accelerate the body’s metabolism of PAHs, helping to eliminate them more quickly.

Ritz cautioned that while the study cohort was not representative of the broader population of pregnant women, the immune responses observed are considered universal.

“We have shown many times that air pollution is related to adverse birth outcomes in all of California pregnant women

- Dr. Beate Ritz

“We have shown many times that air pollution is related to adverse birth outcomes in all of California pregnant women,” she said. The study, she added, was focused specifically on the biological mechanisms at work — examining “whether PAH increase immune responses” — rather than broader demographic patterns.

The study was funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, part of the National Institutes of Health. Additional authors came from UCLA’s Fielding School of Public Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine.

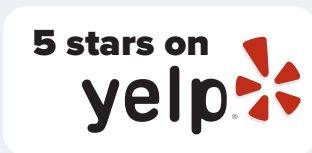
Ritz said further research is needed to identify additional protective factors and to better understand how PAH-related inflammation during pregnancy translates into long-term health risks for both mothers and children.

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¹ "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, LA, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN); Rider kinds B438/B439 (GA: B439B).
6255

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, will fund a feasibility study of potential “cap parks” along the I-10 between 11th and 20th streets in the city’s Pico Neighborhood. The award requires a local match of \$505,712, which the city will cover through staff time and Park and Recreation Development Impact Fee revenues.

“It’s basically a park on top of a highway,” Senior Park Planner Antonio Lopez told the council, explaining a term that has drawn frequent questions. The roughly 25- to 30-acre study area covers a freeway corridor that has divided the neighborhood for decades.

“

Capping the freeway, in my opinion, would be a partial improvement, but it doesn’t solve the underlying problems

- Ellis Raskin, Councilmember

”

City officials framed the project as an effort to repair historical harm. The freeway, built as part of the interstate system authorized in 1956, displaced more than 1,500 residents in what is now the Pico Neighborhood, severing a predominantly Black and Latino community. The Pico Neighborhood Association formed in 1979 to advocate for affected residents, and the city explored capping a portion of the freeway in 2010 before financial constraints halted the effort.

Councilmember Ellis Raskin, who made the motion to accept the grant, called the freeway the most significant environmental hazard in Santa Monica and said capping it would not be enough.

“Capping the freeway, in my opinion, would be a partial improvement, but it doesn’t solve the underlying problems,” Raskin said, describing it as “essentially a form of band-aid” that would leave many environmental impacts in place and reinforce

a car-dependent culture. Still, he called it “a significant improvement” and said the city has “a moral imperative to repair our neighborhoods.”

Raskin’s motion directed staff, to the extent allowed under the grant, to examine trade-offs between capping and other alternatives — including freeway removal — and to follow the models of cities such as San Francisco and Seattle that have torn out freeways. “We need to stay focused on the long-term goal of removing the freeway and replacing it with parks, a grand boulevard, or other neighborhood-serving uses,” he said.

Lopez confirmed that the federal program is aimed broadly at reconnecting communities rather than capping specifically, and said the study could assess the potential costs of capping the freeway or any portion of it.

Some council members pressed on the timeline. The study’s final report is due by July 31, 2029, with the grant’s budget period ending Jan. 31, 2030.

“Why does that take us four years to do that?” asked Councilmember Dan Hall, who also sought to clarify what residents could expect. Lopez said the study would not produce a final design but rather a feasibility analysis, existing-conditions research and prioritized locations for potential cap parks. He likened it to “basically a design project without ... a design,” citing the complexity of a site that involves transit, structural and utility considerations.

Council members emphasized that residents most affected by the freeway should guide the process. Councilmember Caroline Torosis asked staff to ensure that the Pico Neighborhood Association, current residents and people displaced by the freeway are “engaged and centered” in community outreach. Lopez agreed, saying outreach is planned for every phase and would begin before any designs are drafted.

Councilmember Natalya Zernitskaya asked how the city would reach those most affected by what she called “the dissection of this neighborhood” by the freeway. Lopez said staff intends to consult the community on how the outreach itself should be conducted.

The council received at least one written comment in support. Planning Commissioner Jacob Wasserman, writing in a personal capacity as both a driver and a pedestrian, urged the council to study ways to reconnect communities across the 10 and expressed hope the effort could withstand federal attempts to roll back the Reconnecting Communities program.

The motion, seconded by Councilmember Barry Snell, passed with one member, Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Zwick, absent. Staff said the city is awaiting a final grant agreement from Caltrans and expects to issue a request for proposals to hire a consultant, with work anticipated to begin in spring 2027.

As the item closed, Torosis pressed staff to move quickly. “If there’s any way to do it quicker than 2030, we would love that,” she said.

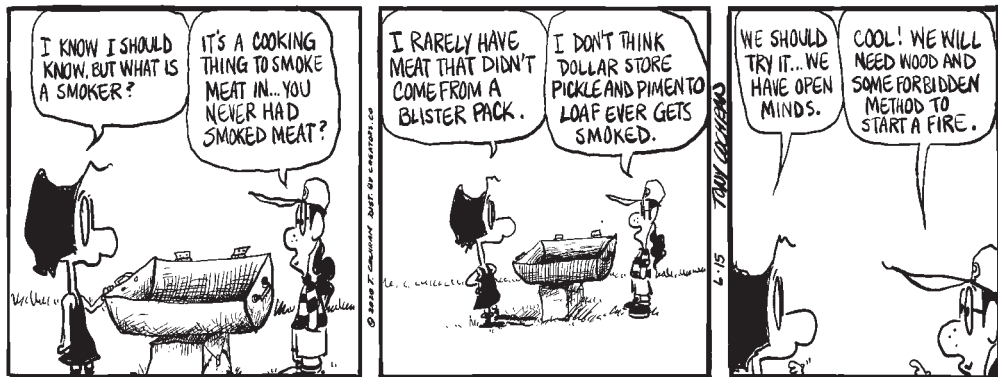
maaz@smdp.com

**GET IT
DAILY...**



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



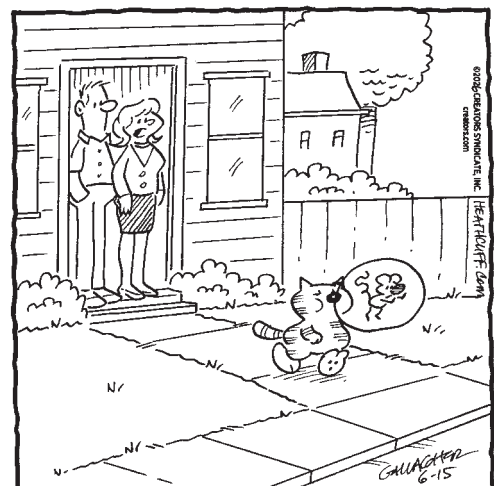
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 6972

Kick it. Hit it. Pass it.

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

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------|---------|------------|
| Aced | Fast | Lotto | Rest |
| Aussie | Field | Mark | Score |
| Rules | Fives | Miss | Skipper |
| Baseball | Four | Oval | Soccer |
| Boot | Futsal | Palm | Spectator |
| Bowls | Game | Pass | Sport |
| Chalk | Goal | Pitch | Strike |
| Coach | Golf | Pockets | Team |
| Concentrate | Hand | Polo | Tennis |
| Cue | In off | Pool | Touch |
| Dibs | League | Posts | Try |
| Display | Loser | Putt | Variations |

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 15)

It's your Year of the Threshold Test, in which the seeker must prove sincerity before entering the sacred realms. Sometimes you'll be the one pursuing with persistence, and sometimes you'll be the gatekeeper. Both scenarios bring powerful and lasting transformation. More highlights: A talent turns commercially viable. Applause and money for your confident performances. All the love you need. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 20, 3, 14 and 41.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're comfortable making choices that might seem unusual to other people because being true to yourself matters more to you than fitting in. Other people's opinions change, and people drift in and out of your life, but you're the one who has to live with yourself every day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Talking with the people you love will feel especially enjoyable. You reply quickly because you care. Like a pro, you keep conversations light, comfortable and positive and avoid topics that could create tension.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your timing is good even when it seems like it's not. Delays protect you while fortunate coincidences speed everything else along. Go forward in full belief that everything is occurring in perfect synchronicity, and you will stop chasing and start attracting.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It seems efficient to hand off the mundane work to someone else while you follow your whim, but that would only slow down your productivity and block your creativity. The daily tasks move your imagination. Your genius is hands-on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). So many items live in your brain, waiting to be born into writing. When you get them down on paper, they start to take on a life of their own. Through writing you will not only get clear, but you will also learn yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're especially persuasive right now. Today shows you reading people with great accuracy, working rooms and leading situations toward the outcome you want. You never push because you don't have to. Charm and emotional intelligence do the work for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You hit a wall between you and where you want to go. But keep looking into it, pushing on it and believing there may be something more here. Seek the hidden door. Curiosity opens social, financial and creative passageways.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll find yourself in a caregiving role. It is not possible to give care in one universal way because everyone's needs are different. Also, a person's needs can change by the day or the hour. Read the small signals and anticipate problems.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Is the insect a pest, or is the insect another magnificent earthling? You could go either way, or both ways at once. You appreciate all, but if your territory is invaded, your perception and reactions change.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There is information you're willing to work for - to make it your business to know, your quest to discover. Then there's the simple and inconvenient truth that's right in the middle of the path, needing only to be faced.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll tap those puzzle-solving skills today. You may try the same solution repeatedly, just to verify the results. But if it doesn't work after a few tries, you do it differently until you find what clicks.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're aware of what's going on, and you think you ought to react, though you may not be sure quite when or how. The takeaway isn't clear. Let feelings settle. You have time on this one.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

ACROSS

- 1 Wide belt
- 5 Undersea craft, for short
- 8 Take a stroll
- 12 Soothing lotion additive
- 13 Flat-topped land
- 14 Home made of logs
- 15 Grass-cutting machine
- 17 Make amends (for)
- 18 Letter before tee
- 19 Add decorations to
- 20 Celebrate noisily
- 21 Small songbirds
- 22 Robin Hood's Sherwood ___
- 23 Eyelid hairs
- 26 Sandwich shop
- 27 Woodwind instrument
- 28 Toss
- 31 Catches, as a criminal
- 35 ___ dish (beans or rice)
- 36 Car tire contents
- 37 Strong adhesive
- 38 And others: Abbr.
- 39 Trample (on)
- 41 Abe Lincoln's coin
- 42 Clear-sky color
- 44 Passes, as a law
- 46 Muscle overexertion
- 49 Ohio's "Rubber City"
- 51 Impolite glances
- 52 Texas landmark to "remember"
- 53 Well-chosen, as words

- 56 Not moving
- 57 Irrigation machine
- 59 Mexican coins
- 60 The thing over there
- 61 "It makes sense now"
- 62 Beef meal in a slow cooker
- 63 ___ bran muffin
- 64 Parcel (out)

DOWN

- 1 Reduced-price event
- 2 "It's a shame"
- 3 Female pigs
- 4 Female chicken
- 5 Attach, as a coat button
- 6 Software buyers
- 7 Farm building

- 8 Pouring tool with a spout
- 9 On top of
- 10 Rows of people waiting
- 11 Prepared to propose
- 13 Humble
- 14 Christmas song
- 16 Female horse
- 21 Vehicle for moving soil
- 22 Not many
- 23 Misplace
- 24 Very slightly
- 25 Root beer or ginger ale
- 26 Campus housing
- 29 Dislike very much
- 30 ___ de Janeiro

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 32 Actor Baldwin
- 33 Soft hit in baseball
- 34 Full collections
- 39 Solar system's center
- 40 Allow
- 43 Sheets brought to groceries
- 45 MIDDAY
- 46 Minor mistakes
- 47 Basic credo
- 48 Actress Witherspoon
- 49 First Greek letter
- 50 24-___ gold
- 52 Concerning, in a memo
- 53 In addition
- 54 Banana covering
- 55 Elm or oak
- 58 Young girl or boy

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15					16				17				
18					19				20				
				21					22				
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		

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MONDAY | JUNE 15

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/18461167/2026-06-08T09>

USA SOCCER HOUSE

12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 57 Windward 57 Windward Avenue Los Angeles. The Home For Fans This Summer = Free Entry For ALLOPEN TO ALL FANSThe home for soccer fans to cheer on the U.S. Men's National Team this summer. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/usa-soccer-house/18942555/2026-06-15T12>

STAND UP 101: FIND YOUR VOICE (MONDAYS)

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 1424 4th Street Santa Monica. Jump into Stand Up! Discover your own comedic sensibility and shape it into a clear and unique point of view! 6 weeks + a Showcase! \$345.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/stand-up-101-find-your-voice-mondays-18996105/2026-06-08T19>

AUTHOR EVENT! LAUREN OKIE AND CLARE OSONGCO

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Zibby's Bookshop 1113 Montana Ave Santa Monica. In person author event at Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403! \$21.90. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-event-lauren-okie-and-clare-osongco/18848223/2026-06-15T18>

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Civic Center Parking Structure 333 Civic Center Dr Santa Monica. The Commission on Sustainability, Environmental Justice and the Environment shall act in an advisory capacity on sustainability, environmental programs and policy issues. The Commission closely monitors the Santa Monica's Sustainable City Plan and advises the Council on plan implementation. The Commission on Sustainability, Environment Justice, and the environment is an expert panel made up of seven (7) members selected by the City Council with 4 year terms. Commissioners must have significant expertise in one or more areas of environmental policy and must reside or work in Santa Monica. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/commission-on-sustainability-environmental-justice-and-the-environment/13766366/2026-06-15T19>

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR AT MARELLE - NIGHT CAP MENU

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Marelle at Sandbourne Santa Monica 1740 Ocean Ave Santa Monica. Marelle will be launching a late-night happy hour menu called 'Night Cap' starting Monday, April 6th. Guests can order from this menu exclusively at Marelle, bar and bar lounge only. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/late-night-happy-hour-at-marelle-night-cap-menu/18409321/2026-06-15T21>

TUESDAY | JUNE 16

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Come, learn, and have fun every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room at Virginia Avenue Park. Each week there will be something new: Exercise, Talking with Friends, Learning, Guest Presenters, Health & Wellness! For more information call (310) 458-8688. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2026-06-16T10>

WALK-IN TUTORING WITH LAURIE

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Walk-In Tutoring With Laurie Walk-in tutoring is available for any adult who needs help with internet searches, filling out forms, English conversation, reading, writing, resumes, and applications, studying for. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/walk-in-tutoring-with-laurie/17128550/2026-06-16T14>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO 3:30-4:20PM

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. 3:30 - 4:20pm. Open to all skill levels, sparking creativity through drawing, color work, collage, and mixed-media techniques. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/18825639/2026-06-16T15>

TECH & TASKS

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Pico Branch Library 2201 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica. Volunteer tutors provide help with reading documents or written tasks, using mobile devices, navigating government websites, filling out forms, using email, writing resumes and more. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/tech-tasks/16225799/2026-06-16T16>

CASTANEA SICILIAN CAFE - EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Castanea Cafe 1307 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy 50% OFF all coffees at Castanea Venice Beach ?? Early Bird special every Mon-Thu from 9-10am. Start your morning with premium coffee at a special price -

limited time offer! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/castanea-sicilian-cafe-early-bird-special/18847307/2026-06-16T21>

TACO TUESDAY AT THE WHALER

Specials on house margaritas, tequila, and a la carte tacos every Tuesday. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/taco-tuesday-at-the-whaler/14385232/2026-06-16T00>

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 17

TODDLER STORYTIME AND SONGS

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Toddler Storytime and Songs Join us for storytime on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. We share stories, songs, and movement activities to build early literacy skills for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/toddler-storytime-and-songs/18526513/2026-06-17T10>

FREE WALK-IN LEGAL CLINIC

4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Santa Monica residents can meet one on one with a lawyer from Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles for help with HOUSING issues. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/free-walk-in-legal-clinic/13906563/2026-06-17T16>

STAND-UP LAB W/ OWEN SMITH SHOWCASE

8:00 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave #Unit F4 Santa Monica. A night to remember! Don't miss Stand-Up Lab's final showcase! These comics have polished their sets and are ready for the stage. \$17.79. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/stand-up-lab-w-owen-smith-showcase/18996125/2026-06-17T20>

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/16952883/2026-06-17T00>

THURSDAY | JUNE 18

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/18763133/2026-06-18T11>

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! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/low-impact-group-exercise-class/18566926/2026-06-18T11>

SUCCULENTS & SANGRIA

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 3113 Lincoln Boulevard Santa Monica. Join us for an evening of sangria sipping, succulent potting, food, drinks, and a cabi clothing pop-up at Urban Jungle Plants and Pottery. \$44.52. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/succulents-sangria/19065225/2026-06-18T18>

DDC PRESENTS: GOOD GRIEF

8:00 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Ave #Unit F4 Santa Monica. A night of stand-up comedy about grief, loss, and laughing through it. \$23.11. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/ddc-presents-good-grief/19161066/2026-06-18T20>

FRIDAY | JUNE 19

MOBILE COMMUNITY MEDITATION CENTER - GUIDED MEDITATION

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Santa Monica Beach lot 5 South 2600 Bernard Way Santa Monica. Please join Mobile Community Meditation Center aka Buddhist Boondockers Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 am for a 45 minute fully guided mindfulness meditation - on the grass, under the shade of the trees, with a stunning view of the sparkling ocean. Whether you're new to meditation or a seasoned practitioner, everyone is welcomed. Bring your own chair or cushion and try to arrive 5 minutes early and be ready to enjoy a truly peaceful moment as we relax, be present and make new friends; giving ourselves the love and attention we deserve by quieting our minds, finding peace and creating community. Please RSVP on FB, IG or email <https://mobilecommunitymeditationcenter.com/> and remember to check FB or IG for any changes or cancellations. Free— Donations are accepted. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/mobile-community-meditation-center-guided-meditation/16994548/2026-06-19T10>

DADS GOLF FREE AT HOLEY MOLEY GOLF CLUB

1315 3rd Street Promenade, Santa Monica. Celebrate this Father's Day with 27 outrageously themed mini-golf holes for boundless hours of family fun at Holey Moley Golf Club, located on Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica. From June 19-21, all dads golf for free, plus enjoy an all-day happy hour on June 21 featuring \$4 well spirits, \$5 select cans, \$8 select cocktails, as well as \$1 wings and a \$10 Caddy Classic Burger. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/dads-golf-free-at-hole-moley-golf-club/19113871/2026-06-19T12>



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